

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
BOARD OF MAYOR & ALDERMEN  
CITY OF NEWPORT, TENNESSEE  
REGULAR SESSION  
JANUARY 12, 2021**

**Swearing in Ceremony**

Swearing in Ceremony for elected Newport Grammar School Board Members – Seth Butler, David Perryman and Nathaniel Vernon sworn in by Municipal Judge Brittney Wilds Vick.

**Public Hearing**

Mayor Roland Dykes, III opened the public hearing for discussion of 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2020-12 Budget Amendment for the Newport Grammar School. There was no one to comment.

Mayor Dykes closed the Public Hearing.

**January 12, 2021**

The City of Newport Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in the Newport City Hall Council Chambers on Tuesday, January 12, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in Regular Session.

Chief of Police Maurice Shults led the invocation. Vice Mayor Mike Proffitt led the Pledge to the Flag.

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

The following officials were present by Zoom: Alderman Mike Hansel and Alderwoman Louanna Ottinger.

Mayor Dykes declared a Quorum.

**Minutes**

**December 8, 2020 Regular Session**

**Motion by Alderman Smith and second by Alderwoman Ottinger**, for minutes of the December 8, 2020 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 gave an update on the COVID. Mr. Finchum stated the Cares Act has been extended.

Mr. Finchum reported Lowes appealed their tax appraisal to the State of Tennessee. This is something that Lowes and other large corporate stores have done. Lowes has made a settlement with the city & county. The City of Newport will reimburse Lowes \$50,000.

Newport Grammar School has requested a portion of their roof to be replaced. Mr. Finchum stated the City had to reduce the budget based on revenue projections from the State. The City took all capital funding out of the budget and has slowly put those projects back in since the City's revenue has stayed steady. Mr. Finchum recommended for the Newport Grammar School to take bids and bring back to the February meeting.

**Appointment of Boards, Commissions & Committees**

**Appointment to the Fire Civil Service Board – Willie Green's Term**

Appointment to the Fire Civil Service Board – Willie Greene's Term. This term is appointed by the City Council.

**Motion was made by Vice Mayor Proffitt and second by Alderman Knight, to approve the re-appointment of Willie Green to the Fire Civil Service Board.**

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

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

Community Development Director Gary Carver gave updates on the Tanner Building project. Mr. Carver stated the parking lot was getting paved. Walters State Community College will start their first class on January 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Old Business**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2020-12 Budget Amendment for the Newport Grammar School**

Consideration of 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2020-12 Budget Amendment for the Newport Grammar School.

**Motion was made by Alderwoman Ottinger and second by Alderman Knight, to approve 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2020-12 Budget Amendment for the Newport Grammar School.**

**Roll Call**

Alderman Hansel     AYE  
Alderman Knight    AYE

Alderwoman Ottinger AYE  
Alderman Smith AYE  
Vice Mayor Proffitt AYE

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

**New Business**

**Discussion of Street Closure on Old Knoxville Highway**

Discussion of Street Closure on Old Knoxville Highway. Community Development Director Gary Carver reported Rick Foust has requested the closure of Right-of-Way through to Jaybird on Old Knoxville Highway and for that Right-of-Way to be made part of the property at 249 W Broadway. His intent is to construct a new commercial building using the new area as parking. This has been request has been sent with approval from the Planning Commission. After much discussion, the Board agreed have a public forum for the residents in the area to give their concerns. This agenda item will be brought back to the February meeting.

There was no action taken.

**Adjournment**

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

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

---

Mayor Roland Dykes, III

---

James Finchum, City Administrator

RET