

To be approved at the next Barre City Council Meeting

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council – draft
Held March 24th, 2026, at 6pm
Council Chambers-Barre City Hall**

The warned Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council was called to order in person and via video platform by Mayor Thomas Lauzon at 6:01 PM in the Council Chambers at City Hall, Barre, Vermont. In attendance were: From Ward I, Councilors Sonya Spaulding and Beth Hilgartner; from Ward II, Councilor Jeff Bergeron and Councilor Amanda Gustin; and from Ward III, Councilor Michael Deering. City staff members present were City Manager Nicolas Storrellicastro, Clerk Cheryl Metivier, Finance Director Christina Kimball, Treasurer Carol Dawes and Police Chief Brad Vail

Adjustments to the Agenda – none

Motion to approve of the agenda dated 3/24/2026 moved by Councilor Hilgartner, Seconded by Councilor Gustin, approved.

2-a. Resolution #2026-04 in recognition of Music Appreciation Month

Resolution #2026-04 naming March 2026 Music Appreciation Month.

Motion to approve naming March 2026 Music Appreciation month was moved by Councilor Bergeron, seconded by Councilor Deering, approved.

Visitors & Communications –

Cat Allen of the Barre Social Club came to the table with statistics on the saturation of alcohol and tobacco sales establishments within our downtown. Hoping a policy or ordinance can be put in place for future use for a balanced downtown.

Patricia Duranleau spoke of improper use of bicycles on City sidewalks and streets and would like more monitoring or enforcement of any in place rule or regulation.

Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes

i. Meeting of 3/17/2026-corrected

B. Clerk's Office Licenses & Permits-none

C. Authorize the Manager to execute contract(s)- Dufresne Group engineer services, a \$45,700 contract.

Motion to approve of the consent agenda dated 3/24/2026 moved by Councilor Bergeron, Seconded by Councilor Gustin, approved.

4-a. Approve City Warrants

i. Approve week of 3/25/26

Motion to approve city warrants moved by Councilor Deering, seconded by Councilor Bergeron – approved.

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City Clerk & Treasurer Report –

Candidate petitions are due on Monday, April 6th by 5pm with (30) signature from verified voters.

Liquor/Cannabis Boards-

Barre Smoke Shop

- 2nd Class liquor
- Tobacco
- Tobacco Sub

Motion to approve the liquor license renewals submitted by Barre Smoke Shop was moved by Councilor Deering, Seconded by Councilor Bergeron, approved

Managers' Report-

Agency of Human Services announced changes to the General Services beginning Apr 1st, cap the motel/hotel shelter to 80 night limit annually beginning July 1st.

Grant work continues focused on the conditions of the CBDG-DR

Buyout updates- future (2) on Scampini and (1) on Harrington.

A preview of the Crime Research Presentation and update will be coming in April.

Committee reappointment process is coming up. Hoping to have a list of all openings available soon.

New Business;

A. 1st reading warned 6:15PM: Public Nudity Ordinance –

Beginning at 6:36pm, Chief Brad Vail gave a brief outline of the content using the template Burlington recently enacted within that city. This was followed by a brief Q & A session.

Motion to move the Public Nudity Ordinance to a 2nd reading was moved by Councilor Bergeron, seconded by Councilor Gustin, approved.

B. Legislative delegation update – State Representative Teddy Waszazak & State Representative Michael Boutin

The pair gave the Council an update of the progression of charter changes approved during last year's annual election, as well as bills in process addressing;

Funding for the Homelessness Liaison

Working on the refund to Barre for overpayment to the ed fund

Working hard to secure state level paving funds

Regulations for Dix Reservoir

Creating a miscellaneous flood bill-emergency response funds/communication

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C. FY27 budget discussion -Finance Director Christina Kimball, Manager Nicolas Storelli-Castro and Treasurer Carol Dawes

The budget as it stands, will bring a 5% increase from last years figure to be paid by property taxes to support the general fund budget. Increasing revenue using additional interest from investments and new PILOT program with Downstreet.

Hoping to bring it to council for approval April 7th.

D. Adopt policy eliminating acceptance of US Post Office postmarks for payment receipts
The Treasurer, Carol Dawes shared that following the conversation from previous weeks, the Clerk, Treasurer and Water & Sewer staff were going to move forward to the next step and draft the policy to bring to the table for review and approval. The Council encouraged moving forward with the next step for approval.

E. Flood Resiliency Plan (Gustin)

Focusing on the elevation of (3) homes with the \$900,000 state funding. The deadline is December 2026.

F. Set Clerk compensation

The Council discussed the topic in executive session, at the last meeting, setting the annual salary of 60,320.

The motion to approve the salary for the City Clerk was moved by Councilor Gustin, seconded by Councilor Bergeron, approved.

Up Coming

Mayor Lauzon – Crime Statistics Presentation coming in April

Councilor Spaulding – Paving discussion session.

Round Table

Councilor Deering- Parks & Rec committee are doing a lot of good things. Easter Egg Hunt coming up.

Councilor Hilgartner- Aldrich Library Apr. 25th – gardening presentation

Councilor Bergeron- He was on the Council when the 3’ buffer nudity rule was passed

Councilor Spaulding – Millstone Trail presents “Best Day Ever” at the Barre Social Club on April 1st..

Executive Session-none

Motion to adjourn moved by Councilor Deering, seconded by Councilor Hilgartner, approved

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm

Next regular meeting is scheduled for April 7th, 2026, at 6pm.

The open portions of the meeting were recorded on the video platform.

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Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Metivier, City Clerk

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