

Approved at the 12/09/2025 Council meeting.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING-Corrected  
Tuesday, Nov. 18th, 2025, 6:00pm  
IN PERSON LOCATION: Council Chambers, City Hall  
6 N. Main St., Barre, VT

**Item 1. Call to Order; 6:00PM**

**Item 2. Adjustments to Agenda;**

Add Item “4(F): Free holiday parking promotion-Tracie Lewis

*Motion to approve the agenda dated November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025, moved by Councilor Hilgartner, seconded by Councilor Deering, approved by all.*

**Item 3. Visitors & Communications; none**

**Item 4. Consent Agenda;**

Consent Agenda;

- A. Approval of Minutes
  - i. Meeting of 11/5/25

- B. Clerk's Office Licenses & Permits

Event-Queer Craft Fair- Saturday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> – 10am to 3pm

- C. Resolution #2025-24 Master equipment lease purchase agreement

Required by MLC for the financing of the Fire Department SCBA (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus) equipment purchase that was approved by the Council.

- D. Approve \$5,000 donation from Brusa Trust to Capstone Emergency Heating Program

- E. Authorize the Manager to execute contract(s)

\$356,505 (estimated) to contract with DEW for construction management of the DPW garage

Of the (4) bids submitted, DEW was chosen.

\$250,695 to contract with Freeman, French, Freeman or \$112,680 to contract with ReArch for Construction Documents or Design-Build services, respectively, for Congressionally Directed Spending grant renovations to the Aud. Please note, we the City's preference is to award the design-build contract after confirmation from USDA that the method is allowable.

- F. Authorize Free Holiday Parking incentive – Tracie Lewis

The Barre City Council & the Barre Partnership announced the implementation of the “Free Holiday Parking” for shoppers coming into the city from Friday, November 28<sup>th</sup> through Wednesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>. The 2-hour limit FREE parking areas will be marked with bright festive red ribbons. Patrons may still feed the meters; all proceeds are donated to a local organization.

*Motion to authorize the approval of the Consent Agenda dated 11/18/2025 moved by Councilor Gustin, Seconded by Councilor Deering, approved by all.*

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**Item 4a. Approve City Warrants;**

Approve City Warrants;

- i. Approve week of 11/19/25
- ii. Ratify week of 11/12/25

*Motion to approve City Warrants moved by Councilor Deering, seconded by Councilor Hilgartner, approved. Approved \* Councilor Spaulding abstained.*

**Item 5. City Clerk Report;**

The Biennial Voter Checklist challenge was implemented. Some residents have questioned whether this was a scam. Be assured this is a legal action implemented by the Secretary of State office. 175 Challenge letters were mailed.

**Item 6. Liquor / Cannabis Control Boards;**

Quality Market – Class 2

Quality Market - tobacco

*Motion to approve Liquor/Cannabis licensures moved by Councilor Spaulding, seconded by Councilor Gustin, approved by all. Liquor & Cannabis Board closed.*

**Item 7. City Managers Report;**

FEMA demo has begun, starting with those properties affected by the landslides. Public Works marks utilities and the State of Vermont oversees demolitions.

(3) New FEMA closing are pending

Replace the pump at the BOR and ice has been restored.

Someone has been impersonating Code enforcement has been approaching residents. Contact the Barre City police with concerns. Our officers are clearly identified.

**Item 8. New Business;**

8(A) Volunteer Appointments

Three candidates for the newly crated Neighborly Barre Committee were presented as follows:

\*Tracie Lewis- 6yrs with Barre Partnership, Appointed for (2yrs)

*Motion to approve the appointment of Tracie Lewis to a (2)yr term to the Neighborly Barre committee was moved by Councilor Deering, seconded by Councilor Gustin, approved*

\*Joanne Reynolds (remote) Eager to create events for community bonding, Appointed for (2yrs)

*Motion to approve the appointment of Joanne Reynolds to a (2)yr term to the Neighborly Barre committee was moved by Councilor Spaulding, seconded by Councilor Hilgartner, approved*

\*Ernie Drown eager to brainstorm ideas, Appointed for (1)yr

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Motion to approve the appointment of Ernie Drown to a (1)yr term to the Neighborly Barre committee was moved by Councilor Spaulding, seconded by Councilor Gustin, approved

#### 8(B) 1<sup>st</sup> Reading Warned 6:45 Ordinance #2025-03 Nuisance Properties

With the assistance of Fire Chief Cushman, the Manager, Council members and city staff came forward with the first reading. The reading outlined penalties, regulations, accountability of both tenants and landlords. The necessity to separate units when multiple exist on one lot, including larger units like Barre Housing Authority buildings. Not to be repetitive consider current ordinances in place.

Motion to move the Nuisance Properties ordinance to a second reading was moved by Councilor Deering, seconded by Councilor Spaulding, approved.

#### 8(C). Floor Resiliency Plan

The emergency access road to the Public Safety building has begun by the City's Public Works department. The land prep, tree clearing, road shaping will be followed by material placement and finished by the Spring in 2026.

#### 8(D). Discussion of the FY27 Budget Survey

The idea of repeating the very successful survey from last year will again give the residents the voice to choose where funds should be spent. Getting a pulse on the residents' priorities and goals can lend some helpful insight into budget planning. A complete survey is scheduled to be reviewed at the next meeting.

### **Item 9. Upcoming Business;**

Mayor Lauzon;

Merchant Chat is Nov. 25 at the Barre Social club at 8am. Hoping merchants and residents open the discussion of how business is, how the Council can help and ideas to improve downtown safety and experience. Hoping this meeting will be one of many "Bring the Show on the Road" style meets.

Coin drop is Sat. Dec 6<sup>th</sup> 8am.

Will talk about legislation and our priorities.

Regional flood mitigation

Manager;

Finance Director-Christina Kimball will speak about the budget

Assessment staff will review the new assessments.

### **Item 10. Round Table;**

Mayor Lauzon;

Coin Drop – Sat. Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> – benefits Christmas for Kids.

Be Thankful for all you have.

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Councilor Deering;

Put on snow tires.

Councilor Hilgartner;

St. Mary church in Northfield having a benefit on Dec. 6 at 3pm – supporting Habitat for Humanity

Councilor Gustin;

Volunteered at the warming shelter. Increased usage means the word is getting out, but also means the need is greater.

Councilor Spaulding;

11/20 the library will have a discussion on the unhoused situation.

11/19 Washington county Senator will open the conversation on local issues.

11/22 Opera House is hosting the “Worst Song Ever” event.

Councilor Routhier

Target & Walmart are offering lower Thanksgiving dinner packages.

Item 11 Executive Session – Real estate

*Motion for finding for executive session moved by Councilor Spaulding, Seconded by Councilor Hilgartner, approved*

*Motion to enter executive session moved by Councilor Gustin, Seconded by Councilor Spaulding approved*

*Motion to exit executive session moved by Councilor Spaulding, Seconded by Councilor Routhier, approved*

*Item 12 Adjournment;*

*Motion to adjourn moved by Councilor Spaulding , seconded by Councilor Routhier , approved*

*Adjourn at 8:30 pm*

Next regular meeting is scheduled for Dec. 9th, 2025, at 6pm.

The open portions of the meeting were recorded on the video platform.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Metivier, City Clerk

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