

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
BOARD OF MAYOR & ALDERMEN
REGULAR SESSION
JULY 9, 2024**

July 9, 2024

The City of Newport Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in the Newport City Hall Council Chambers on Tuesday, July 9, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. in Regular Session.

Rev. Alvin Watts led the invocation. Alderwoman Louanna Ottinger led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

The following officials were present: Mayor Roland Dykes, III, Vice Mayor Connie Ball, Alderman Mike Hansel, Alderwoman Louanna Ottinger, Alderman Randy Ragan, City Attorney Terry Hurst, and City Administrator James Finchum.

The following officials were not present: Alderman Steve Smith.

Mayor Dykes declared a Quorum.

Minutes

June 11, 2024 Regular Session

Motion by Alderwoman Ottinger and second by Alderman Ragan, for minutes of the June 11, 2024 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 on the Rhythm on the River concert series attendance was down at the last concert to around 200 people. This Thursday's concert is with a new band, Jeff Joplin Band that plays country and southern rock.

Appointment of Boards, Commissions and Committees

Discussion of Appointments to the Cocke County Partnership Board. Mayor Dykes reported the Partnership Board has been revised to appointing two aldermen and a businessperson. Mayor Dykes appointed Alderman Mike Hansel and Alderwoman Louanna Ottinger to the Cocke County Partnership Board.

Alderman Ragan stated he had just come off of this board. Alderman Ragan stated he asked County Mayor Rob Mathis to send the interlocal agreement and information. This interlocal agreement has never been signed. Alderman Ragan would like for the interlocal agreement to be written to where you could read and understand it.

Mayor Dykes stated the state writes the interlocal agreements. This will be discussed at the meeting with the city having new representatives. City Administrator James Finchum stated there is an employee that has seen the signed interlocal agreement but is on vacation and we are waiting for her to come back to get a copy.

Announcement from Mayor Dykes Appointing the Newport Museum Advisory Committee. Mayor Dykes has appointed seven people to serve on the Newport Museum Advisory Committee: Eddie Walker, Whitney Laws, Clay Blazer, Linda Lewanski, Chris Edmonds, Derrick Woods, and Mechelle Robinson. City Council agreed to let the Newport Museum Advisory Committee to decide of how many years for their term and how to rotate the terms.

Consideration of appointment the Cocke County Library Board – Pat Mason’s Term. Mayor Dykes has appointed Pat Mason to serve on the Cocke County Library Board.

Re-Appointment to the Industrial Development Board – Tommy Bible’s Term. Mayor Dykes appointed JCCUD General Manager Clint Hammonds to the Industrial Development Board.

Re-Appointment to the Industrial Development Board – James Finchum’s Term. Mayor Dykes appointed City Administrator James Finchum to the Industrial Development Board.

New Business

Resolution #2024-11 to Authorizing the City of Newport to Hire Engineering Services for the Woodlawn Streetscape Project

Consideration of Resolution #2024-11 to Authorizing the City of Newport to Hire Engineering Services for the Woodlawn Streetscape Project. The Community Development Department would like to hire Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, Inc. for engineering services for the Woodlawn Streetscape ARC Project.

Motion by Alderman Hansel and second by Alderman Ragan, to approve Resolution #2024-11 to Authorizing the City of Newport to Hire Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, Inc. for Engineering Services for the Woodlawn Streetscape ARC Project.

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

Authorization for the Newport Police Department to Apply for School Resource Officer Grant Through the State of Tennessee

Consideration of Authorization for the Newport Police Department to Apply for School Resource Officer Grant Through the State of Tennessee. Assistant Chief of Police Matthew Elliott stated this for a no match School Resource Officer grant in the amount of \$75,000 for fiscal year 2024-25.

Motion by Alderman Ragan and second by Vice Mayor Ball, to approve the Newport Police Department to Apply for School Resource Officer Grant Through the State of Tennessee for the total amount of \$75,000 with a no match.

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

Commercial Driver’s License Training for the Street Department

Consideration of Commercial Driver’s License Training for the Street Department. Street Superintendent Ben Hicks stated this invoice was for four employees for their Commercial Driver’s License Training for the Street Department from Jim McNabb in the amount of \$10,000 for 60 hours of training costing \$2,500 each. This training has increased from \$1,000 to \$2,500 each.

Motion by Alderman Ragan and second by Vice Mayor Ball, to approve Commercial Driver’s License Training for the Street Department employees from Jim McNabb in the amount of \$10,000 for 60 hours of training costing \$2,500 each.

Roll Call

Alderman Hansel AYE
Alderman Ottinger AYE
Alderman Ragan AYE
Vice Mayor Ball AYE

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

Allowing First United Methodist Church to use City Property

Consideration of Allowing First United Methodist Church to use City Property. The First United Methodist Church has inherited a home on 8th Street with plans to auction on July 27, 2024. The church has requested to use the city ball field for parking and has provided liability insurance.

Motion by Alderman Ottinger and second by Alderman Hansel, to approve Allowing First United Methodist Church to use City Property.

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

Bids, Purchases and Expenses

Annual Salt Contract for Fiscal Year 2024-25

Consideration of Annual Salt Contract for Fiscal Year 2024-25. State bid from Compass Minerals America Inc. in the amount of \$114.27 ton for the low bid.

Motion by Alderman Ragan and second by Alderwoman Ottinger, to approve State bid for the Annual Salt Contract for Fiscal Year 2024-25 from Compass Minerals America Inc. in the amount of \$114.27 ton for the low bid.

Roll Call

Alderman Hansel AYE
Alderwoman Ottinger AYE
Alderman Ragan AYE
Vice Mayor Ball AYE

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

Service Truck for the Street Department

Consideration of bids for a Service Truck for the Street Department. State bid from Columbia Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram for a 2024 2500 Regular 4X4 Dodge Tradesman with a Service Body for the mechanics in the total amount of \$53,601 to replace the 2016 Ford F150.

Motion by Vice Mayor Ball and second by Alderwoman Ottinger, to approve bid for a 2024 2500 Regular 4X4 Dodge Tradesman with a Service Body for the mechanics at the Street Department in the total amount of \$53,601 from Columbia Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram.

Roll Call

Alderman Hansel AYE
Alderwoman Ottinger AYE
Alderman Ragan AYE
Vice Mayor Ball AYE

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

Two Swiftwater Rescue Boats and a Double Trailer for the Fire Department Through the CDBG Program

Consideration of bids Two Swiftwater Rescue Boats and a Double Trailer for the Fire Department through the CDBG Program. There were two bids submitted: One Boat Rescue Boats in the total amount of \$65,451 and Marine One Corporation in the total amount of \$58,140. The bid from Marine One was disqualified due to pricing error.

Motion by Vice Mayor Ball and second by Alderman Ragan, to approve bid for Two Swiftwater Rescue Boats and a Double Trailer for the Fire Department Through the CDBG Program from One Boat Rescue Boats in the total amount of \$65,451.

Roll Call

Alderman Hansel AYE
Alderwoman Ottinger AYE
Alderman Ragan AYE
Vice Mayor Ball AYE

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

Adjournment

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

Mayor Roland Dykes, III

James Finchum, City Administrator

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