

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held September 16, 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, Councilors Michael Boutin and Michael Smith; and from Ward III, Councilor Anita Chadderton. Also in attendance were City Manager Steven Mackenzie and City Clerk/Treasurer Carolyn Dawes.

Adjustments to the Agenda – Mayor Lauzon said he wasn't aware of any adjustments to be made.

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

- Minutes of the following meetings:
 - Regular Meeting of September 2, 2014
- Approval of the City Warrants as presented.
- 2014 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office: NONE

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

- First quarter property taxes were due yesterday. The delinquency rate currently stands at 5.22%. Additional payments are expected to be received in the mail tomorrow.
- Water & Sewer bills are due by September 30th.
- Early/absentee ballot requests are being accepted for the November General Election.
- The BCA will hold property tax assessment appeal hearings on September 25th.

The Clerk called the Council's attention to the letter from Rev. David Vanderlinde-Abernathy of the Barre Congregational Church about the upcoming October 5th Crop Walk. Rev. Vanderline-Abernathy's letter outlined the route for the walk, saying they would not need street closures and would use the sidewalks and crosswalks. The Clerk said she shared the letter with the Police Department, which indicated it saw no need for a parade permit.

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

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Address</u>
Paul Simoneau	37 Summer Street
Terri Luce	95 Smith Street
Stephen A. Ribolini	12 Scampini Square

Liquor Control – NONE

Visitors & Communications –

Mayor Lauzon called attention to a letter to the editor that appeared in the Times Argus yesterday. The Mayor said the letter was in regards to recreational use of the Dix Reservoir and the lands that surround it. He said Council had previously adopted a policy to allow fishing, but does not allow boating or other recreational uses. He said Council could discuss the issue again should any member of the Council wish to put it on the agenda. Councilors voiced their support of the current policy.

City Manager's Report –

Manager Mackenzie reported on the following:

- The Budget & Finance Committee community survey is completed and analysis of the data has started. When completed, the committee will report the results to the Council. The committee

has also completed its interviews with employees.

- The project team working on flooding mitigation reviews of Gunner's Brook will be in town for a tour of the brook later this month. There will be a community workshop in late October.
- The City will participate in a state-funded water leak detection program in early October.
- There was a successful meeting with representatives from VLCT and the City's health insurance broker. The current estimate for the insurance increase for 2015 is within budgeted amounts.
- Continue to work with Vermont Granite Museum and Peoples United Bank on surface plans for the Enterprise Aly renovations.
- Demolition of 1 Campbell Place could start as early as next week.
- The Ormsby's building closing is on schedule for mid-October.
- The next facility tour will be at the Civic Center complex on Saturday, September 27th.

There was discussion about stop signs on Hale Street, and the Manager said they will be installed on both ends. Stop signs will also be installed at the Circle/Green Streets intersection.

There was discussion about whether the City will partner with Barre Town this fall on the use of the Town Stump Dump. Manager Mackenzie said the cost would be up to \$2,000, and the funds are not included in the budget. Mayor Lauzon said he suggests the City offer the service, and include it in budgets going forward. The Council concurred without official action.

Old Business – NONE

New Business –

C) New Cemetery Committee Appointment – Dan Barlow.

Councilor Poirier requested that this item be moved up on the agenda. Mr. Barlow introduced himself to the Council and expressed his interest in serving on the Cemetery Committee. Council approved the appointment on motion of Councilor Poirier, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

A) Resolution #2014-19 Upon the Retirement of Sheila Lunt, Senior General Accounting Clerk.

Councilor Poirier requested that this item be deferred to next week so that Ms. Lunt can be in attendance.

B) Spaulding High School Homecoming Parade Request – September 27th.

Mayor Lauzon called attention to the request letter from SHS Athletics/Activities Director Patrick Merriam. Council approved the request contingent upon coordination with the Police Department on motion of Councilor Poirier, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

D) Approval of CVCLT RLF Grant Agreement for 7/1/13 to 6/30/14.

Mayor Lauzon reviewed the grant agreement, and noted it calls for the City to have a series of policies. The Mayor said the City does not have the following two policies, but will have them within 30 days:

- Use of VCDP Funds for Federal Lobbying
- Subrecipient Oversight Monitoring Policy

The Mayor said Council needs to adopt the resolution included in the grant agreement paperwork. The Clerk said the resolution number will be #2014-20. Council approved resolution #2014-20 on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

E) Consideration of Draft Cash Collection and Handling Policy.

Mayor Lauzon said he read over the policy and recommends its adoption. Council adopted the policy on motion of Councilor Boutin, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

F) Enterprise Aly Site Plan Refinement: Request for Council Input.

Manager Mackenzie said there are changes being integrated into the site plan, and he will make the presentation at next week's meeting.

G) Annual Appointments.

Mayor Lauzon reviewed the list provided by Manager Mackenzie. There was discussion about changing charter and ordinance language to have appointments fall in line with the fiscal year rather than the current April 1st. The Clerk will work on such revisions for the March 2015 annual meeting elections.

Councilor approved the appointments as presented on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Chadderton. **Motion carried.**

Round Table –

Councilor Poirier said he had recently observed the City Public Works crews in their work in the Foster Street neighborhood, and he was complimentary of their work.

Councilor Smith said he will be attending this week's Public Safety Authority meeting, and the Authority is still looking for input from the City on the memorandum of understanding.

Councilor Dindo asked if the Budget & Finance Committee survey could be filled out by voters at the November General Election polls. The Manager will share that suggestion with the committee.

Mayor Lauzon said he will be working this winter with the Manager on plans to replace the City garage. The Mayor said he has concerns about the reorganization of the Buildings and General Services Department, and is looking forward to the final report in December.

The Council meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Poirier. **Motion carried.**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk