

To be approved at the next Barre City Council Meeting

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council -Draft
Held August 4th, 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 6:00 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 Clerk Cheryl Metivier, Public Works Director Brian Baker, Treasurer Carol Dawes

Adjustments to the Agenda – Remove item 8E from Consent agenda

Motion to approve of the agenda dated 8/4/2026 moved by Councilor Deering, Seconded by Councilor Bergeron, approved.

Visitors & Communications –

Sonia Plumb of Sonia Plumb Dance – Invited viewers to attend an artistic movement showcasing the sculptures throughout the cemeteries in Barre. Dates are October 4-10th and will be held at the Granite Museum. “Romancing the Stones” brings live and history for pieces

Amy Galford inquired about the sand and gravel up stream that may come into Barre during a high water and flood situation and how this should be addressed.

Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes

i. Regular Meeting of 7/28/26

B. Clerk’s Office Licenses & Permits - none

C. Ratify 7/28/26 Council approval of minutes of 7/14/26 special meeting

D. Ratify 7/28/26 Council approval to mail November Justice of the Peace ballots to all active voters

E. Authorize the Acting Manager to execute contract(s) (as needed)

1. West Street fire hydrant contract with All States Construction
2. VIS Construction (Blanchard) contract – clerk of the work services for Auditorium project approved by council at 7/28/26 meeting
3. Desorcie Emergency Products contract for purchase of fire truck approved by council at 7/14/26 meeting

Motion to approve Consent Agenda moved by Councilor Bergeron, seconded by Councilor Hilgartner, approved.

4-a. Approve City Warrants

A. Approve week of 8/5/26

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

To be approved at the next Barre City Council Meeting

City Clerk & Treasurer Report –

August Primary is one week from today, Tuesday, August 11th.

We have mailed 451 absentee ballots and have received 255 back.

Please drop your ballots in one of the two drop boxes or hand deliver to the Clerk's office to ensure your ballot arrives by August 11th. *Other options given included bringing the ballot to the polls to drop into the receptacle or bring the ballots to the polls to feed through the tabulators in person. *

Liquor / Cannabis Control Boards – none

Managers' Report-(given to Council prior to meeting. Acting Manager was not present)

- 12 Scampini has been purchased. Abatement will be proceeding soon.
- Summer Camp wraps up this week. The last day of the pool being open will be Aug 15th. The Little Mermaid movie will be played that evening as well.
- The two newest police hires (Renee Porter & Caleb Carrien) have started the 17-week police academy as of yesterday
- IAFF union negotiations are ongoing
- Deputy Fire Chief position has been posted on the website and other usual recruitment mediums
- HR interviewing applicant today for the Executive Assistant position

New Business;

A. Presentation of TY2026 grand list (Assessor) Larry Martin

The reassessment process began in 2022 and during the four years since the assessors have worked diligently to maintain accurate and fair values for all properties in Barre City. The results of that work was sent to property owners, inviting them to attend informal meetings to discuss how the value was reached. Since these meetings final decisions were made and those who are still unsatisfied may now appeal to the Board of Civil Authority (BCA).

B. Approve municipal and local agreement tax rates for FY27 (Treasurer) Carol Dawes

The Grand List was finalized August 8th, now the municipal rate can be calculated.
Municipal and Education (interim education rate) rates;

Homestead;	Municipal	1.4361
	Local Agreement	0.0017
	Education	0.7033
Total		2.1411

Non-Homestead;	Municipal	1.4361
	Local Agreement	0.0017
	Education	1.1555
Total		2.5933

Motion to approve the municipal and local agreement tax rates for FY27 was moved by Councilor Deering, seconded by Councilor Bergeron, approved

To be approved at the next Barre City Council Meeting

- C. Approve property tax due dates for FY27 (Treasurer) Carol Dawes
Due date September 15th 2026, November 16th 2026, February 16th 2027, May 17th 2027

Motion to approve the property tax due dates was moved by Councilor Bergeron, seconded by Councilor Hilgartner, approved.

- D. Approve additional paving (Public Works Director) Brian Baker

1 ½ shim coat to be place on Rt 14 from Prospect St to City line (minus area by Cumberland Farms shimmed a few years ago)

1 ½ in shim coat to be place on Rt 302 from Elm St to Hill St

(resident Judy Copping would like to see crosswalk signs replaced, and lines painted)

Motion to approve the additional paving as presented was moved by Councilor Bergeron, seconded by Councilor Hilgartner, approved.

- ~~E. Approve contract for drain basin installations (Public Works Director)~~

- F. Flood Resiliency Update (Councilor Gustin)

A search for members that would form a “North End Master Plan” committee was announced. This committee would strategize plans, funding strictly for the North End.

Mayor Lauzon hopes to hold off until the CDBG-DR grants recipients are chosen. But also would like to commit to getting some projects completed annually.

- G. Manager Search Committee Update (Councilor Gustin)

Phase 2 of public outreach is ongoing with an outreach forum at the Aldrich Library, August 6th from 6:30 to 7:30pm

The search committee is confident that things are on schedule. Currently there have been 14+ applicants applying with a deadline for application submission deadline of August 14th.

Up Coming

Mayor Lauzon – submission of the CDBG-DR grants modified with the recommendations of the grant review team, by removing the elevation portion and focusing on new housing. (Janet Shatney, Josh Jerome, Pat Moulton and Thom Lauzon)

Round Table

Mayor Lauzon –

Addressing the ordinances of the City regarding campaign and lawn signs; not allowed on public property.

Attended the National Night Out event before council meeting and met some of the newer and younger officers.

Thanked all the service members for their dedication.

To be approved at the next Barre City Council Meeting
Proud VT Green won back-to-back national championships
DPW has (6) job openings-fill out an application

Councilor Routhier –. Appreciates the infrastructure work being done by DPW

Councilor Spaulding – Attended the VLCT Meet with local and neighboring selectboards and really thought an idea of collaborating with neighboring communities for services, resources and equipment.

Councilor Bergeron- Though had heard a complaint about the Camp St project, thinks the additional sidewalk and paving are beneficial to local residents.

Councilor Gustin- VT Green won the national tournament.
The National Night Out event at Currier Park tonight seemed successful.

Councilor Hilgartner – attended and open house at Up End This showcasing the Satellite Architectural System at every stage of production, from precision CNC fabricated components to an unfinished fuselage section, to a completed Base Station 480 home ready for delivery. Would recommend everyone to visit.

Councilor Deering- appreciate all the work DPW has completed and is excited to see projects like Stevens Branch apartments and Prospect Heights progressing.

Executive Session-legal

Motion for finding for executive session moved by Councilor Deering, Seconded by Councilor Spaulding, approved

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

Video paused at 7:20pm

Motion to exit executive session moved by Councilor Bergeron, Seconded by Councilor Gustin, approved.
No action was taken.

Motion to adjourn moved by Councilor Gustin, seconded by Councilor Routhier, approved

Meeting adjourned at 7:34 pm

Next regular meeting is scheduled for August 25th, 2026, at 6pm.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Metivier, City Clerk