

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held October 8, 2013**

The Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council was called to order by Mayor Thomas Lauzon at 7:00 PM at Barre City Hall. In attendance were: From Ward I, Councilor Paul Poirier; from Ward II, Councilor Chadderton; and from Ward III, Alderman Michael Boutin and Councilor Michael Smith. Also in attendance were City Manager Steven Mackenzie and City Clerk/Treasurer Carolyn Dawes.

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

- Minutes of the following meetings:
 - Regular Meeting of October 1, 2013.
- Approval of the City Warrants as presented.
- 2013 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office:
 - Entertainment License for Circle event in City Hall Park on October 23rd from 12:30 – 1:30 PM in honor of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Approval included waiver of the application fee.

New Business –

A) Recognition of Herbert Jorgensen for 40 Years on the Cemetery Commission.

Mayor Lauzon thanked Mr. Jorgensen for his more than 40 years of service on the Cemetery Commission and presented him with a certificate of appreciation. The Council and audience gave Mr. Jorgensen a standing ovation.

The City Clerk and Treasurer Report – Clerk Dawes reported on the following:

- The drop box has been installed on City Hall and will be operational in the near future.
- There is a special election on November 5th, and early/absentee voting is available.

Approval of Building Permits – NONE

Liquor Control Board –

Council approved allowing alcohol consumption at Rotary Park for a family reunion on October 12th from 6:00 AM – dusk on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Chadderton. **Motion carried with Alderman Boutin abstaining.**

New Business – cont.

E) B.O.R. Mold Remediation Issue.

Facilities Director Jeff Bergeron reviewed his memo outlining the mold situation in the BOR. Mr. Bergeron said he contacted four companies to assess the situation and bid on the remediation. Only one bid was received in the amount of \$148,223.47 from LimeLite Restoration Services of Colchester. The anticipated timeframe for the work is October 10th to November 5th.

Councilor Poirier made the motion to accept the bid of LimeLite Restoration dated August 21, 2013 and authorize the City manager to enter into an agreement in an amount to be determined, approximately \$150,000, trusting the City Manager, working in conjunction with Mr. Bergeron, to negotiate the contract. The motion was seconded by Councilor Chadderton.

There was discussion on air quality and testing, the remediation process, the impact on the ice time schedule and loss of revenues from rentals. Sara Young of the Barre Figure Skating Association said they are concerned about the season not starting on time and whether this will impact the rental fees. Ms.

Young said the BFSA needs to be included in conversations and kept informed. Mayor Lauzon said there would be no increase in fees this year and renters would not be charged for dates they can't use the rink. Recreation Director Stephanie Quaranta said she and Mr. Bergeron will meet with all interested parties to discuss the situation and scheduling. Mayor Lauzon asked Mr. Bergeron for weekly progress reports to the Council and interested parties. The Mayor said the City would be willing to consider additional costs for longer work days in an effort to speed up the remediation timetable.

Garrett Bressette, president of BYSA Hockey, commended the Civic Center employees for taking care of the mold issue and said the health of the kids is the most important thing. Mr. Bressette said he is concerned about possible increased costs following the remediation. There was discussion about possible insurance coverage for the remediation, guarantees for the work to be performed, and what steps can be taken to keep mold from reoccurring.

Council voted on the motion as presented. **Motion carried.**

City Manager's Report – NONE

Mayor Lauzon gave an update on the street banner situation with VTRANS. The Mayor said the City will relocate some street signs to make sure they aren't blocked by the banners on the light poles. He said he is in contact with the Vermont Transportation Board to try and work out the issue of sponsorships on the banners. The banners are part of the Vermont designated downtowns and the issue could be addressed through legislation that would exempt 2'x3' banners in such downtowns.

Visitors & Communications – NONE

Old Business – NONE

New Business – cont.

B) Streets/Capital Budget Allocation FY14.

Manager Mackenzie presented the proposed FY14 streets/capital budget allocation. The Manager requested that the balance of this year's voter-approved paving/capital funds be allocated to the capital fund and that short-term funding be used to cover the unanticipated expenses associated with the box culvert under City Place and the firefighter turnout gear. Manager Mackenzie said the current projection is to complete the 10 year paving plan in 7 years, and his proposal regarding allocation of this year's funds would push the completion out one year to 8 years. The Manager said City Engineer Reg Abare will soon begin working on the next 10 year phase for paving.

There was discussion about funding for the culvert and turnout gear, the capital and paving plans for the next 10 years, and funding the culvert through TIF revenues. City Budget and Finance Committee chair Justin Johnson reviewed the proposed allocation and said the committee and Council have the burden of explaining budgets and expenditures to the public. Mr. Johnson said the City needs to have the equipment necessary to do the jobs and there is a big need right now for capital items to support the work of the City.

Manager Mackenzie said he will confer with Clerk/Treasurer Dawes on funding options for the unanticipated capital expenses and will return with additional information in two weeks.

C) Authorization to Execute the Quit Claim Deed for Barre Town Sewer Line Upgrade in Jockey Hollow.

Manager Mackenzie reviewed two deeds; 1) Town relocation of existing sewer line, and 2) construction easement and/or slope rights. The Manager said the City will receive \$1,100 as compensation.

Council authorized the City Manager to sign both deeds on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

D) Authorization to Apply for VTRANS Bike Path Transportation Alternative Grant.

Manager Mackenzie reviewed the grant request. Council authorized the Manager to apply for the grant on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Poirier. **Motion carried, with Councilor Smith out of the room for the vote.**

Round Table –

Councilor Poirier asked if the City is on schedule to have the new flag poles installed in City Hall Park by the end of the week. Manager Mackenzie said there have been some delays due to staffing. Councilor Poirier said there will be a forum on the Vermont health exchange on October 17th at the Elks Club. He said the enrolment process will be gone through step-by-step.

Alderman Boutin said the Greater Barre Community Justice Center will be holding a workshop on neighbor relationships.

Mayor Lauzon said the Barre Joint Service Clubs community service dinner is tomorrow evening at the Canadian Club. The Mayor said he will be making a mayoral proclamation naming October 16th as Recovery Day in Barre City. There will be a film screening at the Opera House that evening, along with discussions on ways to support those in recovery.

Council went into executive session at 9:03 PM to discuss legal issues on motion of Alderman Boutin, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

Manager Mackenzie and Clerk/Treasurer Dawes were invited into the executive session.

Council came out of executive session at 9:23 PM on motion of Alderman Boutin, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

Council went into executive session at 9:24 PM to discuss personnel issues on motion of Alderman Boutin, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

Council came out of executive session at 9:29 PM on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Alderman Boutin. **Motion carried.**

Council adjourned at 9:29 PM on motion of Councilor Smith, 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