

To be approved at the next Barre City Council Meeting

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council -Draft
Held June 2nd, 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 and Don Routhier. City staff members present were City Manager Nicolas Storellicastro, Clerk Cheryl Metivier, Facilities Director Tom Baker, Unhoused Liaison Tess Taylor

Adjustments to the Agenda – Remove item 4D from Consent agenda for more discussion- now Item 8G.
Add reassessments discussion as Item 8H

Motion to approve of the agenda dated 6/2/2026 moved by Councilor Spaulding, Seconded by Councilor Deering, approved.

Visitors & Communications -none

Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes -CORRECTED
i. Meeting of 5/19/26

B. Clerk's Office Licenses & Permits-

- Pancakes for the People 6/7, 7/5, 8/2, 9/6 – City Hall Park - 830am to 1230pm
Pancakes for the People & Rainbow Bridge Community Center
- Anti-Bullying Rally June 15th – Currier Park – 530pm - 730pm
Raylene Meunier

C. Designate Planning, Permitting and Assessing Services Director Janet Shatney as the Municipal Authorized Official for state/federal grant administration

~~D. Ratify two community members assigned to City Manager Search Committee~~ moved to Item 8G

E. Approve City Manager job description

F. Authorize the Manager to execute contract(s)

- VLTC-Dom Cloud – City manager search assistance. Anticipated cost = \$12,00 flat fee / \$3,300-\$9,000 for direct cost (advertising, brochure design, background check, travel, etc)
- (4) Public Safety Building Roof Top Units – Alliance- \$44,498

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda for 06/02/2026 was moved by Councilor Deering, seconded by Councilor Bergeron, approved.

4-a. Approve City Warrants

- i. Approve week of 5/20/26 (defer (not available) will ratify at the next meeting)
- ii. Ratify week of 5/13/26

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Motion to approve city warrants moved by Councilor Gustin, seconded by Councilor Deering – (Councilor Spaulding abstaining) approved.

City Clerk & Treasurer Report –

The Clerk's office has been busy with increased foot traffic due to ideal weather, water and sewer bill payments and questions about the city wide reassessment.

Liquor/Cannabis Boards-

Paramount Theater – 1st class
American Legion – 1st, 3rd class and OSC
Asian Gourmet - 1st, 3rd class and OSC
Granite City Market – 2nd class, tobacco, tobacco sub
802Strong – tobacco, tobacco sub
Quality Market- tobacco sub
Summer St Tavern - OSC

Motion to approve Liquor/Cannabis licensures moved by Councilor Spaulding, seconded by Councilor Bergeron, approved

Managers' Report-

- Community service officers are on patrol.
- (2) Officers have graduated from the academy -Peter Russell & Ben Chism
- (1) Candidate has taken his oath to enter the academy – Caleb Carrien
- New Summer camps are available for community children
- City pool is scheduled to open June 26th.
- Public Works dept is continuing upgrades to streets and infrastructure.

New Business;

A. Volunteer appointment – TPW Committee

Joanne Reynolds applied for membership with the Transportation & Public Works Committee. Once volunteering for a similar committee, she expressed interest in joining this well organized and attended committee. The suggestion is she be appointed to a currently vacant seat with a June 30, 2028, expiration.

A motion to approve the appointment of Joanne Reynolds to the Transportation & Public Works Committee was moved by Councilor Spaulding, and seconded by Councilor Hilgartner, approved.

B. Habbep dam project update (Friends of the Winooski)

The City and the Friends of the Winooski (ED-Michel Braun), have partnered for the removal of obsolete dams along the Stevens Branch. The Habbep Dam removal project has been designed and is ready to move forward. Michel, updated the Council and the public on the project, the design, and its flood mitigation benefits.

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The science was explained by Alexandra Marcucci of SLR Consulting.

C. Approve use of fund balance and Civic Center Improvement fund resources for Aud upgrade project

Facilities Director Tom Baker, was available to answer questions on the upgrade and improvement projects, supported by a \$3.5M congressionally directed spending (CDS) grant from Senator Sanders and \$250,000 in a Municipal Energy Resiliency Program (MERP) grant. However, even with these resources, construction estimates have come in higher, and the city is requesting this funding support to be able to complete the core elements of the upgrade. \$80,000 from the funding balance will close the gap.

A motion to approved use of fund balance and Civic Center Improvement fund resources for Auditorium upgrade project was moved by Councilor Gustin, seconded by Councilor Deering, approved.

D. Report on 2025-26 Winter Warming Shelter and Emergency Cold Weather Overnight Shelter

Tess Taylor the City's liaison for the unhoused reflected on the past years operations of the warming shelter supported by Earl Coopercamp of the Good Shepard Church and how important this option is for the unhoused of the area. Acknowledging all the volunteer support it required and the kindness of those support personnel. Planning for the upcoming season will utilize the lessons and experience from last year.

E. State grant report from Housing & Homelessness Liaison Housing & Homelessness Liaison

The State of Vermont has allocated funding for projects like the liaison for Housing & Homelessness Liaison promote. However, it did not directly appoint Barre City as a recipient of the funding necessary to cover the City's expense. Tess wanted the Council to understand the value and quality of work her position provides.

F. Flood Resiliency Plan annual review (Gustin).

A total review of the Flood Resiliency plan gave a clear path of which direction the City should move and which projects should be moved ahead of others or, put aside for later. The projects fell under one of following categories; Complete, Substantial progress, underway and no headway. Consulting with the Council and looking for ideas and thoughts from them, she plans to adjust the lists as Councilors collaborate.

G. Ratify two community members assigned to City Manager Search Committee

Tracie Lewis-Barre Partnership (ED) and Josh Jerome-Barre Area Development (ED) were named to fill the final (2) spots on the committee to assist in the search and decision-making process for the new manager for the City of Barre.

A motion to approve the ratify two community members assigned to City Manager Search Committee was moved by Councilor Gustin, seconded by Councilor Bergeron, approved.

H. Discussion of the city-wide reassessment was brought forward in hopes to clarify the process and the final outcome. Some residents had not yet received their notices that had been sent over a week ago, sparking concern as to whether the timeline to schedule meetings with the assessors to discuss individual situations would pass. More outreach was offered to keep residents up to date and informed.

Up Coming

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Mayor Lauzon – Hosting multiple meetings in the North End, to discuss the future vision for the area and residents.

Round Table

Mayor Lauzon –.

Councilor Routhier –.

Councilor Spaulding – Happy Pride month. Attended a Tea Dance at Pearl St. and Pride Celebration will be June 6th.

Councilor Bergeron- Farmers Market at Currier Park begins, Wednesday, June 3rd.

Councilor Gustin- Memorial Quilt square display.

Councilor Hilgartner- Neighborly Barre is hosting a “Garden Tour” in Ward 1, with a social party following June 28th 12pm-3pm.

Councilor Deering- BCEMS Concert invitation June 4th @ 6pm.

Executive Session-Personnel – collective bargaining, litigation

Motion for finding for executive session moved by Councilor Bergeron, Seconded by Councilor Gustin, approved

Motion to enter executive session moved by Councilor Gustin, Seconded by Councilor Bergeron, approved.

Entered executive session at 9:41pm

Motion to exit executive session moved by Councilor Deering, Seconded by Councilor Routhier, approved

Motion to approved to ratify the AFSCME collective bargaining agreement was moved by Councilor Bergeron, seconded by Councilor Spaulding, approved.

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

Meeting adjourned at 10:07 pm

Next regular meeting is scheduled for June 16th, 2026, at 6pm.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Metivier, City Clerk