

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held August 4, 2015**

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 in attendance were City Manager Steve Mackenzie and Clerk/Treasurer Carolyn Dawes.

Absent: From Ward 1, Councilor Paul Poirier.

Adjustments to the Agenda: Mayor Lauzon said the engineering services agenda item has been pulled, as there is no need for further discussion this week.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

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

- Minutes of the following meetings:
 - Regular meeting on July 28, 2015.
- City Warrants as presented.
- 2015 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office. NONE

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

- First quarter property tax payments are due by August 17th due to the 15th falling on a Saturday.
- Early absentee voting is available for the August 18th special election to vote on the aerial truck.
- Two properties were sold this morning at tax sale.

The Clerk said a flood relief donation in the amount of \$1,100 was received from Gusto's, bringing the total up to \$7,175. There was a brief discussion about the best use of the funds. Mayor Lauzon recommended waiting a week or two before making a decision to see where there might be unmet need.

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

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Address</u>
Seminary Street Commons LLC	31 Maple Avenue
John Blake	105 Summer Street
Francis & Mary McFaun	18 West Street

Liquor Control – NONE

Visitors & Communications – NONE

City Manager's Report –

Manager Mackenzie reported on the following:

- The Enterprise Aly project has completed the work on the “hot spot”, so the pedestrian detour is no longer in effect.

There was discussion about the damaged light pole at the Granite/North Main Street intersection. Manager Mackenzie said it was hit by a car. The City will pursue the driver's insurance to cover the cost of replacing the pole.

Mayor Lauzon said he appreciates that the DPW workers are continuing the monitor and assist in the flood related areas. There was a discussion about pulling the remaining debris out of Gunner's Brook.

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The Manager said the debris is being inventoried and approval is being sought from ANR. Mayor Lauzon said there will be a community forum Wednesday evening at 6:00 PM at Alumni Hall. Representatives from local organizations and state agencies will be in attendance to answer questions from those affected by the flood and talk about assistance and funding support options.

Old Business – NONE

New Business –

A) Warned for 7:15 PM: Public Hearing on August 18, 2015 Special Election on Capital Improvement Note for Purchase of Aerial Truck.

Mayor Lauzon opened the hearing at 7:17 PM. The Mayor reviewed the history of the current aerial truck and the bid process used to select a new truck. Manager Mackenzie said the City will be applying for a USDA grant that could provide \$50,000 towards the purchase price. The Mayor asked that the current aerial truck be on Merchants Row next Tuesday through Thursday at 6:00 PM for public viewing.

Mayor Lauzon asked for any additional public comments or questions. Hearing none, he closed the hearing at 7:28 PM.

B) Appointment of Authorized Representative for TIF Bond.

Clerk Dawes explained the recent changes in bond administration, noting the City needs to open an account from which to request bond fund disbursements. The Clerk recommended that she be named as the authorized representative to open and manage the bond account.

Council appointed Clerk Dawes as the authorized representative for the TIF bond, and authorized the Mayor to sign the authorization form on behalf of the City, on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

C) Ordinance #2015-02 Funeral Parking First Reading.

Clerk Dawes reviewed the proposed language, and said she mailed copies to the local funeral homes for their review. The Clerk noted the section numbering was incorrect, and she will correct it. There was a brief discussion about use of “no parking” areas.

Council approved moving ordinance #2015-02 to a second reading and public hearing at next week’s meeting on motion of Councilor Boutin, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

D) Engagement of Engineering Services for Flood Mitigation Study.

This item was pulled from the agenda.

E) Authorization to Prepare and Release an RFP for A/E Planning of a new DPW Facility at Burnham Meadow.

Manager Mackenzie said he is looking to develop plans for a total reconstruction of the DPW campus currently located at Burnham Meadow. The Manager said he proposes allocating \$25,000 from the Capital Improvement Budget to cover the planning costs, and the City will also apply for a Municipal Planning Grant to help offset the expenses. There was discussion about alternate locations, the scope of the project, and design/build options.

Councilor Boutin made the motion to authorize the RFP, deleting any mention of limiting it to Burnham Meadow, seconded by Councilor Dindo.

Mayor Lauzon said he would prefer to wait until after the City has secured the MPG before committing capital funds. Manager Mackenzie said the agenda should not have said “release”, as his intention is to bring the draft RFP back to Council for review and approval before releasing it. The Manager said the MPG grant application is due in less than a month and he expects it may take him several months to

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complete the draft RFP, so Council will know if the City receives the grant before they review and approve the RFP.

Councilor Boutin amended his motion to include preparation, but not release, of the RFP. The amendment was approved by the seconder. **Motion carried as amended.**

Round Table:

Councilor Herring asked for a refresher on current City projects so Council can prioritize going forward. Manager Mackenzie said he will bring such a list back to Council in three weeks.

Councilor Smith reminded everyone of the Wednesday night events in Barre City, and that the play *Stone* is being performed at the Granite Museum over the next two weekends.

Mayor Lauzon reminded everyone of tomorrow evening's flood recovery forum at Alumni Hall at 6:00 PM. The Mayor thanked the AmeriCorps volunteers who are working in the area as muck out crews.

Executive Session:

Councilor Herring made the motion to find that premature general public knowledge of negotiations and personnel 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 7:59 PM under the provisions of 1 VSA sec. 313 to discuss negotiations and personnel on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

Manager Mackenzie, human resources representative Rikk Taft and labor attorney Scott Cameron were invited into the executive session.

Council came out of executive session at 9:02 PM on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

No action was taken.

The Council meeting adjourned at 9:02 PM on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk