

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held November 24, 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, Councilor 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 I, Councilor Paul Poirier; and from Ward II, Councilor Michael Boutin.

Adjustments to the Agenda: Mayor Lauzon said he had a mayoral proclamation to add to the agenda.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

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

- Minutes of the following meetings:
 - Regular meeting on November 17, 2015.
- City Warrants as presented: week 2015-48.
 - Accounts Payable: \$75,954.19
 - Payroll (gross): \$99,133.50
- Licenses & Permits: NONE

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

- The final delinquency rate for the second quarter property taxes is 4.86%.
- The Clerk will be away on vacation next week.

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

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Address</u>
Granite City Developers LLC	14 N. Main Street
Walter & Brenda King	28 Garfield Avenue

Liquor Control – Council approved a Special Event Permit application from Duncan’s Idea Mill for the 2015 Holiday Farmer’s Market at the Old Labor Hall on Friday, December 4th from 4 – 7 PM on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

City Manager’s Report –

Manager Mackenzie reported on the following:

- The contractors are putting the finishing touches on the Enterprise Aly project. There are extensions for the delivery & installation of the historic streetlights, which are scheduled to be shipped on 12/11, and for the installation of the rest of the wells. Completion has been moved to mid-December.
- The “no right on red” signal has been installed at the intersection near the library.
- There will be permit parking only in the Ormsby parking lot over the winter.
- Continuing contract negotiations with the Steelworker and Firefighter bargaining units.

Visitors & Communications – NONE

Old Business – NONE

New Business –

A) Canales Woods Eagle Scout Project Presentation.

Eagle Scout Evan Emerson from Troop 795 gave a presentation on his project to clean up Canales Woods off of Pleasant Street. He spoke of the importance of scouting in his life, and how it has helped him develop his communication skills. Over 200 man hours were spent over three weekends removing more than 20 truckloads of debris. Evan introduced his parents, Chrystal and Darren Emerson, and scout master Joe Aldsworth. Council gave Evan a warm round of applause in appreciation of his work.

Mr. Aldsworth said another ongoing eagle project is cleaning up the brush in front of the Rite Aid plaza.

B) Authorization to Purchase Upgraded Parking Ticket Equipment.

Manager Mackenzie reviewed his memo and the needs for the upgraded equipment. Council approved the purchase on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

Other) Mayoral Proclamation of November 27th as Small Business Saturday.

Clerk Dawes read the proclamation naming November 27th as Small Business Saturday in Barre City, and encouraging people to support the local merchants.

C) Council FY17 Budget Input.

Budget Committee members Linda Couture and Alex Pastor were present to hear suggestions from the Council. Mayor Lauzon distributed a chart on the creation of a possible voter approved storm water/flood mitigation fund, which would include bonding, reallocation of streets & capital funds and a dedicated tax increase. The Mayor said he would like to see any budget increase held to less than 2%. Councilor Herring said he would like the committee to explore the possibility of liquor, rooms, meals and/or sales option taxes. He also asked that the committee look at the budget impact of making public swimming and skating free. The committee will make its first FY17 budget presentation to Council at the January 5th meeting. The Annual (Town) Meeting warning must be approved by the January 26th meeting.

Round Table:

Councilors wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Councilor Herring reminded everyone about Small Business Saturday. He said there will be special events and the annual holiday parade this Saturday in downtown Barre.

Mayor Lauzon said it's not too late to make donations in support of the community Thanksgiving dinners. Councilor Herring said one of those dinners is being held at the Legion and all are welcome.

Mayor Lauzon said he will be seeking re-election for a sixth term at the March Annual (Town) Meeting.

Executive Session - NONE

The Council meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM on motion of Councilor Dindo, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk