

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council  
Held August 27, 2013**

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, Councilor Charles Dindo; from Ward II, Councilors Chadderton and Herring; and from Ward II, Alderman Michael Boutin and Councilor Michael Smith. Also in attendance were City Manager Steve Mackenzie and City Clerk/Treasurer Carolyn Dawes.

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

- Minutes of the following meetings:
  - Special and Regular Meetings of August 27, 2013.
- Approval of the City Warrants as presented.
- 2013 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office:
  - Entertainment License, Granite City Grocery gathering of member-owners, Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> 12:00 – 8:00 PM in Currier Park.
  - Entertainment License, Barre Lions Club annual haunted house at the Granite Museum, October 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>. Contingent upon passing final fire department inspection.

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

- Water bills were mailed out the end of August and are due by September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- At next week's meeting, the Clerk will present information on accepting credit cards for property tax payments.
- The BCA meets tomorrow at 6:00 PM to finish the annual property tax assessment appeals hearings.
- Two properties are scheduled for tax sale on September 18<sup>th</sup>.
- The finance office is switching from dot-matrix to laser printed checks and delinquent notices. The transition should be completed by the first of October.

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

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Location</u>
David Raymond/DAR Properties	73 Park St.

**Liquor Control Board** – Council approved a request to cater permit for Cornerstone Pub & Kitchen for September 12<sup>th</sup> at 135 Washington Street, for a business opening on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried with Alderman Boutin abstaining.**

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

- Continuing to troubleshoot traffic signals.
- Update on the Nelson Street hydro project, which is expected to be on-line by late November.
- City Hall façade restorations should be completed by the end of next week. Work has begun on the sidewalk around the façade.
- Property owners abutting the Quarry Street project met with City and VTRANS representatives to discuss concerns. There was discussion of the possible erection of fencing to help control noise.
- Met with the Budget & Finance Committee to continue working on the analysis of the streets and capital funds. Will be reporting at the October 1<sup>st</sup> Council meeting. Beginning to work on the schedule for the FY15 budget, which is expected to be presented to the Council at the November 26<sup>th</sup> meeting.

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- The Manager will be gone most of the week of September 23<sup>rd</sup> attending conferences in Boston.
- Reviewed the current committee vacancies.

Mayor Lauzon said he and other City representatives continue to attend meetings with CVCLT on the proposed Summer Street Center. The Mayor said there will be a vote this fall to approve TIF district expenditures related to the project. The date for that vote will be set at next week's meeting.

**Visitors & Communications – NONE**

**Old Business – NONE**

**New Business –**

**C) Selection of Bike Path Local Project Manager.**

**D) Authorize the Manager to Execute LPM Contract.**

Bike Path Committee Coordinator Pat McDonald reviewed her memo regarding the LPM bid and selection process, and said the Bike Path Committee recommends the Council award the project to Staff Sterling Management LLC and authorize the Manager to enter into and sign the contract. The not-to-exceed cost is \$15,760, plus anticipated travel and incidental expenses of \$950.

Council approved the Bike Path Committee's recommendation on motion of Councilor Dindo, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

**A) Closure of Merchant St/Civic Center Campus Right of Way.**

Manager Mackenzie reviewed his memo on the proposed closure of the right-of-way and recommended Council approve the closure.

Council approved the closure on motion of Councilor Dindo, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

**B) First Reading of Ordinance 2013-06: Housing.**

Capt. Matt Cetin and Zoning Administer Janet Shatney reviewed the draft revision of Barre City Ordinance Chapter 7 – Minimum Housing Standards. There was discussion about ways to send out orders, frequency of smoke detector inspections, annual rental certification questionnaires, how often property owners should be expected to enter their properties, registration requirements, licensing landlords, enforcement penalties, appeals & complaint processes, removal of language exempting Highgate and Barre Housing Authority facilities, maximum occupancy, and the definition of a tenant.

Capt. Cetin said he met with the landlords association and they have been informed of the changes. He will get the information to Highgate and the BHA, and to City Attorney Oliver Twombly for his review.

Council approved the first reading and set the second reading for the September 24<sup>th</sup> Council meeting on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

**E) Review of VLCT Municipal Legislative Guidance.**

Manager Mackenzie said he will include the VLCT municipal legislative information in next week's packet and will put it on the agenda for discussion at next week's meeting.

**Round Table –**

Councilor Herring said development of the RFPs by the IT Committee is coming along. The RFPs will be coming to Council for approval in the near future.

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Councilor Dindo thanked those City & State officials who attended the Quarry Street project meeting. He said apparent drug activity has been noticed in the Mill Street/municipal swimming pool area. The Police Department has been notified.

Alderman Boutin said the Studio Place Arts fundraiser which includes Chicken Sh\*t Bingo is scheduled for September 28<sup>th</sup>. He said he spoke with SPA executive director Sue Higby, who said the squares being used for the bingo game are tiles created by a local artist.

Mayor Lauzon said the Granite City Grocery event is this weekend. The Mayor offered congratulations to the police officers involved in the recent arrests at a local motel.

Council went into executive session at 9:16 PM to discuss negotiations issues on motion of Alderman Boutin, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

City Manager Mackenzie was invited into the executive session.

Council came out of executive session at 9:37 PM on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Alderman Boutin. **Motion carried.**

Council adjourned at 9:37 PM on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk