

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held April 21, 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 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 Clerk/Treasurer Carolyn Dawes.

Absent: Councilors Charles Dindo and Paul Poirier, Ward I.

Adjustments to the Agenda: NONE

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 14, 2015
- Approval of the City Warrants as presented.
- 2015 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office:
 - Entertainment Licenses
 - Thunder Road Car Show & Parade, May 2, 2015
 - Barre Partnership Concerts in the Park, Currier Park, Wednesdays through the summer, running June 10th through August 12th

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

- Fourth quarter property taxes are due by May 15th.

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

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Address</u>
Sarah Rowan	52 Merchant Street
Jon Kiliam	7 C Street
Jason & Michelle McAllister	98 Railroad Street

Liquor Control – Council approved the following liquor license renewal on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried with Councilor Boutin voting against.**

<u>Establishment</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>License</u>
Planet Rock N' Metal	123 N. Main Street	1 st class

Clerk Dawes said the last renewal application has been received, and will come to Council for approval next week.

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

- The Water & Sewer Department has been dealing with a series of water line breaks on Wellington Street associated with frozen pipes.
- Demolition of 21 Hilltop has been halted until latent asbestos contamination can be mitigated. Demolition is expected to continue before the end of the week. The City will apply to the VT Department of Public Safety for funding to cover the additional expenses.
- The state will be paving Route 62 over the next four months, beginning this week.
- The Parking Committee is holding weekly meetings to assess and monitor items on its list,

including planning for the relocation of parking from Enterprise Aly during the Little Dig.

Councilor Herring said there is a need for stop signs at the Foster/Granite Street intersection. Manager Mackenzie will look into it.

Visitors & Communications – NONE

Old Business – NONE

New Business –

A) Fee Schedule Revision Request.

Zoning Administrator Janet Shatney and Inspector Captain Matt Cetin reviewed the proposed revisions associated with building permit fees. Ms. Shatney said these fees were mistakenly deleted during a 2011 fee schedule revision. She said the proposed fees are comparable with other communities. There was discussion about the per square foot fees. Capt. Cetin said it's based on the footprint of the building, not the overall square footage per floor. Mayor Lauzon said he would like the City to explore changing from a square footage-based fee system to a construction cost-based fee system.

Council approved the fee schedule with the amendment that the square footage fee specify the fee is "based on footprint" on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

B) Vermont Cancer Survivors Network Relay for Life Entertainment License.

Clerk Dawes said she wanted to clarify that the Vermont Cancer Survivors Network event on June 6th does not include the Relay for Life, which will also be held in Barre two weeks later. They are two separate events. Lisa Buck and Sherry Rhynard from the VCSN outlined the plans for the June 6th events in the Barre area, including the plans for a parade and events in City Hall Park. Ms. Buck said they have worked out details with the Police Department, and will have volunteers to help with set up, monitoring during the day and clean up the day after.

Mayor Lauzon said he has spoken with Ms. Buck, who has assured him they will have sufficient volunteers to run the event, which will minimize the costs to the City. The Mayor said there will likely be a need for some additional police coverage, and he will reach out to the surrounding communities to see if they will help provide the coverage, as the VCSN serves the entire state.

Council approved the entertainment license application on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Chadderton. **Motion carried.**

C) FLC CARES Coin Drop Request.

Council approved the May 16th coin drop request, subject to the organization confirming details with the Police Department, on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

D) Vermont Granite Museum Parking Lot Lease.

Clerk Dawes reviewed her memo on the proposed VGM lease terms and conditions. There was informal consensus of support among the Councilors. Mayor Lauzon said he intends to secure funding to complete the Merchants Row project, which would include the purchase of the lot. Councilor Herring said is abstaining from the discussion due to his position on the VGM board. The Clerk said she will draft the least agreement and get it to both parties for final approval.

E) Enterprise Aly Project Easement & Lease Authorizations

- **VGM (Depot Building) Easement**
- **VGM (Depot Building) Agreement**

- **State of Vermont / WACR Lease**
- **Miscellaneous Easements (5) Approvals**

Manager Mackenzie said the agreements were developed in conjunction with City Attorney Oliver Twombly. There are three different types of easement documents:

1. Routine construction easements
2. Permanent easements for public improvements being made on private property
3. Utility easements that allow installation of the soil vapor extraction system

The Manager said the five miscellaneous easements have already been executed. They are with:

- Nicholson Holding LLC
- Aubuchon's
- Benoit Properties Inc.
- The Housing Foundation Inc.
- James E. Coletti

Council accepted the five miscellaneous easements on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

Manager Mackenzie said the easement with Murphy Realty Co. needs some adjusting, and it will come back for Council approval next week.

The Manager said the Vermont Granite Museum easement is identical to the ones already approved. He said there is also a draft agreement with VGM to cover the rent for the depot building during the construction period, beginning in May. He said the Museum board is concerned they will not be able to attract a new tenant for the building while the construction is ongoing. The lease payments will be reduced by any rental fees received by VGM, including possible rental to the contractor to use the space as a field office. There was discussion about paying for the space and comparisons to conditions during the Big Dig. Councilor Boutin said he wanted the record to reflect that he is uncomfortable committing the City to such payments, but will support a motion to approve.

Council accepted the easement and authorized the Manager to execute the agreement on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Chadderton. **Motion carried with Councilor Herring abstaining.**

Manager Mackenzie said he is not looking for authorization on the railroad easement yet, as they are still fine tuning some of the clauses in the document. He said he hopes to have a final version for Council consideration at next week's meeting.

F) 3rd Quarter General Fund Budget Status Report.

Mayor Lauzon said the projected year end shows a surplus. The Mayor reviewed some specific line items and noted that ambulance billing appears to be softening. Manager Mackenzie said Medicare reimbursements have been dropping. The Manager said he will give the next update in May.

Round Table –

Mayor Lauzon said he will be leaving before the end of the meeting, and called for round table items at this point. There were no reports.

G) Reaffirmation of Ormsby Parking Lot Contract.

Mayor Lauzon reviewed the Ormsby Parking Lot and Pearl Street Pedestrian Way contracts approved at last week's meeting and noted the conflicts that should have been acknowledged at that time. The Mayor

said Manager Mackenzie has a conflict, as one of the prominent contractors involved in the work is Dubois & King, in which the Manger is a partner, and that one of the significant abutting properties is owned by Metro Development in which the Mayor is a partner. The Mayor said he wanted to disclose the conflicts and give the Council the opportunity to reconsider its actions from last week.

At this point in the meeting, the Mayor recused himself from further discussion on the subject. He left and Acting Mayor Smith assumed chairing the meeting. Manager Mackenzie reviewed the contracts for the Ormsby Parking Lot and the Pearl Street pedestrian way design work. Council discussed its approvals from last week, the process and options for reconsideration, and Robert's Rules of Order. There was no interest expressed in reconsidering the actions from last week, or in changing votes.

Executive Session: NONE

The Council meeting adjourned at 8:43 PM on motion of Councilor Boutin, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk