

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held June 21, 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 Paul Poirier and Jeffrey Tuper-Giles; 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 there will be an item related to purchasing vehicles for the public safety departments added to the agenda.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

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

- Minutes of the following meetings:
 - Regular meeting on June 14, 2016
- City Warrants as presented: week 2016-25.
 - Accounts Payable: \$192,004.51
 - Payroll (gross): \$112,492.69
- Licenses & Permits: NONE

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

- Water/sewer bills are due before the end of June.
- Working with VEPC to finalize the Original Taxable Value (OTV) parcel list for the TIF District. Next week's agenda will include a public hearing to review and approve a list of changes to be submitted to VEPC.
- Absentee ballots for August 8th primary will be available beginning Monday, June 27th. We will be mailing out nearly 200 that have already been requested.
- Grievance hearings begin tomorrow and run through Friday. Scheduled to set the tax rate at the July 5th Council meeting.

Approval of Building Permits – Council approved the following building permits on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Address</u>
Scott & Monique Tewksbury	57 Elm Street
Brent & Karen Sleeper	150 Railroad Street

Liquor Control – Dustin Poitras from Maria's Bagels said he is planning on having later hours with some possible entertainment; therefore he has applied for a first class liquor license. Council approved the license application on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried with Councilor Boutin abstaining.**

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

- FEMA has approved the Gunner's Brook buyout projects. Demolition scheduled for this fall.
- Municipal pool opened for the season yesterday.
- BOR ceiling sandblasting completed. Painting is beginning.

Councilor Smith said he would like to discuss the purchase of recycling containers for N. Main Street at next week's meeting.

There was a discussion on parking ticket collections, scofflaws and towing or booting vehicles. Councilor Poirier requested a list of the top ten ticket holders. Chief Bombardier said he will look into whether that information can be made public.

Visitors & Communications – NONE

Old Business – NONE

New Business -

A) Municipal Tennis Court Resurfacing Project – Contract Approval.

B) Municipal Tennis Court Resurfacing Project – Community Donations.

Mayor Lauzon said he would take both agenda items together. Manager Mackenzie reviewed the memo from Buildings and Community Services Director Jeff Bergeron about the resurfacing contract. Mayor Lauzon said the City has received \$5,175 in donations to date. All donations will be used to offset costs. The Manager said the balance of the costs will come out of the maintenance line item in the budget.

Council gratefully accepted the donations, and authorized approval of the contract with the total expenditure to be net of the donations on motion of Councilor Boutin, seconded by Councilor Chadderton. **Motion carried.**

C) Summer Meal Programs.

BCS-Recreation director Stephanie Quaranta said the summer meal program kicked off yesterday with the opening of the pool. Meals are being offered at the pool, Barre City Elementary & Middle School, Aldrich Library and Highgate Apartments. The meals are free to anyone 18 years or younger, and mid-afternoon snacks are also offered. Ms. Quaranta said she would like to offer a meal site in the North End in the future, tied to some sort of recreational activity. She said the department has tapped into the Council-approved scholarship fund established last year to fund free swimming passes to those in need.

D) Approve Resolution #2016-05: FY17 Water & Sewage Rate Schedules.

Mayor Lauzon said the resolution reflects annual rate increases. Council approved the resolution on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

E) Approval Resolution 2016-06: FY17 Tax Anticipation Note Documents.

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

F) Approve Resolution 2016-07: VMERS.

Mayor Lauzon said the resolution allows the City to offer different VMERS plans to its exempt employees. Council approved the resolution on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Boutin. **Motion carried.**

Other: Purchase of Public Safety Vehicles.

Mayor Lauzon said this item was not warned on the agenda, and so any action Council takes is subject to ratification at next week's meeting.

Chief Bombardier presented a proposal to purchase one used vehicle each for the police and fire departments. The Chief said the vehicles are part of the replacement policy and rotation plan, and that one vehicle is included in the FY16 capital budget and one in the FY17 capital budget. There was

discussion on the selection process, and what will happen to the vehicles that are going out of service.

Council approved the request to purchase the vehicles, subject to ratification next week, on motion of Councilor Poirier, seconded by Councilor Tuper-Giles. **Motion carried.**

G) Approval of Request to Petition Probate Court to Declare Brusa Trust and Keith Fund as Uneconomic.

Mayor Lauzon reviewed Clerk Dawes’ memo on requesting that the trusts be terminated as uneconomic. Clerk Dawes said the termination will better preserve the principal balances for their intended uses, and they will be maintained as separate trusts to continue to benefit those named in the originating documents.

Councilor Boutin made the motion to authorize the Clerk to petition Washington County Probate Court on behalf of the City of Barre to terminate the Brusa Trust and Keith Fund as uneconomic under 14A VSA §414. The motion included Council’s intention to maintain the trusts separately, and to continue to honor the original bequests and purposes of the funds. The motion was seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

H) Approval of Cemetery Perpetual Funds Investment Policy.

Council approved the policy as presented by Clerk Dawes on motion of Councilor Boutin, seconded by Councilor Tuper-Giles. **Motion carried.**

I) Updated DY16 Year-end Budget Projection.

Manager Mackenzie said he reviewed the most recent budget to actuals for FY16, and said his revised estimate for the year end surplus is \$90,000 - \$100,000.

J) Discussion and/or Authorization of Discretionary Unbudgeted FY16 Expenditures.

Mayor Lauzon and Manager Mackenzie reviewed lists of possible expenditures, noting that the priorities are the traffic signals, pool mechanical room and BOR ceiling. Mayor Lauzon said Council can authorize the Manager to spend up to a certain amount, and the Manager will have the final approval subject to the FY16 general fund surplus. The Mayor said any money spent beyond the surplus can be reimbursed through the Semprebbon Annuity Fund. There was discussion about including six recycling containers for North Main Street on the priority list. Mayor Lauzon said Councilors can gather informally at 6:30 PM before next week’s meeting to tour N. Main Street and look at possible locations for recycling containers.

Council authorized the following expenditures on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
BOR ceiling painting	\$75,000
Repairs to traffic signals	\$50,000
Repairs to pool mechanical room	\$2,000
Purchase of 6 recycling containers for N. Main Street	\$6,000

Round Table –

Councilor Poirier said whomever is cutting the brush back near the Granite Museum is doing a good job. Manager Mackenzie said the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps is doing the work. The VYCC will be visiting the Council in the near future to talk about the projects they are doing in the City this year.

Councilor Poirier said he has heard complaints from people living on Circle Street who are noticing cars parking along their street and playing loud music. He also said he has noticed long grass on the lawns of a number of occupied properties. Clerk Dawes said City ordinance has language related to lawns on unoccupied properties, but not for occupied properties.

To be approved at 06-28-16 Barre City Council Meeting

Councilor Herring said the Granite Museum is hosting the Fire Walk this Friday evening as part of this weekend's Rock Fire festivities.

Councilor Smith reviewed this week's Wednesday Authors at the Aldrich and Concerts in Currier Park.

Councilor Boutin said the first reading of a proposed ordinance revision that would create an umbrella vendor license will be on next week's agenda.

Councilor Tuper-Giles said the local faith community has been very supportive following the shootings in Orlando earlier this month, however, two rainbow flags flying in front of the Congregational Church to show support of the LGBT community have been stolen.

Councilor Chadderton said she would like to see a list of unoccupied properties in the City, and hear a report on the rental housing inspection program. Manager Mackenzie said the program is going well, and the report will come to Council in a couple months.

Executive Session – NONE

The Council meeting adjourned at 8:29 PM on motion of Councilor Boutin, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk