

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held June 11, 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, Councilor 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 Alderman Boutin. **Motion carried.**

- Minutes of the following meeting:
 - Regular Meeting of June 4, 2013.
- Approval of the City Warrants as presented.
- 2013 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office:
 - Animal License, April Jolley, 20 Maplewood Ave., 20 chickens.
 - Animal License, Elise Burton, 70 Onward St., 6 laying hens
 - Entertainment License, Veterans Council, Flag Day ceremonies, June 14th from 7:00 – 7:45 PM in City Hall Park.

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

- Water/sewer bills went in the mail last Friday and are due by July 1, 2013.

The Clerk passed around the signature sheet from last week's approved Payment Drop Box Policy, and asked Councilors to please sign.

Approval of Building Permits –

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

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Address</u>
Terri Luce	95 Smith St.
Jason & Alyssa Akers	130 Seminary St.
Black Ink Property Mgmt. Inc.	59 Brooklyn St.

Liquor Control Board – NONE

City Manager's Report –

Manager Mackenzie reported on the following:

- Participated in weekly conference call on the FEMA buy-out program.
- Attended the following meetings: renovation of the former police station, Barre Partnership and consulting team for revitalizing downtown Barre.
- Attended VT Downtowns Program Conference.

Visitors & Communications –

Councilor Dindo said he received complaints about the water spigots at Hope Cemetery, and after meeting with Manager Mackenzie and City Engineer Reg Abare, it was agreed that six more spigots will be added in the fall.

Councilor Dindo said additional signage is needed to keep people from turning left out of Cottage Street on to North Main Street. He said there are also problems with people turning left from North Main Street on to Cottage Street. Councilor Poirier asked about the traffic signal and lane line arrows at the Summer

Street/Maple Avenue intersection, as there appears to be a conflict. Manager Mackenzie said the painted arrows on the lanes are correct and the traffic signal will be re-programmed soon.

Old Business – NONE

New Business –

A) Update from the CityScape Consortium.

Washington County Youth Service Bureau (WCYSB) executive director Kreig Pinkham said the calendar of summer activities and programs is nearly completed. The hard copy of the calendar will be available at the Aldrich Library, along with an on-line version. It is hoped that the on-line calendar will go live the end of this week or early next week.

There was discussion about the programs being hosted at the library and the use of the Council-appropriated \$5,000 from the Keith Fund. Mr. Pinkham said \$2,000 of the funds will go to support the Youth Rising program, \$2,000 will be used to fund a floating staff person that will assist all the partnering organizations, and \$1,000 will be used for programming and supplies.

Councilor Poirier asked Chief Tim Bombardier about the mini-grants available through the community outreach specialist program, and said that might be a possible source of funds in support of the consortium.

Councilor Poirier asked Chief Bombardier about funding for the community outreach specialist program in FY14. Chief Bombardier said he has applied for a Federal Department of Justice grant to fund the program. Councilor Poirier said the state has said they will provide funding through the VT Department of Corrections.

There was discussion about WCYSB applying to the mini-grant program, volunteer opportunities with the consortium, and the need for additional resources as the school year starts up again in the fall.

Mayor Lauzon asked Clerk Dawes to draft up a memorandum of understanding between the City of Barre and WCYSB and then release the \$5,000 from the Keith Fund.

B) Auditorium Parking Lot VTrans Lease.

Mayor Lauzon gave an overview of the lease, which will provide VTRANS with use of the auditorium parking lot and office space in Alumni Hall to allow for commercial truck driver testing 1-2 days per week. Facilities Director Jeff Bergeron said this is a 10 year lease and the agreement allows for flexibility in scheduling to avoid any conflicts with civic center rentals.

Council approved the lease agreement and authorized Manager Mackenzie to sign on behalf of the City on motion of Alderman Boutin, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

C) Discussion of Blanket Entertainment Permits.

Chief Bombardier reviewed his memo to the Manager about those facilities that hold annual entertainment licenses, and recommended the City create some way for the facilities to report events where the anticipated attendance exceeds 100 people, so as to provide adequate public safety protection. There was discussion about the different ways such information could be reported to the City. Mayor Lauzon suggested holding a meeting with the license holders and the Fire Department to discuss the concerns, and setting reporting various threshold limits based on the different venues.

D) Meter Revitalization Plan.

Manager Mackenzie reviewed the meter plan memo prepared by Chief Bombardier. There was

discussion on the anticipated revenue collections from parking meters, funding for the meters and the payback period, warrantees, phased roll-out of the meters throughout the City beginning with Main Street, kiosks versus meters and proposed meter fees.

Mayor Lauzon said he will prepare a spreadsheet with detailed information about the proposed meter plan. The Mayor said he would like to see 10% of the revenues deposited into a sinking fund to pay for future meter repairs and replacement.

There was further discussion about the need for signs directing drivers to municipal parking lots, the possibility of selling meter tokens, and sale of the old meters.

Mayor Lauzon said the discussion will continue on next week's agenda.

Chief Bombardier said the summer bike patrol "Bees" started this week. They are undergoing a week of training and will be on the streets next week.

Councilor Poirier said he heard complaints about the location of the coin drop that was held this past weekend. There was a brief discussion about limiting coin drops to the City Hall Park area for safety reasons.

E) Updates on Semprebond Funded Projects.

Clerk Dawes reviewed her memo, which accompanied copies of the progress reports submitted by the ongoing projects. The Clerk noted no report was submitted from the Dog Park project.

There was discussion on TIF expenditure reimbursements to the Semprebond Fund, the Boy Scout monument project, and the Spaulding High School football field lighting project.

Mayor Lauzon asked that someone representing the Boy Scout sculpture project give an update to the Council by July 1st.

Council asked for additional information from Barre Area Development about the downtown designation project by July 1st.

F) Renewal of Harassment Policies.

Councilor Herring made the motion to approve the policies as presented, seconded by Councilor Smith.

Alderman Boutin made the motion to amend the sexual harassment policy by deleting some of the language on the first and second pages, seconded by Councilor Poirier.

There was further discussion about the proposed amendments. Both the motion to amend and the original motion were withdrawn. The policies will be revised as recommended by Alderman Boutin and be brought back for Council consideration at next week's meeting.

Round Table –

Councilor Herring said the Downtowns conference was great. He said the weekly Wednesday night Authors and the Aldrich begin this week. He said the Barre Heritage Festival committee is sending out parade entry forms and looking for sponsors.

Councilor Smith said the weekly Wednesday concerts in Currier Park begin this week and that the Unitarian Church is the location in case of rain.

To be approved at 06-18-13 Barre City Council Meeting

Councilor Dindo said the Barre Town bike path committee is meeting on June 19th. There will be an opportunity to review the plans for the connector path and a public hearing on the plans. He said the Barre City bike path committee's next meeting in June 20th.

Alderman Boutin said June 15th is the last day to register to have a booth at the Heritage Festival. He said Clerk Dawes' voice recital this past Sunday was wonderful.

Councilor Poirier said he would like to see a spreadsheet that lists the current year salaries and next year's salaries for all exempt employees.

Mayor Lauzon said he has reached out to members of the Barre Town Selectboard. The Mayor said he will try to arrange a joint meeting to discuss ways for the two municipalities to work together.

Council adjourned at 9:12 PM on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk