

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held July 5, 2012**

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

We Dig Barre Treasure Dig Drawing. Barre Partnership executive director Dan Jones and mascot Digger invited Manager Mackenzie to draw last week's winner, and announced this week's clue.

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

- Minutes of the following meetings:
 - Regular Meeting of June 26, 2012
- City Warrants as presented.
- 2012 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office:
 - Food Vending license for The Candy Van, a food truck serving pre-packaged candy and other foods.

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

- Tax bills are scheduled to be in the mail by July 16th, with the first quarter payment due by August 15th.

Approval of Building Permits – Council approved the following building permits on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Boutin. **Motion carried.** Approval included waiver of the fee for the Liberty Street permit.

| <u>Application</u> | <u>Address</u> |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Warren & Nancy Wolfe | 4 Park Street |
| Armando & Jean Coello | 30 Nordic Lane |
| Nancy Andreoletti | 113 Country Way |
| Matthew & Heather Flinn | 222 Camp Street |
| Venus Allen | 166 Fairview Street |

Liquor Control Board –NONE

Visitors and Communications – Resident Leo Fortier of 22 Hale Street addressed the Council about the permit currently before the Development Review Board (DRB), which would allow for excavation and development off Division Street, abutting Mr. Fortier's property. Mr. Fortier said the recommended bond amount of \$2 million is not sufficient to cover potential losses should there be land failure at the proposed site. Councilor Poirier said Mr. Fortier is speaking on behalf of the neighbors who live in the area surrounding the proposed project. He said the information is being passed along so the City can adjust its position and recommendation to the DRB to make sure the City's and neighbors' interests are protected. He asked for clarification by next week's Council meeting of the City's ability to appeal a DRB decision.

City Manager Report –

Manager Mackenzie reported on the following:

- Meetings attended over the past week included:
 - competitive bidding for fuel
 - Heritage Festival

To be approved at 07-10-12 Barre City Council Meeting

- The Big Dig will change locations as of July 9th, when they leave the northern section of North Main Street and move into the Depot Square area and the southern portion of North Main Street.
- The Northeast Materials Act 250 process is continuing, with the City recently accepting bids for the work to be done at the South Main & Quarry Streets intersection. The contract for the work will be awarded at next week's Council meeting.
- The Police Department bike patrol Bees are once again on the streets. They have expanded their coverage area to include streets beyond the immediate downtown area.

New Business:

B) Council Approval of Warrant Issuing Delinquent Dog Licenses List to First Constable.

Council approved issuing the warrant of unlicensed dogs to First Constable Scott Gagnon on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Poirier. **Motion carried.**

A) Heritage Festival Update.

Heritage Festival coordinator Mollie Brault-Binaghi and Barre Partnership executive director Dan Jones updated the Council on the festival's schedule and changes in this year's layout due to the Big Dig. There was discussion about the festival's decision not to allow politicians in the parade due to the shortened route, the need for volunteers, and the possibility of a groundbreaking event at City Place. Ms. Brault-Binaghi asked people to email her information on other events surrounding the festival so they can be included in the overall schedule for the weekend.

Old Business:

A) Set the Fiscal Year 13 Tax Rate.

Clerk Dawes reviewed the proposed tax rate calculation sheet. Council approved the following rates as proposed on motion of Councilor Boutin, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

| | |
|--|--------|
| FY 2013 municipal tax rate | 1.5924 |
| FY 2013 local agreement tax rate | 0.0037 |
| FY 2013 homestead education tax rate (as set by the state) | 1.1817 |
| FY 2013 non-residential education tax rate (as set by the state) | 1.4318 |

B) Hope Cemetery Infrastructure Upgrade – Final Budget Discussion.

Manager Mackenzie recommended deferring the discussion to next week's Council meeting when there will be more Councilors present.

C) Council Approval of Humane Society Stray Animal Holding Agreement.

Council approved the agreement contract amount as submitted by the Central Vermont Humane Society, and authorized Manager Mackenzie to sign on behalf of the City, on motion of Councilor Boutin, seconded by Councilor Poirier. **Motion carried.**

New Business:

C) Council Approval of Consortium Contract with Town of Barre Re: BHA Accessibility Project.

Council approved the contract and authorized Manager Mackenzie to sign on behalf of the City on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Poirier. **Motion carried.**

Round Table –

Councilor Boutin asked if the City can get the state to mow the roadsides on Route 62. Manager Mackenzie said he has put in a request before, but will do so again.

Councilor Herring said Front Porch Forum is coming to Barre and preliminary posts are going on.

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Acting Mayor Smith reminded people of the need for volunteers to help out with the Heritage Festival, highlighted next Wednesday's events including the farmer's market, authors at the Aldrich and concerts in the park. Acting Mayor Smith thanked the Granite Center Garden Club for all their beautification work around the City.

Council adjourned at 8:07 PM on motion of Councilor Boutin, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk

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