

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
BOARD OF MAYOR & ALDERMEN
CITY OF NEWPORT, TENNESSEE
REGULAR SESSION
DECEMBER 9, 2014**

December 9, 2014

The City of Newport Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in the Newport City Hall Council Chambers on Tuesday, December 9, 2014 at 5:45 p.m. in Regular Session.

Rev. Alvin Watts led the invocation. Chief of Police Maurice Shults led the Pledge to the Flag.

The following officials were present: Mayor Connie Ball, Vice Mayor Bill Costner, Alderman John Bugg, Alderman Freddie Gregg, Alderman Kenny Morgan, City Attorney Terry Hurst, and City Administrator James Finchum.

Mayor Ball declared a Quorum.

Minutes

October 14, 2014 Regular Session

Motion by Alderman Bugg and second by Alderman Gregg for minutes of the October 14, 2014 Regular Session to be approved as submitted.

All Ayes- Mayor Ball declared the motion passed and approved.

Proclamations and or Recognition of Citizens by the Mayor

Assistant Fire Chief Mark Ramsey presented Blaine Hartsell with the employee of the month for the month of November with a plaque and \$50.00.

Parks & Recreation Director Tim Dockery presented Barbara Williams with the employee of the month for the month of December with a plaque and \$50.00.

Communications from the City Administrator

City Administrator James Finchum reported that due to not being able to obtain the right of way of a property for the River Walk Phase II there will no longer be funding available. Mr. Finchum reported City Attorney Terry Hurst, Tim Dockery and himself had all tried to obtain this property with no success.

Mr. Finchum reported the Home Grant applications deadline is Friday, December 12th at noon.

Mr. Finchum reported A Small Town Christmas Celebration a success. There was at least double the amount of kids and parents that attended this year's event. Mr. Finchum added a big thank you to Rusty Wallace Ford Gregg Von Cannon for funding this event. Also to Kelley Stokely for volunteering her time, Southside Baptist Church, 1st Baptist Church, Cocke County A & I Fair, Cocke County Chamber of Commerce, Clay Blazer with CCHS Leadership, and Cosby High School Key Club. There was a big write up in today's paper on this event.

Appointment of Boards, Commissions, and Committees

Mayor Ball appointed Richard Harwood and Mitchell Webb to the Newport Housing Authority Board.

Nominations for the Police Civil Service Board were taken to replace Linda Branam. Alderman Bugg nominated Freddie Gregg to the Police Civil Service Board. There were no other nominations.

Roll Call to appoint Freddie Gregg to the Police Civil Service

Alderman Bugg	AYE
Alderman Morgan	AYE
Vice Mayor Costner	AYE
Alderman Gregg	PASS

All Ayes- Mayor Ball declared the motion passed and approved.

Reports from Committees, Members of Council, & Other Officers

Roland Dykes III on the Tanner Preservation Alliance reported of progress. Mr. Dykes asked to place on the January agenda an agreement between the Tanner Preservation Alliance and the City of Newport.

Old Business

New Business

1st Reading of Ordinance #2014-06 City of Newport Budget Amendment

Consideration of approval of 1st Reading of Ordinance #2014-06 City of Newport Budget Amendment.

Motion was made by Alderman Morgan and second by Alderman Gregg to approve 1st Reading of Ordinance #2014-06 City of Newport Budget Amendment.

All Ayes- Mayor Ball declared the motion passed and approved.

Resolution #2014-13 Accepting Cocke County Hazard Mitigation Plan

Consideration of approval of Resolution #2014-13 Accepting Cocke County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Motion was made by Alderman Bugg and second by Alderman Gregg to approve Resolution #2014-13 Accepting Cocke County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

All Ayes- Mayor Ball declared the motion passed and approved.

Resolution #2014-14 for the Sale of Two Properties from Newport Utilities to TDOT for Highway 321 Bypass Project

Consideration of approval of Resolution #2014-14 for the Sale of Two Properties from Newport Utilities to TDOT for Highway 321 Bypass Project.

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Costner and second by Alderman Morgan to approve Resolution #2014-14 for the Sale of Two Properties from Newport Utilities to TDOT for Highway 321 Bypass Project.

All Ayes- Mayor Ball declared the motion passed and approved.

Allowing Cocke County to use the Transfer Station

Consideration of allowing Cocke County to use the Transfer Station for a trial run of 30 days. Mr. Finchum met with the County and Waste Management along with Street Superintendent Ben Hicks. The County wants to use the Transfer Station starting January 1st at their expense to see the cost savings.

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Costner and second by Alderman Morgan to approve allowing Cocke County to use the Transfer Station for a trial run of 30 days starting January 1, 2015.

All Ayes- Mayor Ball declared the motion passed and approved.

Applying for the 2015 Farmers Market Grant

Consideration of approval of applying for the 2015 Farmers Market Grant. This grant is 100% with no matching from the City. This grant is in the amount of \$1,000 for advertising.

Motion was made by Alderman Bugg and second by Alderman Gregg to approve applying for the 2015 Farmers Market Grant not to exceed \$1,000.

All Ayes- Mayor Ball declared the motion passed and approved.

Bids, Purchases, and Expenses

Asphalt Bid

Consideration of bids for the annual asphalt bid. Newport Paving was the only bid.

Motion was made by Alderman Gregg and second by Alderman Morgan to accept the bid from Newport Paving for the annual asphalt bid.

All Ayes- Mayor Ball declared the motion passed and approved.

Citizens Comments

Mike Proffitt thanked the current Board for their service. Mr. Proffitt stated he appreciated them.

Joan Lambert asked about the 3 Council member's term on the Newport Utilities Board. Mayor Ball stated there would be a called meeting January 2nd to discuss the vacancies.

Mayor Ball stated it has been a pleasure serving with this Board.

Adjournment

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

All Ayes- Mayor Ball declared the motion passed and approved.

Mayor Connie Ball

James Finchum, City Administrator

RET