

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council  
Held June 2, 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 (arrived 7:02 PM); from Ward II, Councilor Michael Smith; and from Ward III, Councilor Anita Chadderton. Also in attendance were City Manager Steven Mackenzie and Clerk/Treasurer Carolyn Dawes.

**Absent:** From Ward II, Councilor Michael Boutin; and from Ward III, Councilor Lucas Herring.

**Adjustments to the Agenda:** NONE

Councilor Poirier arrived during the following.

**Approval of Consent Agenda:**

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

- Minutes of the following meetings:
  - Special meeting of May 26, 2015.
  - Regular meeting on May 26, 2015.
- City Warrants as presented.
- 2015 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office:
  - Animal Licenses:
    - Romni Palmer & Heather Pipino, 10 Giudici Street, 6 chickens
    - Michael Kelley, 10 Harrison Avenue, 25 chickens
    - April Jolley, 20 Maplewood Avenue, 12 chickens
    - Jacqueline Rogers, 15 Grandview Avenue, 12 poultry
    - Erin Christian c/o Terri Luce, 95 Smith Street, 5 chickens
    - John Santorello, 176 Elm Street, 3 pounds honey bees
  - Food Vending Licenses:
    - James Fitzgerald, The Candy Van, mobile candy truck
  - Commercial Swimming Pool Licenses:
    - Country Way Condominium Association, Fecteau Circle

Council separately approved a Food Vending License for Anne Finegan, Annie's Dogs, on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Dindo. Approved vending locations are limited to the Washington/Church Street point of City Hall Park, and Currier Park during the Wednesday night concerts. **Motion carried.**

**The City Clerk/Treasurer Report** – Clerk Dawes said water/sewer bills are due by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

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

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Address</u>
Stefan & Patsy Golebiowski	53 Hill Street
C-Bass LLC	8 North Street
Curtis & Allyson Healey	108 Washington Street
Joseph & Kelley Funk	75 Abbott Avenue

**Liquor Control** – NONE

To be approved at 06-09-15 Barre City Council Meeting

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

- The Enterprise Aly bids were opened on Friday and the low bid from Accuworx USA is being vetted for Council approval next week.
- The pool is scheduled to open on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Visitors & Communications** – NONE

**Old Business** – NONE

**New Business** –

**A) Approval of Proposed Stipulated Settlement RE: Metro Development LLC Appeal.**

Mayor Lauzon recused himself from participating. Acting Mayor Smith assumed the chair.

City Assessor Joe LeVesque reviewed his memo on the history of the Metro appeal, and his recommendation that Council approve reducing the assessments for 3 Williams Lane and 7 Williams Lane to a combined total of \$152,200 from the current assessment total of \$259,800. Council approved the stipulated settlement assessment on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Dindo.

**Motion carried.**

Clerk Dawes said Mr. Lauzon will now contact the state appraiser and withdraw his appeal.

Mayor Lauzon resumed chairing the meeting.

**B) Discussion of the Dog Park.**

Gwynn Zakov reviewed the history of the dog park, the current use and demand. Ms. Zakov said a small group of park users have been performing regular maintenance such as mowing, treatments to the septic systems, and updates to the FaceBook page. She said it's the only fenced in dog park in a 20 mile radius.

Ms. Zakov said she is looking to hand off the day to day administrative and maintenance duties, and suggested Council approve the creation of a Dog Park Committee. The committee would provide more stability and oversight for continuing operations and possible projects such as increased signage, a structure for shade, and running water. She listed the names of several people who have expressed an interest in serving on the committee. Barre Town resident Amy Richard said she uses the park several times a week, and supports this community asset.

Mayor Lauzon said the park received an allocation of \$4,800 from the Semprebond Fund, with more than \$4,500 still available. The Mayor asked Ms. Zakov to submit the names of possible committee members to the Manager's office. The names will come to Council next week for appointment. Ms. Zakov confirmed that membership on the committee is not limited to City residents.

**C) Discussion of Interim (1 Year) Wheelock Building Lease with Antique Collaborative.**

Councilor Smith said he has been communicating with Pierre Couture over the past week to work out the terms and conditions of the lease. Mr. Couture described the vestibule space available for the visitor center, and the renovation work he is prepared to do in the vestibule and main floor. Mayor Lauzon said the visitor center will consist of racks of brochures, and staff needs to be prepared to engage visitors and answer questions. The Mayor said he will contact the Vermont Tourism & Marketing Department and request assistance in setting up the visitor section.

Mr. LeVesque said if the property is being used by the antiques collective as of April 1, 2016, it will lose its tax exempt status. It was decided the lease would expire on March 31, 2016 to avoid taxation.

Mayor Lauzon said the following terms & conditions will be included in the lease:

- Lessee is Pierre Couture
- Term runs through March 31, 2016
- Mr. Couture will pay for all utilities. The utilities will remain in the City's name, and the City will bill Mr. Couture.
- Mr. Couture will provide proof of \$2 million liability insurance coverage.
- The City will continue to insure the structure, but won't be responsible for insuring the contents.
- Mr. Couture and those using the building will comply with all building rules.
- There will be no changes made in the building without written consent from the City.
- Mr. Couture will be responsible for repairs and maintenance.
- The City will be responsible for set up, signage, and providing materials for the visitor center.

Mayor Lauzon said he and Councilor Smith will work with Mr. Couture on a draft lease to be approved at next week's Council meeting.

There was discussion about the pending building permit needed to remove the stove and hood, and partially demolish some interior walls. Clerk Dawes said the permit has not yet been signed off on by the Code Enforcement Department. Buildings and Community Services Director Jeff Bergeron said he is prepared to begin the work as soon as the permit is approved. Mayor Lauzon suggested Mr. Bergeron contact the Vermont Department of Public Safety to receive their approval to begin the work. The Clerk suggested Council approve the pending building permit contingent upon Code Enforcement approval, so as to avoid any further delays. Council approved the pending building permit for the Wheelock building, with the contingency as recommended, on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Dindo.

**Motion carried.**

**Round Table:**

Councilor Smith said the Central Vermont Public Safety Authority board is continuing its consideration of the executive director candidates, and expects to have a decision in the very near future.

Councilor Chadderton thanked Manager Mackenzie for placing stop signs in her neighborhood. She requested an inventory list of City equipment that includes the ages of each piece so the Council can begin planning for replacements.

Councilor Dindo said Mayor Lauzon's Memorial Day speech was well done.

Mayor Lauzon said it was an honor to welcome Drew Bernier home last week, and he is proud of the community and its outpouring of support for the Bernier family.

**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