



**City of Newport  
City Council Workshop Meeting Minutes  
August 16, 2012**

**1. ROLL CALL -**

**Council Present** – Tim Geraghty, Bill Sumner, Tom Ingemann, Tracy Rahm

**Council Absent** – Steven Gallagher

**Staff Present** – Brian Anderson, City Administrator; Bruce Hanson, Supt. of Public Works; Curt Montgomery, Police Chief; Mark Mailand, Fire Chief; Renee Helm, Executive Analyst;

**Staff Absent** – Fritz Knaak, City Attorney; John Stewart, City Engineer

**2. DISCUSS POLICE DEPARTMENT VACANCY**

**Admin. Anderson** – As Chief Montgomery mentioned Investigator Domeier did recently retire. Chief Montgomery and I have been discussing what we would like to do with the Department. Domeier hasn't been here for about 7-8 months due to medical reasons. Chief Montgomery and I are recommending that we give the investigative duties to Officer Freemyer who has been taking training on that for some time; he's also second in command. We would also take a look at hiring Dave Crist who is the current CSO.

**Chief Montgomery** – I just wanted to mention that Dave has to take his post test, which he is taking tomorrow. What I'm looking at is if he passes then I would go through the steps such as physical and psychological tests.

**Mayor Geraghty** – We can't take any actions tonight.

**Chief Montgomery** – I know, I'm not recommending that yet. I'm just looking to have the ability to look at hiring someone.

**Mayor Geraghty** – So you still want a fulltime investigator then?

**Chief Montgomery** – Yes, well Investigator Domeier also pulled street duty, he was just fulltime the last couple months due to limitations. You'll see him working the street as well as investigations.

**Mayor Geraghty** – You can proceed as you're talking and we can have a special Council meeting if you need one.

**Chief Montgomery** – Can I proceed with the background then?

**Mayor Geraghty** – Yes, you just can't offer anything.

**Councilman Rahm** – Anytime you have an opening I hope you look at what our needs are and your manpower and even though a person is doing certain jobs you might want people doing other sorts of jobs. So you look at your needs and say how does this new person best fit in your force. I'm assuming you're doing that.

**Chief Montgomery** - Yes

### 3. DISCUSS THE 2013 DRAFT BUDGET AND PRELIMINARY PROPERTY TAX LEVY

Admin. Anderson and Stacy Kvilvang, Ehlers, presented on this item as outlined in the August 16, 2012 City Council packet. The proposed plan does not increase the Total Tax Levies but due to the 7.5% decline in Tax Capacity, the proposed plan is estimated to cost the average homeowner an increase of \$70 for taxes paid 2013 or an average of \$38 per year for the next ten years. The power point is attached to the minutes.

**Councilman Ingemann** – Historically speaking, has the City ever done a long-range, ten-year plan like this before?

**Admin. Anderson** – I haven't come across one.

**Councilman Ingemann** – In the last 30 years, we've never done a plan like this?

**Mayor Geraghty** – No

**Mayor Geraghty** – What would be levied if we did the proposed? Would the resolution be the same?

**Ms. Kvilvang** – There would be a 6% increase.

**Mayor Geraghty** – So the \$70 is due to lost valuation.

**Ms. Kvilvang** - The \$70 is a factor of the lost valuation and also putting away other dollars to go to your fund balance. If that's something that you don't want to do that's where we can look at adjustments to have a decrease.

**Mayor Geraghty** – So you're saying we could take last year's resolution and it would be identical to this year?

**Admin. Anderson** – I believe that's how we worked out the numbers.

**Councilman Rahm** - I still think residents, me included, look at what we paid on our tax bill last year and what we're paying this year. I would like to make it a bit smoother if that's possible because there's \$70 increase this year and a \$31 increase next year and it seems bumpy. Is there a way we can make it so the increase is more gradual?

**Admin. Anderson** – We can look at doing that. On average, there is an increase of \$29 for the next six years.

**Ms. Kvilvang** – We tried to get it as close as possible to an even flow but when there are certain street projects coming on it's hard to balance but we can certainly see.

**Mayor Geraghty** – Let's observe it and talk with Brian over the next couple weeks.

**Admin. Anderson** – This will be on the September 6 agenda.

### 4. ADJOURNMENT

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Geraghty, Mayor

Respectfully Submitted,

Renee Helm

