

To be approved at 05-22-12 Barre City Council Meeting

**Special Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held May 15, 2012**

The Special Meeting of the Barre City Council was called to order at 6:08 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, Clerk Carolyn Dawes, Chief Tim Bombardier and Deputy Fire Chief Joe Aldsworth.

Council went into executive session at 6:08 PM to discuss personnel matters on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

Manager Mackenzie, Chief Bombardier and Deputy Chief Aldsworth were invited into the executive session.

Council came out of executive session at 6:47 PM on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

Mayor Lauzon adjourned the special meeting at 6:47 PM.

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held May 15, 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 Meeting of May 7, 2012
 - Special Meeting of May 10, 2012
 - Special Meeting of May 12, 2012
- City Warrants as presented, including Community Development warrants payable out of Neighborhood Stabilization Grant funds.
- 2012 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office:
 - 2012 Single Event Entertainment License: Rowan Court annual Independence Day celebration, Friday, July 13th from 8:00 – 9:00 PM, including waiver of the fee.
 - 2012 Annual Entertainment License: Barre Elks Club.
 - Fireworks Display Permit: Rowan Court annual Independence Day celebration, Friday, July 13th starting at dusk, including waiver of the fee.

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

- Once Council approves the warning for the next budget vote, early/absentee ballots will be mailed out to those who requested them for the March and/or May elections.
- The 4th quarter property tax deadline was today. Delinquency rate figures will be available next week.
- Even though the statutory deadline has passed, dogs must still be licensed, and the Clerk's office continues to issue tags.

Approval of Building Permits –

Council approved the following building permits on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Chadderton. **Motion carried.**

To be approved at 05-22-12 Barre City Council Meeting

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Address</u>
Rosalie Rheume & Andrew McHugh	340 Tremont St.
Patrick Clark & El Manriquez	115 Orange St.
Raymond & Ann Pouliot	9 E. Parkside Terr.
Cynthia LaCroix & Bruce Landry	85 Blackwell St.
Fecteau Residential Inc.	6 Jacques St.

Liquor Control Board –NONE

Visitors and Communications – NONE

City Manager's Report –

Manager Mackenzie reported on the following activities over the past week, and upcoming items:

- Working with contractor on traffic signal issues.
- Attended meetings with the Civic Center Committee, City attorney, City labor attorney, City inspection team, City Place team.
- Mathewson School playground, Nativi playground and Playground 2000 work is progressing.
- Restoration work on Youth Triumphant has begun again.

We Dig Barre Treasure Dig Drawing. Barre Partnership executive director Dan Jones and mascot Digger asked Councilor Chadderton to draw this week's Treasure Dig winner and announced this week's clue. Mr. Jones said the Farmer's Market begins tomorrow. The Concerts in the Park and Authors at the Aldrich begin on June 13th.

New Business –

B) Community Outreach Grants.

Chief Bombardier and Community Outreach Specialist Emma Moreau updated the Council on the outreach program. The Chief announced a mini-grant program for community-based projects. Grants range from \$500 - \$1,500 and require a 10% match, which can be cash or in-kind. Council approved Councilor Poirier, Lilly Sojourner and Chief Bombardier to serve on the grant review panel. Grant applications are available from the Chief or Ms. Moreau, and will be posted on the City website.

Ms. Moreau described her typical work day, how she gets referrals, partnerships with local service providers and her relationship with local public safety. There was discussion about the relationship with the Greater Barre Community Justice Center, and Mayor Lauzon said to consider that door opened.

A) Taste of Barre – Keith Avenue Closure Request June 7th.

Martha Englert, deputy director for Central Vermont Community Land Trust, requested closure of the North Main Street end of Keith Avenue on Thursday, June 7th (rain date: June 14th) from 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM for a Taste of Barre event, which will feature food and live music. CVCLT is receiving federal funding to benefit the downtown Barre revitalization, and is working with the Barre Partnership on this event. Council approved the street closure on motion of Councilor Etl, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

Old Business –

A) Cemetery Infrastructure.

Manager Mackenzie reviewed the memo from City Engineer Reg Abare and Cemetery Director Dwight Coffrin, outlining infrastructure improvement options at Hope Cemetery, including replacement of water lines, repaving roads and running electricity to get the fountain functional. There was discussion about narrowing options, use of City workers for some of the work, where the work would fit in the City schedule, and options for paving or other road surfaces.

Council approved using the City workforce to do the water line replacement as outlined in B, option 2 of the matrix prepared by the Manager, at an estimated cost of \$8,000, on motion of Councilor Etl, seconded by

To be approved at 05-22-12 Barre City Council Meeting

Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

Mr. Abare said the work will begin in the fall, and the road work can begin next spring. Mayor Lauzon said Council will have additional time to discuss road paving options.

Mr. Coffrin said he has requested information on the costs associated with the installation of electricity and a pump for the fountain, and he will get that information to Council once he receives it.

B) Establish Final Cobblestones Distribution Policy.

Mayor Lauzon said he will develop a cobblestone request form and present it for Council approval at next week's meeting. The Mayor said City property owners can help themselves to cobblestones, but requested that people only take what they will actually use. Mr. Abare said his office has been collecting names on a waiting list. Mayor Lauzon said cobbles can be released to the people on the list.

New Business –

D) Reappointments of Health Officer and Deputy Health Officer.

Council approved the appointment of Steve Micheli as Barre City Health Officer and Robbie Strachan as Deputy Health Officer on motion of Councilor Eтли, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

D) FY 2013 Proposed Budget: Public Input, Council Discussion & Action.

Resident Sandy Barton spoke in support of not cutting salaries or directors in the Recreation and Cemetery Departments. Councilor Boutin said he is not interested in changing the positions to union positions.

Budget motion #1: Councilor Boutin made the motion not have this topic up for any further discussion with regards to reductions to Cemetery and Recreation Department position salaries. The motion was seconded by Councilor Herring. After further discussion, budget motion #1 was withdrawn by the mover and seconder.

Budget motion #2: Councilor Boutin made the motion that there will be no further discussion of any additional salary reductions in the Cemetery and Recreation assistant director positions. The motion was seconded by Councilor Eтли. **Budget motion #2 carried.**

Area residents Bernie Flanagan, Tony Brunner, Joseph Crosier, Nicholas Peloquin and Rene Proteau spoke in support of the Recreation Department and Recreation Director Stephanie Quaranta.

Planning Director Michael Miller spoke of the permit position in his department, how the tax rate is affected by both the budget and the grand list, and possible salary cuts for his position and other department heads. Mr. Miller spoke about the grants and projects that he is managing and other projects that could raise the grand list.

Budget motion #3: Councilor Poirier made the motion to go back to the voters with a budget that eliminates the finance director position and restores the permit position in the Planning & Zoning Department to its previous level for a savings of approximately \$30,000. The motion was seconded by Councilor Herring. After a brief discussion, budget motion #3 was withdrawn by the mover and the seconder.

Mayor Lauzon reviewed his memo outlining the budget adjustment items that Council discussed at its May 12th special meeting. The Mayor said that the adjustment for the elimination of the finance director position and the restoration of the permitting position in the Planning & Zoning Department was an overall budget reduction of \$30,121.

Budget motion #4: Councilor Poirier made the motion to eliminate the finance director position and restore the permitting position for a savings of \$30,121. The motion was seconded by Councilor Herring. **Budget motion #4 carried with all voting in favor.**

Budget motion #5: Councilor Eтли made the motion to accept the overall salary savings in the Clerk's office

To be approved at 05-22-12 Barre City Council Meeting

and Engineering Department due to staffing changes for a reduction of \$10,471. The motion was seconded by Councilor Boutin. **Budget motion #5 carried with all voting in favor.**

There was discussion about the Police Department summer bike patrol.

Budget motion #6: Councilor Boutin made the motion to reduce the summer bike patrol budget from \$35,000 to \$17,500. Budget motion #6 died for lack of a second.

Budget motion #7: Councilor Etli made the motion to reduce the summer bike patrol budget from \$35,000 to \$30,000. The motion was seconded by Councilor Boutin. After further discussion about the bike program, budget motion #7 was withdrawn by the mover and seconder.

There was discussion about the paving program.

Budget motion #8: Councilor Etli made the motion to reduce the voter-approved paving program by \$75,000. Budget motion #8 died for lack of a second.

Budget motion #9: Councilor Boutin made the motion to drop raising the voter-approved \$15,000 for the public safety regionalization study. The motion was seconded by Councilor Etli. There was further discussion about regionalization efforts. **Budget motion #9 did not carry, with Councilors Chadderton and Boutin voting in favor, and Mayor Lauzon and Councilors Etli, Smith, Herring and Poirier voting against.**

Budget motion #10: Councilor Boutin made the motion to accept the overall Fire Department salary reductions due to changes in staffing for a savings of approximately \$50,000, based on the figures provided by Chief Bombardier. The motion was seconded by Councilor Herring.

There was further discussion about the impact of staffing changes on ambulance expenses and revenue. Mayor Lauzon said he would be more comfortable if the budget reduction was \$25,000.

Calling the question: Councilor Boutin called the question on budget motion #10. The motion to call the question was seconded by Councilor Herring. **Calling the question did not carry, with Councilors Chadderton, Boutin, Smith and Herring voting in favor, and Mayor Lauzon and Councilors Etli and Poirier voting against.**

There was further discussion about ambulance expenses and revenue.

Amendment to budget motion #10: Councilor Herring made the motion to amend budget motion #10 to reduce the Fire Department budget by \$25,000 in light of staffing changes. The amendment to budget motion #10 died for lack of a second.

There was further discussion about adjustments to the Fire Department budget due to staffing changes.

Amendment to budget motion #10: Councilor Etli made the motion to amend budget motion #10 to reduce the Fire Department budget by \$25,005 in light of staffing changes. The amendment was seconded by Councilor Herring. **The amendment to budget motion #10 carried with Mayor Lauzon and Councilors Chadderton, Etli, Smith, Herring and Poirier voting in favor, and Councilor Boutin voting against.**

Council approved budget motion #10 as amended with all voting in favor.

Budget motion #11: Councilor Poirier made the motion to increase the salaries for the Recreation & Cemetery Department directors by 5%, and increase the salary of the department head that will be in charge of the merged Recreation/Cemetery/Facility Department by 10%. After a brief discussion on who will serve as the new department head, Councilor Poirier re-worded budget motion #11. He moved that the salaries of the two current

To be approved at 05-22-12 Barre City Council Meeting

department heads that will become assistant department heads be increased by 5%, and that the overall department head's salary be increased by 10%. Budget motion #11 died for lack of a second.

There was discussion about the reorganization of the Recreation, Cemeteries & Parks and Facilities Departments, and the salary reductions in those departments that were part of the budget presented to voters at the May 8th special meeting election.

Budget motion #12: Councilor Herring made the motion not to reduce any salaries by any further amounts. The motion was seconded by Councilor Smith.

Amendment to budget motion #12: Councilor Poirier made the motion to amend budget motion #12 so that the three director positions in the Recreation, Cemetery and Facilities Departments stay the same as they are right now, and leave it to the City Manager to organize the departments from the pool of money in the budget. The motion to amend budget motion #12 was seconded by Councilor Boutin. After further discussion, the motion to amend budget motion #12 was withdrawn by the mover and seconder.

Budget motion #12 carried with Mayor Lauzon and Councilors Boutin, Smith, Herring and Poirier voting in favor, and Councilors Chadderton and Etli voting against.

Budget motion #13: Councilor Poirier made the motion to take the current salaries of the directors in the Recreation, Cemetery and Facilities Departments and leave it to the City Manager to set the salaries through the reorganization of the departments, based on job descriptions and duties. The motion was seconded by Councilor Etli. **Budget motion #13 carried with Mayor Lauzon and Councilors Chadderton, Etli, Boutin, Herring and Poirier voting in favor, and Councilor Smith voting against.**

Mayor Lauzon called for a brief recess at 9:40 PM.

Mayor Lauzon called the meeting back in session at 9:46 PM.

Mayor Lauzon reviewed the budget adjustments made to this point in the meeting, which totaled approximately \$53,592.

Budget motion #14: Councilor Etli made the motion to reduce by \$50,000 the amount the voters approved for the paving program at the March Annual Meeting, and ensure that Upland Avenue will be paved this year. The motion was seconded by Councilor Herring. There was additional discussion about the paving program. Councilor Etli, with the agreement of the seconder, amended budget motion #14 to remove the reference to Upland Avenue. There was discussion on placing a non-binding question about the reduction in paving on the re-vote ballot. **Budget motion #14 carried with Mayor Lauzon and Councilors Chadderton, Etli and Herring voting for, and Councilors Boutin, Smith and Poirier voting against.**

Mayor Lauzon said he will review the adjusted amounts and come back with finalized numbers for approval at next week's meeting.

C) Council Priority Discussion / Summer 2013 Work Plan.

This item was deferred to next week's agenda for discussion.

New Business –

C) Inspection Program Briefing.

This item was deferred to next week's agenda for presentation.

Roundtable –

Mayor Lauzon thanked those involved in the National Peacekeepers ceremonies in Montpelier earlier today.

To be approved at 05-22-12 Barre City Council Meeting

Manager Mackenzie reminded the Council of a special Council meeting for an executive session next Tuesday at 5:30 PM before the regular Council meeting.

Council adjourned at 9:58 PM on motion of Councilor Boutin, seconded by Councilor Herring. **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

DRAFT