

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held February 4, 2014**

The Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council was called to order by Mayor Thomas Lauzon at 7:00 PM at Barre City Hall. In attendance were: From Ward I, Councilors Charles Dindo and Paul Poirier; from Ward II, Alderman Michael Boutin and Councilor Michael Smith; and from Ward III, Councilor Lucas Herring. Also in attendance were City Manager Steven Mackenzie and City Clerk/Treasurer Carolyn Dawes.

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

- Minutes of the following meetings:
 - Regular Meeting of January 28, 2014
- Approval of the City Warrants as presented.
- 2014 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office:
 - Food Establishment License:
 - L&M Diner, 240 North Main Street
 - Ladder 1 Grill, 8 South Main Street
 - Quality Donuts Inc. DBA Dunkin Donuts, 283 North Main Street
 - Espresso Bueno, 248 North Main Street
 - Food Take-out License:
 - DJ's Maple Avenue Deli, 31 Maple Avenue
 - Central Market, 50 Summer Street
 - Entertainment License
 - Old Labor Hall, 48 Granite Street
 - Taxicab Driver's License
 - Dale R. Kew, Payless Taxi
 - Ann-Marie L. Kew, Payless Taxi

The City Clerk/Treasurer Report – Clerk/Treasurer Dawes reported on the following:

- Early/Absentee ballot requests are now being accepted for the March 4th elections.
- Due to February 15th falling on a Saturday, and Monday, February 17th is President's Day, the third quarter property taxes are due by February 18th.
- All dogs must be licensed by April 1, 2014.
- The Board of Abatement is holding hearings on February 19th, and the Board of Civil Authority is holding its pre-election meeting on February 27th. Councilors are encouraged to attend, especially the BoA meeting, where at least 13 members are necessary to make a quorum and conduct business.

Approval of Building Permits – NONE

Liquor Control Board –

A) Approval of Liquor Control Policies and Procedures.

Clerk Dawes presented the revised draft document. Council adopted the policies and procedures on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

City Manager's Report – Manager Mackenzie reported on the following:

- Work has begun to move the locomotive and flatbed along Metro Way to the Granite Museum.
- Staff attended the FEMA pre-award inspection on the proposed North End drainage projects.
- The Manager praised the Water & Sewer Department for finding and repairing an underground

leak that developed over the weekend.

- The Manager said he is videotaping his budget presentation for repeated airings on CVTV, and will be taping an episode of The City Room where he will talk about the budget. There will be several Council meeting presentations over the next several weeks leading up to the March 4th Annual (Town) Meeting.
- The Manager and Mayor gave an update on the Summer Street project and said there will a public presentation in March.

Visitors & Communications – NONE

Old Business –

A) Approval of Proposed Central Vermont Public Safety Charter.

Council approved the charter language on motion of Alderman Boutin, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

Clerk Dawes said the Montpelier City Council approved the same language last week. The Clerk is working with the Montpelier Clerk on the creation of a booklet that will be available to the public and placed in each voting booth during the elections, as is required by statute. She will email copies of the final language to the Barre Town and Berlin selectboards.

New Business –

A) Resolution #2014-04 in Recognition of Eagle Scout Justin Folsom.

Councilor Herring read the resolution. Resolution #2014-04 was approved on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

Mayor Lauzon noted it would be nice to have all Councilors sign the resolution, however, Councilor Chadderton is not in attendance this evening and didn't participate in the vote. Alderman Boutin moved suspension of Robert's Rules to allow Councilor Chadderton to sign the resolution, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

Councilor Herring will get Councilor Chadderton's signature on the resolution.

B) Barre Partnership – Downtown Update.

Barre Partnership (BP) executive director Dan Jones gave an update to the Council. Mr. Jones introduced the board members in attendance: Martha Englert, Bob Sager, Lucas Herring, Hillary Montgomery and Rachel Arnitz. Mr. Jones said Ms. Arnitz is the BP's first student board member. She is the recipient of a scholarship from Two Loco Guys. Ms. Arnitz said she is interested in broadening student interest in the downtown, and is noting a more positive attitude among Spaulding High School students.

Mr. Jones said the BP is working on a shopping and dining guide, and recently kicked off the "Love Barre – Strength Through Community" campaign focusing on community pride. They are also starting a membership campaign.

Other announcements included:

- The Heritage Festival is scheduled for the last full weekend in July.
- The Concerts in the Park will be sponsored this year by Heney Realtors.
- The Vermont Downtown Action Team will be back next week to present the first draft of the final plan, and discuss possible funding options for Merchant's Row.
- BP is working on developing a bi-annual Barre area magazine aimed at visitors to the region.
- A sponsor has been found for a new volunteer organization that will hold events to recruit

volunteers throughout the downtown.

There was discussion about the information booth that was previously located near the intersection of Routes 62, 14 and 302. Manager Mackenzie said the booth can be considered as part of the Merchant's Row redevelopment plans.

Mr. Jones said the City is welcoming a number of new businesses, including Two Loco Guys, Beauty Nail & Spa and Maureen's Sweet Treats.

Mayor Lauzon discussed changes in parking. The Mayor said there is enough parking and people will need to change their parking habits.

C) Safety Concerns Related to the Proper Storage of 9 Volt Batteries.

Councilor Dindo reviewed what happens when the contacts on a 9 volt battery are left exposed, and said they can start fires. He demonstrated the proper way to tape off the contacts so as to prevent fires.

Round Table –

Councilor Poirier asked for a Barre Area Development Corporation report. Manager Mackenzie will invite BADC executive director Joel Schwartz to attend next week's meeting.

Councilor Herring said there will be a joint Barre City Council/Barre City Elementary & Middle School public budget forum on Thursday, February 20th from 6:30 – 7:30 PM in the Barre Opera House.

The Council meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk