

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held January 13, 2015**

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, Councilors Anita Chadderton and Lucas Herring. Also in attendance was City Manager Steven Mackenzie.

Absent: NONE

Adjustments to the Agenda – Mayor Lauzon said the Barre City Elementary School Board will be making its budget presentation this evening, as per City charter. This agenda item will be taken up first under new business.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Council approved the following consent agenda items on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

- Minutes of the following meetings:
 - Regular Meeting of January 30, 2014
- Approval of the City Warrants as presented.
- 2015 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office:
 - Animal Licenses:
 - Mark Atkin, 21 Camp Street, 1 guinea fowl
 - Kerri Fredette, 8 Downes Avenue, 6 ducks
 - Kari Powers, 105 Hill Street, 2 Rhode Island Red hens
 - Angela Williams, 20 Grandview Avenue, 10 poultry
 - Michelle Carter, 44 Newton Street, 9 poultry
 - Sylvia Lozier, 203 Prospect Street, 3 horses
 - Douglas Hull, 1 Pond Street, honey bees
 - Jandric Esad, 18 Plain Street, 15 chickens
 - Michael Boutin, 5 Hillside Avenue, 1 ferret
 - Food Establishment Licenses:
 - Quality Donuts, DBA Dunkin Donuts, 283 North Main Street
 - Morse Block Delicatessen, 260 North Main Street #19
 - Food Take Out Licenses
 - DJ's Maple Avenue Deli, 39 Maple Avenue
 - Entertainment Licenses:
 - South Side Tavern, 107 South Main Street, annual license
 - Planet Rock N' Metal (downstairs), 123 North Main Street, annual license
 - Ladder 1 Grill, 8 South Main Street, annual license
 - Gusto's 28 Prospect Street, annual license
 - Barre Opera House, 6 North Main Street, annual license
 - Studio Place Arts, 201 North Main Street, for February 12th and May 8th events
 - Waste Disposal Licenses:
 - DJ's Convenience Store, 2 vehicles, drop off only
 - Haggett's Trucking, 1 truck, pick up only
 - Casella Waste Management, 8 trucks, pick up only
 - Taxicab Service Operator's (Business) Licenses:
 - Payless Taxi, 1 vehicle
 - Capital Cab & Car Service LLC, 1 vehicle
 - Taxicab Driver's License:

- Dale Kew, Payless Tax

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

- Public question petitions for the 2015 Annual (Town) Meeting election are due to the clerk’s office by 5PM on Monday, January 19th.
- The Clerk read off the list of offices up for election at the 2015 Annual (Town) Meeting Day elections, and said petitions are available in her office or on the City website. The deadline to file nominating petitions with the Clerk is Monday, January 26th by 5:00 PM.
- The Clerk is working with the Police Department to develop the policies and procedures for dealing with the billing and collection of stale parking tickets. The ½ time position should be filled in the near future.
- 3rd quarter property taxes are due by February 15th.

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

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Address</u>
Steven Maynard	61 South Main Street
Capstone Community Action	20 Gable Place
Granite City Developers LLC	14 North Main Street (2 permits)
Barbara & Thomas Wells	59 Franklin Street

Liquor Control – Council approved McCarthys Venture LLC, DBA Simply Delicious’ request to allow moving its 1st & 2nd class liquor licenses from Depot Square to its new home in the Blanchard Block, contingent upon all building and zoning permits being in place, on motion of Councilor Dindo, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried with Councilor Boutin abstaining.**

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

- Auditors are back in City Hall and expect to finish up their remote work this week. The audit is expected to be finalized by 1/30/15.
- Tremont Street headwall project was completed 1/2/15
- The Ormsby building demolition is expected to be completed by this weekend.
- The parapet on 143 North Main Street has been stabilized. The repair work is scheduled for February.
- Met with VTRANS to discuss the design work for replacing the cameras at the traffic signals.
- The new ambulance arrived today.
- The office is looking for suggestions from the Council for the dedication of the 2014 annual report.

