

**Special Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held September 20, 2016**

A Special Meeting of the Barre City Council was called to order by Mayor Thomas Lauzon at 6:03 PM at Barre City Hall. In attendance were: From Ward I, Councilors Paul Poirier and Jeffrey Tuper-Giles; from Ward II, Councilor Michael Smith; and from Ward III, Councilors Anita Chadderton and Lucas Herring. Also present were City Manager Steven Mackenzie and Clerk/Treasurer Carolyn Dawes.

Absent: From Ward II, Councilor Michael Boutin.

Councilor Smith made the motion that the Council make a specific finding that premature public knowledge of discussion concerning the pending civil litigation in the lawsuit entitled Russell Wood v. City of Barre, in which the City is a party, would clearly place the City of Barre at a substantial disadvantage. The motion was seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

Councilor Tuper-Giles made the motion that the Council enter executive session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. Section 313 (a)(1)(E) to discuss the pending litigation in the lawsuit entitled Russell Wood v. City of Barre, as the premature public disclosure of which would clearly place the City of Barre at a substantial disadvantage. The motion was seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

The following were invited into the executive session: City Manager Steve Mackenzie, City Attorney Oliver Twombly, Public Safety Chief Tim Bombardier, John Leddy, VLCT-appointed attorney.

Council came out of executive session at 6:42 PM on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

Councilor Herring made the motion that the Council authorize its insurance carrier, Vermont League of Cities & Towns Property and Casualty Intermunicipal Funds, Inc., to enter into a settlement of the Russell Wood v. City of Barre lawsuit against the City provided that City funds of any settlement shall not exceed the sum of \$500; and authorize the City Manager to sign as necessary on behalf of the City of Barre. The motion was seconded by Councilor Tuper-Giles. **Motion carried.**

Mayor Lauzon recessed the Council meeting at 6:43 PM until its regular meeting scheduled to begin at 7:00 PM.

There is no audio recording of this meeting.

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held September 20, 2016**

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, Councilors Paul Poirier and Jeffrey Tuper-Giles; from Ward II, Councilor Michael Smith; and from Ward III, Councilors Anita Chadderton and Lucas Herring. Also present were City Manager Steven Mackenzie and Clerk/Treasurer Carolyn Dawes.

Absent: From Ward II, Councilor Michael Boutin.

Adjustments to the Agenda: NONE

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Council approved the following consent agenda items on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by

Councilor Herring. Motion carried.

- Minutes of the following meetings:
 - Regular meeting on September 13, 2016
 - Special meeting on September 14, 2016
- City Warrants as presented:
 - Approval of Week 2016-38:
 - Accounts Payable: \$160,929.56
 - Payroll (gross): \$125,580.97
- Licenses & Permits:
 - Taxi Vehicle License
 - Payless Taxi, additional vehicle

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

- Water/sewer bills are due by the end of September.
- Accepting requests for early absentee ballots for the November 8th General Election. Ballots will be available beginning September 23rd.
- There are eight properties scheduled for tax sale on September 22nd.
- The Board of Civil Authority property tax assessment appeal hearings continue on September 22nd. Hearings will continue through October.

Approval of Building Permits – NONE

Liquor Control – NONE

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

- The voluntary water conservation order continues.
- Fall yard waste drop off at the Barre Town stump dump has been scheduled for the last 2 weeks of October. Curbside pickup will be scheduled for early November.
- Traffic signals have been repaired, and “no right turn on red” signals have been added.
- The next Traffic Advisory Committee meeting is September 28th.
- Repair and cleaning of the Hope Cemetery entrance has been completed.
- The bid deadline for flood mitigation project work has been extended.

Visitors & Communications – NONE

Old Business – NONE

New Business -

A) Approve Photos for Annual Report.

Assistant to the City Manager Nick Landry reviewed proposed photos for the 2016 annual report. Council approved the photos as presented on motion of Councilor Poirier, seconded by Councilor Smith.
Motion carried.

B) Review of RFP Responses for Aerial Truck Financing.

Clerk Dawes reviewed her memo outlining the responses received for the truck financing RFP, and said she has selected the proposal from Northfield Savings Bank. The paperwork will come to Council for approval at the October 4th meeting. The Clerk said she will be putting out an RFP before the end of September for the \$500,000 flood mitigation funding approved by voters at the March 2016 Annual (Town) Meeting.

C) Authorization to Execute the VLCT Health Services Insurance Advisory Services Agreement.

Manager Mackenzie said these services have been broken out from insurance coverage since the implementation of the health exchange, and the City needs to contract with VLCT for them separately. The \$14,000 premium is not included in the FY17 budget. The Manager recommended Council approve executing the agreement. Council approved the Manager's recommendation on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

D) Authorization to Accept Water Asset Management Grant.

Manager Mackenzie said the \$19,900 grant will cover the water treatment facility. Council approved accepting the grant and authorized the Manager to sign on behalf of the City on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

E) Authorization to Execute Dufresne Group Asset Management Agreement.

Manager Mackenzie said the \$19,900 grant approved above will pay for the Dufresne Group agreement, and recommended Council approval. Council approved the agreement and authorized the Manager to sign on behalf of the City of Barre on motion of Councilor Tuper-Giles, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

Round Table –

Councilor Poirier said he would like to discuss unkempt and abandoned properties at a future Council meeting.

Councilor Herring said he discussed non-smoking ordinance violations during the Heritage Festival with Chief Bombardier, who suggested some ordinance revisions. Councilor Herring will come back with proposed language. He said there is a candidate forum at the Elks Club on September 28th. He also mentioned kudos offered to the Department of Public Works for their efforts during the recent water line break on Freedom Way. Lastly, he said early registration has begun for the November 5K race to benefit veterans.

Councilor Smith said the Central Vermont Public Safety Authority has approved a draft intermunicipal dispatch agreement which would cede dispatch authority from Barre City and Montpelier to the Authority. He encouraged people to reach the draft and offer feedback. Mayor Lauzon said he wants to make sure the agreement includes opt out language.

Executive Session – NONE

The Council meeting adjourned at 7:37 PM on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk