

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held July 7, 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 Paul Poirier (arrived 7:02 PM); from Ward II, Councilors Michael Boutin and Michael Smith; and from Ward III, Councilors Anita Chadderton and Lucas Herring. Also in attendance was Clerk/Treasurer Carolyn Dawes.

Absent: From Ward I, Councilor Charles Dindo; and City Manager Steve Mackenzie.

Adjustments to the Agenda: NONE.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

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

- Minutes of the following meetings:
 - Regular meeting on June 30, 2015.
- City Warrants as presented.
- 2015 Licenses & Permits issued through the clerk's office: NONE

Councilor Poirier arrived during the following.

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

- The TIF bond paperwork will come to Council for approval at the July 14th meeting.
- Paperwork for a Grant Anticipation Note will come to Council for approval at the July 14th meeting. The GAN will provide cash flow support for the Enterprise Aly project.
- Pete Fournier has started in the position of part time delinquent ticket clerk. He will be working 2 days/week to begin.
- The Clerk is working on a first draft for the funeral parking and “no parking” area ordinances, and hopes to bring it to Council for a first review at the 7/28 meeting.

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>
Patrick Bryne	57 Sixth Street
Thomas Isabelle	184 Prospect Street
James & Carrie Pontbriand	55 Palmisano Plaza

Liquor Control – Council approved a temporary outside consumption permit application from the Elks Club for Saturday, July 25th from 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried with Councilor Boutin abstaining.**

City Manager's Report – NONE

Visitors & Communications – NONE

Old Business – NONE

New Business –

A) Reaffirmation of City of Barre Commitment to the ADA on the 25th Anniversary.

Mayor Lauzon presented resolution #2015-07, reaffirming the City's commitment to ADA, to Erika Reil, chair of the Barre City ADA Committee. Ms. Reil said the committee has been in existence for six years, and she is proud to serve as chair. She said the City is making great progress and the committee is very positive. Mayor Lauzon thanked Ms. Reil for her service to the community. Ms. Reil said the greatest challenge is sidewalks, and she appreciates the City's efforts to keep them maintained and safe.

B) Presentation and Review of the 2014 Municipal and Single Audits.

Fred Duplessis from Sullivan & Powers presented the 2014 audits, saying there were no findings and the audits were clean. He said this was a transition year, due to outgoing senior accounting clerk Sheila Lunt's retirement and incoming senior accounting clerk Vicki Villa's training. Mr. Duplessis said with the clean audit the City has been categorized as a low risk auditee by the federal government. He said new state law will require the City to carry its portion of the unfunded liability associated with VEMRS, the state pension program. Mr. Duplessis said the VEMRS amount for the coming year will be sent to the City by State Treasurer Beth Pearce, and will likely be negligible.

There was discussion about establishing the beginning balance of the cemetery endowment accounts, handling cash, fraud risk assessment, moving to bi-weekly payroll, infrastructure improvements, and working towards a fund balance.

Council thanked retired senior accounting clerk Sheila Lunt, and said the strong condition of the accounting records has been due to her diligence.

C) Approval of Bike Path Design Agreement (Dubois & King) for Richardson Road Connector.

Bike Path Committee chair Pat McDonald reviewed the agreement, and said it is an amendment to the agreement already in place with Dubois & King. Ms. McDonald said the agreement is for not more than \$24,100, and would allow for a scoping study for a bike path connector up Richardson Road from the Granite Museum path segment. She said the study is an integral part of the VTRAN transportation grant application being submitted later this month, for which there will be a public hearing at next week's Council meeting.

There was discussion about sole sourcing the services, based on Dubois & King being the engineer of record, connecting Barre City and Barre Town through Richardson Road continuing the spirit of Charlie Semprebon's bequests to the City, public meetings to be held in conjunction with the scoping study, the Granite Museum portion of the bike path, working with CVRPC TAC to coordinate efforts on the regional bike path, and holding a joint meeting of the different community bike path committees.

Council approved the agreement on motion of Councilor Poirier, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

Clerk Dawes said the source of funds for the agreement will be the \$1.1 million designated for the bike path from the Semprebon Bequest Fund.

D) Award of FY16 IT Service/Support Contract.

Councilor Herring, as a member of the IT Committee, reviewed the draft service contract. There was discussion about the hourly rate, monthly rate, number of hours per month, carryover of hours, and travel time rate.

Council authorized Manager Mackenzie to work with Ormsby's to enter into a monthly support maintenance contract on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

E) Presentation of Final FY16 Budget.

This item is deferred.

F) Approval of FY16 Municipal Tax Rate.

Clerk Dawes reviewed the data and calculations for the FY16 municipal tax rate. Council approved the rate as presented on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

There was discussion following the setting of the tax rate on the value of the City's current grand list, possible scheduling of a City-wide reassessment, annual fees received from the state for such assessment needs, amount available in the fund for reassessment and the costs for such.

G) Coin Drop Request from Project Independence.

Council approved a coin drop request from Project Independence for a drop on Saturday, September 26th on motion of Councilor Boutin, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

Round Table:

Councilor Poirier said he had been fielding questions about the Summer Street Center project, and wanted to inform the public that the project does not include a parking garage.

Councilor Herring said he had a great time at last Friday's Family Fun Day at the municipal pool. He congratulated the US women's soccer team on its third World Cup victory.

Councilor Smith asked for a status update on the BOR ceiling painting. Mayor Lauzon said he recalls that the finish date is the end of July, and he will confirm. Councilor Smith reminded people to visit the Granite Museum, Farmer's Market and events on Wednesday evenings.

Councilor Boutin reminded people there's still time to register to be in the Heritage Festival parade.

Mayor Lauzon said the Enterprise Aly project is on budget and on schedule. He reminded people to support the businesses in the construction zone. The Mayor echoed Councilor Herring's positive comments about the Family Fun Day. He said he has noticed the weeds that are out of control around the granite bollards on North Main Street. He has contacted the state, and between the state, City and private property owner, the issue will be addressed.

The Council meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM on motion of Councilor Poirier, 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