

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
BOARD OF MAYOR & ALDERMEN  
CITY OF NEWPORT, TENNESSEE  
REGULAR SESSION  
DECEMBER 10, 2019**

**Public Hearing**

Mayor Roland Dykes, III opened the public hearing for discussion of 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2019-08 Amending the City of Newport Municipal Code Title 15 Motor Vehicles, Traffic and Parking, Chapter 9 Speed Limits, Section 15-903 Speed Limit in School Zones and Near Playgrounds. City Attorney Terry Hurst stated he and Chief of Police Maurice Shults have discussed the speed limit in the school zone. Chief of Police and Mr. Hurst would like to remove the school limit from the amendment to leave the speed limit in school zones at 15 miles per hour. Mr. Hurst recommended not to vote on this ordinance until he can redraft the ordinance and vote on this next month.

Discussion of 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2019-09 Amending the City of Newport Municipal Title 16 Streets and Sidewalks, Etc., Chapter 1 Miscellaneous, adding Section 16-104 Blowing Mown Grass on to City Streets Prohibited. Nelson Williams stated this needs to be passed. Mr. Williams stated the grass clogs drains.

Mayor Dykes closed the Public Hearing.

**December 10, 2019**

The City of Newport Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in the Newport City Hall Council Chambers on Tuesday, December 10, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in Regular Session.

Chief of Police led the invocation. Alderman Bobby Knight led the Pledge to the Flag.

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

Mayor Dykes declared a Quorum.

**Minutes**

**November 12, 2019 Regular Session**

**Motion by Alderwoman Ottinger and second by Alderman Knight** for minutes of the November 12, 2019 Regular Session to be approved as submitted.

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

## **Communications from the City Administrator**

City Administrator James Finchum reported that he and Finance Director Tina Matthews have met with the auditors. Mr. Finchum reported the City of Newport has a clean audit for the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. The Newport Grammar School's audit is finished and on time. The Newport Utilities is under investigation from the comptrollers. Mr. Finchum stated this investigation with Newport Utilities will delay the city's audit. There is no time for city's audit at this time.

## **Reports from Committees, Members of Council & Other Officers**

Community Development Director Gary Carver stated the Tanner Building had a stage in the back of the building. When the workers pulled the top of the stage off, water started running in the side of the building. There was a door and a window there. Someone put bricks and concrete to seal it up which didn't work. Mr. Carver stated he would have to get someone in to properly seal it to continue the work inside of the building. Mr. Carver stated he had money in the discretionary fund to pay for the mason work. But other than that issue, the building is taking shape. Mr. Carver asked the Board if they wanted to take a tour to contact him.

## **Old Business**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2019-08 Amending the City of Newport Municipal Code Title 15 Motor Vehicles, Traffic and Parking, Chapter 9 Speed Limits, Section 15-903 Speed Limit in School Zones and Near Playgrounds**

Consideration of 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2019-08 Amending the City of Newport Municipal Code Title 15 Motor Vehicles, Traffic and Parking, Chapter 9 Speed Limits, Section 15-903 Speed Limit in School Zones and Near Playgrounds. City Attorney Hurst asked not to move forward as written.

There was no action taken.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2019-09 Amending the City of Newport Municipal Title 16 Streets and Sidewalks, Etc., Chapter 1 Miscellaneous, adding Section 16-104 Blowing Mown Grass on to City Streets Prohibited**

Consideration of 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2019-09 Amending the City of Newport Municipal Title 16 Streets and Sidewalks, Etc., Chapter 1 Miscellaneous, adding Section 16-104 Blowing Mown Grass on to City Streets Prohibited.

**Motion was made by Alderman Smith and second by Alderman Hansel** to approve 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2019-09 Amending the City of Newport Municipal Title 16 Streets and Sidewalks, Etc., Chapter 1 Miscellaneous, adding Section 16-104 Blowing Mown Grass on to City Streets Prohibited.

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

## **New Business**

### **Resolution #2019-09 Applying for Community Transportation Planning Grant**

Consideration of Resolution #2019-09 Applying for Community Transportation Planning Grant.

**Motion was made by Alderman Hansel and second by Alderman Knight** to approve Resolution #2019-09 Applying for Community Transportation Planning Grant.

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

### **Street Name Change of River Street - Community Development Director Gary Carver**

Discussion of Street Name Change of River Street - Community Development Director Gary Carver. Mr. Carver stated Paul & Kim Gregg had approach him for the name change of River Street to Waters Edge. The Board had received a letter with information on the street name change. The name change would begin at 424 River Street and end at 690 River Road. Mr. Carver stated the Gregg's has been to the Planning Commission and had public hearing on this issue. The Gregg's stated there are only one person with opposition to the name change. Ms. Gregg stated the name change would be a larger benefit to the community. Alderwoman Ottinger asked if they had signatures of property owners that are in favor of the name change. Ms. Gregg stated she had sent letters and spoke to several. Alderman Hansel recommended to work with Community Development. After much discussion, Mr. Carver stated if the Board wanted more information, he would compile a report.

There was no action taken.

### **Comments from Citizens**

Parks & Recreation Director Tim Dockery stated he would like everyone to check out the Christmas decoration around town. Mr. Dockery stated his department had worked hard on putting up the decorations.

Mayor Dykes reminded everyone of the Christmas parade on Saturday.

City Administrator thanked Parks and Recreation for their work and City Hall staff of the decoration of City Hall. Mr. Finchum also stated City Hall staff has worked hard on the Christmas float for the Christmas parade.

### **Adjournment**

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

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

---

Mayor Roland Dykes, III

---

James Finchum, City Administrator

RET