

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council  
Held February 2, 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:** Mayor Lauzon said he may re-arrange the agenda to accommodate the public hearing, depending on time.

**Approval of Consent Agenda:**

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

- Minutes of the following meetings:
  - Regular meeting on January 26, 2016, as corrected.
  - Special meeting on January 30, 2016.
- City Warrants as presented: week 2016-04.
  - Accounts Payable: \$206,141.02
  - Payroll (gross): \$101,137.92
- Licenses & Permits: NONE

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

- Because of Presidents' Day on February 15<sup>th</sup>, third quarter taxes are due by February 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Annual (Town) Meeting information is posted on the City website, including the approved warning and the draft FY17 budget.
- Requests for early absentee ballots are being accepted. Ballots will be available by February 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Dog licenses are available. Any dog six months or older must be licensed by April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Approval of Building Permits** – NONE

**Liquor Control** –

Clerk Dawes said 2016 license renewals went in the mail today.

**City Manager's Report** – Manager Mackenzie reported on the following:

- Public Works removed the non-functional air quality monitoring station on Merchant's Row, with permission of the state.
- Received notice of the City's final ISO rating, which improved from 4 to 3. There are none lower in the state.
- The Budget Committee is working on its next survey to be conducted at the Annual (Town) Meeting Day polls.

Councilor Herring asked for an update on the civic center marketing position. Mayor Lauzon said the committee has made a selection, Manager Mackenzie is reviewing the proposed contract, and it will be coming to Council for approval in the next week or two.

**Visitors & Communications** – NONE

**Old Business – NONE**

**New Business –**

**B) Approval of CY16 Stray Animal Holding Agreement with CVHS.**

Mayor Lauzon noted it wasn't quite time for the public hearing, so he took item B on the agenda first. Manager Mackenzie recommended Council approve the agreement, contingent upon review and approval by the Manager and Chief Bombardier. He requested that he and the Chief have authority to make adjustments as necessary. Mayor Lauzon said those adjustments would not include adjusting the capped fee in section #11.

Council approved the recommendation with conditions on motion of Councilor Boutin, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

**A) 7:15 PM Second Public Hearing Charter Changes.**

Mayor Lauzon opened the public hearing at 7:13 PM and asked for comments from the Council or public. The Mayor reviewed the proposed changes, and Clerk Dawes reviewed the charter change process. Hearing no additional comments or questions, Mayor Lauzon closed the public hearing at 7:17 PM.

**C) Old Labor Hall Entertainment License Conditions.**

Chief Bombardier reviewed past events at the labor hall, and said his recommended conditions take into consideration the fact that the labor hall is unique among entertainment license holders due to no on-site staffing for events. Labor hall representatives Heather Pipino, Karen Lane and Tom Davis distributed a chart showing the differences between the Chief's recommended conditions and their proposals.

There was discussion on past experiences with youth events, police coverage for certain events, and when staff would be required to be on site. Ms. Lane said all users of the labor hall must abide by their policies, which include chaperonage for youth events. Mayor Lauzon suggested the labor hall could provide contact information for events to the police department in lieu of required staff or police presence. There was continued discussion on how that contact information would be provided and whether it was necessary for smaller events.

Ms. Lane said the current occupancy limit is 199, however with recent safety improvements they hope to have that number raised. There was continued discussion around staffing needs depending on anticipated attendance at events. Chief Bombardier and Mayor Lauzon suggested providing contact information would be required for events with anticipated attendance of more than 75 people. Councilor Poirier said he supports the labor hall and doesn't see the need for police presence for many of their events. He said he can see having police for events of 250 plus people, but it should be strictly voluntary under that.

Mayor Lauzon suggested the conditions include incorporating the labor hall's usage policies into the entertainment license and requiring contact information be provided to the police department for events with expected attendance of more than 75 people. Ms. Lane suggested the labor hall board review its current usage policies and see if they can incorporate some of the changes as recommended by Council. They will also meet with Chief Bombardier to continue the discussion. They will report back to Council in the next 30 days or so.

**Round Table:**

Councilor Herring said the BCEMS 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be displaying art in the downtown again this year, and they hope to include City Hall as a display space.

Councilor Boutin apologized to Councilor Dindo for a comment he made at the January 30<sup>th</sup> meeting.

To be approved at 02-09-16 Barre City Council Meeting

Councilor Dindo reminded everyone of the meeting to discuss chickens and fowl on Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 – 8:30 PM

**Executive Session – NONE**

The Council meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Chadderton. **Motion carried.**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk

DRAFT