

**Special Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held October 10, 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, Councilor Jeffrey Tuper-Giles; from Ward II, Councilors Michael Boutin and Michael Smith (arrived 6:07 PM); 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 I, Councilor Paul Poirier.

Mayor Lauzon opened the meeting with a prayer for the Harwood community, which lost five high school students over the weekend in a car accident.

The Mayor said this special meeting has been called to begin a series of meetings to discuss drug and criminal activities in local rental properties. He said he has been meeting with landlords and talking with tenants about their concerns. He has discussed the issues with Chief Tim Bombardier, who has ongoing investigations. The Mayor said his intention is to have all those involved work together to affect a strategy.

Mayor Lauzon said the meeting will be held in executive session under the clear and imminent danger to public safety and potential police action provisions of the Open Meeting Laws. The Mayor said the discussion may include the names of people who do not want their names made public, or who have mental health issues. Times Argus Reporter David Delcore asked that his objection to the executive session be noted for the record.

Executive Session -

Councilor Chadderton made the motion to fine that premature general public knowledge of the public safety issues to be discussed would clearly place the City of Barre at a substantial disadvantage should the discussion be public. The motion was seconded by Councilor Tuper-Giles. **Motion carried.**

Council went into executive session at 6:12 PM under the clear and imminent danger to public safety and potential police action provisions of 1 VSA sec. 313 on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Tuper-Giles. **Motion carried.**

The following were invited into the executive session:

- City Manager Steve Mackenzie
- Chief Tim Bombardier
- Chip Castle, Barre Housing Authority
- Doug Hemmings, Highgate Apartments
- Eileen Peltier, Downstreet Housing and Community Development
- Rory Thiboult, Washington County State's Attorney's office
- Chad Bell, Barre Housing Authority
- Liz Genge, Downstreet Housing and Community Development
- Christine Johnson, Downstreet Housing and Community Development
- Dawn Butterfield, Capstone Community Action
- Dan Molind, Barre Housing Authority/Enough Ministries
- Steve Comolli, Downstreet Housing and Community Development
- Dan Hoxworth, Capstone Community Action
- Gary Gordon, Washington County Mental Health

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- Kevin Veller, Congressman Welch's office
- Tim Palmer, The Housing Foundation, Inc.

Mayor Lauzon left the meeting at 7:15 PM.

Council came out of executive session at 7:24 PM on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Chadderton. **Motion carried.**

Those in attendance discussed a schedule for follow-up meetings, but no dates were set. Council discussed reviving the Housing Board of Review.

No action taken.

The Council meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Tuper-Giles. **Motion carried.**

There is no audio recording of this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk