



August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018

Residents and Neighbors,

We had a tragedy in our community this month. Courtney Gaboriault was fatally shot during a domestic disturbance. I was able to attend the candlelight vigil memorial service held by Courtney's Allies and am grateful that so many people were able to come out and express their support for Courtney and her family. Domestic violence affects many of us and requires our attention to take notice of incidents and help our friends and neighbors. Domestic violence is not justifiable, and victims and their survivors need our full support and understanding. If you know of anyone that could be a victim of domestic violence, please let them know there are resources in Washington County for those dealing with domestic violence situation through Circle at 1-877-543-9498.

The City will start posting weekly police logs to the City Website. City Councilors receive this information in our weekly packets, but this is public information that can keep residents aware of reported offenses within their neighborhoods and City: <https://www.barrecity.org/weekly-police-logs.html>

The City had a discussion on live-streaming of Council meetings. Council meetings are already broadcast live on public access television, but not everyone has cable. Live Streaming would be a way to connect more residents with the actions at city council as they are happening and if they are unable to attend in person.

Councilors continued hearing from the City Department Heads and touring different City facilities:

- Overview of City Clerk/Treasurer's Office Functions from Clerk/Treasurer Carol Dawes
- Overview of Permits, Planning and Assessing Department Functions from Planning Director Janet Shatney. She was also able to provide information on parking utilization within the City of Barre parking lots.
- Janet and Carol were also able to provide a tour of Treasurer/Planning/Permits/Assessment Offices
- Overview and tour of the Wastewater Treatment Functions from Bill Ahearn

Councilors discussed possible Charter changes to be included with the November Elections. We reviewed proposed language including the expansion of duties for the Housing Review Board, which I believe will be beneficial in recruitment of members to this board as well as support concerns of our residents.

We were able to recognize Andrew Supernault for 40 years of service to the City. It is not often I can say that someone has worked for the City longer than I have been alive and Mr. Supernault has shown his dedication to the City with this commitment. Thank you for all your hard work!

Appointments to City Council Committees saw a large boost this past month. I want to thank all of those who have stepped up to volunteer with our city committees:

- Janell Perry to the ADA Committee
- Jessica C. Egerton to the Development Review Board

- Katrina Pelkey to the Development Review Board
- Chrysta Daniels to the Dog Park Committee
- Romni Palmer to the Energy Committee
- Maureen Morey to the Recreation Committee
- Brett Rubinate to the Recreation Committee

City Council approved several items including the following:

- Set FY19 Municipal Tax and Local Agreement Rates
- Award Cemetery Mower Bids
- Award Concrete Paving Bid
- Request Approval to Award Miscellaneous Paving Bid
- Purchase Paving Milling Machine
- Waste Water Treatment Facility Bond Documents
- Award of Annual Supplies Bids
- Warn Public Hearings for Proposed Charter Changes to be Considered at November General Election
- Ratification of FY19 Propane Contract with Irving Oil Company
- Ratification of FY19 Fuel Oil Contract with Dead River Company

And lastly, there are several new and returning initiatives being discussed:

- Another Neighborhood Watch meeting will be held on August 8th at 5:30pm 2nd floor of the Civic Center. Det. Pontbriand and I have been walking in the Westwood Parkway area to hand out flyers. I have reached out to Chip Castle at the Barre Housing Authority to possibly include Neighborhood watch as part of the facility tours.
- The August 14<sup>th</sup> meeting date is change to August 13<sup>th</sup> due to Primaries
- Next Walk Audit tour is scheduled for August 23rd from 11-2pm.
- Bernadette Rose presented a Tick Talk, informing residents on Lyme and other diseases from ticks and ways to prevent this.
- I am working with ReSOURCE on a proclamation surrounding an event at their site. Along with this is a conversation with CVSWMD on items they will take that ReSOURCE isn't able to.
- I have information from AmeriCorps on a Teen Center. There is additional funding needed, which I am meeting with a potential philanthropic investor in August to see what, if anything, can be gained.
- The City will be looking to gather cost estimate information for a few different software that can improve city functions. I attended a demonstration for Salesforce as a platform, while the parking committee has demos to provide use of credit cards with parking meters. The City uses several different electronic systems, and this is an evaluation on what will provide the city with the best services at a reasonable cost.
- Working with Beth Boutin at Vermont Housing on the Census data used for the New Market Tax Credits, the numbers are updated every two years for designation of the difference tracts. There is no changing the tract that Park Center would be in currently, but the area could become re-designated in 2019 to go into effect 2020 if the data states this area meets their requirements.

- Will Eberle from the Agency of Human Services HS and discussion on the Community Profiles, discussed starting a training program for individuals to learn trades and looking to Barre City as a location to implement it.
- I have been working on alternative options for the Bike Path that could connect the different sections. This will be reviewed as part of the Walk Audit and presented to the Bike Path committee.
- The Lions Club worked with Jeff Bergeron on placement of a flag pole and monument in Currier Park. I was able to attend the ribbon cutting to support this effort as part of one of this Summer's Concerts in the Park Series.
- Council was able to be host to the Barre Babe Ruth 13u State Champions. Congratulations to them and good luck to them in their regional playoff games!

Lucas J. Herring  
Mayor, City of Barre