

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held November 3, 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, Councilor Lucas Herring. Also in attendance were City Manager Steven Mackenzie and City Clerk/Treasurer Carolyn Dawes.

Absent: Councilor Anita Chadderton

Adjustments to the Agenda – NONE

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 October 28, 2014
- Approval of the City Warrants as presented.
- 2014 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office: NONE

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

- Polls will be open tomorrow at the auditorium from 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM.
- Second quarter property taxes are due by November 17th, because the 15th falls on a Saturday.

Approval of Building Permits – NONE

Liquor Control – NONE

City Manager's Report – Manager Mackenzie reported on the following:

- A pre-bid meeting was held yesterday for the demolition of the Ormsby property on Keith Avenue. Bids are due by November 13th, and the contract will be awarded at the November 18th Council meeting.
- Temporary parking meters have been installed on 1 Campbell Place.
- The Enterprise Aly design team will give site plan presentation at next week's Council meeting.

Mayor Lauzon said there was some confusion recently following a candidate rally. The Mayor said the City was not asking the candidates to move along, but to make sure they remove their signs from public property after the rally.

Visitors & Communications – Anita Bergeron introduced herself and said she is a new volunteer on the ADA committee. Council welcomed her and thanked her for her service.

New Business –

A) Preview Discussion of December 1st Water Rate Adjustment.

Mayor Lauzon said this agenda item is deferred to next week.

B) Approval of Towing Bids.

Mayor Lauzon reviewed a memo from Assistant to the City Manager Rikk Taft, and said the memo recommend awarding the bid to low bidder Putney Garage. Council awarded the towing contract to Putney Garage on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

C) Appointment of the Health Officer.

Mayor Lauzon read a portion of a letter from Dr. Lori Cragin of the VT Department of Health, who outlined the qualifications recommended for the Health Officer. The Mayor said the Manager recommends appointing Fire Captain Matt Cetin as Health Officer. Councilor Herring made the motion to appoint Captain Cetin as Health Officer, seconded by Councilor Smith. There was discussion about Dr. Cragin's letter, which referenced appointing a Deputy Health Officer, not a Health Officer. Councilor Herring amended his motion to include appointing City Inspector Robbie Strachan as Deputy Health Inspector, with Councilor Smith agreeing to the amendment as the seconder.

Council voted on the amended motion. **Motion carried.**

D) Holiday Parking Announcement.

Mayor Lauzon read the press release from the Police Department outlining the dates and conditions of the free holiday parking which runs from November 28th through December 31st.

Other) Merchants Bank Property Tax Assessment Appeal Settlement.

Mayor Lauzon said the City and Merchants Bank reached a tentative settlement on the bank's tax assessment appeal and recommended Council accept the settlement. Council accepted the settlement on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

Round Table –

Councilor Poirier encouraged everyone to exercise their right to vote in tomorrow's General Election.

Councilor Herring said the Recreation Committee toured the playgrounds. He said he would like to have a review of the Semprebon Fund, and an update on the status of the digital sign and the marketing position. Mayor Lauzon suggested he contact Buildings and Community Services director Jeff Bergeron directly to discuss the issues.

Councilor Smith encouraged everyone to get out and vote tomorrow,.

Mayor Lauzon said he was proud of Barre last week when First Lady Michelle Obama tweeted about Barre joining the Let's Move program, and he attended the Stand Up for Kindness anti-bullying rally at BCEMS. The Mayor also noted the article in the Times Argus about the incidence of people "paying it forward" at a local restaurant recently, when for several hours people paid for other people's meals.

The Mayor thanked all the candidates running in tomorrow's General Election.

The Council meeting adjourned at 7:27 PM on motion of Councilor Poirier, 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