

**Special Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held January 30, 2016**

The Special Meeting of the Barre City Council was called to order by Mayor Thomas Lauzon at 8:00 AM 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 (arrived at 8:05 AM); and from Ward III, Councilors Anita Chadderton and Lucas Herring (arrived at 8:04 AM). Also present were City Manager Steven Mackenzie, Clerk/Treasurer Carolyn Dawes, and several members of the public.

Absent: NONE.

A) Approval of 2016 Annual (Town) Meeting Warning.

Mayor Lauzon reviewed the draft warning and the amounts included in the budget, street and capital and flood mitigation articles; articles 1-3. The Mayor reviewed articles 4-6 related to the proposed charter changes, and said Council had already approved placing them on the warning. He reviewed articles 8-28, which are the articles related to the Good Samaritan tax exemption and funding requests.

Councilor Boutin made the motion to approve articles 1-6 and 8-28, seconded by Councilor Smith.

Councilor Herring made the motion to amend article X to increase the amount requested for the Barre Heritage Festival from \$4,000 to \$5,000, seconded by Councilor Boutin. **Motion carried.**

Councilor Herring made the motion to amend article I to increase the budget amount from \$11,339,556 to \$11,340,556 to account for the Heritage Festival change, seconded by Councilor Boutin. **Motion carried.**

Council voted on Councilor Boutin's original motion as amended. **Motion carried.**

Councilor Dindo reviewed his proposed language for a non-binding question on increased restrictions for chickens and fowl. He said the language had been drafted in conjunction with City Attorney Oliver Twombly.

There was discussion by the Council and members of the public on:

- Seattle's chicken ordinances
- Effects of chickens and fowl on real estate sales
- Whether chickens and fowl should be allowed in Barre City
- Engaging the public in discussion on the chicken and fowl ordinance in lieu of a ballot question
- Ordinance revisions being the work of the Council
- Conducting public polls on the question of chickens and fowl in the City
- Holding public meetings before placing questions on ballot for August primary or November general election

Councilor Dindo made the motion to place the language he presented on the March 1st warning and ballot, seconded by Councilor Herring.

There was continued discussion on:

- Negative effects on quality of life in neighborhoods
- Concerns for care of animals
- Seeing input from the health officer
- Resolution through enforcement

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- Problems with odor
- Lack of state regulations
- Those with chickens helping other chicken owners to be in compliance with ordinance

Councilor Smith made the motion to call the question. **Council approved calling the question, with Councilor Boutin and Herring voting against.**

Council voted on Councilor Dindo's original motion to place the question as presented on the ballot. **Council approved with Mayor Lauzon, and Councilors Chadderton and Smith voting against.**

Councilor approved the March 1, 2016 warning as amended on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 AM on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

An audio recording of this meeting is available from the City Clerk.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk