

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council  
Held February 29, 2016**

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, Councilors Anita Chadderton and Lucas Herring. Also present were City Manager Steven Mackenzie and Clerk/Treasurer Carolyn Dawes.

**Absent:** From Ward 1, Councilor Paul Poirier.

**Adjustments to the Agenda:** NONE

**Approval of Consent Agenda:**

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

- Minutes of the following meetings:
  - Regular meeting on February 23, 2016
  - Special meeting on February 23, 2016
- City Warrants as presented: week 2016-09.
  - Accounts Payable: \$1,907,829.57
  - Payroll (gross): \$109,572.00
- Licenses & Permits:
  - Food Takeout Licenses:
    - Beverage Baron, 411 N. Main Street
  - Waste Disposal Collector's Licenses:
    - Myers Container Corp., 11 trucks

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

- City Hall will be closed on Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup> for Town Meeting Day. The polls will be open at the Auditorium from 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM.
- The 2015 TIF annual report is due by this Friday. It is nearly complete.
- Received the seventh payment from the Vermont Community Foundation Semprebou Annuity: \$59,491.00. Total received to date is \$376,589, with \$156,495 available.
- Dog licenses are available. Any dog six months or older must be licensed by April 1<sup>st</sup>.

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

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Address</u>
79 Orange St LLC	79 Orange Street

**Liquor Control** – Council approved a Special Event Permit application from Shacksbury Cider for a tasting at Positive Pie on Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried with Councilor Boutin abstaining.**

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

- FEMA was in town last week to inspect the Harrington Avenue properties being proposed for buyout.
- A link to the Budget Committee annual survey is available on the City website, and hard copies will be available in City Hall.
- Issued the 2<sup>nd</sup> Gunner Brook update to interested parties.
- Skating is over for the season, and staff will start taking out the ice at the BOR later this week.
- Working on a brownfields grant for additional remediation work needed at the Keith Avenue parking lot.

Mayor Lauzon said he is disappointed with the BCA's decision to not allow the Budget Committee annual survey at the polls. He would like the Council to meet with them to discuss the policies around materials at the polling place.

**Visitors & Communications –**

Eddie Rousse said he has been working on identifying funding sources to rehab the City's tennis courts. He said they are unusable in their current state. The cost to have them fixed, painted and striped is approximately \$20,000. Mr. Rousse is exploring funding options from the United States Tennis Association (USTA). Mayor Lauzon said if Mr. Rousse can raise half the necessary funds, the Council will consider appropriating the other half from the Semprebon Annuity.

**Old Business – NONE**

**New Business –**

**A) Civic Center Promoter Selection Announcement.**

Civic Center Committee chair Brad Ormsby and Buildings and Community Services Director Jeff Bergeron said the Committee has selected Renee Proteau to fill the marketing position. Ms. Proteau will report weekly to Mr. Bergeron, and monthly to the committee. Initial work will include developing a website and brochure, and conducting follow-ups with renters.

There was discussion on the current condition of the auditorium, especially the bathrooms; making an investment in the Civic Center facilities; getting a prioritized list from the committee; first steps with the marketing position; measuring the economic effect in the community of events at the Civic Center; and the possibility of eventually expanding the scope of the marketing position to cover other venues in the City. Mr. Ormsby said the committee is drafting the contract, has drafted a job description, and has outlined the first ninety days. He said they expect to have the contract in front of the Council within two weeks. Mayor Lauzon suggested the committee get Ms. Proteau started as soon as possible.

Mr. Bergeron said a contract has been signed to bring Vermont Comic-con to Barre in 2017. He also said there have been more hourly basketball rentals this year than in recent history.

**B) Overview of Proposed Regulations Regarding e-Cigarette and other Vapor Products.**

Manager Mackenzie said Chief Bombardier was to make this presentation, but would like to wait and see what is developing in the legislature. Depending on developments, there may be a need for ordinance revisions.

**C) Acknowledgement of: *Repayment Schedule for Loan RF3-102-1 for the City of Barre (Deep Rock Fire District)***

Clerk Dawes said the City has been working with the revised repayment schedule for a few years, and that the approval is a necessary formality. Council acknowledged receipt of the agreement and authorized the Mayor and Clerk to sign on motion of Councilor Boutin, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

**D) Mid Year Budget Status Review.**

Manager Mackenzie said this item is deferred until next week.

**E) FY17 Budget Presentation.**

The Manager gave an overview of the proposed FY17 budget being voted on at tomorrow's Annual (Town) Meeting. He said the projected combined municipal/education tax rate increase is less than 1.5%.

There was additional discussion on the proposed flood mitigation bond and the proposed Local Options Tax.

To be approved at 03-08-16 Barre City Council Meeting

**F) Authorization to Execute Dubois & King Inc. Services Agreement for the Gunner Brook Mitigation Project.**

Manager Mackenzie said the contract value is \$121,000, which is consistent with the amount included in the flood mitigation report. He said the hope is to carry out the project this summer, but next summer at the latest. There was discussion around phasing the construction to ensure that at least some of it begins this year. Manager Mackenzie said he will discuss phasing with Dubois & King to see if it's an option.

Council authorized the Manager to execute the agreement on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

**Round Table:**

All councilors encouraged the public to get out and vote tomorrow.

**Executive Session – NONE**

The Council meeting adjourned at 8:27 PM on motion of Councilor Chadderton, 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