

Newburyport Redevelopment Authority

March 9, 2011

Council Chambers

Minutes

1. Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Newburyport Redevelopment Authority was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chair James Shanley.

2. Roll Call

In attendance were members Patty Dorfman, Tim Brennan, John Morris and James Shanley.

3. Public Comment

None

4. Treasurer's Report

Tim Brennan said there have been no large revenues or expenses. Patty Dorfman moved to approve a payment of \$450 to Gretchen Joy for the minutes of the January 5, February 23 and March 9 meetings. John Morris seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. Patty Dorfman moved to approve a payment of \$143.59 to National Grid. John Morris seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

5. Minutes

Patty Dorfman moved to approve the minutes of the February 23 meeting as submitted. James Shanley seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

6. Application for Waterfront Use

Libby McNeil described the plans for the Yankee Homecoming Brewfest scheduled for July 30. The length of the event will be shorten by one hour this year, starting at 5:00 rather than 4:00. Ms. McNeil said the limits of liability insurance that is provided by Chase and Lunt is \$1 million and \$2 million. Patty Dorfman said the bylaws require \$1 million and \$3 million and there must have been riders in past years. Ms. McNeil will make sure the necessary insurance is provided. The security detail is to be the same as last year. Because of the new parking agreement, Ms. McNeil will contact Richard Jones for the City's approval the plan. The tent will be up for several days, impacting 40 to 50 parking spaces and resulting in a loss of revenue. It was agreed that because all of the revenue from the Brewfest goes to Yankee Homecoming, reimbursement for the loss would not be sought. John Morris moved to approve the application. Tim Brennan seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

7. New Business

James Shanley said he met with Geordie Vining and Andy Port about the location of the permit parking. The City would like to remove the existing sign and replace it with a new sign that indicates the lot is a municipal one. It will be communicated to the City that any new signage must incorporate the NRA's language from the existing sign. On the west lot, the spaces most desirable to the NRA are those closest to Merrimac Street and the boardwalk. Thirty spaces in the middle of the lot will be reserved for permit parking.

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On east lot, the spaces that fill up first are those closest to the Firehouse. The NRA might wish its spaces to be located on the east side of the lot. The Mayor would like the decision to be made as soon as possible in order that the permit parking might be in operation by May. A decision also must be made on the location of the meters. On the west lot the meters might be located by Merrimac Street and the boardwalk. The meters should be protected by bollards. The location of the meters on the east lot will be determined after a decision has been made about the permit parking spaces.

8. Proposal by Abramson Associates

James Shanley distributed a draft proposal submitted by Barry Abramson. The proposal will be discussed at the next meeting. James reported the Mayor is positive about plans to develop the waterfront and wants the City to work cooperatively with the NRA. Her change in attitude towards the development stems from a better understanding of the issues. The Mayor said the City would share in the cost of Mr. Abramson's fees and would take the money from the Harbor Commission's "free cash."

9. Adjournment

Patty Dorfman moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. John Morris seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.