

To be approved at the next Barre City Council Meeting

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council -Draft
Held June 16th, 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 (remote) 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 Storrellicastro, Clerk Cheryl Metivier, Carol Dawes

Adjustments to the Agenda – Remove item 8F from New Business
Swap 8A & 8B around.

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

Visitors & Communications –

Connie Godin- would like the Council to address the use of e-bike and mini-motorbikes on City sidewalks.

Merrill Creagh brought forth a complaint for the use of City property next to her house for business purposes. She bought the property with expectations of no activity on either side of her lot. Would like the City to explain and address the matter.

The Council will gather at the lots on July 14th at 430pm to investigate.

Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes -CORRECTED
i. Meeting of 6/2/26

B. Clerk's Office Licenses & Permits

Capstone's Summer Celebration - Aug 22, 2026 - 11am-2pm on the Capstone Property (Gable Place)

Boyce Street Block Party - July 18th (rain date Aug 1st) - 12pm-8pm on Boyce St.

Faith Community Church/Enough Ministries - July 19th - 8am - 2pm - Currier Park

C. Approve Manager's separation agreement

D. Approve guidelines for awarding community micro-grants

The proposed parameters for the Parks & Rec Committee to use in its review of applications submitted under this program. If approved, the full application form and parameters will be shared with the Committee (one application has already been submitted for consideration). \$2,500 total budget;

- Micro-grants of up to \$250 for community building activities;
- Grant application developed by the Parks & Recreation Committee (approved by Council 5/19/26);

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- Parks & Rec Committee screens applicants and makes recommendations to staff for funding to be awarded

E. Approve revolving loan fund application for headworks project

This will be the \$7.6 million bond debt incurred for construction of the Wastewater Treatment Facility's headworks project that was approved by the voters in November 2024. The project is currently in final design. We expect to go to bid by the end of the summer

F. Authorize the Manager to execute contract(s)

- Waters Excavation, Inc. - \$318,000 for the Seminary Street water main replacement
- Carol Dawes - \$45/hour for TIF administration
- Motorola - \$51,324.65 for portable radio

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda for 06/16/2026 was moved by Councilor Deering, seconded by Councilor Bergeron, approved.

4-a. Approve City Warrants

- i. Approve week of 6/17//26
- ii. Ratify week of 6/10/26

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

City Clerk & Treasurer Report –

The ballots for the Aug Primary will be delivered to the Clerk's office by June 26, hopefully, earlier. The State of Vermont does not mail ballots to all registered voters for the Primary, only the General.

For this election you will receive (3) ballots in your packet, one for each political party. You are to vote only one ballot and return the other (2) unmarked.

The Secretary of States office has put clear directions on the Certified Envelope to help you navigate on how to return your voted ballot and the (2) unvoted ballots in separate designated envelopes and then for all to be placed in the return envelope.

If you have received a ballot for the past elections for 2026, you will receive the August Primary.

There is still plenty of time to request absentee ballots. You may do so by calling the Clerk's office or sign up online in the voter portal.

Liquor/Cannabis Boards-

Cornerstone - 1st & 3rd Class liquor

Champlain Farms -169 Washington St./ 15 S. Main St. /475 N. Main St. - 2nd Class liquor – tobacco and tobacco sub.

Roscini LLC - N. Main St. 2nd Class liquor renewal

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Barre Social Club - OCP (outside consumption permit)

Barre Elks Club - OCP (outside consumption permit)

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

Managers' Report-

- Recreation Dept has some cool camps this summer like a CSI and painting a Mural
- Pool is still on schedule to open June 26th with a Dive In movie
- The Assessors managed meetings with 132 residents to an informal discussion on the new assessments.
- The Grand List in on schedule for launching
- Third round of the CDBG-DR grant applications focus on the North End & elevations
- Charter changes passed at May election have passed.
- DPW will continue the repairs and upgrades for streets and infrastructure.

New Business;

~~B.~~ A. Increase size of the Planning Commission from 5 to 7 members

There is a memo in the packet for this item. Depending on how many of the potential Planning Commission applicants are approved by the Council under Agenda Item #8(A), the Council would need to act on this item to increase the size of the Commission as follows:

- 0-2 new candidates approved → no change needed or recommended
- 3-4 new candidates approved → increase membership from 5 to 7 members

Motion to approve to increase the size of the Planning Commission from 5 to 7 members was moved by Councilor Gustin seconded by Councilor Deering approved.

~~A.~~ B. Volunteer appointment – Planning Commission

Four candidates have submitted applications to be considered for appointment to the Planning Commission as follows:

- Wilson Ballantyne

Motion to approve Wilson Ballantyne to the volunteer appointments to the Planning Commission for a (3) year term ending 2029, was moved by Councilor Gustin seconded by Councilor Bergeron approved.

- Madeline Cobb

Motion to approve Maddy Cobb to the volunteer appointments to the Planning Commission for a (2) year term ending 2028, was moved by Councilor Gustin seconded by Councilor Hilgartner approved.

- Erica Rosset

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Motion to approve Erica Rosset to the volunteer appointments to the Planning Commission for a (3) year term ending 2029, was moved by Councilor Deering seconded by Councilor Bergeron approved.

• Erica Smith

Motion to approve Erica Smith to the volunteer appointments to the Planning Commission for a (2) year term ending 2028, was moved by Councilor Gustin seconded by Councilor Bergeron approved.

With the previous vote to increase the membership roster these appointees will run staggering schedules to maintain a quorum.

- B. Approve purchase option/development agreement for Merchant/Cleary St lots for infill housing development Michael Zebrowski

These very modern and striking modular homes will be placed in lots that are difficult to fill. The company will work in (4) phases to complete the project. These 1-, 2-and 3-bedroom homes would build the grand list at no cost to the city. The developer would search for candidates and investors.

Robin Castle of Cleary St came forward with concerns of drainage issues from the brook and clogged culvert.

Move to authorize the City Manager to prepare a purchase option with Up End This for vacant lots on Merchant and Cleary Streets for infill development was moved by Councilor Deering, seconded by Councilor Bergeron approved.

- D. Approve Semprebon Fund allocations: Carol Dawes, City Treasurer outlined the root purpose of the gifted funds and how the City has used the funds for past projects.

- i. Friends of the Winooski – Jockey Hollow Falls Trail at Rotary Park

Michele Braun of Friends of the Winooski and Danielle Owczarski shared the planned trail construction leading to waterfalls and forest resting and relaxing areas. Having raised \$133,156 the committee is asking for \$70,000 from the Semprebon Funds.

Motion to approve the \$70,000 Semprebon Fund Allocations to Friends of the Winooski was moved by Councilor Gustin, seconded by Councilor Hilgartner, approved.

- ii. Cow Pasture Committee

Chris Russo-Frasyier and Janette Shaffer addressed the Council asking for additional funding for projects meant to improve walking and bike trails, bridges and signage in the Cow Pasture

Motion to approve \$25,000 of the Semprebon Fund Allocations to Cow Pasture Committee was moved by Councilor Gustin seconded by Councilor Bergeron, approved.

E. Review FY27 Capital Improvement Plan

The City manager Nicolas Storellicastro outlined;

- End of use life assests & equipment; BOR roof, Stormwater infrastructure, streets

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- Accomplishments; paving, cameras, DPW campus, Auditorium upgrades, new equipment for DPW-PD & Fire,
- New Zamboni
- 2027 priorities – new plows, paving, BOR roof, Cruisers, City Hall upgrades.

~~F. Flood Resiliency Plan annual review (Gustin).~~

G. City Manager search committee update

Phase 1 – Public input with meetings and surveys

Phase 2 – (July) dream candidate

Meetings; June 17th Currier Park 3pm-7pm

June 18th via ZOOM at noon

June 18th at Alumni Hall 6pm

Up Coming

Mayor Lauzon – Special Meeting – Monday at the Mutuo – 6pm

Councilor Deering-update on the DPW campus & paving schedule

Councilor Spaulding- address e-bike usage on sidewalks & jake break usage

Round Table

Councilor Routhier –Kudos to the DPW for the hard work.

Councilor Gustin- New exhibition at the VT Historical Center commemorating the 250th Birthday of the Constitution.

July 18th – Quilting Bee at the Barre Social club

Councilor Deering- End of the school year is Thursday!

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilor Bergeron, seconded by Councilor Gustin, approved.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm

Next regular meeting is scheduled for July 14th, 2026, at 6pm.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Metivier, City Clerk