

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council  
Held February 5, 2013**

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

**Approval of Consent Agenda:** Council approved the following consent agenda items as presented on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

- Minutes of the following meeting:
  - Regular Meeting of January 29, 2013
- Approval of the City Warrants as presented.
- 2013 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office:
  - Food Establishment Licenses
    - Quality Donuts Inc., DBA Dunkin Donuts, 283 N. Main Street
    - Mutuo Inc., 20 Beckley Street
    - Railway Pizza Inc., Domino's Pizza, 322 N. Main Street

**The City Clerk and Treasurer Report** – Clerk Dawes made the following announcements:

- The proposed FY 14 budget that will be voted on at the March 5, 2013 Annual (Town) Meeting is posted on the City website. Ballots are ordered and will be available by February 14<sup>th</sup> at the latest. Requests for early and absentee ballots are being accepted in the Clerk's office.
- The Board of Abatement is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.
- Third quarter property taxes are due by February 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Dog licenses are now available in the Clerk's office.

**Approval of Building Permits** – NONE

**Liquor Control Board** – Clerk Dawes updated Council on last week's discussion about Fire Department inspections of properties seeking to renew their liquor licenses. The Clerk said she spoke with Chief Bombardier, who said all license-holding businesses will be inspected this year, and in future years, all those establishments holding cabaret licenses will be inspected annually.

Councilor Poirier said the VT Department of Liquor Control hearing scheduled for Southside Tavern has been canceled. Mayor Lauzon said the hearing was waived and Southside Tavern agreed to pay a fine. Councilor Poirier said he would like to have the owner of Southside Tavern and Chief Bombardier come before the Council. He said he's heard from people who refuse to go back to Southside and heard stories of drugs at the establishment, and questions of ownership, who's running the bar and who's managing it. Mayor Lauzon said it will be on the agenda for discussion at the February 19<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

**City Manager's Report** –

Manager Mackenzie said most of last week was dedicated to post-budget recovery and meetings with staff. The Manager said he attended the City Place groundbreaking on Thursday, which was a wonderful event.

**Visitors and Communications** –

Councilor Dindo read a prepared statement, saying some of the information previously given out about police department numbers was incorrect. He talked about the number of people under DOC supervision living in Barre City, and said the police department is understaffed. He said that's why the City needs two additional police officers. He said he would offer help to anyone interested in starting a neighborhood watch, and asked the voters to support the budget.

Councilor Poirier noted that Chief Bombardier had arrived at the meeting, and asked the Chief how many calls

To be approved at 02-12-13 Barre City Council Meeting

the department has had to Southside Tavern. Chief Bombardier said there were twelve calls for service in the past twelve months. The Chief said he has been looking into the calls to Southside as he is reviewing its entertainment license renewal. Councilor Poirier asked if the department has ever been called there for drugs, and the Chief said no. Councilor Poirier said the City needs to hold license holders more accountable for what happens in their establishments. Mayor Lauzon said the discussion at the February 19<sup>th</sup> Council meeting will be in terms of license renewal.

John Clark said he had some questions on the gymnastics of the appeal process. Mayor Lauzon reminded Mr. Clark to address his questions to Councilor Smith, who served as Acting Mayor for the appeal, as the Mayor had recused himself from the discussion and decision. Mr. Clark asked why the Council had gone into executive session, and Councilor Smith said in acting as a quasi-judicial board in the appeal process, it was appropriate for the Council to deliberate in executive session, and that the Council made its decision in open session. Mr. Clark said that the decision letter did not address all of the points he raised during the appeal hearing, and Councilor Smith said the decision was based on the appeal of the No Rent Order and not any additional material presented at the hearing. Mr. Clark said there was reference to oaths in the minutes from the appeal hearing and asked if there was any perjury committed. Councilor Smith said no.

#### **Old Business – NONE**

#### **New Business –**

##### **A) Nelson Street Hydro-Trestle Replacement Projects Bonding: Approval of Post Issuance Compliance Procedures.**

Council approved the Post Issuance Compliance Procedures and appointed Manager Mackenzie as Compliance Officer on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

Mayor Lauzon noted two guests in the audience, and said they were here to collect Councilor Poirier's donation pledge to Project Graduation. Councilor Poirier said he will drop the check off at Spaulding High School tomorrow morning.

##### **B) Discussion of 2013 Council Goals, Objectives and Priorities.**

Mayor Lauzon said a Saturday work session would be appropriate for a discussion on projects and initiatives the Council would like to focus on for the coming year. The Mayor scheduled the work session for Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 8:00 AM. He said Council will also finalize the Manager's review at that time.

#### **Round Table –**

Councilor Poirier said he would like to talk about personnel in executive session.

Councilor Herring said he was one of twelve members of the BCEMS Bulldog team that participated in the penguin plunge to raise money for the BCEMS Special Olympics team. He asked if there are still reimbursements due to the Semprebon Fund from the City Place project, and Manager Mackenzie said yes. The Manager said he is reviewing the contract with City Place developer DEW to make sure the City is receiving the contracted reimbursements. Councilor Herring said the Civic Center Committee is still planning on coming to Council seeking Semprebon funding for a promotions position. He offered congratulations to Kristin Sohlstrom, who was elected chair of the Board of Civil Authority last week. Councilor Herring reminded everyone of the gun show at the auditorium this weekend.

Councilor Dindo thanked Mayor Lauzon and Manager Mackenzie for their work on City Place.

Mayor Lauzon reminded everyone of the gun show this weekend, and said every gun sale will be run through a federally licensed gun dealer. Chief Bombardier said it was great to work with the Barre Fish & Game Club on the details for gun sales at this year's show.

Council went into executive session at 7: 40PM to discuss contracts and negotiations, personnel and Manager

To be approved at 02-12-13 Barre City Council Meeting

Mackenzie's evaluation on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

Manager Mackenzie, Chief Bombardier and labor attorney Scott Cameron were invited into the executive session.

Council came out of executive session at 9:04PM on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

Council adjourned at 9:04 PM on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

An audio transcript of the meeting is available through the Clerk's Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk

DRAFT