

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held July 12, 2011**

The Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Thomas Lauzon. In attendance were: From Ward I, Councilors Etli and Poirier; from Ward II, Councilors Boutin and Smith; and from Ward III, Councilors Chadderton and Herring. City Manager Mackenzie and Clerk/Treasurer Dawes were also present.

Approval of the Minutes - The minutes of the Regular Council meeting of July 6, 2011 and the Special Council meeting of July 11, 2011 were approved as presented on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Etli. **Motion carried.**

Mayor Lauzon introduced Carl Sherrill with the Small Business Association (SBA) and Robert Hockensmith with Federal Emergency Management (FEMA). Mr. Hockensmith said the FEMA Disaster Recovery Center has opened in the lower level of the auditorium, and they have received 34 registrations to date. People can register by going on-line, calling or through their smart phones. Individuals, households, businesses and non-profit organizations may qualify for the SBA loan program and/or FEMA assistance. Manager Mackenzie said those who called 211 to report damage after the flood will still need to register to qualify for FEMA and SBA assistance. Mr. Hockensmith said the registration deadline is September 6, 2011. Clerk Dawes said information about the Disaster Recovery Center is on the City website. Manager Mackenzie said there is a public meeting with representatives from FEMA and SBA on Thursday, July 14th at 6:00 PM at the auditorium.

New Business –

A) We Dig Barre “Treasure Dig” Drawing – Week #2.

Barre Partnership executive director Dan Jones and “Digger” had Councilor Boutin draw this week’s Treasure Dig winner. Mr. Jones said there are approximately 130 participants this week.

Approval of City Warrants – Council approved City Warrants as presented, including a Community Development Warrant payable out of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program funds and a Capital Fund warrant, on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Boutin. **Motion carried.**

The City Clerk and Treasurer Report – Clerk Dawes made the following announcements:

- The BCA held its first meeting to discuss reapportionment this evening. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 19th, and meetings will continue through the month, as the response is due to the Reapportionment Board by August 31, 2011.
- Property tax bills are being printed and will be in the mail by the end of the week.
- The Clerk requested an executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss a legal matter.

Council approved a 2011 Taxicab Driver’s License for Heather O’Dell-Shipe with A to B Taxi on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Boutin. **Motion carried.**

Council approved a 2011 Single Event Entertainment License application from the United Pentacostal Church of Barre for a vacation Bible school to be held in Currier Park on August 8, 9, 11 & 12, 2011 from 5:00 – 8:30 PM on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Boutin. **Motion carried with Councilor Poirier voting against.**

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

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Address</u>
Leonard Morin & Nancy Basald	23 River St.

To be approved at 07-26-11 Barre City Council Meeting

Diane Dopp
Matthew & April Jolly
Louis & Charlene Renaud

23 Bassett St.
20 Maplewood Ave.
24 Circle St.

Liquor Control Board –

Council approved a Request to Cater permit from The Hilltop Restaurant for a 46th class reunion at the Vermont History Center on Friday, July 29, 2011 from 5:00 – 10:00 PM on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried with Councilor Boutin abstaining.**

Visitors and Communications – NONE

Old Business –

A) Public Forum on Semprebon Fund Committee Recommendations – 7:15 PM.

Resident Almerida “Tiny” Pirie addressed the Council, and asked for justification for spending \$250,000 to run water & sewer lines to Tarquinio Park on Farwell Street. Semprebon Fund Committee co-chair Kristen Sohlstrom said recreational uses is one of the criteria that was established by the Committee. Ms. Pirie said the field is not used by the whole community, and that a better civic improvement would be a public works building. Ms. Pirie said she is also concerned about safety at the Mathewson playground with regards to the possibility of vehicles going off the street and into the playground area.

Facilities Director Jeff Bergeron reported on the recommendation to replace equipment at Playground 2000. He said it would take approximately 60 days to get equipment once it is ordered, and the vendor would provide a crew to remove the old structures and install the new. Manager Mackenzie said that would be part of the implementation discussions after Council makes its decisions.

Mr. Bergeron said the proposal for the replacement of the lights in the auditorium and BOR with energy efficient fixtures is time sensitive. He said there is funding support available through Efficiency Vermont, but there is a deadline to receive the support. The total project cost is \$33,900, and the rebate would be \$15,750. The request for Semprebon funds is \$18,000. Council approved the request on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

There was discussion about the proposal for \$50,000 towards the replacement of the BOR compressors, and how the auditorium did financially in FY11. Manager Mackenzie said a report on FY11 financials will be presented to Council in 30 days.

Mayor Lauzon invited the public to submit additional comments about the committee’s recommendations. The Mayor said the Council will consider the list of recommendations at the August 2nd meeting.

Mayor Lauzon called for a recess at 8:35 PM.

Mayor Lauzon reconvened the meeting at 8:45 PM.

New Business –

C) Nelson Street Hydro Project Feasibility Report Presentation.

Manager Mackenzie said the City has a \$100,000 grant to assist in the project, and \$10,000 is being used for this feasibility report. The Manager said the rest of the grant funds need to be used quickly, probably by the end of 2011. Deb Sax, Jeff McDonald and Mike Curtis from Fuss & O’Neill presented their feasibility report to Council, outlining the turbine options, engineering, costs, payback and funding options. Barre Town resident Elaine Wang said she represents the Barre Energy Action Resource Group, and is interested in seeing this project move forward. Manager Mackenzie said he will meet next week with Ms. Sax and Mr. McDonald, and will come back to Council in 2-3 weeks with more details and a

recommendation.

B) Approval of Current Expense Note Document.

Council approved the CEN documents and resolution #2011-11 on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

D) FY 2011 Year-End Financial Position – PRELIMINARY Preview.

Manager Mackenzie said the preliminary preview will be deferred to the next meeting.

Mayor Lauzon said next week's Council meeting will be canceled.

City Manager's Report –

- Manager Mackenzie attended the following meetings:
 - Meeting with the Fletcher Allen Critical Care Transport team to discuss conditions for their license to house an ambulance at CVMC. The Manager said they are getting close to an agreement.
 - Met with FEMA public assistance inspectors to assess the City's damage.

Roundtable –

Councilor Eтли asked who is responsible for mowing along Route 62. He said the weeds are obscuring the crosswalk button at the Berlin Street crossing. Manager Mackenzie said VTRANS is responsible, and he will contact them.

Mayor Lauzon reviewed the memo from the School Business Manager, Mark Lyons, regarding the error in calculating the projected Spaulding Union High School District tax rate that was presented to Council in January, 2011.

Manager Mackenzie reviewed a memo from Planning Director Michael Miller, asking if the Council is interested in inviting the public to purchase memorial benches for City Hall Park. The Council said it supported the idea.

Council went into executive session at 9:50 PM to discuss two legal issues on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

Council came out of executive session at 10:18 PM on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

Council adjourned at 10:18 PM on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

Due to technical difficulties, there is no audio transcript of this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk