

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held June 26, 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 Poirier; from Ward II, Councilors Michael Boutin and Michael Smith; and from Ward III, Councilors Anita Chadderton and Lucas Herring. Also in attendance were Manager Steven Mackenzie (arrived at 7:05 PM) and Clerk Carolyn Dawes.

We Dig Barre Treasure Dig Drawing. Barre Partnership executive director Dan Jones and mascot Digger invited Councilor Poirier to draw last week's winner, and announced this week's clue.

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

- Minutes of the following meetings:
 - Regular Meeting of June 19, 2012
- City Warrants as presented.
- 2012 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office:
 - Food Establishment license for Asian Gourmet of Barre Inc., 276 North Main Street.
 - Food Vending License for The Ice Cream Man (Mr. Ding-a-Ling), food truck serving pre-packaged ice cream.

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

- The Clerk reminded everyone that next week's Council meeting will be held on Thursday, July 5th, instead of Tuesday, July 3rd. The Clerk requested that either Mayor Lauzon or Councilor Smith come into the office on Monday, July 2nd to approve the warrants for the week, as checks will be issued on Tuesday, July 3rd. Mayor Lauzon said he will stop by the office on Monday to approve the warrants.
- The warrant turning the list of delinquent dog licenses over to the First Constable will be coming to Council for approval at the July 5th meeting.
- The grand list is scheduled to be lodged on Thursday, July 5th. Council will set the tax rate at its July 5th meeting. Tax bills are scheduled to be downloaded to the printer on Monday, July 9th, with bills scheduled to be in the mail by July 16th. The Clerk said she has not yet received the education tax rates from the state, but expects to have that information by early next week.

Approval of Building Permits – Council approved the following building permits on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.** Approval included waiver of the fee for the Liberty Street permit.

<u>Application</u>	<u>Address</u>
Douglas & Mary Hull	3 Pond Street
James & Brandi Cristante	59 Palmisano Plaza
Fecteau Residential	0 Jorgensen Lane
Michele Snetsinger & Marcel LaPerle	109 Elmwood Avenue
Courtne & John Lange	24 N. Parkside Terrace
Philip Ketcham	160 Seminary Street
John Trepanier	22 Park Street
Courtney Facey & Erika Boyce-Facey	7 Liberty Street

Liquor Control Board –

Council approved a new 2012 First Class liquor license for Asian Gourmet of Barre Inc. located at 276 North Main Street on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried**

with Councilor Boutin abstaining.

Visitors and Communications – NONE

City Manager Report –

Manager Mackenzie reported on the following:

- Attended a meeting with members of the Spaulding High School Civics Class. Mayor Lauzon said the class is looking into crafting ordinances to ban smoking in City parks and address indecent exposure. The students will be traveling to Burlington and meeting with the Department of Health, and will report back to the Council next month.
- Attended meetings with local residents on individual issues; held a parking summit with relevant staff; prepped for the City's response to the Northeast Materials Act 250 permit application; attended the weekly Big Dig progress meeting; attended a kick-off meeting for the firefighters' union contract negotiations; attended a meeting with VTRANS regarding flood-related repairs needed to the railroad bridge by Allen Lumber; met with the Civic Center Committee to discuss the possible hiring of a promoter; attended a meeting re. City Place; worked on the easement for Duffy Street as previously approved by Council.
- The Police Department bike patrol "Bees" started on the street this week.
- The Big Dig is on schedule. Paving has started and the northern end of the project should be open to traffic on July 9th. Work will center in the Depot Square area in early July, and will begin on the southern end of the project area. Substantial completion is on schedule to be done by October 15th.
- The Manager is planning on being out of the office all next week.

Mayor Lauzon asked about the plans to install cobblestones in Depot Square. Manager Mackenzie said he is getting a sketch to the contractor for a price on the change order.

New Business:

A) Greater Barre Community Justice Center Update.

Community Justice Center (CJC) director Lori Baker and re-entry coordinator Kate Aylward updated the Council on programs and activities. There was discussion about high risk clients and continuing follow-up after the 1 year program participation. Mayor Lauzon asked Ms. Baker to start keeping long-term statistics on clients so the City can measure success of the programs.

