

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
BOARD OF MAYOR & ALDERMEN
CITY OF NEWPORT, TENNESSEE
REGULAR SESSION
FEBRUARY 13, 2018**

February 13, 2018

The City of Newport Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in the Newport City Hall Council Chambers on Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at 5:45 p.m. in Regular Session.

Rev. Alvin Watts led the invocation. Alderman Jeff Fancher led the Pledge to the Flag.

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

The following officials were absent: Mayor Connie Ball.

Vice Mayor Proffitt declared a Quorum.

Minutes

January 9, 2018 Regular Session

Motion by Alderman Knight and second by Alderman Smith for minutes of the January 9, 2018 Regular Session to be approved as submitted.

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

Proclamations and/or Recognition of Citizens

Newport Grammar School Principal Sandra Burchette reported the new roof on the school in complete that the City of Newport paid for. Ms. Burchette thanked the Board for the roof. Newport City School Board Member Jan Sneed thanked the Board on behalf of the City School Board for the roof.

Communications from the City Administrator

City Administrator James Finchum reported the Rhythm on the River has scheduled their summer concert series on June 7th & 19th and July 5th & 19th. Mr. Finchum will update the Board as the planning continues.

City Planner Gary Carver asked the Board to suspend the rules & add Resolution #2018-02 Authorizing the City of Newport to Participate in the Tennessee Downtowns Program.

Motion by Alderman Fancher and second by Alderman Knight to suspend the rules & add Resolution #2018-02 Authorizing the City of Newport to Participate in the Tennessee Downtowns Program.

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

Appointment of Boards, Commission & Committees

Consideration of re-appointment to the Beer Board – Dennis Thornton.

Motion by Vice Mayor Proffitt and second by Alderman Smith to re-appoint Dennis Thornton to the Beer Board.

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

New Business

Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Auditor Frank McDaniels

Discussion of the audit report for fiscal year 2016-2017 by Auditor Frank McDaniels. Mr. McDaniels reported this is a clean audit with no findings and it was filed on time. Mr. McDaniels gave a communication letter to the Board to go over with them. Mr. McDaniels stated with no findings for the past 2 years, the City will be considered at low risk next year. Mr. McDaniels stated the City's finances are the best they have been in several years with great progress by the finance department.

Mr. Finchum reported after meeting with the auditor's, they have agreed on the tax rollback twenty-five cents. This is everything the City can afford. There have been unexpected expenses that have come up like the Newport Grammar School roof that will prevent in going back any further.

1st Reading of Ordinance #2018-01 Amending the City of Newport Municipal Code Title 7 Fire Protection and Fireworks Chapter 3 Fire Codes Section 7-301 Fire Codes Adoption Replacing Section 6104.2 Petroleum Gas Usage

Consideration of 1st Reading of Ordinance #2018-01 Amending the City of Newport Municipal Code Title 7 Fire Protection and Fireworks Chapter 3 Fire Codes Section 7-301 Fire Codes Adoption Replacing Section 6104.2 Petroleum Gas Usage.

Motion was made by Alderman Fancher and second by Alderman Hansel to approve 1st Reading of Ordinance #2018-01 Amending the City of Newport Municipal Code Title 7 Fire Protection and Fireworks Chapter 3 Fire Codes Section 7-301 Fire Codes Adoption Replacing Section 6104.2 Petroleum Gas Usage.

Roll Call

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|---------------------|-----|
| Alderman Fancher | AYE |
| Alderman Hansel | AYE |
| Alderman Knight | AYE |
| Alderman Smith | AYE |
| Vice Mayor Proffitt | AYE |

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

1st Reading of Ordinance #2018-02 Amending the Zoning Map of the City of Newport from R-1 Low Density Residential to M-R Medical Residential District Located at 434 Duncan Street

Consideration of 1st Reading of Ordinance #2018-02 Amending the Zoning Map of the City of Newport from R-1 Low Density Residential to M-R Medical Residential District Located at 434 Duncan Street. Vice Mayor Proffitt reported the Planning Commission has asked to send back to them for review. No action was taken.

1st Reading of Ordinance #2018-03 Budget Amendment for City of Newport

Consideration of 1st Reading of Ordinance #2018-03 Budget Amendment for City of Newport. Mr. Finchum reported the City was paying off one of the Transfer Station loans in the amount of \$237,000. Mr. Finchum stated we were going to pay off both loans but the unexpected expenses like the roof for the Grammar School prevented us. The City’s new debt ratio as of June 30th is 36.7% a reduction in the debt ratio of 1.8%.

Motion was made by Alderman Fancher and second by Alderman Hansel to approve 1st Reading of Ordinance #2018-03 Budget Amendment for City of Newport.

Roll Call

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| Alderman Fancher | AYE |
| Alderman Hansel | AYE |
| Alderman Knight | AYE |
| Alderman Smith | AYE |
| Vice Mayor Proffitt | AYE |

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

1st Reading of Ordinance #2018-04 Budget Amendment for Newport Grammar School

Consideration of 1st Reading of Ordinance #2018-04 Budget Amendment for Newport Grammar School.

Motion was made by Alderman Hansel and second by Alderman Smith to approve 1st Reading of Ordinance #2018-04 Budget Amendment for Newport Grammar School.

Roll Call

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|---------------------|-----|
| Alderman Fancher | AYE |
| Alderman Hansel | AYE |
| Alderman Knight | AYE |
| Alderman Smith | AYE |
| Vice Mayor Proffitt | AYE |

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

1st Reading of Ordinance #2018-05 an Ordinance Granting a Franchise to the Newport Utilities Commission, to Build, Construct, Operate and Maintain a Cable Television System in the City of Newport, Tennessee, and Setting Forth Conditions Accompanying the Granting of this Franchise

Consideration of 1st Reading of Ordinance #2018-05 an Ordinance Granting a Franchise to the Newport Utilities Commission, to Build, Construct, Operate and Maintain a Cable Television System in the City of Newport, Tennessee, and Setting Forth Conditions Accompanying the Granting of this Franchise.

Motion was made by Alderman Fancher and second by Alderman Knight to approve 1st Reading of Ordinance #2018-05 an Ordinance Granting a Franchise to the Newport Utilities Commission, to Build, Construct, Operate and Maintain a Cable Television System in the City of Newport, Tennessee, and Setting Forth Conditions Accompanying the Granting of this Franchise.

Roll Call

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|---------------------|-----|
| Alderman Fancher | AYE |
| Alderman Hansel | AYE |
| Alderman Knight | AYE |
| Alderman Smith | AYE |
| Vice Mayor Proffitt | AYE |

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

Sale of a City of Newport Building on North Street

Consideration of Sale of a City of Newport Building on North Street. Mr. Fichum stated Raymond Anthony brought a letter with interest to purchase the City owned building on the corner of North Street in the amount of \$5,000. The building needs several repairs. Mr. Finchum recommended a stipulation in the deed for the corner of the property to never be blocked.

Motion was made by Alderman Smith and second by Alderman Knight to approve Sale of a City of Newport Building on North Street to Raymond Anthony in the amount of \$5,000 with the stipulation in the deed for the corner of the property to never be blocked.

Roll Call

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|---------------------|-----|
| Alderman Fancher | NAY |
| Alderman Hansel | NAY |
| Alderman Knight | AYE |
| Alderman Smith | AYE |
| Vice Mayor Proffitt | AYE |

3-2.- Vice Mayor Proffitt declared the motion passed and approved.

Resolution #2018-02 Authorizing the City of Newport to Participate in the Tennessee Downtowns Program

Consideration of Resolution #2018-02 Authorizing the City of Newport to Participate in the Tennessee Downtowns Program.

Motion was made by Alderman Knight and second by Alderman Fancher to approve Resolution #2018-02 Authorizing the City of Newport to Participate in the Tennessee Downtowns Program.

Roll Call

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|---------------------|-----|
| Alderman Fancher | AYE |
| Alderman Hansel | AYE |
| Alderman Knight | AYE |
| Alderman Smith | AYE |
| Vice Mayor Proffitt | AYE |

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

Citizens Comments

Anne Fontaine with e Friends of the Animal Shelter asked for funding of the Animal Shelter in the amount of \$100,000. Ms .Fontaine stated the county has paid for the last three months. Alderman Fancher stated the Animal Control building the City owns and operates is running good.

Robert Brannon asked the Board to sign the modified contract to fund the Animal Shelter. Alderman Fancher stated we need a workshop with the county to work this out. Alderman Fancher pointed out the City tax payers also pay county taxes. Alderman Fancher stated the City tax payers have been paying too much for too long.

Adjournment

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

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

Mayor Connie Ball

James Finchum, City Administrator

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