

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

**Public Hearing**

Vice Mayor Mike Proffitt opened the public hearing for discussion on Ordinance #2015-11 Budget Amendment for the City of Newport. There was no one to comment.

Vice Mayor Proffitt opened the floor for discussion on Ordinance #2015-12 Budget Amendment for Newport Grammar School. There was no one to comment.

Vice Mayor Proffitt closed the Public Hearing.

**November 10, 2015**

The City of Newport Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in the Newport City Hall Council Chambers on Tuesday, November 10, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. in Regular Session.

Rev. Alvin Watts led the invocation. Alderman Mike Hansel led the Pledge to the Flag.

The following officials were present: 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.

The following officials were not present: Mayor Connie Ball.

Vice Mayor Proffitt declared a Quorum.

**Minutes**

**October 6, 2015 Regular Session**

**Motion by Alderman Hansel and second by Alderman Knight** for minutes of the October 6, 2015 Regular Session to be approved as submitted. Alderman Gribble stated he did not vote for Ordinance # 2015-11 Budget Amendment for the City of Newport on page 3.

**Motion by Alderman Hansel and second by Alderman Knight** for minutes of the October 6, 2015 Regular Session to be approved with an amendment of corrections on page 3.

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

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

City Administrator James Finchum presented Sherry Butler with employee of the month with a plaque and \$50.00.

## **Communications from the City Administrator**

City Administrator James Finchum reported of forum on blighted properties in the City of Newport. Mr. Finchum stated there were around 20 people to attend the meeting and the biggest concern was the downtown business district. Mr. Finchum stated he has talked to some property owners and he is looking at options to assist in the clean up.

A Small Town Christmas Celebration is scheduled for December 4<sup>th</sup> with the 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church at 6:00 p.m. with a music program and the City Hall at 6:15 p.m. with Santa for the kids. This year's event will be televised on Charter Network at the 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church.

The City Hall staff has asked to take personal time to be closed on November 25<sup>th</sup> before the Thanksgiving holiday and December 23<sup>rd</sup> before Christmas holiday. These dates are very slow & will not affect the city business. The Board agreed to let Mr. Finchum close on these days.

CTAS has advised the Cocke County highway department has to stop giving the city rock. Mr. Finchum stated he has a problem with this. City residents pay \$167,000 in county taxes that goes to the county highway department. Attorney Hurst stated that he was going to meet with the county mayor and the county attorney to try to solve this issue.

Robert Brannon has asked for a key to the City Hall. Mr. Finchum stated he does not give a key to anyone for the City Hall. If the Friends of the Animal Shelter would like to meet at the City Hall they will need an employee to attend the meetings. Animal Director Lisa Layman agreed to come to the meetings for the Friends of the Animal Shelter. The Board told Mr. Finchum to keep his policy to only let a city employee sign out a key for the City Hall.

Vice Mayor Proffitt stated he was working with the people for the Memorial Building to be repaired. There has been a meeting set up to discuss the repair issues.

## **Appointment of Boards**

Vice Mayor Proffitt stated Mayor Ball has appointed Charlotte Mims back to the Newport Housing Authority Board for a 5 year term.

## **Old Business**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2015-11 Budget Amendment for the City of Newport**

Consideration of 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2015-11 Budget Amendment for the City of Newport.

**Motion was made by Alderman Fancher and second by Alderman Hansel to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2015-11 Budget Amendment for the City of Newport.**

**Roll Call**

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

**Vote 4-1- Vice Mayor Proffitt declared the motion passed and approved.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2015-12 Budget Amendment for Newport Grammar School**

Consideration of 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2015-12 Budget Amendment for Newport Grammar School.

**Motion was made by Alderman Gribble and second by Alderman Fancher to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2015-12 Budget Amendment for Newport Grammar School.**

**Roll Call**

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

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

**New Business**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2015-13 to Allow for the Partial Payment of Real Property Taxes for the City of Newport**

Consideration of 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2015-13 to Allow for the Partial Payment of Real Property Taxes for the City of Newport.

**Motion was made by Alderman Gribble and second by Alderman Knight to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2015-13 to Allow for the Partial Payment of Real Property Taxes for the City of Newport.**

**Roll Call**

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

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

**Draft of Ordinance #2015-14 to Amend the Zoning Regulations of the City of Newport to Add Wireless Telecommunications Towers and Antenna Restrictions**

Mr. Finchum stated this is the draft of Ordinance #2015-14 to amend the Zoning Regulations of the City of Newport to add Wireless Telecommunications Towers and Antenna Restrictions for the Board to view. This ordinance will go to the Planning Commission for approval then come back to the City Council next month for the 1<sup>st</sup> reading.

**Bids**

**Inspection Services for the 2012-2013 Home Project**

Consideration of inspection services bid for the 2012-2013 Home Grant project. The only bid submitted was from McCarter Home Inspection LLC.

**Motion by Alderman Knight and second by Alderman Hansel** to accept the bid from McCarter Home Inspection LLC as submitted for the administration services for the 2012-2013 Home Grant Project.

**Roll Call**

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

**Vote 3-12- Vice Mayor Proffitt declared the motion passed and approved.**

**Truck Bids for the Animal Shelter**

Consideration of bids for a truck for the Animal Shelter. The only bid submitted was from The Car Lot of Newport for a 2007 Dodge Ram SLT 1500 4X4 Big Horn edition with 65,889 miles for the total amount of \$16,395.

**Motion by Vice Mayor Proffitt and second by Alderman Knight** to accept the bid from The Car Lot of Newport for a 2007 Dodge Ram SLT 1500 4X4 Big Horn edition with 65,889 miles for the total amount of \$16,395.

**Roll Call**

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

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

**Citizens Comments**

Sherry Butler introduced the new employees at the Partnership Executive Assistant Dana Wilds and Partnership Director Lucas Graham.

**Adjournment**

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

**All Ayes- Vice Mayor Proffitt 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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