

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
BOARD OF MAYOR & ALDERMEN
CITY OF NEWPORT, TENNESSEE
REGULAR SESSION
OCTOBER 8, 2019**

Public Hearing

Mayor Roland Dykes, III opened the public hearing for discussion of 2nd Reading of Ordinance #2019-06 Budget Amendment for the City of Newport. There was no one to comment.

Mayor Dykes closed the Public Hearing.

October 8, 2019

The City of Newport Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in the Newport City Hall Council Chambers on Tuesday, October 8, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in Regular Session.

Rev. Alvin Watts led the invocation. Alderwoman Louanna Ottinger led the Pledge to the Flag.

The following officials were present: Mayor Roland Dykes, III, Alderman Mike Hansel, Alderman Bobby Knight Alderwoman Louanna Ottinger, Alderman Steve Smith, City Attorney Terry Hurst, and City Administrator James Finchum.

The following officials were not present: Vice Mayor Mike Proffitt.

Mayor Dykes declared a Quorum.

Minutes

September 10, 2019 Regular Session

Motion by Alderwoman Ottinger and second by Alderman Hansel for minutes of the September 10, 2019 Regular Session to be approved as submitted.

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

Proclamations and/or Recognition of Citizens by the Mayor

Mayor Dykes wanted to give recognition of the 2019 Teen Board Presentee's from Cocke County but there was no one present. Mayor Dykes asked to postpone this and to have this on next month's agenda.

Communications from the City Administrator

City Administrator James Finchum reported the Tanner Building project is underway. The asbestos and demo are completed.

Mr. Finchum reported of complaints on English Street around Bryant Town Park from the residents about people driving too fast around the park. Mr. Finchum proposed a mandatory 20 mph around all city parks. The Board is in agreement to bring back next month.

Appointment of Boards, Commissions & Committees

Appointment to the Police Civil Service Board – Conway Wilson’s Appointment

Consideration of Appointment to the Police Civil Service Board for the remainder term of Conway Wilson, December 2020. Mr. Wilson sent a resignation letter to the Board.

Alderman Hansel nominated Arthur Styles to the Police Civil Service Board. There were no other nominations.

Nomination by Alderman Hansel and approved by the Board to appoint Arthur Styles to the Police Civil Service Board for the remainder term of Conway Wilson, December 2020.

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

Re-Appointment to the Newport Housing Board – Mitchel Webb

Consideration of Re- Appointment of Board to the Newport Housing Board – Mitchel Webb.

Approval by the Board to re-appoint Mitchel Webb to the Newport Housing Board.

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

Reports from Committees, Members of Council & Other Officers

Community Development Director Gary Carver stated the Tanner Building project is going well. The contractors are coming next week.

Old Business

2nd Reading of Ordinance #2019-06 Budget Amendment for the City of Newport

Consideration of 2nd Reading of Ordinance #2019-06 Budget Amendment for the City of Newport.

Motion was made by Alderman Smith and second by Alderman Knight to approve 2nd Reading of Ordinance #2019-06 Budget Amendment for the City of Newport.

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

New Business

1st Reading of Ordinance #2019-07 Amending the City of Newport Municipal Code Title 10 Animal Control, Chapter 2 Dogs and Cats, Section 10-207 Number of Animals

Consideration of 1st Reading of Ordinance #2019-07 Amending the City of Newport Municipal Code Title 10 Animal Control, Chapter 2 Dogs and Cats, Section 10-207 Number of Animals.

Motion was made by Alderwoman Ottinger and second by Alderman Knight to approve 1st Reading of Ordinance #2019-07 Amending the City of Newport Municipal Code Title 10 Animal Control, Chapter 2 Dogs and Cats, Section 10-207 Number of Animals.

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

Water Line Extension for Rack Lane – Alderwoman Louanna Ottinger

Consideration of Water Line Extension for Rack Lane – Alderwoman Louanna Ottinger. Alderwoman Ottinger stated there were 3 homes on Rack Lane that has never had water line. Alderwoman Ottinger is asking for a water line extension for Rack Lane for the total amount of \$5,000.

Motion was made by Alderman Smith and second by Alderman Hansel to approve Water Line Extension for Rack Lane for the total amount of \$5,000.

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

Stokely Memorial Library Roof Repair Donation

Consideration of Stokely Memorial Library Roof Repair Donation. Mr. Finchum stated with the summer storms the Stokely Memorial Library roof was damaged. After insurance the balance to make the roof repairs is \$1,900 from the library. Mr. Finchum's recommendation is to make a one time donation to the library in the amount of \$1,000 for roof repairs.

Motion was made by Alderwoman Ottinger and second by Alderman Knight to approve Stokely Memorial Library roof repair for a one time donation of \$1,000.

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

Cocke County Health Council Holding a Fall Meeting on the Riverwalk Behind City Hall

Consideration of Cocke County Health Council holding a fall meeting on the Riverwalk behind City Hall on October 15th 11:30 -1:00 pm.

Motion was made by Alderman Knight and second by Alderman Smith to approve Cocke County Health Council holding a fall meeting on the Riverwalk behind City Hall on October 15th 11:30 -1:00 pm.

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

Discussion of Grass Clippings in the Streets – Alderman Mike Hansel

Discussion of grass clippings in the streets – Alderman Mike Hansel. Alderman Hansel stated he wasn't at the last meeting when this issue was discussed. Alderman Hansel stated this is a public safety issue. Alderman Hansel asked to give Mr. Finchum the authority to look into this issue and bring back to the Board.

Motion was made by Alderman Hansel and second by Alderwoman Ottinger to approve authorizing City Administrator James Finchum to look into the grass clippings issue and bring back to the Board next month.

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

Bids, Purchases and Expenses

Bids for Used Truck for Parks & Recreation

Consideration of Bids for Used Truck for Parks & Recreation. The only bid that came in was from Fincher Truck and Equipment for a 2004 Ford 450 with a dump bed for the amount of \$9,700.

Motion was made by Alderwoman Smith and second by Alderman Knight to approve the bid from Fincher Truck and Equipment for a 2004 Ford 450 with a dump bed for the amount of \$9,700.

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

Comments from Citizens

Kim Gregg addressed the Board about criminal vagrants in the City of Newport. Ms. Gregg stated the Police Department has done a great job. Ms. Gregg stated we need help.

Chief of Police Maurice Shults stated in 1983 the Supreme Court struck down the vagrant laws in the country. Mr. Shults stated we don't have the authority, the vagrant laws are no longer enforceable.

Paul Gregg stated the police department has worked hard. Mr. Gregg stated it's the court system. Mr. Gregg stated no one will invest with these criminals here. Mr. Gregg stated he expected action.

Parks & Recreation Director Tim Dockery spoke about what his department has done to help the community in times of need. Mr. Dockery stated he would never deny anyone to clean up.

Jamie Dubin gave a proposal for community public transportation. Mayor Dykes stated this proposal is better suited for another agency like ETHRA.

Mayor Dykes stated these issues are complex. The police department are doing what they can to control vagrants. Mayor Dykes stated at this point I don't know what else we can do but to take it under advisement and will work diligently to rectify this issue.

Alderman Hansel stated if you see something report it. Alderman Hansel stated he was doing the best job he could along with the Board.

Mr. Finchum stated the best advise is to report it so if they are breaking an enforceable law we can fix the situation.

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.

Mayor Roland Dykes, III

James Finchum, City Administrator

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