

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held March 22, 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 I, Councilor Paul Poirier.

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 on February 29, 2016
- Affirmation of last week's warrants: week 2016-11.
 - Accounts Payable: \$108,267.88
 - Payroll (gross): \$105,584.99
- City Warrants as presented: week 2016-12.
 - Accounts Payable: \$151,642.05
 - Payroll (gross): \$125,287.12
- Licenses & Permits:
 - Entertainment Licenses:
 - Phil Scott for Vermont event, May 21st from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM in City Hall Park. Speeches, hot dog eating contest, motorcycle show. Includes closing a portion of Church Street.
 - Food Establishment Licenses:
 - Solder Mist Pub (formerly Southside Tavern), 107 S. Main Street
 - Seasonal Food Establishment Licenses:
 - Snack Shack, 515 N. Main Street

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

- Dog licenses are available. Any dog six months or older must be licensed by April 1st.
- Water/sewer bills went in the mail last week. Payments are due by the end of the month.

Approval of Building Permits – Mayor Lauzon said the Granite Museum has requested that the fee be waived for their building permit. The Mayor said Council will consider the request at next week's meeting, but will consider approving the permit this evening. Council approved the following building permits on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Address</u>
Allen Lumber Co.	502 N. Main Street
Douglas & Janelle Anderson	80 Currier Street
Seventy Four South Main Limited Co.	168 S. Main Street
Spaulding Union High School	155 Ayers Street
Blue Sky Properties LLC	48 W. Patterson Street
Gail Stevens	100 Country Way
Blueberry Holdings #2 LLC	28 East Street
John & Joyce LaRose	114 S. Main Street

Rosemarie Williams	11 Highland Avenue
Debra Gable & William LaPrade	92 S. Main Street
VT Granite Museum of Barre	7 Jones Brothers Way
Edward & Nancy Benoit	30 Park Street
Steven Reese	31 Berlin Street
Pavel Cherkasov	821 N. Main Street
Matthew White & Gail Carminati	41 Long Street

Liquor Control – Clerk Dawes said license renewals will start coming to Council for approval next week.

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

- The Gunner Brook public informational meeting will be held tomorrow evening.
- Copies of the final FY15 audit have been presented to the Council.
- The Budget Committee survey is available in the City website, or by hard copy in City Hall.
- Attended the state’s spring flood management meeting.
- The 36th annual egg hunt is this Saturday at 10 AM at the recreation area. The event is co-presented by the City and Town recreation departments.
- Last week’s firefighter contract mediation has been re-scheduled to sometime in April.

Visitors & Communications –

Dale Kew, owner of Payless Taxi Company, said he was here to ask the Council to deny approval of a taxi operator’s license and driver’s license to Green Cab Company. Mr. Kew said they are a threat to existing cab companies doing business in Barre. Clerk Dawes said Green Cab submitted applications last week, which are being reviewed by the Police Department. The Clerk said past practice has allowed businesses to operate as long as their applications have been filed and are under review. Mr. Kew said there are questions and concerns about the business handling drivers as independent contractors, providing adequate insurance coverage, and the use of more vehicles than are allowed on the license. Mayor Lauzon said the Council will consider the license applications at next week’s meeting, following the Police Department review.

Old Business – NONE

New Business –

A) Appeal from Connecting Hope for Reduction in Auditorium Rental Fees.

Charles Mulcahy, representing Connecting Hope, asked Council for a reduced rental fee for use of the auditorium for this year’s CH event in early November. Mr. Mulcahy said the event is put on by a partnership of churches, and includes free food and clothes, child care, music, and access to social service organizations and business representatives. The event typically serves 500-600 people annually. Buildings and Community Services director Jeff Bergeron said the event was first held in 2011. Mr. Bergeron said a fee waiver request that year was denied by Council. Mayor Lauzon asked that the request be brought to the Civic Center Committee for consideration before coming back to the Council. The Mayor said the committee might consider establishing a policy that offers free or reduced rent to a limited number of non-profit events each year. The Mayor said he will get back to Mr. Mulcahy in two weeks.

B) Central Vermont Roller Derby Request to Purchase a “Sports Floor”.

Elizabeth Manriquez and Kate Burkholder from the local roller derby team requested that the City consider purchasing a temporary sports floor for the auditorium and BOR. The team isn’t able to use the BOR due to the condition of the floor, nor the auditorium because of the need to protect the gym floor. The sports floor would give the team the opportunity to use either recreational facility. There was

discussion on cost, storage, staff time necessary to install and remove the sports floor, and sources of funding. Ms. Manriquez said the team would be willing to help fundraise for the floor. Mayor Lauzon asked that the request be taken up by the Civic Center Committee at its next meeting.

C) Special Olympics Coin Drop Request.

Council approved the coin drop request on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

D) Authorization to Purchase Two Street Department Dump Truck Chassis Per State Bid.

Manager Mackenzie reviewed the state bid prices and recommended Council approve purchasing one chassis for no more than \$90,000 and one chassis for no more than \$113,000. There was discussion on the additional fit-up costs, and the make-up of the current vehicle fleet. Mayor Lauzon asked for an assessment of the fleet to be presented at a future Council meeting.

Council approved the purchases as recommended by the Manager on motion of Councilor Boutin, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

E) Authorization to Purchase Two ¾ Ton Pick-ups (Street Department) Per State Bid.

The Manager reviewed the state bid prices and recommended Council approve purchasing two pickup trucks for not more than \$25,000 apiece. Council approved the recommendation on motion of Councilor Boutin, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

F) Approval of Greenman Pederson, Inc. Pearl Street Pedestrian Way Design Contract.

This item is deferred to next week.

Round Table-

Councilor Smith thanked the voters for approving the budget and most of the other articles on the Annual (Town) Meeting Ballot.

Councilor Chadderton said the nicer weather means more kids are out and about, and drivers need to be more cautious.

Mayor Lauzon asked the Council to stand and observe a moment of silence in honor of the terrorist attacks earlier today in Brussels, Belgium.

Executive Session –

Councilor Boutin made the motion to find that premature general public knowledge of personnel and contract issues to be discussed would clearly place the City of Barre at a substantial disadvantage should the discussion be public. The motion was seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

Council went into executive session at 8:30 PM to discuss personnel and contract issues under the provisions of 1 VSA sec. 313 on motion of Councilor Boutin, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

Manager Mackenzie, labor attorney Scott Cameron, and HR director Rikk Taft were invited into the executive session discussion on personnel. Manager Mackenzie, Jeff Bergeron, and Pierre Couture were invited into the executive session on contracts.

Council came out of executive session at 9:36 PM on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

To be approved at 03-29-16 Barre City Council Meeting

Council approved Councilor Smith to sign warrants when Council does not meet on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

The Council meeting adjourned at 9:38 PM on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk

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