

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council  
Held August 5, 2014**

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, Councilors Charles Dindo and Paul Poirier; from Ward II, Councilors Michael Boutin and Michael Smith; and from Ward III, Councilors Anita Chadderton and Lucas Herring. Also in attendance were City Manager Steven Mackenzie and City Clerk/Treasurer Carolyn Dawes.

Mayor Lauzon noted that former Barre City Councilor Ellen Andrews passed away on July 30<sup>th</sup>. Council rose for a moment of silence in honor of Ms. Andrews' years of service to the community.

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

- Minutes of the following meetings:
  - Regular Meeting of July 29, 2014
  - Special Meeting of July 31, 2014.
- Approval of the City Warrants as presented.
- 2014 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office:
  - Animal License:
    - Shannon Capron, 38 Railroad Street, 1 red tail boa constrictor
  - Entertainment License:
    - Morning Star Fellowship (Church of God of Prophecy), Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 8:00 PM in City Hall Park. Music, clowns, balloons, games for children. All events free of charge and family friendly. Council approval included informing the church of the City noise ordinances to ensure their music does not disturb the surrounding residents and churches.

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

- Early/absentee ballots are available for the August 26<sup>th</sup> primary election. Last day to register to vote is August 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Property tax bills will be mailed by August 15<sup>th</sup>, and the first due date will be adjusted to September 15<sup>th</sup>. Council will approve the adjusted due date later this evening.

**Approval of Building Permits** – Council approved the following building permit on the motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Address</u>
Kenneth Bunce	40 Sheridan Street

**Liquor Control** –

Council approved a new 2014 First Class license for Smith Catering, dba Morse Block Deli, 260 North Main Street, on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried with Councilors Boutin and Chadderton abstaining.**

Council approved a Request to Cater Permit application from Langdon Street Pub dba McGillicuddy's for an office party on August 8, 2014 from 3:30 – 8:00 PM on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried with Councilors Boutin and Chadderton abstaining.**

Council approved a Request to Cater Permit application from Gusto's for a beer tent during the roller derby match at the BOR on August 23<sup>rd</sup> on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried with Councilors Boutin and Chadderton abstaining.**

To be approved at 08-12-14 Barre City Council Meeting

Council approved a Request to Cater Permit application from Gusto's for a beer tent during the roller derby match at the BOR on September 27<sup>th</sup> on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith.

**Motion carried with Councilors Boutin and Chadderton abstaining.**

Clerk Dawes said the two Gusto's permits were originally approved by the Council on June 17, 2014 as part of a group of similar requests from Gusto's, however, the Vermont Department of Liquor Control said the requests must be submitted, approved and paid for separately.

#### **City Manager's Report –**

Manager Mackenzie reported on the following:

- The RFP has been issued for demolition of 1 Campbell Place.
- The Phase II Environmental Assessment of 12 Keith Avenue has begun. The Manager is attending this week's Development Review Board meeting for review and approval of the conceptual site plan.
- Meeting Friday with North Main Street property owners and the design team to review the Enterprise Aly redevelopment plans.
- Construction has started on the Cobble Hill water main project.

There was discussion about reconstruction of Pearl Street, about turning it into a pedestrian way, and doing the work in conjunction with other improvements in the area. Manager Mackenzie will ask ORW to expand the plans for the Summer Street Center project to include the Pearl Street area.

**Visitors & Communications – NONE**

**Old Business – NONE**

#### **New Business –**

##### **A) Set First Quarter Property Tax Due Date.**

Clerk Dawes said printing and mailing of property tax bills is delayed due to the late voter approval of the school budget, therefore the first quarter payment due date needs to be adjusted to September 15<sup>th</sup>. The Clerk recommended Council make such an adjustment. The other three quarterly payment due dates will remain November 15<sup>th</sup>, February 15<sup>th</sup> and May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Council set the first quarter property tax payment due date for September 15<sup>th</sup> on motion of Councilor Boutin, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

##### **B) Review of Changes to Open Meeting Law.**

Clerk Dawes reviewed her handout of information on the recent changes to the open meeting laws, and reviewed in detail the changes associated with going into executive sessions. The Clerk said she is visiting with all City boards and committees to review the changes, and to work with them to assist them in being compliant.

##### **C) Update on Water Rate Adjustment and Schedule.**

Manager Mackenzie said preliminary figures have been developed and are being reviewed with the auditors to ensure the fund balance adjustments are correct. The intention is to develop a 3-5 year rate schedule and to implement the changes for the December billing cycle. Mayor Lauzon suggested implementing an interim 2% increase with the September billing cycle and true up the increase with the December cycle. Manager Mackenzie said he will report back to Council with a recommended interim rate increase.

##### **D) Authorization to Accept Enterprise Aly Downtown Transportation Grant 2014-01.**

Manager Mackenzie said the City applied for a \$100,000 grant and received \$38,000. The City can apply for the balance in the next grant cycle. The Manager said he will give a progress report on the Enterprise Aly project at next week's meeting.

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Council accepted the grant and authorized the Manager to sign on behalf of the City on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Chadderton. **Motion carried.**

**Round Table –**

Councilor Dindo said there is a neighborhood meeting on burn permits tomorrow evening at the Public Safety Building. The meeting is open to all.

Councilor Herring said the IT Committee is meeting on August 12<sup>th</sup> before the Council meeting.

Councilor Poirier noted the passing of Bob Lord Sr., and said he did a lot for the Greater Barre area. Others said he was a true gentleman and always generous with his time. The Council rose for a moment of silence in honor of Mr. Lord and his service to the community.

Councilor Herring made the motion to find that premature general public knowledge of negotiations, contracts and legal issues would clearly place the City at a substantial disadvantage if the Council discussed the proposed negotiations, contracts and legal issues in public. The motion was seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried with Council Boutin voting against.**

Councilor Herring made the motion to enter into executive session at 7:50 PM to discuss negotiations, contracts and legal issues under the provisions of Title 1, section 313 of the Vermont Statutes. The motion was seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

Manager Mackenzie and Facilities Director Jeff Bergeron were invited into the executive session.

Mr. Bergeron left the executive session after the legal discussions were completed.

Council came out of executive session at 8:27 PM on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

The Council meeting adjourned at 8:27 PM on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk