

**NEWPORT BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 2, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER: President Tami Halstead called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. with Mayor Mary Hetrick leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Council Members Mary Bucher, Penny Frownfelter, Barbara Leach, Gregory Shope and Jacob Zentichko present.

GUESTS: Billie Dudley, Lorri McNaughton NRPS, Laura Campbell NRPS, Starr Schoppy, Dylan Schoppy, Luke Romans, and Susan Jones.

ANNOUNCEMENT THAT THE MEETING IS BEING RECORDED

President Halstead turned the meeting over to the Vacancy Board Chair, Frank Campbell via phone at 7:05 P.M. Billie Dudley was nominated by Cl'm Frownfelter and seconded by Cl'm Shope to fill the Borough Council vacancy left by Carl Roush's resignation. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Hetrick administered the oath of office to Billie Dudley and Billie took her seat at the Council table.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Billie Dudley attended the meeting to address Council on her desire to serve on the Borough Council. Lorri McNaughton and Laura Campbell from NRPS gave information on upcoming NRPS events. Starr Schoppy addressed some concerns with parking and ordinances.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

February 2, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes – Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm Bucher to approve the February 2, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes as drafted. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR FEBRUARY: Newport Borough General Fund Account Balance March 1, 2021 was \$107,343.99. Outstanding invoices presented for payment in the amount of \$4,830.39. Estimated income for the balance of March \$32,948.56. Estimated expenses for the balance of March \$30,151.78 will leave an estimated balance of \$114,715.65. The Liquid Fuels Account balance as of March 1, 2021 is \$23,720.80. Outstanding invoices presented for payment in the amount of \$1,785.28, will leave a balance of \$21,935.61. Cl'm Bucher moved, seconded by Cl'm Frownfelter to approve the financial report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY BILLS TO DATE: Cl'm Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl'm Bucher to pay the outstanding invoices presented for payment totaling \$4,830.39 from the General Fund Account and pay the outstanding invoices presented for payment totaling \$1,785.28 from the Liquid Fuels Account. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Approval of the appointment to Borough Council: Billie Dudley appointed to Council. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion on the Tax Collector's percentage fee for wages: More information needed, tabled until the next Borough Council Meeting.

Discussion on NRPS proposed activities: Council in favor of NRPS activities but will vote on activities closer to proposed dates due to ongoing Covid restrictions.

Discussion on purchasing a new tractor: More information needed, tabled until the next Borough Council Meeting.

Update on DCNR grant information for VMP pathways.

Discussion on USDA grant application through RCAP Solutions for GIS mapping of the borough’s storm system: Cl’m Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl’m Dudley to move forward with the grant application for GIS Mapping. Motion denied with a roll call vote of 4 to 3 with President Halstead, Cl’m Leach, Cl’m Zentichko and Cl’m Shope voting no. Cl’m Frownfelter, Cl’m Bucher and Cl’m Dudley voting yes.

Discussion on PCEDA: Tabled.

Discussion on VMP restrooms being open: Cl’m Bucher motioned, seconded by Cl’m Leach to advertise for part-time seasonal employment for VMP janitor/maintenance person. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

Update on Newport School District paving project: Tabled, still waiting to hear from the engineer.

Discussion on paying Fulkroad \$2,573.09 from the General Fund for paving work done above the original bid price: Cl’m Leach moved, seconded by Cl’m Shope to pay Fulkroad \$2,573.09 from the General Fund for work done over the original bid price, as advised by Solicitor Dissinger.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Letter of Interest for Borough Council Appointment
2. Letter of recommendation from Planning Commission for the Sign Ordinance
3. Letter of recommendations from PCPC
4. Code Enforcement Report from Harry Nazzaro

MAYOR’S REPORT

Approval of renewal of Handicap Parking Permit for Nympha Miller: Cl’m Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl’m Shope to approve the renewal of Handicap Parking Permit for Nympha Miller. Motion carried unanimously.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS

NEXT MEETING DATE: April 6, 2021 Regular Monthly Meeting

ADJOURNMENT: With there being no other business to come before Borough Council, Cl’m Frownfelter moved, seconded by Cl’m Leach to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted
Tina Burkholder
Secretary