

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held April 2, 2013**

The Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Thomas Lauzon. In attendance were: From Ward I, Councilors Charles Dindo and Paul Poirier; Ward II, Councilors Michael Boutin and Michael Smith; and from Ward III, Councilors Anita Chadderton and Lucas Herring. Also in attendance were City Manager Steven Mackenzie and Clerk/Treasurer Carolyn Dawes.

Mayor Lauzon introduced Spaulding High School musical director Cher Laston, who invited the cast of SHS's spring musical, *Singing in the Rain*, to perform the finale number from the show. Council gave a standing ovation for the performance. Ms. Laston said the show will be performed April 4-6, 2013.

Approval of Consent Agenda: Council approved the following consent agenda items as presented on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

- Minutes of the following meeting:
 - Regular Meeting of March 26, 2013
 - Special Meeting of March 26, 2013
- Approval of the City Warrants as presented.
- 2013 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office:
 - Taxicab Service Operator's License, Payless Taxi, one vehicle
 - Taxicab Driver's License, Ann-Marie Kew, Payless Taxi

The City Clerk and Treasurer Report – Clerk Dawes made the following announcements:

- Dog and wolf-hybrids were due to be licensed by April 1st. They must still be licensed, but there will be a late fee.
- The House Government Operations Committee will be taking up the Barre City charter changes approved by the voters in May 2012. The Clerk is attending the hearing on Thursday, April 4, 2013.

Approval of Building Permits –

Council approved the following building permits on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Address</u>
VT Housing Finance Agency	89 Country Way
Kyle G. Day	7 Downes Ave.

Liquor Control Board –

Council approved an expanded outside consumption permit for Ladder 1 Grill, 8 South Main Street, on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried with Councilor Boutin abstaining.**

Council approved the following liquor and tobacco license renewals on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried with Councilor Boutin abstaining.**

1st CLASS

Quarry Grill & Tavern	210 N. Main Street
Maple Street Pub Co. DBA Mulligan's	9 Maple Avenue

City Manager's Report –

Manager Mackenzie reported on the following:

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- Met with VTRANS & Luck Bros. representatives re. completion of North Main Street Reconstruction Project.
- Met with Tax Stabilization Committee, working on a final draft of the policy, which will be coming before Council in the next 30 days.
- Held final parking summit – report will be coming to Council in 2-3 weeks.
- Met on renewal of cell tower agreement.
- Read off vacancies on City boards and committees.

Visitors & Communications – NONE

Old Business – NONE

New Business –

A) Barre City Enhancement Grant Amendment Public Hearing Warned for 7:15 p.m.

Mayor Lauzon opened the public hearing at 7:15 PM. Chandra Pollard from Central Vermont Community Land Trust (CVCLT) requested the City continue as community partner with CVCLT on the Green Mountain Reserve Fund, which provides funding opportunities to homeowners to make quality housing standards improvements. CVCLT is seeking \$900,000 in new funding, more than half of which will be for lending capital. Mayor Lauzon asked about delinquency rates for loans, and Ms. Pollard said the current delinquency rate is less than 5%. She said the program promotes successful and sustainable home ownership.

Mayor Lauzon asked for questions and comments. Hearing none, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 7:22 PM.

B) Resolution #2013-03 Related to VCDP Grant Agreement for Continuation of the Green Mountain Loan Fund.

Council approved the resolution on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Chadderton.
Motion carried.

C) CVCLT “Partnering Presentation” and VHCB Briefing Update.

Martha Englert from CVCLT said CVCLT serves Washington, Orange and Lamoille counties and owns 37 properties throughout its service area. They will be doing a community assessment on quality of life issues in Barre City this year, and are planning for the development of administrative and housing space on Summer Street. Mayor Lauzon said CVCLT is a great partner, and as enthused about Barre City’s future as the municipality is. Ms. Englert reminded everyone that CVCLT has low interest loans available to owners of multi-unit buildings of four units or less. The loans are for making health and safety code improvements.

D) Barre Housing Authority Quarterly Update.

BHA executive director Chip Castle and board chair Maryellen LaPerle gave their first quarterly report to the Council. Mr. Castle talked about the recent move of their administrative offices from the former Ward 5 school to Washington Street. He updated Council on the VCDP grant which was co-sponsored by Barre City and Barre Town and allowed BHA to make their housing complexes more accessible for people with disabilities. Mr. Castle gave a brief history of the creation of BHA through state statute, and the housing complexes they run throughout Barre City and Barre Town. He also spoke about their operation of the Section 8 housing voucher program.

There was discussion about managing landlord/tenant issues, the number of Section 8 vouchers available during a year and the effect of the federal sequestration on BHA’s funding and operations.

Mayor Lauzon said Council will tour a BHA facility before the next quarterly presentation. It was suggested Council hold its meeting at the facility following the tour.

E) Main Street Parking Space Size Discussion.

Mayor Lauzon said Councilors received a memo from City Engineer Reg Abare, which reviewed the design standards for parking spaces along North Main Street. The Mayor said he has asked Mr. Abare to review the layout.

There was discussion about the installation of meter posts and meters along North Main Street, scheduling a field trip to review parking spaces, and parking along Summer Street.

F) Resolution #2013-02 Related to VCDP Grant Agreement for Enterprise Aly.

City Planner Michael Miller said the City has applied for a VCDP grant to allow the City to engage an engineer to draft bid documents for the work to be done along Enterprise Aly. Council approved the resolution on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Boutin. **Motion carried.**

Mr. Miller gave a brief update on the Enterprise Aly project and said it is a priority for this year. He said the brownfield correction action plan update will come to Council in the near future.

G) 2013 Annual Appointments/Reappointments.

Council approved the annual appointments and reappointments as presented on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

H) Authorization to Purchase New Police Cruiser.

Mayor Lauzon reviewed a memo from Manager Mackenzie, and said the City is looking to take advantage of savings associated with the state bid prices to purchase a cruiser. The order will be placed now, but the City will not take delivery of the vehicle until after the start of the new fiscal year. The Mayor said the purchase is included in the capital program.

Council approved the purchase on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

I) Thunder Road Car Show.

Mayor Lauzon said he spoke with a representative from Thunder Road, who requested to hold the annual car show and parade in the downtown on April 27th. The event would call for blocking off North Main Street in the morning from City Hall Park to Depot Square, followed by the parade to the race track at noon. The Mayor said he wants to make sure the participants clean up after themselves and provide portable toilets. There was discussion about payment for emergency services and the need for Council approval of an entertainment license. Mayor Lauzon said an entertainment license application will come back to the Council for approval.

Round Table –

Councilor Herring said over 1,400 people attended last weekend's annual egg hunt, and next year's event is scheduled for April 19, 2014. He said the Council was provided with preliminary information about a proposed joint Barre City/Barre City Elementary & Middle School public forum on the budget re-votes. He said Council will discuss the proposed forum next week. Councilor Herring said there are now 317 members of Front Porch Forum.

Councilor Smith thanked the Manager for having the trash cans put out on Main Street and asked if a can could be placed in front of City Hall. Manager Mackenzie said he will look into it.

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Councilor Dindo said the South Barre Bridge Street bridge is closed due to construction, and people should plan on detouring around the bridge.

Council adjourned at 8:42 PM on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

An audio transcript of the meeting is available through the Clerk's Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk

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