

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
BOARD OF MAYOR & ALDERMEN  
CITY OF NEWPORT, TENNESSEE  
REGULAR SESSION  
NOVEMBER 14, 2017**

**Public Hearing**

Mayor Connie Ball opened the public hearing for discussion of 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2017-17 Budget Amendment for the City of Newport. There was no one to comment.  
Mayor Ball closed the Public Hearing.

**November 14, 2017**

The City of Newport Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in the Newport City Hall Council Chambers on Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. in Regular Session.

Rev. Alvin Watts led the invocation. Vice Mayor Mike Proffitt led the Pledge to the Flag.

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

Mayor Ball declared a Quorum.

Mayor Ball welcomed Aldermen Steve Smith to the Board.

**Minutes**

**October 10, 2017 Regular Session**

**Motion by Alderman Knight and second by Alderman Hansel** for minutes of the October 10, 2017 Regular Session to be approved as submitted.

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

**Proclamation and/or Recognition of Citizens by the Mayor**

Alderman Hansel presented City Hall with a proclamation for National Municipal Administration Month.

Vice Mayor Proffitt recognized the CCHS golf team and CCHS cross country team.

## **Communications from the City Administrator**

City Administrator James Finchum reported Christmas Eve is on a Sunday this year. The City of Newport will observe Monday, December 25 and Tuesday, December 26 for the Christmas holiday. Mr. Finchum has spoken with each department head on the Christmas closing.

For the Thanksgiving holiday, the City Hall will be closed on Wednesday, November 22 for an additional day off. The City Hall staff will use a day vacation of their own time. The City Council approved the additional day off for Thanksgiving in 2015.

Mr. Finchum announced the annual Christmas Concert for December 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church.

Mr. Finchum stated Planner Gary Carver had a public meeting to discuss the Tanner Building.

## **Appointment of Boards, Commission & Committees**

Consideration of appointment for the Newport Housing Authority Board for Genevieve Dalton's appointment.

**Mayor Ball asked for approval** to reappoint Genevieve Dalton to the Newport Housing Authority.

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

Discussion of appointment for the Police Civil Service for the remaining term of Steve Smith. The Police Civil Service Board voted on November 2<sup>nd</sup> at their monthly meeting to appoint Dean Ball for the remaining term January 2020.

## **Old Business**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2017-17 Budget Amendment for the City of Newport**

Consideration of 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2017-17 Budget Amendment for the City of Newport.

**Motion was made by Alderman Hansel and second by Alderman Knight** to approve of 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2017-17 Budget Amendment for the City of Newport.

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

## **New Business**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2017-18 Amending the Zoning Map for the City of Newport From R-2 Medium Density Residential to C-2 General Commercial District Located at Jaybird Street**

Consideration of 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2017-18 Amending the Zoning Map for the City of Newport From R-2 Medium Density Residential to C-2 General Commercial District Located at Jaybird Street.

**Motion was made by Alderman Knight and second by Vice Mayor Proffitt to approve 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2017-18 Amending the Zoning Map for the City of Newport From R-2 Medium Density Residential to C-2 General Commercial District Located at Jaybird Street.**

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

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2017-19 Amending the Zoning Map for the City of Newport From R-2 Medium Density Residential to C-2 General Commercial District Located at Locust Street**

Consideration of 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2017-19 Amending the Zoning Map for the City of Newport From R-2 Medium Density Residential to C-2 General Commercial District Located at Locust Street.

**Motion was made by Vice Mayor Proffitt and second by Alderman Fancher to approve 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2017-19 Amending the Zoning Map for the City of Newport From R-2 Medium Density Residential to C-2 General Commercial District Located at Locust Street.**

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

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2017-20 Amending Municipal Code Title 5 Municipal Finance and Taxation Chapter 3 Purchasing Policy**

Consideration of 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2017-20 Amending Municipal Code Title 5 Municipal Finance and Taxation Chapter 3 Purchasing Policy.

**Motion was made by Alderman Hansel and second by Alderman Knight to approve 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance #2017-20 Amending Municipal Code Title 5 Municipal Finance and Taxation Chapter 3 Purchasing Policy.**

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

**Resolution #2017-17 Signature Authority on the Bank Accounts at Newport Federal Bank**

Consideration of Resolution #2017-17 Signature Authority on the Bank Accounts at Newport Federal Bank to add Alderman Steve Smith and to remove the late Alderman Roger Gribble.

**Motion was made by Alderman Knight and second by Alderman Fancher to approve Resolution #2017-17 Signature Authority on the Bank Accounts at Newport Federal Bank.**

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

**Purchase of a Downtown Property for a Parking Lot for the City of Newport**

Consideration of Purchase of a Downtown Property for a Parking Lot for the City of Newport at the corner of Woodlawn and Broadway.

**Motion was made by Alderman Knight and second by Vice Mayor Proffitt to approve the purchase of a downtown property for parking lot for the City of Newport in the amount of \$51,000.**

**Roll Call**

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

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

**Communication Radio Tower for the City of Newport**

Consideration of Communication Radio Tower for the City of Newport. The City of Gatlinburg has donated a radio tower for emergency communications at no cost to the City of Newport. The tower is 100 feet tall and will replace the 30 foot tower the City currently uses. The tower will be used by the City of Newport, Cocke County and E911. The City of Newport will be the sole owner of this tower.

The cost to move and install the radio tower is \$8,000. The two (2) companies that will be doing the work are Land Air and Blalock Crane. E911 will have training services that will cost them \$40,000. This expenditure is solely driven by a donation from another government at no charge. If purchased, the radio tower would cost \$100,000.

**Motion was made by Alderman Hansel and second by Vice Mayor Proffitt to approve waiving the purchasing policy requiring a bid and adding money to the budget for moving & installing the radio tower in the amount of \$8,000.**

**Roll Call**

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

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

**Request to Utilize Service Credited Hours**

Consideration of Request to Utilize Service Credited Hours. Chief of Police Maurice Shults stated one of his employees needs this time for a surgery.

**Motion was made by Alderman Fancher and second by Alderman Knight** to approve Request to Utilize Service Credited Hours for the Police Department.

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

**Replacing the Exterior Doors into the Council Chambers**

Consideration of replacing the exterior doors into the Council Chambers. Mr. Finchum stated he has a quote to repair the exterior doors in the amount of \$4,000. Mr. Finchum stated he would like to take bids to replace the doors to make them ADA approved doors.

**Motion was made by Alderman Knight and second by Alderman Hansel** to approve request to take bids to replace the exterior doors into the Council Chambers.

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

**Animal Shelter – Alderman Jeff Fancher**

Alderman Fancher stated he has concerns with the animal shelter contract. Mr. Fancher wants to see the resume of the new director, would like to see a copy of their budget and wants to know who the new accounting firm is. Mr. Fancher stated he needs more information before he feels like the City can move forward. Mr. Fancher stated he doesn't want to do anything until he sees what the county is going to do.

**Bids**

**Fencing of the Pet Milk Park and Fifth & Filbert Park**

Consideration of bids for the Pet Milk Park and Fifth & Filbert Park. This is for a 6 foot fence for each park. There were only two bids as follows: Shoemakers Fencing \$6,800 each park and Stembridge \$11,600 each park.

**Motion was made by Alderman Hansel and second by Alderman Fancher** to approve the fencing bid from Shoemakers Fencing for the amount of \$6,800 each for the Pet Milk Park and Fifth & Filbert Park.

**Roll Call**

Alderman Fancher	AYE
Alderman Hansel	AYE
Alderman Knight	AYE

Alderman Smith                    AYE  
Vice Mayor Proffitt                AYE

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

**Playground Equipment for Bryant Town Park**

Consideration of bids for playground equipment for Bryant Town Park. This was a state bid from Game Time in the amount of \$19,999. This is in the budget for purchase.

**Motion was made by Alderman Knight and second by Alderman Hansel** to approve the state bid from Game Time for playground equipment for the amount of \$19,999.

**Roll Call**

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

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

**Citizens Comments**

Lou Ann Blue introduced herself for running for Circuit Court Judge on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Finchum reported on the national news report of the little boy who dresses up like School Resource Officer Justin Vinson. This is good public relations for the police department.

**Adjournment**

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