

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
BOARD OF MAYOR & ALDERMEN  
CITY OF NEWPORT, TENNESSEE  
REGULAR SESSION  
MARCH 10, 2015**

**March 10, 2015**

The City of Newport Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in the Newport City Hall Council Chambers on Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at 5:45 p.m. in Regular Session.

Alderman Roger Gribble led the invocation. Alderman Mike Hansel led the Pledge to the Flag.

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

Mayor Ball declared a Quorum.

**Minutes**

**February 10, 2015 Regular Session**

**Motion by Alderman Gribble and second by Vice Mayor Proffitt** for minutes of the February 10, 2015 Regular Session to be approved as submitted.

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

**March 3, 2015 Special Called Meeting**

**Motion by Alderman Knight and second by Alderman Fancher** for minutes of the March 3, 2015 Special Called Meeting to be approved as submitted.

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

**Proclamations and or Recognition of Citizens by the Mayor**

Animal Control Director Lisa Layman presented Chip Rollins with the employee of the month for the month of March with a plaque and \$50.00. Ms. Layman spoke of the hard work and dedication Mr. Rollins has provided to the Dr. Carol Hood Memorial Animal Shelter in his eleven years of employment with the City of Newport.

Mayor Ball presented a certificate to Preston Brooks for recognition of appointment of honorary member to the Stokely Memorial Library.

**Communications from the City Administrator**

City Administrator James Finchum reported of extending the 2014 property tax payment due to the weather through March 6<sup>th</sup> without penalty or interest with the permission from the Mayor. Mr. Finchum stated he has received good feedback from the public.

Mr. Finchum stated the budget procedure has started this week. Finance Director Tina Matthews has been working with department directors.

Mayor Ball stated that he has been working with Mr. Finchum and Mark Robinson on property clean ups in the City. Mayor Ball stated he wanted to work with the Planning Commission and Mr. Robinson on updating ordinance for properties in the City.

**Appointment of Boards, Commissions, and Committees**

Consideration of appointment for the Beer Board – LC Gregg appointment.

**Motion by Vice Mayor Proffitt and second by Alderman Fancher** to reappoint LC Gregg to the Beer Board.

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

Mayor Ball stated Jabo Francis has resigned from Police Civil Service Board. This appointment is made by the Board. The Board appointed Steven Smith to the Police Civil Service Board on March 5<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Smith's term will expire in January 2017.

Dianne Stokely appointment to the Newport Utilities Board has been questioned due to Ms. Stokely was not registered to vote at the time of appointment. Ms. Stokely has since registered to vote in the City. Nomination was made by Vice Mayor Proffitt to reappoint Dianne Stokely to the Newport Utilities Board. No other nominations were made.

**Motion by Vice Mayor Proffitt and second by Alderman Gribble** to reappoint Dianne Stokely to the Newport Utilities Board.

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

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

Roland Dykes III with the Tanner Preservation Alliance gave a report. The Board was invited to tour the Tanner Building at 4:45 p.m. on March 26<sup>th</sup> and meet at 5:30 p.m. at the Smoky Mountain Home Health.

### **Old Business**

### **New Business**

### **Final Payment of Engineering Service for the Library Project**

Consideration of approval of final payment to Robert Campbell & Associates in the amount of \$30,000 for the library project. After much discussion, the Board agreed to let Mr. Finchum and Ms. Matthews meet with Robert Campbell & Associates to renegotiate the payment for the library project.

### **Purchase of Salt for the Street Department**

Consideration of purchasing salt for the Street Department in the amount of \$11,000. Mr. Finchum stated the Street Department had used all the salt with the weather being so bad this season. When asked where the money for the salt would come, Mr. Finchum stated from the increase of sales tax.

**Motion was made by Vice Mayor Proffitt and second by Alderman Knight** to approve the purchase of salt in the amount of \$11,000.

### **Roll Call**

Alderman Fancher	NAY
Alderman Gribble	NAY
Alderman Hansel	AYE
Alderman Knight	AYE
Vice Mayor Proffitt	AYE

**Vote was 3-2. Mayor Ball declared the motion passed and approved.**

### **Citizens Comments**

Wayne Williamson spoke of establishing a train ride for passengers from Newport to Asheville, North Carolina for tourism.

Linda Parker suggested the City of Newport meet with surrounding cities to get ideas for tourism.

**Adjournment**

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

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

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Mayor Connie Ball

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James Finchum, City Administrator

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