

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council  
Held February 12, 2013**

The Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council was called to order at 7:00 PM by Acting Mayor Michael Smith. In attendance were: From Ward I, Councilor Charles Dindo; Ward II, Councilor Michael Boutin; and from Ward III, Councilor 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 Boutin. **Motion carried.**

- Minutes of the following meeting:
  - Regular Meeting of February 5, 2013
- Approval of the City Warrants as presented.
- 2013 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office:
  - Food Establishment Licenses
    - Hollow Inn, 278 S. Main Street
    - Ladder 1 Grill, 8 S. Main Street
    - Barre Technical Center (bake shop), 126 N. Main Street
    - Delicate Decadence, 15 Cottage Street

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

- Third quarter property taxes are due by February 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Dog licenses are now available in the Clerk's office.
- Requests for early and absentee ballots for the March 5, 2013 Annual (Town) Meeting elections are being accepted in the Clerk's office.

**Approval of Building Permits** – NONE

**Liquor Control Board** –

Clerk Dawes said there are two request to cater permit applications to be approved, but as the Council is short-handed this evening, they will be held over to next week. The Clerk said, as per Council instructions, an invitation to attend next week's Council meeting has been issued to the owner of South Side Tavern.

**City Manager's Report** –

Manager Mackenzie reported on the following:

- Working with staff to revive the plans for renovating the former police station portions of City Hall. Will have an update for Council in 30-45 days.
- Working with staff to revitalize the parking system. Will have an update for Council in 30-45 days.
- Working with staff to follow up on requests from US Department of Justice for audit information from FY08.
- Continue to hold bargaining sessions with firefighters. Next session is for this Friday.
- Finalized the bid documents for the exterior renovation work on City Hall. Will come back to Council after bids are received for review and final appropriation for the project.
- VLCT is holding a free municipal health insurance seminar at Alumni Hall on April 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Working with VTRANS on the Quarry Street project to set up a public meeting with neighbors.
- Distributed the Manager's FY14 budget presentation schedule.

**Visitors and Communications** –

Barre Area Development Corporation (BADC) board chair Pete Fournier introduced the new BADC executive director, Joel Schwartz. Mr. Schwartz said he is pleased to be on board, and he has lots of experience working with municipal officials. Council welcomed Mr. Schwartz.

To be approved at 02-19-13 Barre City Council Meeting

**Old Business – NONE**

**New Business –**

**A) Update on Vermont Granite Museum Forum.**

Museum board chair Patty Meriam and board member Regan Howard addressed the Council. Ms. Howard reviewed the results of a survey the Museum conducted in the fall. Ms. Meriam presented the outcomes from the public forum hosted at the museum in the fall. She said what came out of the forum was the overwhelming need for an executive director. There was also discussion at the forum on uses for the buildings & grounds, leasing out the space, bike path work, and the need for concrete flooring in the space. Ms. Howard reviewed the FY2013 budget and said it includes an executive director for the second half of the year.

There was general discussion about tours at the facility and the need for additional bathrooms to accommodate tour busses. Ms. Meriam said there will be a volunteer meeting on February 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM at the Barre Granite Association. Anyone interested in volunteering for the museum should attend.

Mrs. Meriam said the board is finalizing the job description for the executive director, and will begin the search in the near future.

**B) Discussion of Council Public Information Program Re: Proposed FY 14 Municipal Budget.**

Manager Mackenzie reviewed his schedule for budget presentations to the public and local service clubs. The Manager said he believes the Mayor has a plan for additional public outreach. Council agreed to wait until next week to discuss the issue, when Mayor Lauzon will be in attendance.

Council approved moving the Tuesday, March 5, 2013 regular Council meeting to Monday, March 4, 2013, so as not to conflict with the Annual (Town) Meeting, on motion of Councilor Boutin, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

**Round Table –**

Councilor Herring said he would like to see a “bike path coming soon” sign near the Granite Museum.

Councilor Dindo said tomorrow’s bike path committee meeting is at 5:00 PM, not at 4:30 PM as originally warned.

Acting Mayor Smith said Barre Energy Awareness Resource (BEAR) will be on the agenda for the February 26<sup>th</sup> meeting to discuss an energy challenge.

Council went into executive session at 7: 50PM to discuss personnel on motion of Councilor Boutin, seconded by Councilor herring. **Motion carried.**

Manager Mackenzie was invited into the executive session.

Council came out of executive session at 8:05 PM on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

Council adjourned at 8:05 PM on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk