

**CITY OF BARRE  
ADA Committee  
MEETING AGENDA  
July 15, 10:00 a.m.**

**Location of meeting: City Council Chambers at City Hall, or  
remotely:**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86144559389?pwd=L01aSmxqVzRJZGU0VWVxRlhSNW5UUT09> / Meeting ID: 861 4455 9389 / Passcode: 296607

Join by phone: 1-646-876-9923 / Meeting ID: 861 4455 9389 / Passcode: 296607

1. Call to Order:
2. Adjustments to Agenda:
3. Welcome Guests
4. Approval of last meeting minutes:
5. Old Business:
  - a. Grievances:
  - b. Time limits for terms? Elect Officers (nominate/elect)
  - c. Review recommendation and status of website accessibility upgrades – Bern & Marichel working group (attached draft). Update of process by Ericka.
  - d. Discuss recruiting outreach – See attached draft
  - e. Review Hybrid meeting – City Council Chambers/Zoom/what happens if Chambers is being used? Need Alt. place that works.
6. New Business:
  - a.
  - b.
7. Next Meeting date: August 19, 2021
8. Adjourn:

I made an edit to include people working with pwd and in  
Barre 6/23/21  
bern

“Are you someone living with a disability, a family member, a friend, work with others with disabilities, live or work in Barre, or just interested in opportunities for people with disabilities? You might know about the Americans with Disability Act signed into law in (1991?). Barre City ADA Committee celebrates 10 years of service and WANTS YOU!

COVID has shown us that People with lived experiences with disabilities have had an extra challenging time. Barre City ADA committee advises City Council to ensure and improve accessibility to City owned properties and information systems. We've had positive outcomes by our involvement around sidewalks, pedestrian crosswalks, building access, website access, and in recreation! We need YOU to help continue with this good work.

Welcoming high schoolers to elders. We currently meet once a month with small working groups as needed and hope you will contact ( who? how) for more information. Please visit the ADA Committee page <https://www.barrecity.org/ada-committee.html> for our agendas and minutes.

ADA making life accessible for all in Barre City.”

# **Recommendation for Improving Accessibility of Barre City Website to Barre City Council**

**June 2021**

Submitted by Barre City "Americans With Disabilities Act" (ADA) Committee

**Recommendation:** To bring Barre City Website in compliance with ADA and Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG), we recommend the City implement UserWay.com plug-in, utilizing CARES funds for municipalities to pay initial set up costs and first year fee. If CARES funds are not available, that adjustments to the budget, fund the first year fee and set-up costs, and funding be in the annual budget as part of City Website IT.

## **Estimated Costs:**

- a. \$500 for one year annual fee to UserWay.com which allows up to 100,000 monthly page views.
- b. Funds TBD for WEB tech (Rikk Taft) and Eternity (Mike Lannen) to implement UserWay on the City Website.

**Needs Statement:** Currently the Barre City Website is not accessible with e-readers, for some with visual disabilities, and lacks the ability for adjustments that are necessary for use by some members of the community. We want to make sure we aren't isolating community members with disabilities that would not be able to access the info on the city website. COVID has expanded the dependency upon internet resources for general information and access to vital needs information. We want to make sure all our many citizens with disabilities have access to the info on the city website.

Simple tasks like "call City Hall" become a challenge if finding that info is not accessible. Reviewing public city documents, minutes of meetings, City Council agendas are inaccessible on the web who use e-readers or have visual impairment.

**Existing Resources:** Currently ADA committee member, Marichel Vaught has worked with Exec City Mgr Asst Jody Norway and IT, Rikk Taft to place a COVID banner with vital info on the City Home Page, and collaborating to make the website more accessible.

**Example of Use:** COVE (Community of VT Elders) currently uses Userway.com with success making their site accessible.

**Frequency of Request:** Userway charges an annual fee of \$500 for up to 100,000 views per month. The set-up IT cost to the City would be one time. By using CARES funding for the initial set up, the City will have a substantial upgrade of the accessibility of the web site.

**Cont. on p.2**

**More info About UserWay:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lrwJZ9Y91CU>

<https://userway.org/about> Check it out: <https://www.vermontelders.org/>  
and click on the orange icon on the rights side of the page.