



City of Barre, Vermont

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Press Release: Barre City, AFSCME reach agreement on 3-year contract *Contract will help recruit and retain employees, as infrastructure improvements ramp up*

February 28, 2023 – Barre City Manager Nicolas Storrellicastro announced that Barre City and AFSCME Local 1369 have reached an agreement on a 3-year contract. The contract has been ratified by the represented employees and approved by the Barre City Council, and goes into effect retroactive to January 1, 2023.

AFSCME represents thirty employees across the Streets, Water and Sewer Divisions, as well as the Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants, and Cemeteries Department. The employees in these divisions are responsible for key City services, including, plowing City streets, ensuring residents have clean water in their homes, reliable sewer services, and well-maintained cemeteries.

“I want to thank AFSCME employees and representatives for a productive and successful negotiation,” said Manager Storrellicastro. “It was clear from early in the process that we shared many goals in reaching a fair contract for Barre City taxpayers and our employees. This contract will set competitive yet affordable wages, and allows the City to recruit and retain employees as we undertake a renewed focus on infrastructure improvements to our streets, water and wastewater systems. It’s a win-win for our residents who deserve responsive service and reliable services, and our hard-working AFSCME employees that do challenging work in difficult conditions.”

AFSCME Chapter Chair, and Streets Department Foreman Russell Tucker said, “This is a fair contract that was widely supported by our union members. It will benefit City residents and employees over the term of the contract.”

Highlights of the 3-year contract include:

- 5 percent cost of living adjustments with \$0.02 step adjustments (Steps 6-25);
- A one-time 1.5 percent of FY22 gross salary inflation stipend;
- On-call pay increase to \$28/day for treatment plant operators;
- Savings to the City from lowered employer health insurance premiums; and
- Operational commitments regarding standby assignments for streets, water and sewer distribution staff.