Ms. Baker said between 90-100 clients have been served this year, and the annual operating budget is approximately \$216,000, which includes payment for salaries and programs.

There was discussion about the working relationship between the CJC and the City Community Outreach Coordinator, Emma Moreau. Ms. Moreau and Chief Bombardier said the working relationship is better. The Chief said the re-entry program does not bring new people to Barre; those who are served by the program have significant ties to the community.

Old Business:

A) Resolution #2012-07 Rotary Park Playground Name Change.

Council approved resolution #2012-07 re-naming "Playground 2000" as "Charlie's Playground 2012" on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

Mayor Lauzon asked that copies of the resolution be sent to the Semprebon family, BCEMS principal Jim Taffel and the student members of the Playground Committee who were involved in the name change.

B) Award FY 13 Annual Supply Bids.

Manager Mackenzie recommended Council authorize him to award the bids to the lowest bidders, with the exception of the fuel bids. The Manager said he is exploring other options for the fuel bids. Council approved the Manager's recommendation on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Boutin.

Motion carried.

C) Annual Appointments.

Mayor Lauzon said this item will be rescheduled.

New Business:

B) Ct. Vt. Human Society Stray Animal Holding Agreement.

Mayor Lauzon said this item will be deferred to next week.

C) Bulk Trash Ordinance Discussion.

Mayor Lauzon thanked Councilor Boutin for his work on revising the trash ordinance. David Parot, operations manager for Myers Containers, addressed the Council from the perspective of a waste hauler. There was discussion about unsightly dumpsters, property owners who are not paying their bills, overflowing dumpsters, frequency of pick-up, dumpster screening, and removal of dumpsters for non-payment.

Council set the first reading for ordinance revisions #2012-01 for Tuesday, July 10, 2012 on motion of Councilor Boutin, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

D) Council Tour of brook/retaining wall near Beverage Baron, and other locations to be announced.

Three members of the Council and Manager Mackenzie toured the brook/retaining wall area before the Council meeting. There was discussion about sections of the wall that have been damaged by past flooding. Manager Mackenzie said the City's position is that such retaining walls are the responsibility of the abutting property owners, and the wall in that area definitely needs repairs. Mayor Lauzon said the City could condemn the walls and require the property owners to make repairs. If the owners don't make the repairs, the City could have the work done and sue to recover the costs.

Councilor Chadderton said she is concerned that children in the area could be in danger of falling into the brook if some sort of barricade isn't provided. Councilor Smith said there are other collapsed areas further up the brook. Mayor Lauzon said City Engineer Reg Abare and Planning Director Michael Miller will contact the property owners and work towards getting the repairs made. The Mayor said the City could take action to protect the public and City property. He asked for a 60 day resolution to the problem.

Other)

Councilor Herring asked when the Semprebon Committee is reporting to the Council on the current round of proposals. Manager Mackenzie said the committee will come before the Council on July 17th.

Councilor Poirier asked for an update on the renovation plans for Hope Cemetery. Manager Mackenzie said he will provide updated figures to the Council at next week's meeting. The Manager said the Semprebon Committee has been made aware of the possible increase in funds necessary to make the renovations.

Mayor Lauzon asked Manager Mackenzie to keep the Council in the loop with regards to the Quarry Street/Northeast Materials Act 250 application process. Manager Mackenzie said the City will begin soliciting bids tomorrow for the work that needs to be done on the Quarry Street/South Main Street intersection.

Councilor Poirier asked for an update on the Development Review Board (DRB) application related to the proposed gravel pit off of Division Street. Manager Mackenzie said City Engineer Reg Abare is providing the City's recommendation of conditions to the DRB. Councilor Poirier asked if the City has party status in DRB hearings, which would allow the City to appeal a DRB decision. Mayor Lauzon said he will get a clear legal opinion with regards to the City's status.

Council approved Manager Mackenzie as the City representative at DRB hearings on motion of Councilor Poirier, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

Round Table –

Councilor Chadderton said there are mattresses and couches piled up outside the property located on the corner of 3rd and North Main Streets. Manager Mackenzie said a violation letter has been sent to the property owner.

Council adjourned at 9:10 PM on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

An audio transcript of the meeting is available through the Clerk's Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk