

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
BOARD OF MAYOR & ALDERMEN  
REGULAR SESSION  
APRIL 11, 2023**

**Public Hearing**

Mayor Roland Dykes opened the public hearing for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2023-03 Budget Amendment for Newport Grammar School. There was no one to comment.

Consideration of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2023-04 Amending the Municipal Code Title 8 Alcoholic Beverages Adding Outdoor Serving Area in C-1 Zone Regulations. There was no one to comment.

Consideration of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2023-05 Amending the Zoning Map to Include Properties of Highway 73. There was no one to comment.

Mayor Dykes closed the public hearing.

**April 11, 2023**

The City of Newport Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in the Newport City Hall Council Chambers on Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in Regular Session.

Rev. Alvin Watts led the invocation. Alderman Mike Hansel led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

The following officials were present: Mayor Roland Dykes, III, Vice Mayor Connie Ball, Alderman Mike Hansel, Alderwoman Louanna Ottinger, Alderman Randy Ragan, Alderman Steve Smith, City Attorney Terry Hurst, and City Administrator James Finchum.

Mayor Dykes declared a Quorum.

**Minutes**

**March 14, 2023 Regular Session**

**Motion by Alderwoman Ottinger and second by Alderman Smith**, for minutes of the January 10, 2023 Regular Session to be approved as submitted.

**All Ayes- Mayor Dykes declared the motion passed and approved.**

**Proclamations and/or Recognition of Citizens by the Mayor**

Mayor Dykes read a thank you letter from Animal Control for the new animal control building from staff.

Alderman Hansel announced it was Nation Public Safety Telecommunications Week.

Vice Mayor Ball announced the child abuse awareness event at the City Park on Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Communications from the City Administrator**

City Administrator James Finchum reported the packets of this year’s budget were sent out for review for the Board. The budget will be on the May agenda for the first reading.

Mr. Finchum reported the audit is late due to Newport Grammar School and Newport Utilities. The City’s auditors have been waiting for information from both Newport Grammar and Newport Utilities to finish the audit. The City’s audit is ready but cannot be sent to the State until the auditors receive this information.

There have been sewer issues at both City Hall and the Tanner building. The sewer was blocked at both locations. Mr. Finchum reported he had emergency spending for both locations to get these issues resolved.

There will be a community litter clean up with Keep Cocke County Beautiful, Cocke County Sheriff’s Department, and the City of Newport on April 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Old Business**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2023-03 Budget Amendment for Newport Grammar School**

Consideration of 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2023-03 Budget Amendment for Newport Grammar School.

**Motion was made by Vice Mayor Ball and second by Alderwoman Ottinger, to approve 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2023-03 Budget Amendment for Newport Grammar School.**

**Roll Call**

- Alderman Hansel     AYE
- Alderwoman Ottinger AYE
- Alderman Ragan     AYE
- Alderman Smith     AYE
- Vice Mayor Ball     AYE

**All Ayes-     Mayor Dykes declared the motion passed and approved.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2023-04 Amending the Municipal Code Title 8 Alcoholic Beverages Adding Outdoor Serving Area in C-1 Zone Regulations**

Consideration of 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2023-04 Amending the Municipal Code Title 8 Alcoholic Beverages Adding Outdoor Serving Area in C-1 Zone Regulations.

**Motion was made by Alderman Smith and second by Alderwoman Ottinger, to approve 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2023-04 Amending the Municipal Code Title 8 Alcoholic Beverages Adding Outdoor Serving Area in C-1 Zone Regulations.**

**Roll Call**

Alderman Hansel     AYE  
Alderwoman Ottinger AYE  
Alderman Ragan     NAY  
Alderman Smith     AYE  
Vice Mayor Ball     NAY

**Vote 3-2-     Mayor Dykes declared the motion passed and approved.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2023-05 Amending the Zoning Map to Include Properties of Highway 73**

Consideration of 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2023-05 Amending the Zoning Map to Include Properties of Highway 73.

**Motion was made by Alderman Ragan and second by Alderman Smith, to approve 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2023-05 Amending the Zoning Map to Include Properties of Highway 73.**

**Roll Call**

Alderman Hansel     AYE  
Alderwoman Ottinger AYE  
Alderman Ragan     AYE  
Alderman Smith     AYE  
Vice Mayor Ball     AYE

**All Ayes-     Mayor Dykes declared the motion passed and approved.**

**New Business**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2023-06 Budget Amendment for Newport Grammar School**

Consideration of 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2023-06 Budget Amendment for Newport Grammar School.

**Motion was made by Vice Mayor Ball and second by Alderman Smith, to approve 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2023-06 Budget Amendment for Newport Grammar School.**

**Roll Call**

Alderman Hansel     AYE  
Alderwoman Ottinger AYE

Alderman Ragan        AYE  
Alderman Smith        AYE  
Vice Mayor Ball        AYE

**All Ayes-        Mayor Dykes declared the motion passed and approved.**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2023-07 Amending the Zoning Map to Rezone Sequoyah Drive**

Consideration of 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2023-07 Amending the Zoning Map to Rezone Sequoyah Drive. Community Development Director Gary Carver stated this was the adjoining lot behind the lot on Cosby Highway for Zaxby's. This has been sent by the Planning Commission.

**Motion was made by Alderman Smith and second by Alderman Hansel, to approve 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2023-07 Amending the Zoning Map to Rezone Sequoyah Drive.**

**Roll Call**

Alderman Hansel        AYE  
Alderwoman Ottinger    AYE  
Alderman Ragan        AYE  
Alderman Smith        AYE  
Vice Mayor Ball        AYE

**All Ayes-        Mayor Dykes declared the motion passed and approved.**

**Resolution #2023-02 Authorizing the City of Newport to Begin the Process Becoming a Tennessee Main Street Community**

Consideration of Resolution #2023-02 Authorizing the City of Newport to Begin the Process of Becoming a Tennessee Main Street Community.

**Motion was made by Vice Mayor Ball and second by Alderwoman Ottinger, to approve Resolution #2023-02 Authorizing the City of Newport to Begin the Process of Becoming a Tennessee Main Street Community.**

**All Ayes-        Mayor Dykes declared the motion passed and approved.**

**Repair to Rocky Top Graphix Building**

Consideration of Repair to Rocky Top Graphix Building. Rocky Top Graphix building was shot up during a police chase a few months ago. The City's insurance does not cover this damage. The total amount of damage to the building is \$10,594.91.

**Motion was made by Alderman Ragan and second by Vice Mayor Ball, to approve the repair to Rocky Top Graphix in the total amount of \$10,594.91.**

**All Ayes- Mayor Dykes declared the motion passed and approved.**

**Adding a Name to a Certificate of Compliance for Lex Wine & Spirits**

Consideration of Adding a Name to a Certificate of Compliance for Lex Wine & Spirits. This was on the March agenda and was passed. The owner has asked to add her husband's name, Jayshbhai Patel, to the certificate of compliance.

**Motion was made by Alderman Smith and second by Alderwoman Ottinger, to adding Jayshbhai Patel to the certificate of compliance for Lex Wine & Spirits.**

**All Ayes- Mayor Dykes declared the motion passed and approved.**

**Annual Events for Cocke County Partnership**

Consideration of Annual Events for Cocke County Partnership. Lynn Ramsey from the Chamber asked for the annual events including Rhythm on the River, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, and July 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>; Harvest Street Festival, October 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>; and Christmas parade, December 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Motion was made by Vice Mayor Ball and second by Alderman Hansel, to approve the annual events including Rhythm on the River, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, and July 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>; Harvest Street Festival, October 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>; and Christmas parade, December 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**All Ayes- Mayor Dykes declared the motion passed and approved.**

**Report and Discussion from Economic Development on the Buxton Software Funding**

Report from Economic Development on the Buxton Software Funding. The software is not in this year's budget. The total cost of the software is \$35,000 annually. There was no action taken.

**Full-Time Aquatics Position for Parks & Recreation**

Consideration of Full-Time Aquatics Position for Parks & Recreation. The money for this position is in the budget.

**Motion was made by Vice Mayor Ball and second by Alderman Hansel, to approve a Full-Time Aquatics Position for Parks & Recreation.**

**All Ayes- Mayor Dykes declared the motion passed and approved.**

**Bids**

**Tractor for the Street Department**

Consideration of bids for Tractor for the Street Department. The bid from Tiger Mowers for a John Deer tractor in the total amount of \$143,873.10.

**Motion was made by Alderman Hansel and second by Alderman Ragan,** to approve the bid from Tiger Mowers for a John Deer Tractor for the Street Department in the total amount of \$143,873.10.

**Roll Call**

Alderman Hansel     AYE  
Alderwoman Ottinger AYE  
Alderman Ragan     AYE  
Alderman Smith     AYE  
Vice Mayor Ball     AYE

**All Ayes-     Mayor Dykes declared the motion passed and approved.**

**Asphalt Roller for the Street Department**

Consideration of bids for an Asphalt Roller for the Street Department. The bid from Contractor’s Machinery, Inc. for a Case DV026E Vibratory Tandem Drum Asphalt Roller for a total amount of \$52,327.50.

**Motion was made by Alderwoman Ottinger and second by Alderman Hansel,** to approve the bid from Contractor’s Machinery, Inc. for a Case DV026E Vibratory Tandem Drum Asphalt Roller for a total amount of \$52,327.50.

**Roll Call**

Alderman Hansel     AYE  
Alderwoman Ottinger AYE  
Alderman Ragan     AYE  
Alderman Smith     AYE  
Vice Mayor Ball     AYE

**All Ayes-     Mayor Dykes declared the motion passed and approved.**

**Used Truck for the Street Department**

Consideration of bids for a Used Truck for the Street Department. The only bid was from Ramsey’s East Tennessee Auto for a 2008 Ford F550 in the total amount of \$22,500.

**Motion was made by Alderman Ragan and second by Vice Mayor Ball**, to approve the bid from Ramsey's East Tennessee Auto for a 2008 Ford F550 in the total amount of \$22,500.

**Roll Call**

Alderman Hansel	AYE
Alderwoman Ottinger	AYE
Alderman Ragan	AYE
Alderman Smith	AYE
Vice Mayor Ball	AYE

**All Ayes- Mayor Dykes declared the motion passed and approved.**

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board of Mayor & Alderman, **motion was made by Alderman Smith and second by Alderman Ragan** adjourned the meeting.

**All Ayes- Mayor Dykes declared the motion passed and approved.**

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Mayor Roland Dykes, III

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James Finchum, City Administrator

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