

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council  
Held January 3, 2012**

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 Dominic Etli and Paul Poirier; from Ward II, Councilors Michael Boutin and Michael Smith (arrived 7:03 PM); and from Ward III, Councilors Anita Chadderton and Lucas Herring. Also in attendance were City Manager Steven Mackenzie and Clerk/Treasurer Carolyn Dawes.

**Approval of Consent Agenda:** Council approved the following consent agenda items as presented on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Etli. **Motion carried.**

- Minutes of the Regular Council meeting of December 27, 2011.
- City Warrants as presented.
- 2012 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office:

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>License</b>	<b>Address</b>
Barre Technical Center	Food Establishment	136 N. Main St.
Subway DCP One Inc.	Food Establishment	88 N. Main St.
Mister Z's	Food Establishment	379 N. Main St.
Soup N Greens	Food Establishment	325 N. Main St.
Delicate Decadence	Food Establishment	15 Cottage St.
Barre Dogs	Food Establishment	266 N. Main St.
Bag Ladies Express Café	Food Establishment	56 Depot Sq.
AJ's Sunoco	Food Take Out	320 Washington St.
A to B Taxi	Taxicab Service Operator, 1 additional vehicle	
Twin City Taxi	Taxicab Service Operator, 1 additional vehicle	
Dale Kew	Taxicab Driver's License, with Payless Taxi	

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

- There are 2 properties scheduled for tax sale on January 5, 2012.
- The Clerk said information about the March 2012 Annual (Town) Meeting has been posted on the Clerk's page on the City website. The deadline for nominating petitions is January 30<sup>th</sup>. The Clerk said she is running for re-election as clerk/treasurer.
- 2012 dog licenses are now available. Dogs must be licensed by April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 2012 daytime and 24-hour parking permits are available in the Clerk's office.

**Approval of Building Permits** – NONE

**Liquor Control Board** –

Council approved a Request to Cater Permit application for Eurowest Inns Inc. for the Green Mountain Coffee Roasters holiday party at the auditorium on Friday, January 13, 2012 from 6:00 – 10:00 PM on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried with Councilor Boutin abstaining.**

**Visitors and Communications** –

Resident David Swett of Harrington Avenue said there are issues with people parking along Harrington Avenue in spite of the no parking signs. Manager Mackenzie said he will look into it with the Police and Public Works Departments. Councilor Etli said he has noticed many cars parked on the streets in spite of the winter parking ban. The Manager said he will follow up.

Local Girl Scout Alissa Keough took cookie orders from Council members. Ms. Keough talked

about the troop's recent activities.

Mayor Lauzon reviewed a thank you note received from Central Vermont Community Action Council for the recent donation from the Keith Fund to the CVCAC emergency heating fund.

**City Manager's Report –**

- Manager Mackenzie reported on meetings attended over the past week.
- The Manager reviewed a letter of intent recently sent by the City in support of the Barre Historical Society's interest in applying for a hazard mitigation grant to make improvements to the Old Labor Hall to guard against future flood damage. The Manager said the City would be the applicant for the grant on behalf of the BHS. Council approved the City applying for the grant funds and authorized the Manager to sign the application on behalf of the City on motion of Councilor Etli, seconded by Councilor Chadderton. **Motion carried.**

**Old Business – NONE**

**New Business -**

**A) Warn Public Hearings for Charter Changes.**

Council warned the following public hearings for charter changes to be considered at the March Annual (Town) Meeting on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

- First Public Hearing: Tuesday, January 31, 2012 at 7:15 PM.
- Second Public Hearing: Tuesday, February 7, 2012 at 7:15 PM.

Mayor Lauzon asked that the charter revisions include language giving the City the authority to form a Tax Increment Finance district (TIF).

**B) Purchase of One Ton Dump Body.**

Manager Mackenzie verbally reviewed the three quotes received for a replacement dump body for the 1-ton dump truck and recommended Council approve the low bid of \$5,239 from Iroquois. Council approved the Manager's recommendation on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Etli. **Motion carried.**

**C) 2013 Budget – DRAFT #1 Review/Discussion.**

Mayor Lauzon said there will be a special Council meeting to work on the budget on Saturday, January 14, 2012 beginning at 7:30 AM.

Manager Mackenzie reviewed his first draft of the expense side of the FY2013 budget, and a matrix showing costs associated with possible additions to the budget expenses. Mayor Lauzon asked the Manager to consider merging the Cemetery & Parks and Recreation Departments and make a recommendation to Council. The Mayor asked the Clerk/Treasurer to review the Cemetery Trust Fund in preparation for the July 1, 2012 enactment of the charter change forming the Cemetery Department.

There was discussion about the possible addition of more police officers, and whether additional officers will have an offsetting affect on overtime expenses. The Manager said he will review the question with the Chief.

Mayor Lauzon said he would like to see a ballot item for approximately \$751,000 to stay current with the street paving program. The Mayor said he would also like to see the voter request for the capital fund be at \$100,000 or more. He said he calculates the tax rate increase will be approximately 5 cents.

There was discussion about the following:

- Possible use of part time officers in the Police Department.
- Need for IT support.
- Costs for fuel oil, water/sewer services and pagers.

Manager Mackenzie said he will have draft #2 out by Friday, and the draft will include revenue information in addition to expenses. Mayor Lauzon requested that draft #2 be posted on the City website for public review.

**Roundtable –**

Councilor Herring said the city school board will be discussing the school budget at its meeting on Monday. The board is currently discussing a 5-8% budget increase. Mayor Lauzon said both school board finance committee members should be invited to the school budget presentations to Council once the date is set.

Councilor Eтли said he is running for re-election to the Council.

Councilor Boutin asked that the Manager's report include additional detail about when Fire Department vehicles roll. Manager Mackenzie said Chief Bombardier and Deputy Fire Chief Aldsworth will be attending the January 24<sup>th</sup> meeting to discuss the Department's memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the VT Department of Fire Safety and the inspection program, and there can be a discussion about the Department's procedure on rolling vehicles at that time.

Councilor Chadderton asked for additional information if there is a significant jump in the statistics submitted as part of the Manager's report. It was suggested the statistical information could include annual averages for comparison.

Council adjourned at 8:27 PM on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

An audio transcript of this meeting is available through the Clerk's Office. Audio transcripts are kept on file for two years, as per state statute.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk