

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
BOARD OF MAYOR & ALDERMEN
CITY OF NEWPORT, TENNESSEE
REGULAR SESSION
SEPTEMBER 8, 2015**

September 8, 2015

The City of Newport Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in the Newport City Hall Council Chambers on Tuesday, September 8, 2015 at 5:45 p.m. in Regular Session.

Rev. Alvin Watts led the invocation. Chief of Police Maurice Shults 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

August 11, 2015 Regular Session

Motion by Alderman Gribble and second by Alderman Fancher for minutes of the August 11, 2015 Regular Session to be approved as submitted.

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

Proclamations and or Recognition of Citizens by the Mayor

Chief of Police Maurice Shults presented Jordan Douglas with employee of the month with a plaque and \$50.00. Chief Shults told how Patrolman Douglas stopped at a lemonade stand where 2 little girls were earning money for a doll. Patrolman Douglas bought the doll for the little girls and took it to the girls.

Communications from the City Administrator

City Administrator James Finchum stated the Board was given a recycling report at tonight's meeting that was prepared by the recycling department. These reports will be with the other monthly reports to City Council. Mr. Finchum explained the recycling items that Alderman Fancher spoke of at last month's meeting are on the website already but not readily visible. Mr. Finchum stated that we are working on the website to make it more user friendly.

Mr. Finchum stated Planner Gary Carver has made a Twitter account for the City of Newport with over 100 followers.

Appointment of Boards, Commissions, and Committees

Consideration of appointment for the Newport Utilities Board – Charles Benson appointment. This position will expire April 2017. Vice Mayor Proffitt suggested not filling this position due to the change of the City Charter going down to 5 positions. Alderman Hansel nominated Willie Green to fill this position. Alderman Fancher wanted to keep it to the 5 positions as well. Alderman Hansel stated that was a long time to leave this position open. Alderman Hansel stated it needs to be filled.

Motion by Alderman Hansel and second by Alderman Knight to appoint Willie Green to the Newport Utilities Board.

Roll Call for Willie Green

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

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

New Business

1st Reading of Ordinance #2015-10 Amending the Municipal Offenses to Add Panhandling Restrictions for the City of Newport

Consideration of 1st Reading of Ordinance #2015-10 Amending the Municipal Offenses to Add Panhandling Restrictions for the City of Newport. Mayor Ball made a recommendation to pass this ordinance.

Motion by Alderman Fancher and second by Alderman Knight to approve the 1st Reading of Ordinance 2015-10 Amending the Municipal Offenses to Add Panhandling Restrictions for the City of Newport.

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

Rescheduling the October City Council Meeting

Consideration of rescheduling the October City Council meeting due to the Governors Conference in Nashville is October 13 & 14. Mayor Ball recommended changing the meeting to October 6th. All Board members agreed to rescheduling the meeting to October 6th.

Replacing a Firefighter

Consideration of replacing a firefighter. The top two tested from the Civil Service are Steven Fine and Frank Shepard.

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Proffitt and second by Alderman Knight for Steven Fine to be hired to the Fire Department.

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

Allocation of a Janitor Position for the City Hall and Police Department

Consideration of allocation of a janitor position for the City Hall and Police Department. Mr. Finchum explained there was a part time position that was 20 hours a week. That employee had the opportunity to be hired full time at the Street Department. The City then used ETHRA to fill this position. Mr. Finchum asked the Board to allocate this new position back in the City Hall’s budget with 24 hours a week at \$10.00 an hour. This would be a part time position with no benefits.

Motion was made by Alderman Knight and second by Vice Mayor Proffitt to approve the allocation of a part time janitor position for the City Hall and Police Department for 24 hours a week at \$10.00 an hour.

Roll Call

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

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

Bids Over \$5,000

Discussion of bids over \$5,000 to be brought before the Board for approval was made by Alderman Gribble. Alderman Gribble stated he thought any purchases whether it is under state bidding or federal bidding system should be brought before the Board.

Motion was made by Alderman Gribble and second by Alderman Fancher to approve bids over \$5,000 to be brought before the Board for approval.

Roll Call

Alderman Fancher	AYE
Alderman Gribble	AYE
Alderman Hansel	NAY

Alderman Knight AYE
Vice Mayor Proffitt AYE

Vote 4-1. - Mayor Ball declared the motion passed and approved.

Traffic Light Study Carson Springs

Alderman Gribble stated he has received a letter from Senator Steve Southerland stating the state will do the study for the red light at Carson Springs. Alderman Gribble stated the importance of this red light along with the red light in front of Pizza Hut. Mayor Ball stated that he has received the report from the state stating there will not be a red light in front of Pizza Hut and the state will do a study do at Carson Springs.

Bids

Kennel Doors Bids

Consideration of bids for the Animal Shelter for kennel doors. There was only one bid from Shoemaker’s Fencing in the amount of \$13,000.

Motion by Alderman Gribble and second by Alderman Knight to accept the bid from Shoemaker’s Fencing in the amount of \$13,000 for the kennel doors.

Roll Call

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

All Ayes- Mayor Ball 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 Vice Mayor Proffitt and second by Alderman Hansel** to adjourn.

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

Mayor Connie Ball

James Finchum, City Administrator

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