

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held January 12, 2016**

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

Absent: NONE

Adjustments to the Agenda: NONE

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Council approved the following consent agenda items on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

- Minutes of the following meetings:
 - Regular meeting on January 5, 2016.
- City Warrants as presented: week 2016-02.
 - Accounts Payable: \$597,916.47
 - Payroll (gross): \$116,930.34
- Licenses & Permits:
 - 2016 Animal License:
 - Christopher Miller, 3 Cooley Street, 5 lbs of honey bees
 - 2016 Food Establishment License:
 - Mulligan's Irish Pub, 9 Maple Avenue
 - 2016 Entertainment License:
 - Mulligan's Irish Pub, 9 Maple Avenue

Councilor Dindo requested that the animal license renewals associated with chickens and ducks be voted on separately. Council approved the following 2016 Animal Licenses on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried with Councilors Chadderton and Dindo voting against.**

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Animals</u>
Bruce Landry	85 Blackwell Street	18 chickens
Erin Christian	95 Smith Street	5 chickens & 4 ducks

The Clerk noted that the license list included those licenses that have not been renewed yet this year. Last week she mailed reminder notices and applications with updated fees that reflect the late fees from ordinance, and said if the applications, fees and late fees weren't received by January 22nd, the license holders would be subject to enforcement.

The City Clerk/Treasurer Report – Clerk Dawes reported on the following:

- Information for the 2016 Annual (Town) Meeting is posted on the website, including the list of offices up for election, petition and consent forms.
- Requests for early absentee ballots are being accepted.
- Reminder to register to vote. Deadline to vote in the Annual (Town) Meeting and Presidential Primary is the Wednesday before the March 1st elections.

The Clerk distributed a memo including the proposed charter amendments. The memo will be recorded

in the City records next Monday, as is required by statute. The discussion on local option taxes is on next week's Council agenda for discussion, and all the charter changes will be discussed at the first public hearing scheduled for January 28th.

Approval of Building Permits – NONE

Liquor Control – Clerk Dawes said the Quarry will be changing hands in the near future and the new owners have submitted their first class liquor license application and outside consumption permit application. In an effort to help accommodate a swift changeover, the Clerk recommended Council consider the applications before the change occurs. Both applications have police and fire department approval. Justin Pecor, one of the buyers, addressed the Council on their plans for running the business. Council approved the liquor license and outside consumption permit, contingent upon the sale going through, on motion of Councilor Poirier, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried with Councilor Boutin abstaining.**

City Manager's Report –

Councilor Dindo noted the department head report said cemetery records are being entered onto a computer. There was a discussion about the physical cemetery records, how and where they are archived. Mayor Lauzon requested an update in three months.

Visitors & Communications – NONE

Old Business – NONE

New Business –

A) Central Vermont Public Safety Board Annual Request for FY 17 Budget.

CVPSA chair Tom Golonka presented the FY16 report, FY17 budget and plans for the future. Mr. Golonka introduced the other board members and executive director Paco Aumand. He said the board is working on consolidating dispatch services over the next 18 months. They will begin with enhanced training for all dispatchers in Barre City and Montpelier, and will be seeking a Homeland Security grant to assist with implementation.

There was discussion on creating redundancies to allow for emergencies, not displacing current administrative services, looking at overall efficiencies, involvement with the unions, and moving beyond dispatch to ambulance, fire and police.

The proposed FY17 budget is \$100,000, with the City's share being \$53,000. Mr. Aumand thanked City staff for its support over the past year.

C) 7:15 PM 1st Reading Ordinance 2015:04: Animal and Fowl Ordinance.

Mayor Lauzon moved this item up on the agenda and opened the reading at 7:30 PM. Clerk Dawes noted the draft being reviewed this evening incorporates the changes made at the December 1st First Reading. Councilor Boutin and Dindo distributed additional copies of the draft with their hand-written amendment suggestions. There were several people in the audience that participated in the discussion.

There was discussion on the leash law, running at large, licensing cats, establishing a trap/neuter/release program, requiring collars and tags for cats, addressing issues between neighbors, and use of the term "community cat" versus "feral cat".

Councilor Poirier asked the Mayor if they could separate the ordinance and take up the cat and chicken sections separately. The Mayor concurred.

Councilor Poirier made the motion to approve the draft language on cats as presented by the Clerk with the insertion of the new language on licensing cats, and move that language on to a second reading. The motion was seconded by Councilor Smith. Mayor Lauzon asked the mover and seconder to withdraw the motion for 10 minutes while the Council considers the chicken language in hopes of approving the document in its entirety. Councilors Poirier and Smith concurred and temporarily withdrew the motion.

Councilors Boutin and Dindo reviewed their proposed amendments to the language on poultry. There was discussion on the number of poultry allowed per property, rotation of chickens, allowing roosters, variances for additional chickens, setbacks, education for chicken owners, and urban versus rural neighborhoods.

Mayor Lauzon took a straw poll vote to see where the Council fell with regards to supporting the amended poultry language. It appeared there was enough support to pass the amended language onto a second reading.

Councilor Poirier re-made his motion to approve the cat sections of the ordinance with the inclusion of the licensing language, again seconded by Councilor Smith.

Councilor Boutin offered a friendly amendment to include all the poultry language as amended, seconded by Councilor Dindo. Councilors Poirier and Smith accepted the friendly amendment.

Council voted on the amendment. **The motion carried.**

Council voted on the original motion as amended. **The motion carried.**

Other)

Mayor Lauzon reviewed his proposed public/private partnership between the City and himself, and then presented a Powerball ticket to the Clerk for the City. Tomorrow night's drawing is worth \$1.5 billion.

B) FY 17 Proposed Budget Presentation.

Manager Mackenzie said the proposal isn't complete yet, but will be presented to the Council at Saturday's special meeting. Mayor Lauzon reminded the Council of the special meeting on Saturday, January 16th at 8:00 AM to review and discuss the proposed FY17 budget. Clerk Dawes said Saturday's presentation will satisfy the charter requirement that the Manager present his budget to Council at least 45 days before Town Meeting Day.

D) Electric Vehicle Charging Station ChargePoint Subscription Renewal – Correction.

Clerk Dawes said she is concerned that she hadn't been clear in her presentation last week and wanted to make sure the Council had the correct information on the cost of the subscription renewal, which will be \$1,120 for all four charging ports. Council approved the amount and renewal as re-presented on motion of Councilor Boutin, seconded by Councilor Chadderton. **Motion carried.**

E) Approval of Annual Certificate of Highway Mileage.

Clerk Dawes said there have been no changes on the certificate since last year. Council approved the certificate on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

F) Authorization to Execute Utility Relocation Settlement Agreement (STP SCRP (10) for VT Rte. 14 Box (Jockey Hollow) Culvert Project.

Manager Mackenzie said the City didn't find out about the need to relocate a water line until after the project began. The Manager said the cost of the relocation was \$110,000, but he negotiated with the state

to cap the City's exposure at \$80,000. Payment will be made out of the water fund. Council approved the settlement agreement on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

Round Table:

Councilor Dindo said there is a bike path committee meeting tomorrow afternoon.

Councilor Poirier said he has not yet made up his mind with regards to supporting legislation to legalize marijuana. He said he would like the Council to consider holding a public forum on the subject in March, and then making a recommendation to the legislature.

Executive Session – NONE

The Council meeting adjourned at 9:58 PM on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Boutin. **Motion carried.**

An audio recording of this meeting is available from the City Clerk.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk

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