

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council  
Held May 6, 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, Councilor Charles Dindo; from Ward II, Councilors Michael Boutin and Michael Smith; and from Ward III, Councilors Anita Chadderton and 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 April 29, 2014
- Approval of the City Warrants as presented, including a community development warrant payable out of a municipal planning grant.
- 2014 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office: NONE

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

- The election to vote on the revised budget will be held on May 13<sup>th</sup>. Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> is the deadline to register for this election. The Board of Civil Authority will hold its usual pre-election meeting on May 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Third quarter property taxes are due by May 15<sup>th</sup>.
- There are three properties scheduled for tax sale on May 21<sup>st</sup>.
- The Central Vermont Public Safety Authority charter is being taken up by Senate Gov Ops. They expect to have it passed by the end of the session.

**Approval of Building Permits** – Council approved the following building permits on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Address</u>
Peter & Katrina Pelkey	20 Country Way
Jamie & Sara Palmisano	42 Abbott Avenue
Christopher Alger	38 Newton Street
John Steinman & Lynne Addiego-Steinman	110 Nelson Street
Joseph & Diana Stone	53 Liberty Street
Reginald Jalbert	11 B Street
Nicole Clark	1 Jorgensen Lane

**Liquor Control** –

Council approved the renewal of a first class liquor license and outdoor permit for Southside Tavern at 107 South Main Street on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried with Councilor Chadderton voting against, and Councilor Boutin abstaining.**

**Visitors & Communications** –

City resident Nancy Wolfe said she will begin offering downtown historical walking tours on Saturdays at 9:30 AM, beginning on May 17<sup>th</sup>. She invited anyone interested in joining her to gather at the Depot Square kiosk. There was discussion about the need for informational signage and a walking tour brochure.

Mayor Lauzon said the state has requested additional time to respond to his records request for information about housing people in Barre City hotels and motels. The Mayor said he has reached out to

hotel and motel owners and managers to set up a date for them to meet with the Council.

**Old Business – NONE**

**New Business –**

**A) Warning: Public Hearing 7:15 PM – CDBG-DR Application Approval.**

Mayor Lauzon opened the public hearing at 7:15 PM. City Planner Michael Miller reviewed the Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery program, and said the City is applying for \$1 million to help fund the clean-up in the Enterprise Aly/Depot Square area. Mr. Miller said the total cost for the project is approximately \$2.5 million, and the City has received and applied for funding to cover nearly all of the cost. He said grant-funded projects must be completed by November 2015.

Councilor Herring made the motion to approve resolution #2014-09 authorizing the submittal of the grant application. The motion was seconded by Councilor Dindo.

Mayor Lauzon asked for any additional comment from the Council or public. Hearing none, he closed the public hearing at 7:23 PM and called for a vote on the motion. **Motion carried.**

**E) Delivery of the Revised Draft City Master Plan.**

Mr. Miller said the Planning Commission has been working on the plan for three years, and is now recommending it to the Council for consideration. He said the Council must hold two public hearings before approving the plan. Mayor Lauzon said he would like the community to have 30 days to review the document before holding the public hearings, and asked that hard copies of the plan be distributed to the clerk's office, councilors and Aldrich Library.

**F) Request for Regional Approval of the Draft City Plan and Confirmation of Planning Process.**

Mr. Miller asked the Council to formally submit the draft plan to the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission for confirmation of the planning process. Council approved the recommendation on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

Mayor Lauzon noted that Mr. Miller will be leaving the City to take the position of Planner in Montpelier. The Mayor thanked Mr. Miller for his service to the community, and said he has been instrumental in much of the development work that's been accomplished over the past several years.

**B) Vermont Granite Museum Update.**

VGM board member Patty Meriam introduced new part-time executive director Scott McLaughlin, who has been working since the beginning of January. Mr. McLaughlin said the main objective is to develop exhibits in the museum by working with the current collections and oral histories. Ms. Meriam said VGM will rely on volunteers to staff the museum this summer. They have been working with VTC students on developing landscape plans for the entrance, and those plans will be presented to the board and community tomorrow morning. The museum will host the bike path forum on May 21<sup>st</sup>.

**C) Kick Off of Sun Common's Solar Initiative.**

Taylor Ralph of Sun Common said they are kicking off a solar initiative for solar installations on residential properties. Sun Common is partnering with the Barre Partnership on a launch at the Quarry on May 27<sup>th</sup>. There was discussion about payback time periods, funding and financing for solar installations, and options for non-residential properties.

**D) Health Order – 11 Chatot St. Unit #44A. Parry**

City Inspector Robbie Strachan requested that the Council issue a health order against 11 Chatot Street, Unit #44A. Mr. Strachan reviewed the history of inspections at the site, outside clean-up efforts to date,

photos of the interior and exterior conditions of the property, and concerns for fire safety and emergency services access.

Code Enforcement Officer Capt. Matt Cetin said the department has been working with other agencies to address the issues, including Barre Housing Authority, which owns the property in question. BHA executive director Chip Castle said he has no reservations about the issuance of the health order, and supports it.

Mayor Lauzon requested that the health order be revised to reflect Mr. Strachan's comments that the breezeway has been cleaned up, and that the focus of the health order is on the interior conditions.

Capt. Cetin said the inspections department is working on developing a health and hoarding ordinance to address similar situations.

Mayor Lauzon noted for the record that the tenant at 11 Chatot Street Unit #44A, Ms. Parry, is not present this evening. Mr. Strachan said Mr. Parry will have until May 16<sup>th</sup> to come into compliance. If that doesn't happen, the department will bring the issue to the City Attorney for adjudication.

Council approved issuance of the health order as amended on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

**G) Vendor License – Consideration of Request to Vend in Depot Square.**

Mayor Lauzon reviewed the vending request from The Garden Gnome, which had requested being allowed to vend in the Depot Square area. The Mayor said he wanted it made clear to the vendor that they are not to vend on the grass, and they do not have exclusive use of the space. The Mayor asked the Clerk to review the location with the Police Chief for his approval before issuing the license.

Council approved the Garden Gnome request to vend in Depot Square with the conditions specified above on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

**H) FY15 Revised Budget Proposal Review.**

Manager Mackenzie gave a presentation on the proposed FY15 budget, which will be voted on May 13<sup>th</sup>. Councilors will be visiting voters door-to-door and posting informational reminders on social media.

**I) 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY14 Budget Status Review.**

Mayor Lauzon deferred this item until next week's meeting.

**J) Authorization to Execute 12 Keith Avenue Purchase and Sales Agreement.**

Mayor Lauzon said this item will be taken up in executive session.

**K) Approval of Dam Alteration Permit Appeal Settlement Agreement.**

Council approved the agreement as presented, and authorized the Manager to sign on behalf of the City on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

**Other:**

Mayor Lauzon said he is working with Novus Energy on potential plans to locate solar arrays in the City. The Mayor said he will be discussing the details with the Barre Energy Action Resource (BEAR) and bringing it to the Council for consideration in 30 days.

**City Manager's Report –**

Manager Mackenzie reported on the following:

To be approved at 05-12-14 Barre City Council Meeting

- The City has made arrangements for residents to bring yard waste to the Barre Town stump dump from May 7<sup>th</sup> through May 24<sup>th</sup>. Days and times are on the City website.
- The City has received an Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) grant in the amount of \$38,000 to assist with the clean-up of Enterprise Aly.
- An RFP for annual report printing has been sent out.
- The Nelson Street hydro project was inspected today and they are working on a punch list. Commissioning of the turbine will be in June.
- The Facilities Department and the neighborhood committee led by Ellen Sivret are completing the improvements to the Mathewson Playground.

The Manager said an easement between DEW Barre City Place and the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) has been developed to finalize the clean-up project at the City Place location, and allow the project to receive a certificate of completion. He said the parties are requesting that the City document its acknowledgement of the easement. He recommended approval of the following motion:

“The Barre City Council acknowledged and does not object to the creation of a Brownfield Easement between the State of Vermont Agency of Natural Resources and DEW Barre City Place, LLC at 219 North Main Street, Barre City, Vermont.”

Council approved the motion as recommended on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

**Round Table –**

Several Councilors encouraged the public to get out and vote at next week’s budget election on May 13<sup>th</sup>.

Councilors Herring and Smith thanked people for participating in last weekend’s Green Up Day.

Mayor Lauzon wished Barre City mothers a Happy Mother’s Day.

Council went into executive session at 9:02 PM to discuss litigation and real estate 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 9:20 PM on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

Council approved the purchase and sales agreement for 12 Keith Avenue on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

The Council meeting adjourned at 9:21 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