

**Special Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held July 31, 2014**

The Special Meeting of the Barre City Council was called to order by Mayor Thomas Lauzon at 5:30 PM at Barre City Hall. In attendance were: From Ward I, Councilors Charlie Dindo and Paul Poirier; and from Ward II, Councilors Michael Boutin and Michael Smith. Also in attendance was and City Clerk/Treasurer Carolyn Dawes.

New Business –

A) Pubic Hearing for Vermont Community Development Program Planning Grant.

Mayor Lauzon opened the public hearing at 5:30 PM. Barre Area Development Corporation executive director Joel Schwartz explained the program and said the \$15,000 grant application is on behalf of the Granite City Grocery. Mr. Schwartz said the grant would allow the GCG to retain professional planning assistance.

GCG board members Phil Cecchini and Becca Pinkus gave additional details and answered questions from the Council. There was discussion about current and target membership numbers, managing expectation, and the timeline as the project moves forward.

Mr. Cecchini said the grant will allow the board to develop a more complete business plan. Ms. Pinkus said the grant will allow the board to engage a professional planner to help with the business plan and free up the board who can then focus on the community. Ms. Pinkus said according to national statistics on co-operatives, it generally takes 3-5 years to open a co-op grocery store. The GCG has been working on this project for two years and appears to be on target.

Mr. Schwartz said Council approval to submit the application includes the approval of a resolution for grant application authority. Mayor Lauzon said the resolution hasn't been warned for action at this special meeting, but he will allow its approval, and the Council will ratify the resolution approval at a future council meeting. Clerk Dawes noted the resolution does not reflect the correct date for the adoption of the Barre City municipal plan, as the Council recently adopted the new plan. The Clerk will check the records and correct the date on the resolution. She will also give the resolution a number for the City's records.

Council approved the resolution on motion of Councilor Poirier, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

Mayor Lauzon closed the public hearing at 6:00 PM.

The Council meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM on motion of Councilor Poirier, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

Councilor Poirier left before signing the resolution.

There is no audio recording of this Council meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk