



March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Residents and Neighbors,

Being on Council to represent Ward 3 for the past 7 years has been wonderful and I thank all of you for reaching out and the support you have given. I am glad I still get to represent you, along with the rest of the City residents, in this new role as Mayor. I thank everyone who turned out to vote and for the support of all the Articles on the ballot. It is such an honor and privilege to be able to continue to serve the City of Barre. I also want to say congratulations to Michael Boutin, Jeffrey Tuper-Giles, and John LePage on their election wins to stay on Council.

As many of you know, I have served on many boards, councils and committees throughout the City and State. I have also established relationships with my counterparts in neighboring communities and hope to start using those connections to bring forward some of the changes that you have asked of me. I have already started to work on the items that have been brought to my attention as a Councilor and will continue to work on them over the next two years.

Although I know many of you already, it was great to meet new people and hear concerns that you want to have addressed. I was also able to become more involved and aware of issues that are affecting our City and our neighboring communities. I attended:

- An Apprenticeship and Workforce Development Forum with Bernie Sanders, talking about how to bridge the gap between students and jobs in Vermont;
- the Opioid Forum at Montpelier High School that included 13 panelists from Law Enforcement, Healthcare and Community Services. They discussed the efforts underway to confront this epidemic, which more is needed to turn the curve in our area;
- Local Government Day at the Statehouse. This event connected me with other local leaders, to listen to current bills in the Legislature, and to gather updated documentation.
- Meetings with Barre residents at Espresso Bueno, Maria's Bagels, and in the Milne Room at the Library.

Moving forward, I will continue my commitment to the residents and business owners in the City of Barre. I will still attend small business openings and events in the City as often as I can. You will see me in your neighborhoods and in your storefronts, checking in to make things are going well throughout the year.

You have given Council a budget to work within, approved Capital and Pool Bonds, gave us permission to assess Local Options, and committed again to repairing our streets. The energy for new initiatives is rising and the passion for existing items is still strong. It is now our job to start working to implement these items and I thank you for the opportunity to do so.

Lucas J. Herring  
Mayor, City of Barre