

**Special Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held January 12, 2016**

The Special Meeting of the Barre City Council was called to order by Mayor Thomas Lauzon at 8:12 AM 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, Councilor Anita Chadderton. Also present were City Manager Steven Mackenzie, Clerk/Treasurer Carolyn Dawes, and the following members of the Budget & Finance Committee: Linda Couture, Mary Ellen Boisvert and Alex Pastor.

Absent: From Ward I, Councilor Paul Poirier; and from Ward III, Councilor Lucas Herring

Manager Mackenzie distributed his draft FY17 budget and support materials. Mayor Lauzon asked that the minutes reflect the Manager has met his duty by charter with regards to presenting the budget to Council at least 45 days before the Annual (Town) Meeting.

Those assembled went through the draft. There was general discussion on:

- Adding an executive assistant in the City Manager's office.
- Adding a part time finance assistant.
- Ambulance revenues – Mayor Lauzon asked that the Council and Budget Committee be provided with monthly revenue information for the past two years.
- Adjusting Fire Department vehicle maintenance to reflect the new ladder truck.
- Creating a line item in the BCS budget to allow for annual review and replacement of office furniture, in lieu of a separate line item in the Fire Department budget.
- Number of officers in the Police Department; current and future rosters.

Mayor Lauzon scheduled another special Council meeting to continue budget discussions next Saturday, January 23rd. The Mayor asked that Chief Bombardier attend to discuss police and fire budgets.

Mayor Lauzon left the meeting at 9:22 AM. Councilor Smith assumed chairing the meeting. Councilor Chadderton left the meeting at 9:28 AM. There was no longer a quorum. The Council meeting ended at 9:28 AM. Those in attendance continued to review and discuss the draft budget.

Aldrich Library executive director Sarah Costa and board member Rob Springer addressed the gathering. They thanked the City for last year's appropriation increase and said the additional funds were spent on deferred maintenance. They said there has been a significant increase in library usage over the past four months, along with increased computer usage. There was discussion on taxpayer support per capita, use of the library by local non-profit organizations, and upcoming capital needs. Ms. Costa and Mr. Springer requested that the City increase its appropriation by \$30,000 for FY17.

After Ms. Costa and Mr. Springer left, those gathered continued to discuss the draft budget.

The meeting broke at 10:40 AM.

An audio recording of this meeting is available from the City Clerk.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk