

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
BOARD OF MAYOR & ALDERMEN
CITY OF NEWPORT, TENNESSEE
REGULAR SESSION
SEPTEMBER 13, 2016**

September 13, 2016

The City of Newport Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in the Newport City Hall Council Chambers on Tuesday, September 13, 2016 at 5:45 p.m. in Regular Session.

Rev. Alvin Watts led the invocation. Alderman Jeff Fancher 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

August 9, 2016 Regular Session

Motion by Alderman Gribble and second by Alderman Fancher for minutes of the August 9, 2016 Regular Session to be approved as submitted.

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.

Recognition of Citizens by the Mayor

Alderman Jeff Fancher presented Tommy Strange and the staff from Eastport Exxon a plaque for their years of service to the community.

Communications from the City Administrator

City Administrator James Finchum reported an update on the Tanner Building. Mr. Finchum stated the City hasn't received monies from the state. The monies from the grant have still awaiting confirmation of this per Jeremy Faison money does not have to be spent before June 30, 2017. Mr. Finchum asked permission to move forward on this project by signing a memorandum of understanding with Michael Brady Inc. for the design phase on this project if the monies are received.

Motion was made by Alderman Knight and second by Alderman Hansel to suspend the rules and add this item to the agenda.

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.

Alderman Gribble stated he would like to have someone to look at the memorandum of understanding. City Attorney Terry Hurst stated he has looked over the memorandum of understanding and has no problem with it. Mr. Finchum stated we can make modifications if needed at a later date.

Motion was made by Alderman Gribble and second by Alderman Fancher to give permission to Mr. Finchum to move forward to sign a memorandum of understanding with Michael Brady Inc. for the design phase on this project with modifications to paragraph 3 terms and conditions.

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.

Mr. Finchum reported the city hall roof is still under construction. The roofer's have run into problems that have slowed down the project. The estimated date to complete is the first week of October.

Mr. Finchum reported the storm drain on 2nd Street has been repaired. But they found another drain storm line that may need repairing in the future that is located down the road from this drain storm line.

New Business

1st Reading of Ordinance #2016-08 Amending the Zoning Regulations for R-1 Low Density Residential District for the City of Newport

Consideration of 1st Reading of Ordinance #2016-08 Amending the Zoning Regulations for R-1 Low Density Residential District for the City of Newport. Buildings & Codes Director Mark Robinson reported the Planning Commission has recommended the ordinance that will allow triplex in residential districts. Aldermen Gribble stated he didn't think that was a good idea to change the zoning regulations for triplex to be in residential areas city wide. Alderman Fancher stated he was in agreement with Alderman Gribble this would be city wide. After much discussion, Vice Mayor Proffitt asked Director Robinson to look into this more and bring back to the Board.

No action was taken.

1st Reading of Ordinance #2016-09 Amending the Municipal Code and Adopting by Reference State Traffic Offenses and Rules of the Road

Consideration of 1st Reading of Ordinance #2016-09 Amending the Municipal Code and Adopting by Reference State Traffic Offenses and Rules of the Road. City Attorney Hurst stated he has been working with Judge Vida Bell on this ordinance to add more charges to the city's municipal code to be taken into the city court.

Motion was made by Alderman Hansel and second by Alderman Fancher to approve 1st Reading of Ordinance #2016-09 Amending the Municipal Code and Adopting by Reference State Traffic Offenses and Rules of the Road.

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.

Resolution #2016-12 Closing Bank Account 42794 Narcotics Unit Fed Asset Account from Commercial Bank

Consideration of Resolution #2016-12 Closing Bank Account 42794 Narcotics Unit Fed Asset Account from Commercial Bank.

Motion was made by Alderman Fancher and second by Alderman Hansel to approve Resolution #2016-12 Closing Bank Account 42794 Narcotics Unit Fed Asset Account from Commercial Bank.

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.

Resolution #2016-13 TML Driver Safety Grant

Consideration of approval of Resolution #2016-13 TML Driver Safety Grant. Mr. Finchum reported this grant was a 50/50 match grant to pay for driver license check for city employees to pay up to \$4,000.

Motion was made by Alderman Hansel and second by Alderman Fancher to approve Resolution #2016-13 TML Driver Safety Grant.

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.

Funding the Newport Utilities Sewer Fund for E-1 Pumps

Consideration of approval of funding the Newport Utilities sewer fund for E-1 pumps. Mr. Finchum explained this is for city residents that are switching from septic to sewer for the first time. The fund is down to \$2,500. Mr. Finchum asked to appropriate \$10,000 or this fund.

Motion was made by Alderman Knight and second by Alderman Gribble to approve appropriating \$10,000 to Newport Utilities for the sewer fund for E-1 pumps.

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.

Funding Animal Shelter Roof

Consideration of approval of funding the Animal Shelter roof. Mr. Finchum explained there is no money in the budget for the Animal Shelter roof. Mr. Finchum asked permission to get bids for the animal shelter roof.

Motion was made by Alderman Gribble and second by Alderman Hansel to approve moving forward with getting bids for the Animal Shelter roof.

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.

Farmer's Market Grant

Consideration of approval of applying for the annual Farmer's Market grant in the amount of \$1,000. This is a 100% match grant.

Motion was made by Alderman Fancher and second by Alderman Gribble to approve of applying for the annual Farmer's Market grant in the amount of \$1,000.

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.

City of Newport Logo

Consideration of approval of a new logo for the City of Newport. Alderman Hansel reported the copy of the new logo that was in their books is the final version that the committee has picked.

Motion was made by Alderman Knight and second by Alderman Fancher to approve the new City of Newport logo that was submitted.

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.

Discussion of Animal Shelter

Alderman Fancher reported for the record that he is pro-animal and pro-animal shelter. Mr. Fancher has researched for funding and stated, “we are doing this all wrong.” The City is doing 70% of the funding. Most counties run their animal shelters not the cities. Mr. Fancher has been speaking to Greene County Mayor Crumon how they run their shelter. Mr. Fancher asked for the City Council to meet with Greeneville officials for an open discussion. Mr. Finchum stated the city paid \$200,000 and the county paid \$60,000 in fiscal year 2016 budget. The rest of the revenue is donations and fees. If there’s a cost overrun the city tax payers have to pay it. Mr. Finchum stated he wanted to go on the record that he is an animal lover & his wife donates to the shelter. The false statements that are going around on social media have got to give. Mr. Finchum stated, “I am not trying to shut down the shelter or rolling rescue.” Robert Brannon apologized for the false statements about Mr. Finchum. Mr. Brannon stated he wants to work together with Mr. Finchum.

Habitat for Humanity

Consideration of approval of donation of city property to Habitat for Humanity on Woodlawn Avenue. Mrs. Archer was not present to represent the request.

No action was taken.

Bids

Knuckleboom Trash Loader for the Street Department

Consideration of bids for knuckleboom trash loader for the Street Department. Street Superintendent Ben Hicks stated the two bids are Public Works in the amount of \$139,407 and CMI Equipment in the amount of \$129,559. Landmark Trucks was not in compliance with no warranty. Mr. Hicks stated he wanted a tool box and a bigger bucket. Mr. Hicks recommended the Petersen truck from CMI Equipment with the add on for the total amount of \$131,059.

Motion by Alderman Knight and second by Alderman Gribble to accept the bid from CMI Equipment for the Petersen knuckleboom trash loader in the amount of \$131,059.

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.

Vehicles for Parks & Recreation

Consideration of bids for a SUV up to \$35,000 and a truck up to \$30,000 for Parks & Recreation. Director Tim Dockery recommended taking the state bid for contract #50708 line 8 for both vehicles.

Motion by Alderman Hansel and second by Alderman Knight to accept the state bid contract #50708 line 8 for a SUV up to \$35,000 and a truck up to \$30,000.

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.

Citizens Comments

Robert Brannon stated he wants to work with Mr. Finchum to get the animal shelter working again. Chief of Police Maurice Shults stated he is 100% in support of animal control.

Mr. Finchum reported there is an additional \$300 that will go with the Farmer’s Market Grant.

Motion was made by Alderman Hansel and second by Alderman Fancher to approve the additional \$300 for the annual Farmer’s Market grant in the amount of \$1,300.

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

Adjournment

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

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

Mayor Connie Ball

James Finchum, City Administrator

RET