

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
BOARD OF MAYOR & ALDERMEN
CITY OF NEWPORT, TENNESSEE
REGULAR SESSION
AUGUST 13, 2019**

Public Hearing

Vice Mayor Mike Proffitt opened the public hearing for discussion of Corridor Development Planning Grant West Highway 25/70. John Houghton of Gresham, Smith and Partners gave a presentation.

Vice Mayor Proffitt closed the Public Hearing.

August 13, 2019

The City of Newport Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in the Newport City Hall Council Chambers on Tuesday, August 13, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in Regular Session.

Alderman Bobby Knight led the invocation. Alderwoman Louanna Ottinger led the Pledge to the Flag.

The following officials were present: Vice Mayor Mike Proffitt, Alderman Mike Hansel, Alderman Bobby Knight, Alderwoman Louanna Ottinger, Alderman Steve Smith, City Administrator James Finchum, and City Attorney Terry Hurst.

The following officials were absent: Mayor Roland Dykes, III.

Vice Mayor Proffitt declared a Quorum.

Minutes

July 9, 2019 Regular Session

Motion by Alderman Smith and second by Alderwoman Ottinger for minutes of the July 9, 2019 Regular Session to be approved as submitted.

All Ayes- Vice Mayor Proffitt declared the motion passed and approved.

Proclamations and/or Recognition of Citizens

Alderwoman Ottinger recognized Newport Grammar School Board for winning the School Board of Distinction 2019.

Communications from the City Administrator

City Administrator James Finchum announced the 4th Annual Back the Blue recognizing the Police Department on August 26th. Mr. Finchum stated the comptroller has sent a letter to the City of Newport on the approval of the budget for fiscal year 2019-2020.

Mr. Finchum stated the City of Newport has been awarded a Riverwalk grant to finish the remainder of the engineered plans that was not completed in the previous project. Mr. Finchum stated Planning Director Gary Carver has been very successful in getting funding for grants. Vice Mayor Proffitt recognized Finance Director Tina Matthews on the audit report and keeping the finances in good standings.

Reports From Committees, Members Of Council & Other Officers

Tanner Preservation Alliance Planning Director Gary Carver stated the construction on this project will begin by the end of the month.

Love Henderson gave a report on the Work Ethic Diploma.

New Business

Restructuring of Planning, Building and Codes

Restructuring of Planning, Building and Codes was presented by City Administrator James Finchum. Mr. Finchum proposed the restructuring of Planning, Building and Codes asking to create the department of Community Development to comprise of Planning, Buildings and Codes. This will be a department director level position. Mr. Finchum asked for Gary Carver to be appointed to this position. Mr. Finchum also asked to create the position of Codes Enforcement Officer. This position will address blighted properties and other City Codes. If approved, both positions will be on a 90 day probation. If approved, these positions will take effect Monday, August 19, 2019.

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Proffitt and second by Alderman Knight to approve the restructuring of Planning, Building and Codes.

Roll Call

Alderman Hansel	AYE
Alderman Knight	AYE
Alderwoman Ottinger	AYE
Alderman Smith	AYE
Vice Mayor Proffitt	AYE

All Ayes- Vice Mayor Proffitt declared the motion passed and approved.

Allowing the City of Newport to Open a New Bank Account for the Tanner Project

Consideration of allowing the City of Newport to open a new bank account for the Tanner project. Finance Director Tina Matthews stated this bank account would be for the purpose of depositing the retainage amount required with the signing of the contract between the City of Newport and Preen Construction for the Tanner project. The amount to be set aside is no more than 5% of the total per the TCA. The amount would be \$ 64,904.

Motion was made by Alderman Knight and second by Alderman Hansel to approve the City of Newport to open a new bank account for the Tanner project.

Roll Call

Alderman Hansel	AYE
Alderman Knight	AYE
Alderman Ottinger	AYE
Alderman Smith	AYE
Vice Mayor Proffitt	AYE

All Ayes- Vice Mayor Proffitt declared the motion passed and approved.

Amending the City of Newport Police General Orders

Consideration of amending the City of Newport Police General Orders. Mr. Finchum stated this amendment is for Hands Free Tennessee Law that went into effect on July 2019. This amendment will be to remove the wording in the General Order 16.10 (no blue tooth nor similar devices or technology should be used while in uniform or acting in an official capacity) allowing our officers to comply with the new law and the Newport Police Department.

Motion was made by Alderman Ottinger and second by Alderman Smith to approve amending the City of Newport Police General Orders.

Roll Call

Alderman Hansel	AYE
Alderman Knight	AYE
Alderman Ottinger	AYE
Alderman Smith	AYE
Vice Mayor Proffitt	AYE

All Ayes- Vice Mayor Proffitt declared the motion passed and approved.

Allowing the Chamber of Commerce to Hold a Car Show in the City Hall Parking Lot for the Street Festival

Consideration of allowing the Chamber of Commerce to hold a car show in the City Hall parking lot for the Street Festival. Susan Ball with the Chamber reported this was to bring back a small car show for an one day event with no more than 20 cars.

Motion was made by Alderman Hansel and second by Alderman Knight to approve allowing the Chamber of Commerce to hold a car show in the City Hall parking lot for the Street Festival.

Roll Call

Alderman Hansel	AYE
Alderman Knight	AYE
Alderwoman Ottinger	AYE
Alderman Smith	AYE
Vice Mayor Proffitt	AYE

All Ayes- Vice Mayor Proffitt declared the motion passed and approved.

Right-of-Way Request Agreement Between the City of Newport and Angela Grooms

Consideration of Right-of-Way request agreement between the City of Newport and Angela Grooms. Mr. Carver reported Ms. Grooms is currently rehabbing the building for her insurance office. In order to bring the building to ADA standard, she must construct an ADA ramp to her building. The property line for her building currently abuts the building on the front and side. It would be impossible for her to construct a ramp of any kind without constructing something very costly on the backside of the building or to get an easement of some sort from the City. The recommendation from Mr. Carver is to allow Ms. Grooms to have 4' X 12' of right of way to construct her ramp so that the path leads beside the last existing public parking spot in front of her building to the west.

Motion was made by Alderwoman Ottinger and second by Alderman Smith to approve Right-of-Way request agreement between the City of Newport and Angela Grooms.

All Ayes- Vice Mayor Proffitt declared the motion passed and approved.

Bids, Purchases And Expenses

Pickup Truck for the Fire Department

Consideration of bids for a pickup truck for the Fire Department for the Fire Inspector. The State bid contract for a 2019 Ford F150 Super Cab XL 4X4 from John Hamby of Ford of Murfreesboro for the amount of \$32,422.

Motion was made by Alderman Hansel and second by Alderman Knight to approve the State bid contract for a 2019 Ford F150 Super Cab XL 4X4 from John Hamby of Murfreesboro for the amount of \$32,422.

All Ayes- Vice Mayor Proffitt declared the motion passed and approved.

Citizens Comments

Forest Clevenger invited the city & county to work together on an agreement for Buxton Company that will help both city and county to bring businesses to our area.

Vickie Turner asked the Board to revise the ordinance on the number of animals you can have in the city.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board of Mayor & Alderman, a **motion was made by Alderwoman Ottinger and second by Alderman Hansel** to adjourn.

All Ayes- Vice Mayor Proffitt declared the motion passed and approved.

Mayor Roland Dykes, III

James Finchum, City Administrator

RET