

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held July 24, 2012**

The Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council was called to order at 6:09 PM by Mayor Thomas Lauzon. In attendance were: From Ward I, Councilor Poirier (arrived 6:12 PM); from Ward II, Councilors Michael Boutin and Michael Smith; and from Ward III, Councilor Anita Chadderton. Also in attendance were Manager Steven Mackenzie and Clerk Carolyn Dawes.

New Business –

A) TIF District Application – Consultant Presentation and Selection.

Barre Area Development executive director Darren Winham introduced consultant Stephanie Hainley with White & Burke Real Estate Investment Advisors. Ms. Hainley gave a PowerPoint presentation on TIF districts and the process involved in applying to VEPC for TIF designation. Ms. Hainley said she would work with the City to educate Barre City voters on TIF districts. Mayor Lauzon said there would be a number of public hearings prior to City voters being asked to approve a debt ceiling as part of the TIF application process. Ms. Hainley said approval of the debt ceiling does not obligate the City nor authorize the Council to bond without additional voter approval.

Mayor Lauzon said the contract for Ms. Hainley's services is \$20,000, plus \$5,000 for the application fee and \$5,000 for an independent third party review of the application performed by VEPC for a total of \$30,000. The Mayor said the funds would be paid out of the Semprebond Funds originally designated for the City Place project, which will be reimbursed by the developer.

Ms. Hainley said Council will need to approve the TIF district plan after she has completed developing it, and the plan will be used as the basis for the application to VEPC. There was discussion about resolution #2012-03 approved by Council on March 5, 2012, which created the TIF district. Mayor Lauzon said Council's action was premature.

Council approved the contract with White & Burke and authorized Manager Mackenzie to sign on behalf of the City on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Chadderton. **Motion carried.**

Mayor Lauzon called for a ten minute recess at 6:40 PM.

Mayor Lauzon reconvened the meeting at 6:52 PM.

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

- Minutes of the following meetings:
 - Regular Meetings of July 17, 2012
- City Warrants as presented.
- 2012 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office:
 - Fireworks license for Barre Heritage Festival & Homecoming Days, July 28th at dusk.

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

- The first quarter tax payment is due by August 15th.
- Early/absentee ballots are available for the August 28th primary election.
- The Clerk will be on vacation next week and the Assistant Clerk will cover the Council meeting.

Approval of Building Permits –

Council approved the following building permits on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor

Boutin. Motion carried.

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Address</u>
Jerome Hatch	115 Tremont St.
James Carpenter & Jess Brink	76 Westwood Pkwy.
Oliver Twombly	116 Summer St.

Liquor Control Board –

Council approved private use of alcohol at Rotary Park by the SHS Class of 1957 for a picnic on Saturday, July 28th following the Heritage Festival parade on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Chadderton. **Motion carried with Councilor Boutin abstaining.**

Visitors and Communications – NONE

City Manager Report –

Manager Mackenzie reported on the following:

- Attended meetings with/on:
 - VEM/FEMA re buyout applications for Hilltop properties
 - Big Dig progress
 - City Place
 - Bike Path Committee
 - Fire fighter union negotiations
 - Department heads re Heritage Festival.
- There were localized washouts caused by last night's heavy rains. City crews are making repairs.
- The reconstruction work on Youth Triumphant will be completed before this weekend's Heritage Festival events. The memorial is now handicap accessible.
- The gazebo and walkthroughs between North Main Street and Merchant's Row will be cleaned tomorrow in anticipation of the Heritage Festival.

Mayor Lauzon said he will be meeting with representatives of Hunger Mountain Co-op later this week to discuss a possible satellite location at City Place.

We Dig Barre Treasure Dig Drawing. We Dig Barre chair Mary Jane Magnan and mascot Digger invited Councilor Smith to draw last week's winner, and announced this week's clue.

New Business –

B) Use of City Hall Park for August 16th Community Picnic.

Ms. Magnan and Chief Bombardier asked for Council approval to use City Hall Park on August 16th for the annual community picnic put on by the Fire Department, Police Department, Barre Partnership and Meyers Containers. The event will be held from 4:00 – 7:00 PM. Council approved use of the park for the event on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Boutin. **Motion carried.**

C) Insurance Coverage for the Heritage Festival.

Mayor Lauzon said the Barre Partnership has been shopping for an insurance policy to cover the Heritage Festival, and has received a quote of \$2,500. The Mayor said it is an unbudgeted expense and requested that Council approve the City to cover ½ of the cost. He said the Barre Town Selectboard is considering covering the other ½ of the cost. Councilor approved up to \$1,250 for a Heritage Festival insurance rider naming the City as an additional insured on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Boutin. **Motion carried.**

Mayor Lauzon said the City is talking with its insurance provider at VLCT about coverage for other

community events.

Old Business –

A) Second Reading and Public Hearing – Ordinance Revisions #2012-01 Trash Ordinance Warned for 7:15 p.m.

Mayor Lauzon opened the second reading and public hearing at 7:13 PM. There was discussion about amendments to the proposed language.

Mayor Lauzon asked for questions or comments from the public, and hearing none, closed the public hearing at 7:30 PM. Council approved the ordinance revisions as amended on motion of Councilor Boutin, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

Clerk Dawes said, per charter, the ordinance changes will be published in the local newspaper and go into effect 20 days after publication.

B) Review/Revisions of Barre City Fee Schedule.

Chief Bombardier reviewed a list of recommended fees for inspection services. There was discussion about increasing fees for the rental housing inspection program and providing additional services to landlords and tenants, offering educational opportunities to the landlords' association and the possible creation of a tenants' association.

Council approved the fee revisions as presented and amended on motion of Councilor Boutin, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

Clerk Dawes said, per ordinance, the fee changes will be published in the local newspaper and go into effect 30 days after publication.

C) Public Safety Committee Updates: No reports.

- **Fire Department**
- **Police Department**

Other)

Councilor Poirier asked to review the process for DRB hearings and how items are placed on the DRB agenda for reconsideration. City Planner Michael Miller said the DRB chair sets the agenda, so people contact him to be placed on the agenda. Councilor Poirier asked that all such requests be made in writing and be shared with all interested parties. Mr. Miller said once an item is placed on the agenda, all interested parties are notified. Councilor Poirier asked the DRB to review its protocols and procedures. Mayor Lauzon said all requests should be in writing and maintained in Mr. Miller's office as public records.

New Business –

D) Post Big-Dig: Permanent Traffic Changes – For Discussion Only.

Manager Mackenzie reviewed his memo outlining options for permanent traffic changes following the completion of the Big Dig. Trucking business owner Roland Bellavance said such a change would be a bad precedent for the industry and state. Manager Mackenzie said the new intersections have been geometrically designed to accommodate a 53' trailer.

Mayor Lauzon asked that the Manager's memo be forwarded to the Transportation Advisory Committee and run by a traffic consultant. Manager Mackenzie said he will also run it by the VTRANS engineers. The Mayor said meetings will be scheduled involving local trucking companies and downtown merchants. The Manager said he will coordinate communications.

To be approved at 07-31-12 Barre City Council Meeting

Round Table –

Councilor Smith reminded everyone of this weekend's Heritage Festival events.

Mayor Lauzon reminded Council of the Towdown on Saturday morning and reviewed the other Heritage Festival activities.

Council adjourned at 8:45 PM on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Boutin. **Motion carried.**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk

DRAFT