

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council  
Held June 16, 2015**

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 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.

**Absent:** From Ward I, Councilor Paul Poirier.

**Adjustments to the Agenda:** Mayor Lauzon said he will be moving items around on the agenda to accommodate those in attendance.

**Approval of Consent Agenda:**

Council approved the following consent agenda items on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

- Minutes of the following meetings:
  - Regular meeting on June 9, 2015.
- City Warrants as presented.
- 2015 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office:
  - Entertainment License:
    - Barre Senior Center Pie & Ice Cream Social, July 15<sup>th</sup>, 6-8 PM, Currier Park.
  - Commercial Swimming Pool License:
    - Westview Condominium Association, 122 Batchelder Street

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

- Water/sewer payments are due by June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- The 2015 abstract grand list was lodged today, with change of assessment letters going in the mail. Property owners have two weeks to file written requests for grievance hearings with the City Assessor. Council is scheduled to set the tax rate at the July 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, with tax bills in the mail by July 15<sup>th</sup>.
- The Parking Committee has been discussing public parking during funerals at the local churches and funeral homes. There is a need for an ordinance or policy to address the issues, and Council will begin the discussion at the June 30<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Approval of Building Permits** – Council approved the following building permits on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Address</u>
Maurice & Bonnie Millard	36 Hill Street
Damartin Quadros	90 Prospect Street
David Welch	13 Green Street
Deborah Gormsen	45 Maple Avenue
Champlain Oil Company	338 N. Main Street

**Liquor Control** – NONE

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

- The Manager and Mayor attended the annual downtown conference. Barre City was used as an example of a community undergoing significant upgrades.

- The Enterprise Aly contract signing is tomorrow. The contractor will be one site beginning Monday.
- During the Enterprise Aly project, Creamery Court will be two-way. “No Parking” signs have been put up on both sides of Creamery Court to accommodate the change in traffic pattern.
- A ground breaking ceremony will be scheduled for the Enterprise Aly project.

**Visitors & Communications – NONE**

**Old Business – NONE**

**New Business –**

**B) Brusa Trust Donation for Recreation Program Scholarships.**

Clerk Dawes reviewed the history of donations to the Cityscape Consortium, and said \$1,398.40 is being reimbursed from the Consortium due to inactivity. The Clerk requested that the reimbursed funds be re-directed for the annual start-of-summer family fun day at the pool on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, and to establish a recreation program scholarship fund to help families in need cover the costs of having children participate in the programs. The Clerk also requested that additional funding be appropriated from the Brusa Trust to bring the scholarship fund up to \$2,000. The Brusa Trust appropriation is estimated at \$801.60.

BGS recreation director Stephanie Quaranta reviewed this summer’s recreation programs. Ms. Quaranta said the Kiwanis Club made a \$500 donation in support of pool and season passes. Mayor Lauzon thanked Ms. Quaranta for her work in getting Barre City designated as the first Vermont community to qualify for First Lady Michelle Obama’s Let’s Move Cities, Towns & Counties physical fitness program. Barre City is ranked 12<sup>th</sup> nationally.

Council approved the Clerk’s request for re-direction of the refund money and disbursement from the Brusa Trust on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Chadderton. **Motion carried.**

Ms. Quaranta said the municipal pool is scheduled to open on Monday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**A) IT Committee Recommendations for City Hall.**

Committee chair Jeffrey Tuper-Giles reviewed his memo outlining the current IT situations in City Hall, the immediate needs and recommendations for the coming year. There was discussion about replacing antiquated equipment, signing up for the NEMRC disaster recovery program, updating email access, replacing 20% of CPUs each year, and new servers.

Mayor Lauzon asked for a timeline and dollar values for the proposed equipment purchases. There was discussion about finalizing the contract for IT services, and having the provider work on developing the timeline and costs. The contract for IT services will come back for Council approval in two weeks. The timeline and purchase plan will come back to Council at the July 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**C) Approval of Vermont Granite Museum Parking Lot Lease Agreement.**

Clerk Dawes said the document reflects the terms and conditions agreed to by the Council about six weeks ago. The VGM board has approved and signed the agreement. Council approved the agreement and authorized the Mayor and Manager to sign on behalf of the City on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried with Councilor Herring abstaining.**

**D) Clerk Annual Compensation Presentation.**

Clerk Dawes said her annual compensation presentation is an opportunity for her to perform a self-evaluation. The Clerk requested that her FY16 compensation reflect a 2% increase over the FY15 hourly rate, which is already reflected in the budget as approved by the voters in March. Mayor Lauzon said he

To be approved at 06-23-15 Barre City Council Meeting

would entertain a motion to increase the Clerk's compensation by 5%, and thanked her for her service.

Council approved a 5% increase in the Clerk/Treasurer's hourly compensation rate for FY16 on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

Clerk Dawes distributed her memo on the FY16 tax anticipation note, and said she has accepted the proposal from Community National Bank, which had the lowest interest rate. The approval paperwork will come to Council at next week's meeting.

**Round Table:**

Councilor Dindo said former City employee Robert Searles recently passed away, and he offered his condolences. He said the Bike Path Committee is meeting tomorrow afternoon.

Councilor Herring said the Vermont Granite Museum is open for the summer and encouraged people to visit.

Councilor Smith reminded everybody of the Wednesday evening events in the City including the Farmer's Market, Authors at the Aldrich and Concerts in Currier Park.

Mayor Lauzon expressed his condolences to Mr. Searles' family, and the family of Lucille Aja; long-time Barre City resident who recently passed away.

The Mayor said the Aldrich Library is holding an open house this weekend in honor of retiring executive director Karen Lane. All are welcome. The Mayor said he will be making adjustments to the Council's summer schedule to allow time for the Council to get out into the community and perhaps hold a meeting at Currier Park on a Wednesday evening before the concert.

**Executive Session:** NONE

The Council meeting adjourned at 7:53 PM on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk