

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held September 27, 2016**

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 Jeffrey Tuper-Giles; from Ward II, Councilors Michael Boutin and Michael Smith; and from Ward III, Councilors Anita Chadderton and Lucas Herring. Also present were City Manager Steven Mackenzie and Clerk/Treasurer Carolyn Dawes.

Absent: From Ward I, Councilor Paul Poirier.

Adjustments to the Agenda: NONE

Approval of Consent Agenda:

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

- Minutes of the following meetings:
 - Special meeting on September 20, 2016
 - Regular meeting on September 20, 2016
- City Warrants as presented:
 - Approval of Week 2016-39:
 - Accounts Payable: \$182,593.04
 - Payroll (gross): \$131,618.99
- Licenses & Permits:
 - Taxicab Driver's License
 - Dennis Leslie, with Central Vermont Green Cab

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

- Water/sewer bills are due by the end of September.
- Accepting requests for early absentee ballots for the November 8th General Election. Ballots for the Act 46 local election being held the same day will be ready by October 19th, and will be mailed to those who have voted early absentee by that time.
- Five properties were sold at tax sale on September 22nd.
- The Board of Civil Authority property tax assessment appeal hearings continue on September 29th. Hearings will continue through October.
- New Parking Ticket Collection Clerk started today; Rebecca Blouin.
- Due to the change in delivery date of the ladder truck, the paperwork for the note will come to Council in early November instead of next week.
- Received most of final state and FEMA payments for the spillway. The final payment of approximately \$14,000 will come after the final inspections are completed and signed off on.

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>
Our House of Central Vermont	38 Summer Street
City of Barre	15 Fourth Street
Jean Claude & Ghislaine Bonin	101 Summer Street
Miles Block Properties LLC	162 N. Main Street
Granite City Developers LLC	14 N. Main Street

Liquor Control – NONE

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

- The voluntary water conservation order continues.
- Fall yard waste drop off at the Barre Town stump dump has been scheduled for the last 2 weeks of October. Curbside pickup will happen during the first week of November.
- BOR compressor #2 has been rebuilt.
- Reminder that no political or other signs can be placed on City property. Signs will be removed.
- Two new granite sculptures are nearing completion and siting. One is a bike rack that has already been placed at Charlie's Playground, and one is a streetscape that will be placed in the Pearl Street pedestrian way. Both sculptures are part of the Semprebon Fund projects.
- The Traffic Advisory Committee meets tomorrow.
- Gunner's Brook project bids will be opened on Friday.
- The Budget Committee begins working on the FY18 budget next week. There are spaces on the committee for additional volunteers. Contact the Manager's office if interested in serving on the committee.

Visitors & Communications – NONE

Old Business – NONE

New Business -

A) Presentation from Vermont Youth Conservation Corps.

Nobody from the VYCC was present. Mayor Lauzon said this agenda item has been rescheduled several times, and it might just be a question of confusion on dates and times. The Mayor said VYCC can attend any future meeting and give their presentation under Visitors and Communications.

Other –

Mayor Lauzon said he received a letter from a local commercial property owner requesting an abatement of water bill charges. The owner said they received a \$4,600+ water bill due to a malicious tenant who broke a toilet and left the water running. The Mayor asked that the Clerk and water billing department work on developing a policy on how to address this and other similar abatement requests. He said other communities should be polled to see how they handle similar situations. Any abatement should include review and sign-off by the Manager.

Round Table –

Councilor Herring said the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps has done great work around the City and for the Vermont Granite Museum.

Councilor Tuper-Giles offered kudos to the Cemetery Department staff for how great Elmwood Cemetery is looking.

Executive Session –

Councilor Boutin made the motion to find that premature general public knowledge of real estate and assessor's contract issues to be discussed would clearly place the City of Barre at a substantial disadvantage should the discussion be public. The motion was seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

Council went into executive session at 7:22 PM to discuss contract issues under the provisions of 1 VSA sec. 313 on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Tuper-Giles. **Motion carried.**

To be approved at 10-04-16 Barre City Council Meeting

Manager Mackenzie was invited into the executive session.

Council came out of executive session at 7:36 PM on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

No action taken.

The Council meeting adjourned at 7:36 PM on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

An audio recording of this meeting is available from the City Clerk.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk

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