

## City of Barre, Vermont

6 N. Main St., Suite 2 Barre, VT 05641 www.barrecity.org R. Nicolas Storellicastro
City Manager
(802) 476-0241
citymanager@barrecity.org

April 22, 2025

## BARRE CITY COUNCIL, MANAGER STORELLICASTRO REACH 5-YEAR CONTRACT AGREEMENT

Storellicastro's 3-year stint has been focused on recovery from two major flooding events, and commitment to housing and infrastructure improvements.

**BARRE, VT –** At its Tuesday night meeting, the Barre City Council approved a 5-year contract extension for Nicolas Storellicastro to continue to serve as Barre's City Manager. The new contract takes effect July 1, 2025.

Storellicastro was hired in 2022 on a 3-year contract. Before completing his first full-year in office, the City was devastated by the July 2023 flood. The City flooded again exactly one-year later. As a result, much of his first term as Manager has been focused on flood recovery.

Despite the challenges of the floods, the City Council and Storellicastro have worked together to make significant strides in the past three years, including:

- Housing: The City partnered with Downstreet to develop an underutilized parking lot into a 32-unit building, allocated \$250,000 in ARPA funding towards the Granite City Apartments project which added 9 perpetually affordable housing units in Barre, sold an abandoned home on Hill Street to Habitat for Humanity, which is building a new affordable housing unit on the site, and created a \$250,000 housing revolving loan fund.
- Paving: The City accelerated its paving program, repaving large sections of City streets, including Farwell, Upper Merchant, Bank, Cable, Cassie, Richardson, River, Center, Blackwell, Pleasant, and Brook Street, among others, and this year, at the recommendation of Mayor Lauzon, added an additional \$130,000 to the 2025 paving plan, which already includes Prospect, Berlin, and Allen Streets.
- Infrastructure: The City adopted a Capital Improvement Plan (awarded the Vermont Bond Bank's
  "Best Capital Plan" award in 2023), and major projects are underway or completed across City
  service areas, including acquisition of a new public works garage, a major headworks upgrade at
  the Wastewater Treatment Facility, re-lining a 2,600 foot section of sewer along N. Main Street,
  and a new manifold at the B.O.R.
- Recreation: The City partnered with BYSA to purchase indoor turf for the B.O.R., transforming the facility into a year-round recreation hub, and installed a new structure at Garfield Playground.
- Conservation: The City expanded the Cow Pasture by acquiring 22 vacant lots adjacent to the
  existing property for permanent conservation and trail expansion.

During his tenure, Storellicastro, his leadership team, and the City Council have delivered responsible budgets that voters have supported at the polls, including over \$642,000 in savings or non-tax revenue generated across the last two years, delivering property tax relief to City residents.

**Mayor Lauzon** said, "Since arriving in Barre in 2022, Manager Storellicastro has made – and continues to make – fact-based, impactful and forward-looking decisions. The length of the contract reflects our faith in Nicolas' ability, our high level of satisfaction with his performance and our desire to provide critical management stability as Barre navigates the challenges brought about by back-to-back flooding events. While Barre faces enormous short-term challenges, we also have an incredible number of opportunities. We're confident that we have the right management team in place to navigate our short-term challenges and take advantage of future opportunities."

**Lauzon** continued, "Lastly, I'd be remiss if I didn't take this opportunity to thank Nicolas' family. As every municipal employee and public servant knows, public service doesn't keep 8 – 5 hours. There are frequent and necessary interruptions after hours – often at the expense of family time. Allison, Maximo and Sonny, thank you for your understanding and commitment to Barre City. We know that your husband's and father's service is dependent upon your support and sincerely thank you."

**Storellicastro** said, "It has been a privilege to serve the residents of Barre hand-in-hand with the Mayor, the Council and all our dedicated staff. I look forward to working with all our community's stakeholders to build on the progress we have made together, and to place Barre in the best position to take advantage of the opportunities ahead of us. I strive every day to meet the legacy of the hardworking people who built this City, and I am thankful for the Mayor and Council's confidence in me to continue to serve this community."

Storellicastro's new contract includes pay increases of 4 percent in 2025, 5 percent in 2026, 5 percent in 2027, 6 percent in 2028, and 4 percent in 2029. These increases will bring Storellicastro's compensation in closer alignment with the salary paid to other managers across Vermont. In addition, the contract includes a provision permitting the Manager to reside outside the City with approval of the City Council, and adds industry standard 9-month severance provisions in case of a separation without cause.

## **About Nicolas Storellicastro:**

Nicolas Storellicastro was hired as Barre City Manager in 2022 after serving as the Chief Financial & Administrative Officer of NYCSBUS, a nonprofit school bus company affiliated with the City of New York. At NYCSBUS, Storellicastro oversaw a \$160M budget and all administrative functions for a 1,700-employee organization. Previously in his career, Storellicastro served as Associate Budget Director for Education, including City University of New York, at the New York City Office of Management and Budget. He oversaw the largest portfolio in the City budget, covering over \$30B in the expense budget and over \$17B in capital plans. Storellicastro and his team were involved in funding key administration initiatives and frequently delivered the largest agency savings in the City's financial plan.

Storellicastro immigrated to the United States from Argentina as a 7-year-old and began his education as an English language learner. He has degrees from Colorado State University and SUNY Albany. He and his wife Allison live in Barre with their two boys, Maximo and Sonny, a cat Goonch, and a dog Rego. In his free time, Storellicastro plays beer league hockey across Central Vermont.