

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council  
Held May 28, 2013**

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 Charlie Dindo and Paul Poirier; from Ward II, Alderman Michael Boutin and Councilor Michael Smith; and from Ward III, Councilors Anita Chadderton and Lucas Herring. Also in attendance were City 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 meeting:
  - Regular Meeting of May 21, 2013.
- Approval of the City Warrants as presented, including a community development warrant payable out of a municipal planning grant.
- 2013 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office:
  - Animal License, Alina Schenkman, 11 Bassett St., 5 chickens.
  - Food Vending License, Southern Hospitality LLC DBA George & Kathleen's Hot Diggity Dogs, additional vending locations to include in front of Gusto's and Currier Park during concerts.
  - Commercial Swimming Pool License, Westview Condominium Association, 122 Batchelder St.

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

- Next week's agenda will include discussion on a draft payment drop box policy.
- Coordinators for outstanding Semprebun Fund projects have been reminded their next progress report is due by Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup>. The Clerk will compile the reports and update the Council at the June 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Clerk Dawes reviewed a Keith Fund funding request received from Lauren LaMorte and Beth Mueller on behalf of a local man who is in need of housing assistance. This is the same gentleman Council supported with Keith Funds back in March. The request letter indicated that the gentleman has been accepted into a program that will assist him with a case manager and housing assistance, but there is need for temporary housing assistance until the program assistance starts. Council approved a \$560 disbursement from the Keith Fund on motion of Councilor Poirier, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

**Approval of Building Permits** –

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

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Address</u>
Mary Beth Hebert & Patricia Semanski	81 Country Way
Jeffrey Friot	22 Maplewood Ave.
Paul Laroche & Melanie Florucci	286 Prospect St.

**Liquor Control Board** – NONE

**City Manager's Report** –

Manager Mackenzie reported on the following:

- Cleaning of the south side of City Hall is nearly complete, and the difference is noticeable.

**Visitors & Communications – NONE**

**Old Business –**

**A) Miscellaneous Paving Contract.**

Mayor Lauzon noted this contract award had been informally tabled at the May 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, when there weren't enough Councilors available to vote on the issue. Council awarded the miscellaneous paving contract to Johnson Paving on motion of Councilor Poirier, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried with Mayor Lauzon abstaining due to conflict of interest.**

**New Business –**

**A) CityScape Consortium Update.**

Craig Pinkham with Washington County Youth Service Bureau (WCYSB) said a group of concerned folks have been working together over the past several months following the announcement about the lack of funding to continue the CityScape program. These partners are looking for ways to move forward with providing services and opportunities for youth in the Barre area. Mr. Pinkham said the key is creating a community calendar, which will be available on-line and at the Aldrich Public Library.

Barre City Recreation Director Stephanie Quaranta said the Rec Department will be responsible for providing activities at the pool on Wednesdays. During the summer there will be a storyteller, free books, a program on making healthy snacks, free lunches and snacks weekdays.

Ashley Portman said the Youth Rising project will meet 4 days/week at the Aldrich, offering civic education, organic gardening, and community engagement. The project will partner with Youth Build at ReSource and the justice center. Youth will be attending Council meetings and looking to have positive dialogs with community leaders.

Nick Connor, director of prevention programs at WCYSB, said they are creating a drop-in center for teens at the library. The center will be open 1-2 times per week and will create community service opportunities for the teens.

Sarah Costa, youth coordinator at the Aldrich Library, said the library is hosting the calendar, the Youth Rising gatherings and the drop-in center. Free lunches are available weekdays at the library and there will be kids' activities weekly.

Mayor Lauzon said he is working with the state administration to find funding for this summer's activities, and asked if \$20,000 would be sufficient for this summer. Mr. Pinkham said it would. Mayor Lauzon said he will be back next week with a request to Council to grant \$5,000 to the program from the Keith Fund.

Mr. Pinkham said people can make donations through the WCYSB, and people are encouraged to volunteer to offer their services or expertise.

Mayor Lauzon asked members of the Consortium to come back next week with an update.

**B) Rate Increase for the Civic Center.**

Facility Director Jeff Bergeron reviewed the fee changes recommended by the Civic Center Committee. He said the intention is to have the fee increases go into effect July 1, 2013. There was discussion about the reasonableness of the City's rental rates, planning for annual increases and the need to replace the sound system in the BOR.

Council approved the fee increases as presented on motion of Alderman Boutin, seconded by Councilor

Herring. **Motion carried.**

**C) Request for Semprebob Bequest Appropriation for Flag Poles, ADA Pool Lift.**

Manager Mackenzie reviewed his memo, requesting \$5,700 from the Semprebob Fund to pay for 2 new flag poles for City Hall Park and the ADA pool lift. There was discussion about the Semprebob Fund, the bike path appropriation, over- and underspent projects and the balance of funds available.

Council approved the Manager's request on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Alderman Boutin. **Motion carried.**

**Other)**

Mayor Lauzon reviewed the recently passed tax increment financing district (TIF) legislation and said the most significant change is the increase from 5 to 10 years for the amount of time in which debt can be incurred. The Mayor reviewed a list of identified projects and said the City needs to vote on the debt ceiling. He proposed holding a special election in July. There was discussion about holding the election in September or October so as not to interfere with voters' summer plans and to encourage participation in public forums. The Mayor said he will begin working on support materials.

**Round Table –**

Councilor Herring said the Memorial Day activities and ceremonies were wonderful.

Councilor Dindo said the dedication of the Civil War monument was well done.

Council adjourned at 9:30 PM on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Alderman Boutin. **Motion carried.**

An audio recording of the meeting is available through the Clerk's Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk