

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held December 9, 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, Councilor Charles Dindo; 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: From Ward I, Councilor Paul Poirier; and from Ward III, 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 December 2, 2014
- Approval of the City Warrants as presented, including a community development warrant payable out of the Enterprise Aly ACCD grant.
- 2014 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office: NONE

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

- Water & Sewer bills are due by December 31st.
- The winter parking ban is in effect. Overnight parking permits are available. Both daytime and overnight parking permits for 2015 will be available beginning next week.
- The new delinquent collections clerk, Heather Grandfield, starts on Monday, December 15th.
- The Board of Abatement is meeting next Tuesday before the Council meeting.

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

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Address</u>
James Carpenter & Jesse Brink	76 Westwood Parkway

Liquor Control – NONE

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

- The Budget & Finance Committee is scheduled to make its first presentation of the draft FY16 budget at next week's Council meeting.
- Reconstruction work on Tremont Street has begun.
- The Enterprise Aly plans received Development Review Board approval at last week's meeting.

Visitors & Communications – NONE

Old Business – NONE

New Business –

A) Solar Project Presentation.

Louis & Alex Bravakis from Novus Energy gave a presentation on the proposed one megawatt project to be sited in the Barre area. The project calls for two 500 kilowatt sites; one on the former Skyline ski area location owned by the Valsangiacomo family, and one located behind the Booth Brothers farm off Allen

Street in Barre Town. The City would receive the benefits of the net metering from the sites, which would result in an anticipated 15% savings on electric bills for the next 20 years. At the end of the 20 years, the City would have the option to purchase the sites and receive the full benefit of the net metering, or continue under the proposed plan. Novus already has similar plans in place with Barre City Elementary and Middle School and Barre Town, and is working on a similar plan for Spaulding High School. The project owners are responsible for all construction costs and maintenance, for which they receive tax credits and 85% of the net metering.

There was discussion about how the finances and administration works, net metering, and Novus' role through commissioning and beyond. Mr. L. Bavakis said the intention is to have construction completed by next fall.

Mayor Lauzon said copies of the draft agreement will be sent to the Councilors for their review before coming back for consideration of approval at next week's meeting. The Mayor said he forwarded a copy of the agreement to bond attorney Paul Giuliani and City Attorney Oliver Twombly for their review.

B) Enterprise Aly Project: Authorization to Exchange Property Parcels with State of Vermont. Manager Mackenzie reviewed his memo on the parcel exchange near the corner of Enterprise Aly and Granite Street. Councilor Herring made the motion to authorize the City Manager to work with the City Attorney and the State of Vermont, through its Vermont Agency of Transportation, to implement the Enterprise Aly parcel exchange. The motion was seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

Round Table:

Councilors thanked those who made donations during last Saturday's dollar drop to benefit the Christmas for Kids program.

Councilor Dindo said the bike path committee is meeting on Thursday. He said someone attempted to break into his home last night, and he reminded people to keep their doors locked.

Mayor Lauzon congratulated two Barre-based people for their recent gubernatorial appointments; Barre City Budget & Finance Committee chair Justin Johnson for his appointment as Secretary of Administration, and Capstone Community Development executive director Hal Cohen for his appointment as Secretary of Human Services.

Executive Session: NONE

The Council meeting adjourned at 8:03 PM on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk