

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
BOARD OF MAYOR & ALDERMEN  
CITY OF NEWPORT, TENNESSEE  
REGULAR SESSION  
JUNE 11, 2019**

**Public Hearing**

Mayor Roland Dykes, III opened the public hearing for discussion of 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2019-03 Budget Amendment for the City of Newport for Fiscal Year 2018-2019. There was no one to comment.

Discussion of 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2019-04 Budget Amendment for Newport Grammar School for Fiscal Year 2018-2019. There was no one to comment.

Discussion of 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2019-05 City of Newport Adopting the Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020. There was no one to comment.

Discussion of Certificate of Compliance for West End Package Store. Attorney Grayson Schleppegrell of Woolf, McClane, Bright, Allen & Carpenter, PLLC representing owners Mitchel McCarter and Mack McCarter stated this is an existing business and is in compliance.

Mayor Dykes closed the Public Hearing.

**June 11, 2019**

The City of Newport Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in the Newport City Hall Council Chambers on Tuesday, June 11, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in Regular Session.

Craig Wilde led the invocation. Chief of Police Maurice Shults 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**

**May 14, 2019 Regular Session**

**Motion by Alderman Smith and second by Vice Mayor Proffitt** for minutes of the May 14, 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 gave a reminder and an invitation to the public to the 5<sup>th</sup> annual concert series behind City Hall starting June 13<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Finchum stated the City of Newport is partnered with the Chamber on these concerts.

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

Planning Director Gary Carver reported for the Tanner Preservation Alliance on the pre-construction meeting for the renovation of the building.

## **Old Business**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2019-03 Budget Amendment for the City of Newport for Fiscal Year 2018-2019**

Consideration of 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2019-03 Budget Amendment for the City of Newport for Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

**Motion was made by Alderman Hansel and second by Alderwoman Ottinger** to approve 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2019-03 Budget Amendment for the City of Newport for Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

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

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2019-04 Budget Amendment for Newport Grammar School for Fiscal Year 2018-2019**

Consideration of Reading of Ordinance #2019-04 Budget Amendment for Newport Grammar School for Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

**Motion was made by Vice Mayor Proffitt and second by Alderman Knight** to approve Reading of Ordinance #2019-04 Budget Amendment for Newport Grammar School for Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

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

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2019-05 City of Newport Adopting the Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020**

Consideration of 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2019-05 City of Newport Adopting the Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

**Motion was made by Alderman Hansel and second by Alderwoman Ottinger** to approve Reading of Ordinance #2019-05 City of Newport Adopting the Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

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

**New Business**

**Resolution #2019-04 Recommending the Issuance and Sale of Not to Exceed \$65,000,000 in Aggregate Principal Amount of Electric System Revenue Bonds, Series 2019; and Recommending the Adoption of a Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of Said Bonds**

Consideration of Resolution #2019-04 Recommending the Issuance and Sale of Not to Exceed \$65,000,000 in Aggregate Principal Amount of Electric System Revenue Bonds, Series 2019; and Recommending the Adoption of a Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of Said Bonds. Newport Utilities General Manager Glen Ray stated this resolution was to roll two temporary bonds over into one bond to finish the work. Accounting & Finance Manager Michael Williford stated this resolution would add an additional \$27,000,000 to the existing bonds for a total of \$65,000,000. Scott Gibson with Cumberland Securities stated this would lower the rates by ½ a percent to 3 ½ percent for a 28-year period.

**Motion was made by Vice Mayor Proffitt and second by Alderman Smith** to approve Resolution #2019-04 Recommending the Issuance and Sale of Not to Exceed \$65,000,000 in Aggregate Principal Amount of Electric System Revenue Bonds, Series 2019; and Recommending the Adoption of a Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of Said Bonds.

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

**Allowing a City of Newport Employee to Use Accumulated Early Retirement Time**

Consideration of allowing a City of Newport employee to use accumulated early retirement time. Mr. Finchum stated this employee has exhausted all his vacation, sick, comp and carry over time due to sickness. Street Superintendent has recommended the request.

**Motion was made by Alderwoman Ottinger and second by Alderman Hansel** to approve allowing a City of Newport employee to use accumulated early retirement time.

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

**Certificate of Compliance for a Liquor Store – West End Package Store**

Consideration of Certificate of Compliance for a Liquor Store – West End Package Store. Chief of Police Maurice Shults stated he has known the applicator for 30 years and stated he is of good standing. Attorney Grayson K. Schleppegrell of Woolf, McClane, Bright, Allen & Carpenter, PLLC representing owners Mitchel McCarter and Mack McCarter stated this is an existing business and is in compliance.

**Motion was made by Alderman Smith and second by Alderwoman Ottinger** to approve the Certificate of Compliance for a Liquor Store for West End Package Store.

**4-1 Ayes- Mayor Dykes declared the motion passed and approved.**

**Changing Street Names for New Businesses – Alderman Mike Hansel**

Discussion of changing street names for new businesses – Alderman Mike Hansel. Alderman Hansel stated he was informed of the closing of TEVET after the street has already been renamed. Alderman Hansel stated he thinks a business should employ around 300-400 employees before considering a street name change for a business. There are a lot of cost to changing a street name for businesses. Alderman Hansel has asked for staff to look into this issue.

Alderman Hansel stated there was a local media put on their Facebook the closing of three major businesses in Newport. Alderman Hansel stated this opened unnecessary criticism from their post because the whole story wasn't told. It wasn't why didn't the businesses want to stay in Newport; it was a corporate discussion. Alderman Hansel asked the media to tell the whole story.

**Bids, Purchases and Expenses**

**Renovation of the Police Department**

Consideration of Bids for the Renovation of the Police Department. The following bids were received: Holston Construction Services \$225,000; Holm Construction \$190,433; Preen Construction, LLC \$266,769; and Nella Constructors, Inc. \$178,104. Nella Constructors, Inc bid was withdrawn. Mr. Finchum stated all bids came in over budgeted for this project. The project was budgeted at \$175,000. After speaking to City Attorney Terry Hurst, Mr. Finchum asked to take the low bid with the stipulation to cut back on the project.

**Motion was made by Alderman Knight and second by Alderman Hansel** to approve the low bid from Holm Construction \$190,433 with stipulation to cut back on the scope of the project for the Renovation of the Police Department.

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

**Truck for the Street Department**

Consideration of bids for a truck for the Street Department. Street Superintendent Ben Hicks stated there was only one bid that came in from Fincher Trucks for a 2003 Ford F250 in the amount of \$8,300. Mr. Hicks stated this was to replace a truck and it is already budgeted.

**Motion was made by Vice Mayor Proffitt and second by Alderman Hansel** to approve the bid from Fincher Trucks for a 2003 Ford F250 in the amount of \$8,300.

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

**Citizens Comments**

Carlene Robinson stated the Senior Citizen Guidebooks are available for the public if anyone would like to have a book.

Rob Watkins informed the Board of an arts grant received for veterans. Mr. Watkins invited the Board to a mural unveiling program on July 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at 148 Pine Street.

**Adjournment**

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

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

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Mayor Roland Dykes, III

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James Finchum, City Administrator

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