

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council  
Held June 17, 2014**

The Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council was called to order by Acting Mayor Michael Smith at 7:00 PM at Barre City Hall. In attendance were: From Ward I, Councilors Charles Dindo and Paul Poirier; from 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 City Clerk/Treasurer Carolyn Dawes.

Acting Mayor Smith thanked those who came out to vote at last week's budget election and approved the municipal budget.

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

- Minutes of the following meetings:
  - Regular Meeting of June 9, 2014
- Approval of the City Warrants as presented.
- 2014 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office:
  - Entertainment Licenses
    - ReSource, capital campaign kick-off, Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup>
    - CVCAC, public event, Friday, June 27<sup>th</sup>
  - Commercial Swimming Pool Licenses
    - Country Way Condominium Association, Fecteau Circle
    - Days Inn, Krishna LLC, 175 South Main Street
    - Westview Condominium Association, 122 Batchelder Street

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

- The school board has warned the vote on the revised budget for Monday, June 30<sup>th</sup>. Early/Absentee ballots went in the mail yesterday, and are available at the Clerk's office. Polls at the auditorium will be open from 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM for voting on the day of the election. There was discussion on why the vote is scheduled for Monday instead of the traditional Tuesday. Councilor Herring, in his capacity as BCEM's school board chair, said the date was selected to coincide with the end of the fiscal year. Councilor Poirier said he objects to holding an election on a day other than Tuesday.
- Water/sewer bills are due by June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- The window for assessment grievances is now open. Grievance requests must be received by the assessor's office in writing no later than 1:00 PM on Wednesday, June 25<sup>th</sup>.

Clerk Dawes reviewed her memo on the FY15 Tax Anticipation Note RFP responses, and said she has informed Community National Bank it is the successful bidder. The TAN paperwork will come to Council for approval at next week's meeting.

The Clerk called Council's attention to the memo on the Open Meeting Laws changes, including changes in posting notices, adjusting agendas, and model language and procedures for executive sessions. Changes go into effect July 1<sup>st</sup> and affect all City committees and boards. The Clerk said she will draft a memo to all boards and committees outlining the changes in the law.

The Clerk said the delayed approval of the school budget will push off the mailing of the tax bills. She said the tentative mailing date is August 15<sup>th</sup>, with the first due date being adjusted to September 15<sup>th</sup>. The delay in mailing bills will have no effect on the amount of taxes property owners will pay.

**Approval of Building Permits** –

To be approved at 06-24-14 Barre City Council Meeting

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

| <u>Applicant</u>               | <u>Address</u>      |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Beverly Tacey                  | 12 White Street     |
| Allison Aldrich & Keith Plante | 92 Westwood Parkway |

**Liquor Control –**

Council approved a Request to Cater permit application from Gusto’s for an indoor beer tent at the BOR during roller derby matches on July 12, August 23 & September 27. From 5:30 – 9:30 PM, on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried with Councilor Boutin abstaining.**

Council approved a request for BYOB alcohol at Rotary Park by Kingsbury Companies LLC for their annual company picnic on Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup> from noon – 5:00 PM, on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried with Councilor Boutin abstaining.**

**City Manager’s Report –**

Manager Mackenzie reported on the following:

- A candidate has been selected for the City Planner position. The offer should be made by the end of the week. The City received two applications for the Director of Public Works position. The applications have not yet been evaluated.
- Paving at Mathewson Playground should be completed this week, depending on the weather.
- Mold remediation work has begun in the BOR.
- New bus stop landing pads are being added on N. Main St. in the vicinity of North Barre Manor.
- The Hilltop Avenue buyouts have been cleared to set closing dates.
- Responses on the draft Enterprise Aly redevelopment plans are being received from abutters and affected property owners and businesses.
- There will be a construction contract signing and pre-construction meeting later this week for the Cobble Hill water main project.

**Visitors & Communications –**

Councilor Dindo called everyone’s attention to the latest issue of *Best of Central Vermont* magazine, which features an article on the redevelopment of the Blanchard Block.

**Old Business – NONE**

**New Business –**

**A) Second Public Hearing to Receive Comments on City of Barre Municipal Plan – 7:15 PM.**

Acting Mayor Smith opened the public hearing at 7:18 PM. Planning Commission chair David Sichel said the commission has incorporated some changes recommended by community members in response to the draft plan.

Councilor Poirier made the motion to adopt the plan as amended. The motion was seconded by Councilor Chadderton.

There was discussion about the section addressing perception and reality on crime rates in Barre City, and the possible inclusion of information about the state’s neighborhood development grant program. Mr. Sichel said the Council could make such an amendment itself, send the plan back to the Planning Commission for amendment, or amend the plan at some future date after adoption.

Acting Mayor Smith asked if there were any additional comments or questions from the Council or public. Hearing none, he closed the public hearing at 7:27 PM.

Council voted on the motion as presented. **Motion carried.**

**B) Approval of Annual Supplies Bids.**

City Engineer Reg Abare reviewed his memo and read off the low bids. Mr. Abare recommended approval of the low bids as presented, with the exception of those listed as “on hold”, which are undergoing testing before approval. Manager Mackenzie requested Council’s motion be in two parts:

1. Approval of all supply bids except fossil fuels, and
2. Authorization for the Manager to determine if the fossil fuel bids are still low bids based on the effective dates.

Council authorized the Manager to make the determination on the fossil fuel bids, and approved all other supply bids on motion of Councilor Poirier, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

**Round Table –**

Councilor Poirier said he would like the Council’s summer schedule to be on next week’s agenda for discussion.

Councilor Herring said he would like an IT Committee appointment to be on next week’s agenda. He made the following announcements:

- The downtown WiFi has three installations, and people are using it.
- The Barre Partnership is kicking off its volunteer program later this week.
- The Vermont Granite Museum annual meeting is June 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Spaulding High School students conducted a survey on things students and faculty members would like to see in the downtown. The results of the survey will be shared with the Council.
- Working on the Ban the Box project that would eliminate questions about a person’s criminal past from job applications.
- The Heritage Festival is next month.
- The school budget re-vote is Monday, June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Councilor Boutin and Acting Mayor Smith thanked the voters for coming out to last week’s budget re-vote.

Council went into executive session at 7:40 PM to discuss personnel issues on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

Manager Mackenzie was invited into the executive session.

Council came out of executive session at 8:20 PM on motion of Councilor Dindo, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

No action was taken.

The Council meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk