

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council  
Held May 11, 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, Councilor Charles Dindo; from Ward II, Councilors Michael Boutin and Michael Smith; and from Ward III, Councilor Lucas Herring. Also in attendance were City Manager Steven Mackenzie and Clerk/Treasurer Carolyn Dawes.

**Absent:** From Ward I, Councilor Paul Poirier; and from Ward III, Councilor Anita Chadderton.

**Adjustments to the Agenda:** Mayor Lauzon noted he adjusted the agenda through a new warning issued earlier today.

**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 May 5, 2015.
- Approval of the City Warrants as presented.
- 2015 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office:
  - Animal Licenses
    - Hollie Friot, 22 Maplewood Avenue, 4 chickens
    - Carey & Christopher Miller, 3 Cooley Street, honey bees
  - Taxicab Service Operator's (Business) License
    - Don's Taxi, Don Allan Morway, 1 vehicle
  - Taxicab Driver's License
    - Donald A. Morway, Don's Taxi
- Use of City Hall Park and the gazebo for the Elks Club Flag Day ceremonies on Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup> beginning at 1:00 PM.

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

- Fourth quarter property taxes are due by May 15<sup>th</sup>. New tax bills get mailed the middle of July.

**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>      |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Helena O'Riordan           | 10 Harrison Avenue  |
| David Smedy                | 7 Palmisano Plaza   |
| Clayton & Alicia Feiler    | 34 River Street     |
| Steven & Debra St. Armour  | 88 Railroad Street  |
| 22-24 Richardson Place LLC | 22 Richardson Road  |
| Thomas Isabelle            | 184 Prospect Street |
| Miles Block Properties LLC | 162 N. Main Street  |
| Thomas & Tina Stacy        | 3 Paddock Street    |
| Ronald Beede               | 103 Brook Street    |

**Liquor Control** – Council approved a special event permit from North Branch Vineyards for the Barre Partnership business event at the Morse Block Deli on May 21<sup>st</sup> from 5:00 – 8:00 PM on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Dindo. **Motion carried with Councilor Boutin abstaining.**

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

- Cemetery is almost fully staffed for the summer. Monuments displaced by winter frost heaves are being repaired, winter graves are being backfilled, flowers planted, and the flag is being replaced.
- VLCT has received 18 applications for the City planner position. They will be scored against a matrix, and the apps and the matrix will be received by the City's review team next week. Mayor Lauzon asked that Councilor Smith be added to any communications around filling the position.
- The solar project is moving forward and appears to be on schedule for completion this fall. They will give the Council an update in June.
- The Keith Avenue parking lot design meetings have begun.
- The parking team continues to meet. There are several issues that are policy related and will be coming to Council for discussion in the next few weeks.
- The pool is tentatively scheduled to open on June 15<sup>th</sup>, depending on staffing and the condition of the facility.
- The Yard Waste Drop Off at the Barre Town drop off site runs three days a week through May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The Manager will report next week on the crosswalk painting schedule. It was mentioned there is some damage to storm drains and road cracks at Hope Cemetery that should be repaired. An update on vacant buildings was requested, and Mayor Lauzon said ordinance revisions are being worked on to put more teeth in the City's enforcement options. The "do not enter" sign needs to be reinstalled at the lower Hope Cemetery gate.

**Visitors & Communications** –

Councilor Dindo showed a photo of a deteriorated monument in Hope Cemetery, and a photo of the replacement stone. He listed and thanked the local granite industry people and companies who donated time, materials and services to craft the replacement stone.

Mayor Lauzon said there is a potential asbestos issue in the courthouse, and the building has been closed down while tests are conducted. The City is offering assistance in relocating displaced workers as the needs arise.

**Old Business** –

**A) Tower Truck Purchase (Cont.'d): Insurance Services Office (ISO) Rating System Briefing.** Manager Mackenzie said the New England ISO representative wasn't available to attend this evening's meeting, but will be here next week. Mayor Lauzon reviewed the ISO ratings for fire departments in Vermont, and the impact of the rating on insurance rates. The Mayor said Berlin and Montpelier have been approached about exploring the options of sharing a tower truck, but there is little enthusiasm for that approach.

There was discussion about Saturday's visit to the Public Safety Building and the demonstration of the tower truck, and the mechanical repairs needs on the truck. Mayor Lauzon said he would like the following information provided to the Council:

- Estimate of cost to repair/replace the wiring harness.
- Estimate of cost to repair/replace the stabilizers.
- Estimate of cost to do a chassis off-rebuild.
- Minimum specific standards for a tower truck.
- Specifications on the current tower truck as compared to what we would be looking for in a replacement vehicle.
- The generation of the truck that has been identified as a possible purchase.

**New Business –**

**A) Enterprise Aly Project – Service Agreement Approvals**

**1. D&K/ECS Bid Phase Agreement**

Manager Mackenzie reviewed the service agreement, and said this was a sole source item, which is typical for this phase of a project where the design team has been selected. The agreement takes us through the bid review and recommendation process. Council approved the agreement on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

**C) Council Approval of \$500 Appropriation for Barre Area Veterans Council.**

Council approved the appropriation to be paid out of the Council Expenses budget line item on motion of Councilor Dindo, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

**B) Ratification of Keith Avenue License Agreement.**

Mayor Lauzon said the agreement between the City and Downstreet will allow Downstreet use of the Keith Avenue parking lot during construction for a \$1,000 fee payable to the City. The agreement also includes allowing Downstreet to store soils at a City-owned location on Farwell Street, and indemnifies the City with regards to any contamination from the soils.

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

**Round Table –**

Councilor Dindo said the bike path is meeting tomorrow evening.

Mayor Lauzon asked about the public meetings for the Keith Avenue parking lot/Pearl Street pedestrian way designs. The Mayor said he wants to make sure the public has an opportunity to weigh in on both projects.

Mayor Lauzon said Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup> is National Peacekeepers Memorial Day to honor fallen police officers. He will be participating in ceremonies in Montpelier that morning and all are welcome to attend.

**Executive Session: NONE**

The Council meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM on motion of Councilor Smith, 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