

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council  
Held January 31, 2012**

The Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Thomas Lauzon. In attendance were: From Ward I, Councilors Dominic Etli and Paul Poirier; from Ward II, Councilors Michael Boutin and Michael Smith; and from Ward III, Councilors Anita Chadderton and Lucas Herring. Also in attendance were Manager Steven Mackenzie and Clerk/Treasurer Carolyn Dawes.

**Approval of Consent Agenda:** Council approved the following consent agenda items as presented on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

- Minutes of the following meetings:
  - Regular Council meeting of January 24, 2012
  - Special Council meeting of January 28, 2012
- City Warrants as presented.
- 2012 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office:

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>License</b>	<b>Address</b>
Quality Market	Food Take Out	155 Washington St.
North End Deli Mart	Food Take Out	475 N. Main St.
Planet Rock N' Metal Inc.	Food Establishment	127 N. Main St.
Planet Rock N' Metal Inc.	Pool Table (1)	127 N. Main St.
Myers Container Service Corp.	Waste Disposal Collector, 11 trucks, pick-up only	

**The City Clerk and Treasurer Report** – Clerk Dawes made the following announcements:

- Third quarter property taxes are due by February 15<sup>th</sup>.
- 2012 dog licenses are now available. Dogs must be licensed by April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- The office is accepting requests for early/absentee ballots. Ballots will be available by February 15<sup>th</sup>.
- The Clerk gave an update on reapportionment, and said the current bill has Barre City as a two-member district, with no City residents appended to adjoining districts. The House bill is scheduled to be approved by the end of the week. The Barre City Board of Civil Authority would make the decision to divide into two single-member districts and where the division line would be, based on census data and deviation percentages.

**Approval of Building Permits** – NONE

**Liquor Control Board** –

Council approved a 2011 First Class liquor license for Basil's Pizzeria at S. Main Street on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried with Councilor Boutin abstaining.**

**Visitors and Communications** – NONE

**City Manager's Report** –

- Manager Mackenzie reported on meetings attended over the past week, including: Big Dig, City Place, legal matters, Semprebond Fund Committee, Hilltop Avenue mitigation grant applications, spillway repairs, Momentum for Barre event.
- The Manager read a memo from City Engineer Reg Abare, noting that Gloria Corliss, the clerk in the engineering office, is retiring the end of the week after 9 years of employment with the City. Mr. Abare and the Manager offered their thanks and appreciation for her years of service. Mayor Lauzon offered thanks and appreciation on behalf of the Council

**New Business** –

**A) Public Hearing: Proposed Charter Changes, warned for 7:15 p.m.**

Mayor Lauzon opened the public hearing at 7:20 PM. Clerk Dawes introduced other members of the Charter

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and Ordinance Review Committee who were present: City Planner Michael Miller, Fire Captain Matt Cetin and Councilor Herring. The Clerk gave an overview of the proposed changes and highlighted revisions made since last week's Council discussion.

Mayor Lauzon invited public comment or questions. Hearing none, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 7:35 PM.

Clerk Dawes said the language will be finalized when the Annual (Town) Meeting warning is approved. The Clerk said there will be another public hearing at next week's Council meeting.

In light of this coming weekend's Super Bowl, Mayor Lauzon reminded everyone that the New England Patriots are the preferred team of the Barre City Council.

**B) Introduction of the Barre City Community Interventionist.**

Chief Tim Bombardier introduced Emily (Emma) Moreau as the Community Outreach Specialist, and said she has been hired with a state grant to address issues with the Department of Corrections population in the City, along with those who are in need of services. Ms. Moreau said she is a Norwich University graduate with a degree in criminal justice, she teaches martial arts at Norwich and is a 1<sup>st</sup> lieutenant in the National Guard. Mayor Lauzon asked Ms. Moreau to give monthly updates to Council starting in April.

**C) Barre City/VT Division of Fire Safety Inspection Program and MOU.**

Chief Bombardier, Fire Captain Matt Cetin, Deputy Chief Aldsworth and City Planner Michael Miller gave a PowerPoint presentation on the fire safety inspection program. Manager Mackenzie said the program takes effect February 1<sup>st</sup>. Chief Bombardier said there will be seven personnel who are certified to do inspections and issue citations for violations. The City has been divided into 5 districts, with a total of 2,400 inspectable properties in the City.

There was discussion about landlord and tenant notification before inspections, issuance of civil citations, changing fees to charge for repeat inspections, bringing properties into E911 compliance, issuing stickers or certificates for successfully inspected properties.

Mayor Lauzon requested an update in 60 days.

**D) Resolution #2012-02: Necessity Resolution for Cobble Hill Transmission Main/Nelson Street Hydroelectric Generator Bond Increase.**

City Planner Michael Miller reviewed the project and the loan/grant program that will help fund the work. The loan/grant program will provide funding at a negative interest rate, and full bonding approval is required to apply for the program. Mr. Miller said the voters approved a \$1.2 million bond in May, 2009, and revised cost estimates require that the bond be increased by \$350,000.

Council approved resolution #2012-02 on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Etli. **Motion carried.**

Clerk Dawes said there is corresponding bond language on the Annual (Town) Meeting warning.

**E) Ratification of United Steel Workers Contract.**

Manager Mackenzie reviewed the terms of the contract. Council approved ratification of the contract and authorized Manager Mackenzie and Mayor Lauzon to sign on behalf of the City on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

**F) Approval of 2012 Annual (Town) Meeting Warning.**

Mayor Lauzon said approval of the warning will take place at the Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup> special Council meeting.

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**Old Business –**

**A) FY 2012 Budget Discussion and/or Approval.**

Manager Mackenzie and Mayor Lauzon said there will be a special Council meeting on Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM to finalize the budget and approve the Annual (Town) Meeting warning.

**Other)**

Councilor Etli said he would like to include a ballot item authorizing the City to form a Property-Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) District, which would allow property owners to borrow money from the City to make energy-related improvements to their properties, and pay it back over 20 years through their tax bills. The program requires voter approval. Mayor Lauzon said it will be part of the discussion at Saturday's special Council meeting, and asked the Councilors to review the links and materials provided via email by Councilor Etli.

**Roundtable –**

Councilor Boutin announced that the Greater Barre Community Justice Center will hold an informational session on February 9<sup>th</sup>.

Councilor Boutin said he spoke to someone who sent an email to the entire Council in November, but received no replies. Councilor Boutin publicly apologized for the lack of reply.

Councilor Poirier made the motion to go on record that Barre City is New York Giants Land. The motion was seconded by Councilor Herring. Councilor Etli offered an amendment to include the Chicago Bears. Councilor Herring seconded the amendment and offered a friendly amendment to include the Kansas City Chiefs. Councilor Etli accepted the friendly amendment.

**Council did not approve the friendly amendment, with Councilors Etli, Smith and Herring voting in favor and Mayor Lauzon, Councilor Poirier, Councilor Boutin and Councilor Chadderton voting against.**

**Council did not approve the original amendment, with Councilor Etli voting in favor and all others voting against.**

**Council did not approve the original motion, with Councilors Etli, Boutin and Herring voting in favor, Mayor Lauzon, Councilor Chadderton and Councilor Boutin voting against and Councilor Smith abstaining.**

Council went into executive session at 9:04 PM to discuss personnel, contracts and litigation on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

Council came out of executive session at 10:06 PM on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

Council adjourned at 10:06 PM on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

An audio transcript of this meeting is available through the Clerk's Office. Audio transcripts are kept on file for two years, as per state statute.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk