

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held March 20, 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, Councilor Etl; from Ward II, Councilors Michael Boutin and Michael Smith; and from Ward III, Councilor Anita Chadderton. Also in attendance were 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 Smith, seconded by Councilor Boutin. **Motion carried.**

- Minutes of the following meetings:
 - Special Meeting of March 12, 2012
 - Regular Meeting of March 13, 2012
- City Warrants as presented.
- 2012 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office:
 - 2012 Food Vending License, Vic's the Next Generation, 1 vending vehicle
 - 2012 single event Entertainment License, Highfield's Center for Composting, March 24th event at Labor Hall from 7:00 – 10:00 PM

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

- 2012 dog licenses are now available. Dogs must be licensed by April 2nd.
- Water/sewer bills are due by April 2nd.
- The Board of Abatement is scheduled to hold hearings on Thursday, March 29th beginning at 5:00 PM.

Approval of Building Permits – Council approved a building permit for Gary Donahue at 43 Brooklyn Street on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Chadderton. **Motion carried.**

Liquor Control Board – Council approved the following 2012 liquor and tobacco license renewals on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried with Councilor Boutin abstaining.**

1st CLASS

Mutuo Inc.	20 Beckley Street
Mr. Z's Inc. - Mr. Z's Pizza	379 N. Main Street
Doenges Enterprises Inc. - Soup 'N Greens	325 N. Main Street

2nd CLASS

Wesco – Champlain Farms	169 Washington Street
Wesco – Champlain Farms	15 S. Main Street
Wesco – North End Deli Mart	475 N. Main Street
Wesco – Fastop	377 N. Main Street
Rite Aid Store #10329	355 N. Main Street
Together Again Enterprises – Quality Market	155 Washington Street
AJ's Sunoco Inc.	320 Washington Street

TOBACCO

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To be approved at 03-27-12 Barre City Council Meeting

Council approved a Special Event Permit for Fresh Tracks Farm Vineyard and Winery for a booth at the Taste of Home Expo at the Civic Center Auditorium on Saturday, March 31st from 12:00 – 4:00 PM on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Etl. **Motion carried with Councilor Boutin abstaining.**

Visitors and Communications – Karen and Allen Burnor appeared before the Council to take orders for popcorn. Allen is a member of a local Cub Scout troop, and the popcorn sales are a fundraiser for the troop.

Others in attendance said they wanted to share their thoughts on the recently defeated proposed FY2013 municipal budget. Mayor Lauzon said there would be an opportunity for that discussion later in the meeting.

New Business –

A) FY 2012 Audit Report Presentation.

Fred Duplessis from Sullivan Powers, the firm contracted to perform the City's FY2011 audit, gave a page by page review of the audit. There was discussion about fund balances, enterprise funds, water & sewer rates, and FEMA reimbursement for expenses related to the May 2011 flooding events.

Other)

Mayor Lauzon invited people to share their thoughts on the recently defeated FY2013 municipal budget. Resident Susan Paruch said she reviewed the annual report, and had voted against the budget because of the overtime expenses and her concerns about the water & sewer infrastructure and deferred maintenance issues. Mayor Lauzon said the water/sewer infrastructure is in good shape. The Mayor said the water & sewer rates will be reviewed and adjusted this summer. Manager Mackenzie reviewed the Nelson Street hydro and trestle projects being done this summer. Mayor Lauzon said he, too, struggles with the overtime issues. Manager Mackenzie said he has been working to more accurately account for embedded overtime in the budget.

Resident Gino Salvatori said there are places where money can be saved in the budget. Mr. Salvatori said there are a number of city-owned vehicles that are taken home at night by City employees. Manager Mackenzie said he is reviewing this issue. Mayor Lauzon said the City owns a number of retired police cruisers that are used by some departments. The Mayor said those vehicles will not be replaced when they stop running. Mr. Salvatori said he observed Fire Department employees eating breakfast at a local restaurant. The employees had department vehicles with them. Manager Mackenzie said the FD employees were on their 24 hour shift at the time. Mr. Salvatori asked if the City can use part-time people to cover overtime and traffic control. Manager Mackenzie said the City does employ part-time people, and that traffic control patrols are not covered by on-duty officers. Traffic control patrols are covered by off-duty, part time or reserve personnel and the City receives compensating revenue from such patrols.

City Manager's Report –

- Manager Mackenzie reported on the following activities over the past week:
 - Several City Center meetings. Barre Area Development Corporation meeting. Granite Museum segment bike path committee meeting.
 - Due to the nice weather, the Street Department is getting an early start on cleaning sand off the streets.
 - The Big Dig detour went into effect as of this evening.

Mayor Lauzon asked to get a specific to-do list from the City Engineer in the next two weeks.

Old Business – NONE

A) Council Ratification of Manager Recommendation re: Easement Request Jeff Friot , 22 Maplewood Ave.

Manager Mackenzie said this item is on the agenda again after being deferred last week. The Manager recommended allowing him to develop an easement that includes a provision that would allow the City to rescind the easement should it ever wish to develop the paper street across which the easement would be

granted. Council approved the Manager's recommendation on motion of Councilor Etl, seconded by Councilor Boutin. **Motion carried.**

Other)

Mayor Lauzon said Council will meet on Saturday, March 24th at 8:00 AM to begin discussions on the budget re-vote. The Mayor said at that meeting the Council will set the date for the re-vote, tentatively scheduled for May 8, 2012. He will provide Councilors with a copy of the defeated budget and support materials in advance of the meeting. The Mayor said Council will also make a determination as to whether it wishes to reconsider any of the defeated proposed charter changes. Clerk Dawes reviewed the timeline for a charter change re-vote. Mayor Lauzon reviewed the timeline for the budget re-vote. The Mayor said he expects the Council will meet 2-3 times per week for the next few weeks until a revised FY2013 budget is finalized and warned for re-vote.

Roundtable –

Councilor Boutin said there will be a Cash Mob event this Saturday, March 24th, starting at 10:00 AM in City Hall Park. People are to bring \$20 to the event, which will be spent in downtown stores.

Mayor Lauzon said the City Place team will make a presentation to the Vermont Senate Institutions committee next week. The team met this week with Vermont Housing and the Department of Education. Contractor DEW is meeting with DOE to discuss the department's needs.

Mayor Lauzon said he would like to see an updated FY2012 streets budget. Manager Mackenzie said he plans on presenting a FY2012 8-month financial report and projections in the near future.

Council adjourned at 8:25 PM on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Chadderton. **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