Visitors & Communications – NONE

Old Business – NONE

New Business –

Added) Presentation of Proposed FY16 Barre City Elementary and Middle School Budget.

Councilor Herring addressed the Council in his capacity as chair of the BCEMS board, along with Sonya Spaulding, chair of the BCEMS Budget/Finance Committee. Mr. Herring said the Spaulding High School/Technical Center budget is being approved by that board this evening. He reviewed the projected tax rate for the combined BCEMS/SHS budgets, which is expected to increase by 0.4%. The BCEMS budget is increasing by 2.3%. The board will be asking the voters to use \$140,000 of the FY14 surplus to mitigate the impact of the budget increase on the tax rate, and will also be asking voters to take the

\$311,000 balance of the surplus and put it in a reserve fund to be used in future years to help mitigate tax increases. Mr. Herring provided detail spreadsheets for anticipated revenues and expenses.

Mayor Lauzon thanked Mr. Herring and Ms. Spaulding, and noted for the record that the BCEMS budget presentation satisfies the requirement as laid out in City charter.

A) Approve Fees for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations.

Barre Area Development Corporation executive director Joel Schwartz reviewed the charts he provided on electric vehicle charging stations around Vermont and what other communities and charging station owners are charging for fees. Mr. Schwartz recommended the City charge \$1.50 for the first hour and \$0.75 for each additional hour for charging at the two recently installed stations. The stations are located in the Merchants Row and Pearl Street parking lots.

There was discussion about access fees, standardization of fees across the state, maintenance of the stations, the City's responsibilities, and how our contract with service provider Charge Point will work.

Council adopted the fees as recommended by Mr. Schwartz on motion of Councilor Boutin, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

Mayor Lauzon asked that next week's agenda include a discussion about parking ticket fines for parking at the charging stations without paying.

B) Approval of TIF Bond Anticipation Note Renewal.

Clerk Dawes reviewed the BAN renewal. Council approved the renewal on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried.**

C) Briefing Re: Civic Center Promoter RFP.

Special Projects Manager Pat McDonald, Facilities and Community Services Director Jeff Bergeron and chair of the Civic Center Committee Jon Valsangiaco reviewed the draft RFP. There was discussion about where the RFP will be posted and advertised.

Councilor Poirier made the motion to approve the RFP for publication.

There was further discussion on shared revenues vs. fixed salary, development of a punch list for improvements for the auditorium, input from the Vermont Conference Bureau, setting up package deals with local businesses, and exploring other sources of revenue. It was confirmed the Council will have the ultimate approval of the contract with the promoter. Council requested receiving regular reports on activities at the Civic Center.

Councilor Dindo seconded Councilor Poirier's motion. **Motion carried.**

D) Status Report Re: Enterprise Aly Project.

Manager Mackenzie reviewed the design exhibit recently received from Dubois & King. The Manager said the cost estimate is nearly \$4 million, which is \$1.4 million more than expected. The City is meeting with the funding partners to discuss ways to fill the gap. Manager Mackenzie said he will give an updated report at next week's meeting.

Round Table –

Councilor Chadderton said she is frequently asked what the City is going to do to get more non-athletic activities for kids, and she asked if it would be possible to include a teen center as part of the Summer Street project. Mayor Lauzon said such as space isn't currently part of the plans, but Councilor

To be approved at 01-20-15 Barre City Council Meeting

Chadderton could mention it to project owner Community Land Trust.

Councilor Smith said he toured Project Independence at 81 North Main Street. They are passing around a petition to retain their property tax exempt status. Clerk Dawes said PI has had tax exempt status for decades, but due to the recent merger with Gifford Medical, they need to re-petition for voter approval to continue the exemption.

Councilor Herring said he will not be attending Saturday's budget workshop, and he hopes Council will finalize the budget numbers at next week's meeting.

Councilor Poirier announced he is running for re-election to the City Council.

Mayor Lauzon said the Council will hold its next budget workshop this Saturday, January 17th, beginning at 8:00 AM.

Executive Session: NONE

The Council meeting adjourned at 8:33 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