

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, December 19, 2023 6:00pm

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88982525535?pwd=VzlXOU5taldoYkgvSUdTcldqSUVGQT09>

Meeting ID: 889 8252 5535 Passcode: 675736

One tap mobile 929-205-6099

1. Call to Order – 6:00 p.m.
2. Adjustments to the Agenda
3. Visitors and Communications
4. Consent Agenda
 - A. Approval of Minutes Regular City Council Meeting of Tuesday December 12, 2023
 - B. City Warrants:
 - i. Approval of City Warrants from Week of December 20, 2023
 - C. Clerk's Office Licenses and Permits
 - D. Ratify Council's 12/12/23 approval of lease with Barre Up
 - E. Appoint Tess Taylor to the steering committee of Barre Up to replace the Manager
5. City Clerk & Treasurer Report
6. Liquor/Cannabis Control Boards
7. City Manager's Report
8. New Business
 - A. Warn 1st and 2nd public hearings on proposed charter changes for January 23, 2024 and February 6, 2024
 - B. FY25 budget presentations by BADC, Aldrich Library and The Barre Partnership
 - C. Discuss legislative priorities (Manager)
9. Upcoming Business
10. Round Table
11. Executive Session – As Needed
12. Adjourn

The next meeting of the City Council is scheduled for Tuesday, January 9, 2024.

The portion of this meeting starting at 6:00pm will be taped for re-broadcast on Channel 194 CVTV and will be re-broadcast on Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon CVTV Link for meetings online – cvtv723.org/

Ground Rules for Interaction with each other, staff, and the general public

- Rules may be reviewed periodically
- Practice mutual respect
 - Assume good intent and explain impact
 - Ask clarifying questions
 - If off course, interrupt and redirect
- Think, then A.C.T.
 - Alternatives – Identify all choices
 - Consequences – Project outcomes
 - Tell your story – Prepare your defense
- Ethics checks
 - Is it legal?
 - Is it in scope (Charter, ordinance, policy)?
 - Is it balanced?
- “ELMO” – Enough, Let’s Move On
 - Honor time limits
 - Be attentive, not repetitive
- Be open-minded to different solutions or ideas
 - Remarks must be relevant and appropriate to the discussion; stay on subject
 - Don’t leave with “silent disagreement”
 - Decisions agreed on by consensus when possible, majority when necessary
 - All decisions of Council are final
- No blame
 - Articulate expectations of each other
 - We all deeply care about the City in our own way
 - Debate issues, not personalities
- Electronics
 - No texting, email, or videogames during the meeting



City of Barre, Vermont

6 N. Main St., Suite 2
Barre, VT 05641
www.barrecity.org

R. Nicolas Storellicastro
City Manager
(802) 476-0240
citymanager@barrecity.org

MEMO

TO: City Council
FR: The Manager
DATE: 12/15/2023
SUBJECT: Packet Memo re: 12/19/23 Council Meeting Agenda Items

Councilors:

The following notes apply to packet support materials for the Subject Council Meeting Agenda. Please note, that per Council’s consensus, the start time of this meeting has shifted back to 6:00PM. As a reminder, the next regular Council after Tuesday will be Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 6:00PM. **The meeting on January 9, 2024 will serve as the Budget Seminar and will be held at Alumni Hall.**

4-E Appoint Tess Tayler to the steering committee of Barre Up to replace the Manager

There is no memo in the packet for this agenda item. I am requesting that the Council replace me on the Barre Up steering committee with our Housing & Homelessness Liaison Tess Taylor. While I will remain active and engaged with these efforts, I believe it is appropriate for Tess to hold the position on the steering committee as the focus shifts to assistance for homeowners and tenants.

8-B FY25 budget presentations by BADC, Aldrich Library, and The Barre Partnership

Aimee Green from Barre Area Development Corporation (BADC), Kristin Baumann from Aldrich Library, and Tracie Lewis from The Barre Partnership will be present to discuss their FY25 budget requests. The organizations’ respective presentations are included in the packet. As a reminder, I have recommended flat funding for these organizations, as follows:

Organization	FY24 Approved	FY25 Recommended
Barre Area Development	\$60,853 <i>Note: Barre City Voters approved an additional \$20,482, which was not approved by Barre Town voters</i>	\$60,853
Aldrich Library	\$250,170	\$250,170
The Barre Partnership	\$70,000	\$70,000

8-C Discuss legislative priorities (Manager)

There is no memo in the packet for this agenda item. Nick Sherman and Maggie Lenz of Leonine Public Affairs will be present to discuss the City’s legislative priorities for the upcoming session. I have already held an introductory meeting with Nick and Maggie to cover the landscape for the upcoming session and the priorities that were laid out by Council at the December 12, 2023 meeting.

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held December 12, 2023**

The Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council was called to order in person and via video platform by Mayor Jake Hemmerick at 7:00 PM at City Hall, Barre, Vermont. In attendance were: From Ward I, Councilors Emel Cambel and Thom Lauzon; from Ward II, Councilor Michael Boutin; and from Ward III, Councilors Michael Deering and Samn Stockwell. City staff members present were City Manager Nicolas Storellicastro, Assistant City Manager Dawn Monahan, Homelessness Coordinator Tess Taylor, Human Resources Director Rikk Taft, IT Support Specialist Kris Kirby, and Clerk/Treasurer Carol Dawes.

Absent: From Ward II, Councilor Teddy Waszazak.

Adjustments to the Agenda: The following adjustments were made:

- Add to consent agenda: ratify last week's acceptance of the VLCT Welcoming Communities Grant, and appoint Joelen Mulvaney, Councilor Stockwell, and Councilor Deering to the cohort.
- Correct Barre Up lease agreement under consent agenda is an approval, not a ratification. Schedule ratification at next Council meeting.

Visitors and Communications:

Sonya Spaulding asked Council to support the Aldrich Library by approving its traditional funding increase in the FY25 budget. Ms. Spaulding said the library is a vital part of the community, and level funding would be a cut when you take cost increases into consideration. She said funding is an equity issue.

Joelen Mulvaney said she is disturbed about the way the budget is phrased, and there are differences between the groups that serve the community and those that serve businesses. Ms. Mulvaney said the Aldrich Library serves the community, and the traditional funding increase should be included in the FY25 budget.

Lisa Liotta said the same personnel cost increases the City is budgeting for impact the Aldrich Library, and level funding effectively cuts the library's budget.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

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

- A. Approval of Minutes:
 - i. Regular meeting of December 5, 2023.
- B. City Warrants as presented:
 1. Approval of Week 2023-50, dated December 13, 2023:
 - i. Accounts Payable: \$388,040.96
 - ii. Payroll (gross): \$141,945.11
- C. 2024 Clerk's Office Licenses & Permits:
 - i. Entertainment licenses:
 - i. Old Labor Hall, 46 Granite Street (annual license)
 - ii. American Legion, 320 N. Main Street (annual license)
 - iii. Barre Opera House, 6 N. Main Street (annual license)
 - iv. Ladder 1 Grill, 8 S. Main Street (annual license)
 - v. Vermont Granite Museum, 7 Jones Bros. Way (annual license)
 - vi. The Meltdown, 83 Washington Street (annual license)
 - ii. Waste Disposal Collectors licenses:

To be approved at 12/19/23 Barre City Council Meeting

- i. MK Trucking LLC, 3 drop-off vehicles
- D. Approve lease agreement with Barre Up (this item amended under adjustments)
- E. Authorize the Manager to execute contract(s)
 - i. Martin Appraisal Services, Inc.
- F. Ratify last week's acceptance of the VLCT Welcoming Communities Grant, and appoint Joelen Mulvaney, Councilor Stockwell, and Councilor Deering to the cohort (added under adjustments)

City Clerk & Treasurer Report –

City Clerk/Treasurer Carol Dawes reported on the following:

- Water/sewer bills are due by January 2, 2024.

Liquor Control Board/Cannabis Control Board – NONE

City Manager's Report –

Manager Storrellicastro reported on the following:

- Expecting the geotechnical report on Pike Street by December 19th.
- Issued RFP's for HVAC system repairs at City Hall and the Public Safety Building.
- Tentative substantial damage letters were mailed out last week. Responses are due by the end of December to allow the list to be finalized.
- North End public engagement meetings will begin in the new year. Meetings will be held in various locations, including neighborhood-specific sites.
- The 30-day comment period for the AOD settlement has passed, and the settlement between the City and the VT Agency of Natural Resources is now in place as approved.
- The turf for the BOR has been ordered, and will be ready for installation in the spring after the ice is out.

There was discussion on the steps needed for the substantial damage letters. Manager Storrellicastro said property owners need to provide copies of invoices or estimates related to flood damage repairs. Contact the Planning, Permitting and Assessment Department or Barre Up for assistance.

There was discussion on locations for the north end engagement meetings, including the Opera House and Labor Hall, along with other smaller venues.

New Business –

A) FY25 budget update.

Manager Storrellicastro reviewed his updated FY25 draft budget presentation, and noted responses to last week's Council questions:

1. Moving town meeting date: Act 1 approved by the legislature last year, and City charter allow the Council to approve an alternate date other than the traditional town meeting date of March 5, 2024. Staff recommends moving to May 14th, which would allow time for addition data on FY24 budget-to-actuals, and possible details on post-flood funding support from the legislature. Barre City elected officials whose terms expire in 2024 would remain in office until the new date, and those running for office would have adjusted petition deadline dates. It was noted the City will hold an election on March 5th for the presidential primary and school votes, regardless of whether the City questions are on the ballot or not;
2. Wording for the budget question on the ballot: Manager Storrellicastro said the ballot article can ask for spending authority up to the full budget reflecting projected state aid, while limiting the amount to be raised by taxes to no more than a certain percentage increase.

To be approved at 12/19/23 Barre City Council Meeting

There was discussion on a later date providing more clarity, and lobbying the legislature for multi-year financial support. There will be further discussion at next week's meeting.

There was discussion on the projected grand list values, use of the fund balance, and proposing a property tax rate increase of up to 5%. Mayor Hemmerick asked for a big picture presentation on bond status, FY23 audit, fund balances, and capital budget. Manager Storrellicastro said such an in-depth look into the FY25 budget is scheduled for January 9th. Assistant Manager Monahan said she'll have an FY24 financial report for the first six months of the fiscal year for review at that meeting.

There was discussion on voter-approved appropriations and whether the Council should revise the policy to list them on the ballot separately.

Sarah Helman asked how the City dealt with budgeting during prior flooding events. It was noted this year's flooding was significantly more impactful than past flooding in 2011 and 2015.

There was discussion on the impact on the FY24 financials from the current hiring freeze; having the state to take over handling development-related permits, as revenues are not covering expenses; tracking mutual aid to quantify value of services provided vs. services received; options for developing a local PILOT program for exempt properties; and what charter changes should be considered for inclusion on the 2024 annual meeting ballot.

B) Review LOI for development of Seminary St. parking lot.

Manager Storrellicastro reviewed the letter of invitation asking for proposals for development of the City-owned parking lot area on Seminary Street. The Manager said submissions will be reviewed, and followed up with a more robust application process. Homelessness Coordinator Tess Taylor said there will be additional information about the lot on a special section of the website. There was discussion on setting the due date for the LOIs for February 16, 2024; including information on the website on policy tools, TIF district opportunities, zoning and permitting, and tax stabilization; and disclosing conflicts of interest. It was noted LOIs would be treated with absolute confidentiality.

Upcoming Business –

The following items will be on the 12/19 agenda:

- Continued discussion on legislative platform
- Ratification of Barre Up lease
- Orchard Street zoning issue
- Budget request presentations from Barre Area Development Corp., Barre Partnership, and Aldrich Library

There was discussion on Council meeting start times, and how frequently the Council will meet. There was consensus on 6:00 PM start times, and on holding meetings every other week, except during budget building.

Round Table –

Councilor Boutin asked for an executive session to discuss contracts and personnel. He said he did some research on the auditorium and when it was built, and he shared links to numerous newspaper articles.

Councilor Deering said the Spaulding High School girls and boys hockey teams have started their seasons, and encouraged people to attend their games.

To be approved at 12/19/23 Barre City Council Meeting

Councilor Stockwell said she has heard there are unresponsive landlords in Barre City, and she would like to get monthly reports on code enforcement.

Executive Session – Councilor Boutin made the motion to find that premature general public knowledge of contracts and personnel discussions would clearly place the City of Barre at a substantial disadvantage should the discussions be public. The motion was seconded by Councilor Lauzon. **Motion carried.**

Council went into executive session at 9:15 PM to discuss contracts and personnel under the provisions of 1 VSA § 313 on motion of Councilor Boutin, seconded by Councilor Lauzon. Manager Storrellicastro was invited into the executive session. **Motion carried.**

Council came out of executive session at 9:38 PM on motion of Councilor Lauzon, seconded by Councilor Stockwell. **Motion carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:38 PM on motion of Councilor Lauzon, seconded by Councilor Stockwell. **Motion carried.**

There was no action taken.

The open portions of the meeting were recorded on the video platform.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk

12/19/23

**LEASE: between the
CITY OF BARRE and Barre Up (Long-Term Recovery Group)**

(1) **DEFINITIONS:**

As used in this Lease, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth hereafter:

"Effective Date" shall mean the stated effective date of this Lease.

"Improvements" shall mean collectively where the context so admits all Landlord Improvements and all Tenant Improvements.

"Landlord" shall mean City of Barre, ATT:
Barre City Manager; 6 N. Main St., Suite 2, Barre, VT 05641

"Lease" shall mean this Lease and all written amendments and modifications thereto.

"Lease Commencement Date" shall mean the first day of the Initial Term of this Lease.

"Rent" shall mean where the context so admits Base Rent.

"Tenant" shall mean Barre Up (Long-Term Recovery Group) as incorporated, 6 N. Main Street, Barre, VT 05641.

"Term" shall mean the Lease Term.

(2) **LEASE OF PREMISES:**

The Landlord does hereby lease to, and the Tenant agrees to lease from the Landlord, the space commonly known as the "old Police Department," located at the front of City Hall, 6 N. Main Street, with an entrance to Main Street, adjacent to the current Planning, Permitting and Assessing Services Office (Suite 7) and accessible via the back hallway of City Hall. No other use of the premises by Tenant or any assignee of the Tenant's right herein shall be permitted without written consent of the Landlord, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

The premises shall at all times be used in a good and careful manner, and the Tenant shall not use the premises for any unlawful purpose or create or maintain or allow to be created or maintained, any nuisance, waste or unlawful activity thereon. The Tenant shall not knowingly allow or permit any person to become intoxicated. The Tenant shall not knowingly allow or permit any person to possess, consume or sell any unlawful or recreational drug upon the premises, nor shall the premises be used for the viewing or dissemination of any pornographic or sexually explicit materials, nor shall the Tenant allow or permit any persons to possess or brandish weapons on the premises.

(3) **TERM OF THE LEASE:**

(a) Occupancy Date: On or about September 15, 2023

(b) Lease Commencement Date: November 1, 2023

(c) Expiration Date: May 31, 2024

Upon the mutual interest and consent of both parties and subject to revision of terms as may be appropriate, this lease may be renewed in up to one-month increments.

Notwithstanding any other provision contained herein, it is expressly understood and agreed to by the parties that either party may terminate this Lease sooner by giving no less than 45-days advance written notice to the other party of such desire to terminate.

(4) **RENT:**

Tenant shall pay Base Rent to the Landlord of \$0.

(5) **SUBLETTING AND ASSIGNMENT:**

Tenant shall not assign or sublet this Lease or the premises described herein, or any part thereof, or any right contained in this Lease without the written consent of the Landlord.

At Landlord's sole discretion, Landlord may authorize use of the premises for use by federal government, state government, or social service agencies as authorized by Landlord. Landlord shall provide reasonable notice to Tenant and shall be responsible for providing furniture and space for any additional occupants if requested by Tenant.

(6) **IMPROVEMENTS TO THE PREMISES:**

- (a) Tenant shall only be authorized to make improvements to the premises after obtaining prior written approval and consent of the Landlord. Any such approved improvements shall be made at Tenant's sole cost and expense. If approved by Landlord, Tenant's Improvements shall be made in a good and in a professional manner, employ good materials, and conform to all governmental requirements.
- (b) Each party shall be responsible to obtain all necessary building permits for their respective Improvements.

(6-A) **CONDITION OF THE PREMISES:**

- (a) The Landlord represents that the premises are structurally safe and in a fit condition.
- (b) Tenant shall surrender the premises at the end of the Term in a good condition, reasonable use, wear, and casualty excepted.

(6-B) **MAINTENANCE:**

- (a) Tenant shall be responsible for day-to-day upkeep and maintenance of the interior of the premises. Landlord shall provide basic janitorial service on at least a weekly basis. Tenant shall be responsible for removal of bulk waste, which shall be defined as waste that requires special handling and management and [hazardous waste as defined by the Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District \(CVSWMD\)](#).

(7) **UTILITIES AND INTERNET:**

- (a) Tenant shall not be responsible for payment of any utility bills. Tenant shall take care to ensure that utilities are used responsibly to avoid excessive and unnecessary utility costs, including ensuring that lights and water are turned off when the space is not in active use.
- (b) Tenant shall have access to the Landlord's Wi-Fi, but shall not be authorized nor shall Tenant use the Landlord's secure network connections.

(8) **LANDLORD'S REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES:**

Landlord hereby represents and warrants to the Tenant as follows:

- (a) The Landlord is the owner of the premises and holds title to the real estate on which the premises is located, subject to no matters of record other than the Permitted Liens.
- (b) None of the Permitted Liens prohibit the Tenant's use of the premises.
- (c) The Landlord has the full right and authority to execute and deliver this Lease and no joinder or approval of another person or party is required therefore.

(9) **TENANT'S REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES:**

Tenant hereby represents and warrants to the Landlord as follows:

- (a) The Tenant has the full right and authority to execute and deliver this Lease and no joinder or approval of another person or party is required therefore.

(10) **HAZARDOUS MATERIALS:**

Tenant shall not be liable to Landlord for any Hazardous Materials to the extent that such Hazardous Materials were on, from, or affecting the premises prior to the Commencement Date or were generated, stored, handled, transported, disposed of, discharged, or released by Landlord or its agents, employees, licensees, contractors or other tenants.

Tenant acknowledges Landlord's concern that the premises be and remain in compliance with applicable environmental laws, regulations, rules, ordinances, and policies and that Landlord has a direct interest in such matters.

Tenant to the extent required by law as a party responsible for the presence, generation, transportation, storage, release, or discharge of Hazardous Materials on or affecting the premises shall complete all actions necessary to identify and handle all Hazardous Materials on, from or affecting the premises in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, rules ordinances and policies.

(11) **LIABILITY FOR INJURY:**

Tenant hereby indemnifies and agrees to save Landlord harmless from and against any and all claims of whatsoever nature arising from accidents, damages or injuries resulting or claimed to have resulted solely from an act, omission or negligence on the part of Tenant or Tenant's contractors, licensees, agents, servants, customers, employees or business invitees.

Landlord hereby indemnifies and agrees to save Tenant harmless from and against any and all claims except for those set forth in the preceding paragraph which either (i) arise from or are in connection with the possession, use, occupation, management, repair, maintenance or control of the premises or any portion thereof; (ii) arise from, or are in connection with any act or omission of Landlord or its contractors, licensees, agents, servants, customers, employees or business invitees in connection with the premises; (iii) result from any default, breach, violation, or nonperformance of this Lease or any provisions of this Lease by Landlord with respect to the premises; or (iv) result in injury to any person or property or loss of life.

(12) **INSURANCE:**

Each party hereby waives all rights of recovery against the other for loss or injury against which the waiving party is protected by insurance containing said provisions, reserving, however, any rights with respect to any excess of loss or injury over the amount recovered by such insurance. Neither party shall acquire as insured

under any insurance carried by the other any right to participate in the adjustment of loss or to receive insurance proceeds and agrees upon request promptly to endorse and deliver to the other party any checks or other instruments in payment of loss in which it is named as payee.

(13) DAMAGE BY FIRE AND OTHER CASUALTY:

- (a) In case the premises shall be partially damaged by fire, windstorm, or other casualty, Landlord shall promptly repair such damage and restore the premises to substantially its condition prior to the time of such damage (conforming, however, to zoning laws and building codes then in existence).
- (b) In case the premises shall be substantially damaged or destroyed by fire, windstorm or other casualty, the Landlord shall have the option of terminating this Lease by giving written notice to Tenant within thirty days of the casualty; if Landlord fails to exercise its termination option this Lease shall, except as hereinafter provided, remain in full force and effect, and Landlord shall, proceeding with all reasonable dispatch, repair or rebuild the premises to substantially its condition at the time of such damage or destruction (subject, however, to zoning laws and building codes then in existence).
- (c) The terms "substantially damaged" and "substantial damage" as used in this Article shall have reference to damage of such character as cannot reasonably (in the reasonable opinion of Landlord's architect or engineer), be expected to be repaired or the premises restored within ninety (90) days from the time that such repair or restoration work would be commenced.

(14) LANDLORD'S RIGHT ON DEFAULT:

- (a) If Tenant breaches this Lease, and such breach continues after the applicable cure period Landlord shall have the following remedies in addition to its other rights and remedies: i. Landlord may terminate the Lease on giving sixty (60) days written notice of such termination to Tenant; and ii. after termination, Landlord may re-let the premises or any part thereof, for any term, at such rent and on commercially reasonable terms.
- (b) Tenant shall be liable to Landlord for all its expenses of the re-letting, and for any necessary repairs made to the premises for damage caused by the Tenant.
- (c) Landlord shall apply the Rent received from re-letting the premises to expenses of the re-letting and repairs made.
- (d) Tenant shall not be deemed in default of this Lease unless: i. a breach in the performance or observance of Tenant's monetary obligations under this Lease remains uncured for a period of fifteen (15) days after written notice from Landlord; or ii. a breach in the performance or observance of Tenant's non-monetary obligations under this Lease remains uncured for a period of thirty (30) days after written notice from Landlord.
- (e) In the event that Tenant remains in possession of the premises following the termination date, Landlord shall have the right to engage in self-help and is hereby authorized to change the locks, remove Tenant and Tenant's effects from the premises.

(15) TENANT'S RIGHTS ON DEFAULT OF LANDLORD:

- (a) If the Landlord breaches this Lease and such breach continues after the applicable cure period, Tenant shall have the following remedies in addition to its other rights and remedies in such event: Tenant may terminate the Lease upon given sixty (60) days written notice of such termination to Landlord; or i. Tenant shall have the right to cure Landlord's default for the amount and at the expense of the Landlord and render a bill to Landlord for the reasonable expense of the cure; and ii. if Landlord fails to pay the bill within thirty

days after its render, Tenant may bring suitable action to require Landlord to pay the bill; and iii. Tenant shall be able to deduct the amount necessary to cure the Landlord's default from any amount which may be due as Rent at current or in the future.

(b) Landlord shall not be deemed in default of this Lease unless: a breach in the performance or observance of Landlord's monetary obligations under this Lease remains uncured for a period of fifteen (15) days after written notice from Tenant; or a breach in the performance or observance of Landlord's non-monetary obligations under this Lease remains uncured for a period of thirty (30) days after written notice from Tenant.

(16) **ATTORNEY'S FEES:**

If either party files an action to enforce its rights under this Lease or for any breach hereunder, the other party agrees to pay the prevailing party's reasonable attorney's fees, court costs and litigation expenses all as determined after final judgment by the court in which such action is filed.

(17) **TRANSFER OF LANDLORD'S LIABILITY:**

If Landlord shall convey the premises or if Landlord shall transfer Landlord's interest in the premises (including but not limited to a lease thereof), the grantee or transferee shall assume in writing all of the obligations and liabilities of Landlord under this Lease.

(18) **NOTICES:**

Notices required or permitted under this Lease, shall be in writing and shall be deemed given when hand delivered to the City Manager's office or to the Tenant on the premises, deposited with the U.S. Postal Service, first class mail, express mail, certified, or return receipt requested, postage prepaid, or by fax and addressed as follows:

To Landlord:

Barre City Manager; 6 N. Main St., Suite 2, Barre, VT 05641

To Tenant:

Barre Up, 6 N. Main St., Barre, VT 05641

or to such other addresses for which notice has been given to the other party.

(19) **WAIVERS:**

Failure of one party to complain of any act or omission on the part of the other party no matter how long the same may continue shall not be deemed to be a waiver by such party of any of its rights hereunder. No waiver by either party at any time, expressed or implied, or any breach of any provision of this Lease shall be deemed a waiver of a breach of any other provision of this Lease or a consent to any subsequent breach of the same or any other provision,

(20) **QUIET ENJOYMENT:**

Upon the observance and performance of all the covenants, terms and conditions on Tenant's part to be observed and performed, Tenant shall peaceably and quietly hold and enjoy the premises for the term hereby demised without hindrance, interference or interruption by Landlord, or any party lawfully or equitably claiming by, through or under the Landlord or by third parties.

(21) **NOTICE OF LEASE:** It is intended that this Lease not be recorded.

(22) **SIGNAGE:**

Tenant shall have the right to install identification, decals and signs, including a promotional sign unit on the exterior of the premises and free-standing sign units. All signs shall conform with the ordinances of the municipality in which the premises are located, and if granted a permit by the municipality be approved by Landlord, which approval will not be unreasonably withheld.

(23) **RULES OF CONSTRUCTION:**

- (a) The term "Tenant" shall where the context permits include the agents, servants, employees, concessionaires, assignees, sub-tenants, successors, customers, invitees and licensees. The word "Landlord" shall also include agents, servants, employees, concessionaires, assignees, successors, invitees, or assigns. "Landlord" in the text of this Lease shall also include any business entity with which Landlord is affiliated. The necessary grammatical changes required to make the provisions of this Lease apply in the plural sense where there is more than one Landlord or Tenant and to either corporations, associations, partnerships, or individuals, males or females, shall in all instance be assumed as though in each case fully expressed.
- (b) It is agreed that if any provision of this Lease shall be determined to be void by any court of competent jurisdiction, then such determination shall not affect any other provisions of this Lease, all of which other provisions shall remain in full force and effect; and it is the intention of the parties hereto that if any provisions of this Lease are capable of two constructions, one of which would render the provision void and the other of which would render the provision valid, then the provision shall have the meaning which renders it valid.
- (c) The submission of this Lease or a summary of same or all of its provisions for examination does not constitute an offer to lease the premises, it being understood and agreed that this Lease or copies hereof shall not bind any party in any manner whatsoever until it has been approved and executed under the handwritten signatures of authorized representatives of Landlord and Tenant.
- (d) The captioned, section letters and numbers and paragraph numbers appearing in this Lease are inserted only as a matter of convenience and in no way define, limit, construe, or describe the scope or intent of such sections or articles of this Lease nor in any way affect the interpretation of this Lease.
- (e) Wherever in this Lease it is provided that the consent or approval of either party must be obtained in order to authorize any act or course of conduct by the other party, such approval or consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, delayed or conditioned.
- (f) This Lease and the terms, covenants and conditions hereof apply to and are binding upon and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, successors, executors, administrators, trustees and assigns of the parties hereto.
- (g) No presumptions in the interpretation of this Lease shall arise on account of the fact that one party or the other has drafted some or all of its provisions, and neither party shall be deemed the drafter hereof.
- (h) This Lease contains the entire agreement of the parties with reference to its subject matter and merges all prior negotiations, discussions and understandings of the parties with reference thereto.
- (i) This Lease is also governed and controlled by those additional provisions set forth in all Exhibits and Schedules attached hereto, which by specific reference are incorporated herein.
- (j) This Agreement shall be governed in all respects by the laws of the State of Vermont.

(24) **ENTRANCE ONTO PREMISES BY LANDLORD:**

Tenant agrees to permit the Landlord or Landlord's agents to enter onto the premises at all reasonable hours, including after regular business hours, for the purpose of examining the same, determining the necessity for repairs or alterations which may be required for safety or preservation of the premises, and for regular maintenance and custodial services. Landlord shall also be permitted to enter the space to show the space to prospective users.

(25) **SECURITY DEPOSIT:** Not applicable.

(26) **MISCELLANEOUS:**

- (a) Tenant and those using the building by permission of the Tenant shall comply with all building rules as may be promulgated from time-to-time by Landlord.
- (b) Tenant shall obtain approval from Landlord for distribution of keys to the building. Tenant shall provide to Landlord a list of names of key holders to the building and shall update the list as additional keys may be handed out, and which said keys shall be handed out only with prior approval of the Landlord. If keys are lost, Landlord may require Tenant to pay costs associated with changing locks and replacing keys.

Executed to be effective as of the 17 day of November, 2023.

Landlord: City of Barre

By: 
By: Dawn Monahan, Duly Authorized Agent

Tenant: Barre Up (Long-Term Recovery Group)

By: 
By: Amanda Gustin, Duly Authorized Agent



City of Barre, Vermont

“Granite Center of the World”

**ACTION ITEM BRIEFING MEMO
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA: 12-19-23**

Consent Item No.: _____ **Discussion Item No.** _____ **Action Item No.** **8A**

AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION:

Warn 1st and 2nd public hearings on proposed charter changes for January 23, 2024 and February 6, 2024

SUBJECT:

Same

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT/PERSON:

Carol Dawes, clerk/treasurer

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approve public hearing dates as presented

STRATEGIC OUTCOME/PRIOR ACTION:

Not applicable

EXPENDITURE REQUIRED:

There will be costs associated with publishing notices in the newspaper, printing charter change articles on ballots, and handouts for voters.

FUNDING SOURCE(S):

General fund

LEGAL AUTHORITY/REQUIREMENTS:

*BARRE CITY CHARTER, Chapter 1. Incorporation and General Provisions.
Sec. 112. Amendment of charter. This charter may be amended in the manner provided for by the laws of the State of Vermont for the amendment of municipal charters.*

STATE STATUTE: [17 VSA §2645. Charters, adoption, repeal, or amendment; procedure.](#)

BACKGROUND/SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:

There are three different categories of possible proposed charter changes, as outlined on the attachment:

- 1. Charter changes associated with elimination of school district language;*
- 2. Charter changes to allow 16 & 17 year olds to vote in local elections, except school-related elections, which are controlled by the BUUSD articles of agreement;*
- 3. Charter changes to limit service on committees to Barre City residents.*

The attachment includes changes that have been proposed to date, color-coded by category.

The schedule for charter revisions is laid out in statute. Here is the timeline for the proposed 2024 changes:

Date	Item/action
Dec. 19, 2023	Warn 1 st & 2 nd public hearings for January 25 th & February 1 st , respectively (at least 30 days before first public hearing)
January 13, 2024	Post proposed changes in clerk's office (at least 10 days before first public hearing)
January 18, 2024	Post & publish notice of 1 st public hearing (at least 5 days before first public hearing)
January 23, 2024	1 st public hearing for proposed charter changes (at least 30 days before election) Last opportunity to revise language, as the annual meeting warning will be approved on this date.
February 6, 2024	2 nd public hearing.
March 5, 2024	Annual (Town) Meeting election
Post-election (within 10 days)	Submit voter approved charter changes to the Secretary of State's office for legislative consideration.

Note – the dates shown above are applicable to a March 5, 2024 annual meeting date. Should the annual meeting date be changed, the dates above will adjust accordingly.

LINK(S):

Embedded in documents

ATTACHMENTS:

Memo containing sections of charter that have been proposed for revision

INTERESTED/AFFECTED PARTIES:

Barre City voters, residents, volunteers, staff

RECOMMENDED ACTION/MOTION:

Approval of public hearings dates as presented

NOTE: A charter revision committee should be named to review/revise the language and shepherd it through the process.

11/20/23

Possible charter changes for voter consideration March 2024. There are three categories:

1. Charter changes associated with elimination of school district language
2. Charter changes to allow 16 & 17 year olds to vote in local elections (except school-related elections)
3. Charter changes to limit service on committees to Barre City residents

Changes below are in chapter order, and are color coded to match the three categories above.

CHAPTER 1

Sec. 110. Fiscal year.

The fiscal year of the City [~~and the City School District~~] shall begin the first day of July and end on the last day of June of each calendar year. The fiscal year shall constitute the budget and accounting year as used in this charter. (Amend of 5-8-12)

CHAPTER 2

Sec. 203. Special city [~~and school district~~] meetings.

Special city meetings [~~and special school district meetings,~~] shall be called in the manner provided by the laws of the state and the voting on all questions shall be by the Australian ballot system, except for budget votes as provided in section 207(d). (Amend. of 11/08/83)

Sec. 205. Officers elected.

(a)(1) The legal voters and Barre City youth ages 16 and 17 years old shall elect biennially a Mayor, and one person to serve as Clerk and Treasurer. (Amend. of March 2, 2021)

(2) Annually, the legal voters and Barre City youth ages 16 and 17 years old of each ward shall elect from among the legal voters and Barre City youth ages 16 and 17 years old of their respective wards one councilor for a term of two years.

~~[(3) Annually, the legal voters shall elect three school commissioners to serve for a term of three years, as follows:~~

~~(A) at the 2019 annual City meeting, and each successive three-year cycle after that, three school commissioners;~~

~~(B) at the 2020 annual City meeting, and each successive three-year cycle after that, two school commissioners;~~

~~(C) at the 2021 annual City meeting, and each successive three-year cycle after that, two school commissioners]~~

~~[(b) — The legal voters shall elect annually Spaulding Union High School District~~

School Board members in the manner, number, and term limit as is specified in the Barre City/Barre Town Union High School Agreement, dated November 30, 1986, or any such successor document.]

Sec. 206. Vacancies.

[(a)] In case of vacancy of any elected municipal city officer, except a councilor [-or school commissioner], occasioned by death, removal from the City, resignation or inability to serve, such vacancy, unless herein otherwise provided, shall be filled by appointment by the City Council until the next annual election. In such case, nomination may be made by any member for the Council. (Amend. of 5/09/06)(Amend of 5/8/12)

[(e)] — In case of a vacancy of any school commissioner, occasioned by death, removal from the City, resignation, or inability to serve, such vacancy, unless herein otherwise provided, shall be filled by appointment by the remaining members of the School Board until the next annual election. In such case, nomination may be made by any member of the School Board.]

CHAPTER 3

Sec. 307. {Powers of City; policy matters; appointment of certain officers.}

(a) All powers of the City and the determination of all matters of policy shall be vested in the City Council except as otherwise provided by this act or by general law. The City Council shall annually appoint a City attorney, a library liaison, and may provide for any planning board, zoning board of adjustment, recreation board or personnel board, and may create commissions or other bodies with advisory powers and may appoint personnel to serve on said boards or commissions. (Amend. Of 11/3/98)(Amend. of 3/1/22)

(b) Personnel appointed to serve on committees, commissions, or boards or as a liaison to the library shall be Barre City residents in good standing. When appointing personnel, the City Council shall consider relevant qualifications, expressed interest, and public conduct so that the City enhances and promotes the reputation of the city. The appointment of the City attorney shall be exempt from the requirement to be a Barre City resident.

Sec. 315. {Compensation of City officials.}

Compensation of Mayor, councilors and other appointees and City officers: (Amend of 5/8/12)

(a) The Mayor and councilors shall receive compensation in an amount as may be voted by the voters of the City at a meeting duly warned for said purpose. (Amend of 5/8/12)

(b) The City Council shall fix the compensation of all other appointees, and employees,

except as otherwise provided in this charter.

(c) When the legal voters have authorized an annual City ~~[and school]~~ budget, the City Council~~[- School Board,]~~ and/or the City Manager shall not authorize appropriations, expenditures or payment in excess of the amount voted. Deficit spending shall be prohibited by the City of Barre~~[- and the City of Barre Schools]~~.

CHAPTER 4

[Sec. 413. School District.

—The City treasurer shall be treasurer of the City of Barre School District and shall have the same duties, powers and liabilities of a treasurer of a town school district, except as otherwise provided.]

CHAPTER 5

[ARTICLE IX. BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS

Sec. 516. Powers and duties.

—(a) Except as otherwise provided, the school commissioners, elected as herein before provided, shall have the same duties, powers and liabilities prescribed for school directors of town school districts. They shall compose the board of school commissioners of the City of Barre School District, with the same duties, powers and liabilities of the board of school directors of a town school district. The board of school commissioners shall consist of seven members; each serving a term of three years.

—(b) The board of school commissioners shall have the care and custody of all the property belonging to, or used for, the public schools located in the city. Payments due or to become due on bonds and interest thereon, used by the city of Barre for school purposes, shall be paid by the City of Barre School District.

—(c) No later than 45 days prior to the annual meeting date each year, the board of school commissioners shall present to the city council its budget requests for the next fiscal year.

—(d) The board shall appoint from among its members, a clerk who shall have the same duties and responsibilities as prescribed by statute.

Sec. 517. Appointment of superintendent and principal; compensation; term.

—The school commissioners shall annually appoint a superintendent of schools and a principal of high schools and shall fix their compensation which shall be paid by the school

commissioners in the same manner as other expense for the support of schools; and for cause of incapacity, negligence or misconduct, they may remove such officers and shall by appointment fill any vacancy in such office arising from any cause. The superintendent shall perform all such duties in connection with the public schools of the city as shall be assigned him by the board of school commissioners and as may be prescribed by law. He shall annually report to the city council such statistics as are required by law and such other information as the school commissioners shall direct.]

Barre Area Development Corporation FY2025 Budget

FY25 Budget Overview and Summary

Barre Area Development, Inc. (BADC)'s benefits to the Barre Community (City and Town) include nurturing, promoting, sustaining, and implementing economic development. We coordinate economic development services among various local, State and Federal agencies and organizations that impact economic and housing development in the Barre community. Additionally, we collaborate with the Barre Partnership and other private, not-for-profit and government sectors to provide joint marketing and business recruitment and retention. We are the primary point of contact for information and support regarding economic development in the municipalities, and we develop and work with funding sources to develop, assist and sustain housing and business for Barre. In FY25 we will be working actively to develop and sustain critical housing needs in Barre with the Prospect Heights Project, while also recruiting and assisting with the relocation of businesses to the Barre community. Our work marketing Barre is a needed and critical component of economic development in Barre both to address the housing crisis in our area, and to help increase our workforce and ultimately, our grand list.

The July flood adds urgency to both housing and business assistance needs. BADC was instrumental in setting up the Barre Community Relief Fund which has raised over \$500,000 since its inception under BADC's marketing directives and distributed over \$485,000 in grants to businesses and individuals for assistance in rebuilding. We will continue to do what we can to assist with flood recovery.

In FY25 BADC will be working funding sources to develop, assist and sustain housing and business in the Barre community. Our focus will be on the prioritization of workforce housing developments in collaboration with: Downtown Designated Neighborhoods Program, Downstreet Housing & Community Development, other funding sources including: NBRC, VHFA, USDA Rural Development and others. The development and execution of Prospect Heights Project Housing Plan to include over 100 housing units ranging from affordable to market rate is top of the list. Our submission of the project to the Regional Priorities Committee was completed in November.

The marketing of BADC's website and promotional videos, along with outreach to existing businesses considering expansion and relocation is paramount to the work we do. BADC requires the capacity to conceptualize, develop, and execute marketing campaigns, create, and distribute content for social media, website blogs, and address SEO and website needs.

As we prepare for future growth, we have launched a strategic planning process that BADC will include all stakeholders with assistance from a consultant to develop a 5–10-year plan which will include the collaboration and re-invigoration of the Wilson Industrial Park Committee, the Barre Town Economic Development Committee, and the Barre City Economic Development Committee.

BADC's FY25 budget is level funded.

There's a bright future ahead, and with the continued support of the City and Town, BADC's benefits and mission will bring much overdue revitalization, housing, and new business to our wonderful community of Barre.

FY2025 Budget

	FY25 Proposed	FY24 YTD - Oct	FY24 Budget	FY23 Actual
Revenue				
City of Barre	\$ 81,335	\$ 20,334	\$ 81,335	\$ 52,779
Town of Barre	\$ 81,335	\$ 16,138	\$ 64,550	\$ 52,779
Interest Earned	\$ 3,500	\$ 822	\$ 500	\$ 1,271
PPP Loan	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
<i>Total Revenue</i>	<i>\$ 166,170</i>	<i>\$ 37,293</i>	<i>\$ 146,635</i>	<i>\$ 106,830</i>
Expenses				
ED Salary	\$ 87,000	\$ 27,692	\$ 80,000	\$ 77,250
ED Payroll Tax	\$ 7,426	\$ 2,118	\$ 6,120	\$ incl above
ED Health Ins	\$ 21,393	\$ 6,238	\$ 19,922	\$ incl above
ED Retirement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Marketing Costs	\$ 22,879	\$ 11,626	\$ 20,492	\$ 0
Payroll Service	\$ 1,354	\$ 389	\$ 2,347	\$ 0
Rent	\$ 4,800	\$ 1,600	\$ 4,800	\$ 4,800

Accounting Fees	\$ 3,900	\$ 2,325	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500
Insurance	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,249	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
Workers Compensation	\$ 1,070	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Phone & Internet	\$ 2,500	\$ 412	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
Office Expenses	\$ 2,328	\$ 356	\$ 2,328	\$ 2,000
Website Hosting	\$ 1,000	\$ 294	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Travel, Meetings, Workshops	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,265	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
Dues & Subscriptions	\$ 360	\$ 374	\$ 360	\$ 360
Yearly cell phone	\$ 660	\$ -	-	-
Strategic Planning	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 6,570	\$ 6,570
<i>Total Expenses</i>	\$ <i>166,170</i>	\$ <i>55,775</i>	\$ <i>155,439</i>	\$ <i>103,480</i>
Net Total	\$ 0	\$ (18,481)	\$ (8,804.24)	\$ 2,827.76

Support and Revenue

	FY25 Proposed	FY24 YTD- Oct	FY24 Budget	FY23 Actual
City of Barre	\$ 81,335	\$ 20,334	\$ 81,335	\$ 52,779
Town of Barre	\$ 81,335	\$ 16,138	\$ 64,550	\$ 52,779

This is the annual appropriation from the City and Town.

	FY25 Proposed	FY24 YTD- Oct	FY24 Budget	FY23 Actual
Interest Earned	\$ 3,500	\$ 822	\$ 500	\$ 500

Estimated interest accrued from certificates of deposit. Interest rates are higher than they have been in previous years.

	FY25 Proposed	FY24 YTD- Oct	FY24 Budget	FY23 Actual
PPP Loan	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 13,877

Expenses

	FY25 Proposed	FY24 YTD- Oct	FY24 Budget	FY23 Actual
ED Salary	\$ 87,000	\$ 27,692	\$ 80,000	\$ 77,250

The FY25 budget includes a salary increase given in October 2023, and anticipates an adjustment in 2025.

	FY25 Proposed	FY24 YTD- Oct	FY24 Budget	FY23 Actual
ED Payroll Taxes	\$ 7,426	\$ 2,118	\$ 6,120	\$ incl. above

Inclusive of all related Federal and State taxes.

	FY25 Proposed	FY24 YTD- Oct	FY24 Budget	FY23 Actual
ED Health Ins	\$ 21,393	\$ 6,238	\$ 19,922	\$ incl. above

This line item funds health insurance through MVP.

	FY25 Proposed	FY24 YTD- Oct	FY24 Budget	FY23 Actual
ED Retirement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

BADC provides for a 3% match of salary contribution to an IRA. ED is not currently using this benefit.

	FY25 Proposed	FY24 YTD- Oct	FY24 Budget	FY23 Actual
Marketing Costs	\$ 22,879	\$ 11,626	\$ 20,492	\$ 0

The appropriations from the City of Barre for Fiscal Year 2024 include marketing support which is critical to the operations of the organization in marketing the Barre.

	FY25 Proposed	FY24 YTD- Oct	FY24 Budget	FY23 Actual
Rent	\$ 4,800	\$ 1,600	\$ 4,800	\$ 4,800

Yearly rent for BADC office in the Blanchard Block used for work and meetings.

	FY25 Proposed	FY24 YTD- Oct	FY24 Budget	FY23 Actual
Accounting Fees	\$ 3,900	\$ 2,325	\$ 4,800	\$ 4,800

BADC realizes savings in accounting fees in FY25 because payroll is now handled separately.

	FY25 Proposed	FY24 YTD- Oct	FY24 Budget	FY23 Actual
Insurance	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,249	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500

Yearly Directors & Officers insurance for BADC.

	FY25 Proposed	FY24 YTD- Oct	FY24 Budget	FY23 Actual
Telephone & Internet	\$ 2,500	\$ 412	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500

Yearly telephone and internet costs for BADC.

	FY25 Proposed	FY24 YTD- Oct	FY24 Budget	FY23 Actual
Office Expenses	\$ 2,328	\$ 356	\$ 2,328	\$ 2,000

Yearly office expenses for software licenses and postage.

	FY25 Proposed	FY24 YTD- Oct	FY24 Budget	FY23 Actual
Website Hosting Expenses	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,265	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000

Yearly website hosting costs.

	FY25 Proposed	FY24 YTD- Oct	FY24 Budget	FY23 Actual
Travel, Meetings, Workshops	\$ 2,000	\$ 130	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000

Yearly travel, meetings, and workshop costs.

	FY25 Proposed	FY24 YTD- Oct	FY24 Budget	FY23 Actual
Dues & Subscriptions	\$ 360	\$ 374	\$ 360	\$ 360

Yearly dues and subscription costs.

	FY25 Proposed	FY24 YTD- Oct	FY24 Budget	FY23 Actual
Strategic Planning	\$ 5,000	\$ 0	\$ 6,570	\$ 0

BADC Strategic Planning is beginning in January 2024 and will be completed in June 2024. Part of the costs are being paid during FY24, and part during FY25.



Barre Area Development, Inc (BADC) FY24 Overview & FY25 Budget

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www.badc.com



Table of Contents

- BADC Benefits to Community
- Focus in FY25 & Accomplishments FY24 YTD
- Business Recruitment & Goals FY24/FY25
- Barre Community Relief Fund
- Tourism
- Key Performance Indicator's
- FY25 Strategy
 - Initiatives & Objectives
- Questions

BADC's Benefits to the Barre Community

- To nurture, promote, sustain and implement economic development in the Barre Community (Barre City and Town).
- To coordinate economic development services among various local, State and Federal agencies and organizations that impact economic and housing development in the Barre community.
- Collaborate with the Barre Partnership and other private, not-for-profit and government sectors to provide joint marketing and business recruitment and retention.
- To act as a point of contact for information and support regarding economic development in the municipalities.
- To develop and work with funding sources to develop, assist and sustain housing and business in the Barre community.
- BADC's marketing of Barre is key for our community's growth in housing, business and economic development.

Focus in FY25 on:

- Housing & Economic Strategy
- Business Development
- Execution of Strategic Planning under way in FY24

BADC's Accomplishments in FY24 YTD

- Placement on Regional Priorities List pending for 2nd year in a row for the Prospect Heights Housing Project. Pending all needed due diligence, the development of Prospect Heights would be a clear solution to help to make a dent in the housing crisis for not just immediate Barre area, but also the Central Vermont region.
- Over 50 businesses targeted and outreached to in FY24 YTD which includes successful business deployments and loan facilitations in Barre. Details of all provided through monthly Board of Directors meeting.
- Establishment and direction with marketing of Barre Community Relief Fund for the businesses and individuals affected by historic flood of 2023. Over \$500K raised, and \$438K distributed in grants.

Business Recruitment & Goals FY24/FY25

- Barre business targets and openings/relocations/expansions pre and post flood:
 - Next Chapter (relocation)
 - Arcana (relocation)
 - Earthly Wonders (new)
 - Optical Expressions (expansion/2nd location)
 - Taste VT (new)
 - Fox Market (expansion/2nd location)
 - C.B. Hair Studio (new)
 - Tally VT (new)
- FY25 targets include:
 - Ongoing recruitment of Vermont based businesses.
 - National and international businesses relocating to Barre in parallel to work underway to provide workforce housing.



Barre Community Relief Fund



- BADC's brainchild to launch the Barre Community Relief Fund (BCRF) which was established to help raise money for business and individual assistance in recovery and rebuilding after the July 2023 flood.
- BADC directed the marketing campaign, and was instrumental in the fund's success
- Goals for marketing campaign ~ fundraising and distribution of aid.
 - Over \$500,000 raised
 - \$438,500 granted to businesses and individuals by the BCRF Board to-date.



FY24/FY25 Tourism



- Worked directly with tour bus companies providing guidance to dining and shopping to over 2000 tourists diverted to Barre in during Foliage Season due to the flood, which added a boost to the post-flood economy.
- Marketed to additional tour bus companies resulting in several additional bus tour visits to Barre.
- Long-term program planning underway to bring tour companies back for FY25 (and beyond) during Foliage Season.



(KPI'S) Key Performance Indicators

Social Media FY24 YTD



Instagram

Followers as of 6/23 **296**
Followers as of 12/23 **487**



Facebook

Followers as of 6/23 **1,604**
Followers as of 12/23 **1,832**



Social Media Highlights



UPDATE-The grand opening is Saturday, December 2nd. Follow their Facebook Tally VT for business details. Every aspect of Tally VT, the new billiards hall on Main Street in Barre, has been meticulously crafted, with many elements sourced locally. Notable contributions...

Wed, Nov 15

Post reach Engagement
17,831 **12,317**



The transformation of 224 Main Street in Barre is incredible. It's soon to be 'Tally,' a unique destination for billiards and analog games, owned by Seiji and Jess Ohashi. The space is infused with locally sourced charm, highlighted by a stunning mural painted by the talente...

Wed, Oct 4

Post reach Engagement
10,607 **3,993**



A huge thanks to all of the musicians for the amazing donation of their time and talent this past Saturday, September 9th at the Central Vermont Flood Recovery Benefit Concert. Dwight + Nicole Dave Keller Band Ray Vega Music Coogie and Friends The Barre Partnershi...

Mon, Sep 11

Post reach Engagement
2,827 **592**



"Pearl Street Pizza is still a fairly new business. We are coming up on our 2nd year anniversary this January. We still have a lot of overhead and debt that we are chipping away at. Thats normal. What isn't, is a natural disaster like this that completely wipes out our...

Wed, Nov 22

Post reach Engagement
1,491 **600**



Mark your calendars! BADC is hosting the 1st Annual Central Vermont Economic Development Summit on Friday, May 3rd at the Vermont Granite Museum in Barre. We are welcoming workshop presenters and exhibitors to submit proposals to join us! Please...

Thu, Dec 7

Post reach Engagement
1,304 **97**



This Giving Tuesday, we reflect on Barre's resilience since the 2023 flood. Our community, united in recovery, has been unwavering. Contributions to the Barre Community Relief Fund, no matter the size, sustain this community spirit. Join us in making a lasting impact. Every...

Tue, Nov 28

Post reach Engagement
1,284 **383**



Warrens Kitchen, a Morrisville-based food truck specializing in Jamaican-inspired comfort cuisine, is exploring the possibility of opening a permanent restaurant in Barre.

www.BADC.com

Wed, Oct 11

Post reach Engagement
1,247 **589**

Strategy FY24/FY25



Initiatives FY25

Further Barre's growth through:

- Execution and implementation of Strategic Plan now underway during FY24.
- Targeting of national demographics to relocate and grow businesses in Barre in parallel with housing growth.
- Building on inventory platform for potential business owners of available commercial spaces.
- 1st Annual Central Vermont Economic Development Summit (May 2024).
- Social media base and presence
 - Highlighting/supporting current businesses in Barre area.
- Strengthening connections with entrepreneurs throughout the State.
- Continued targeting of industry related publications in Vermont.
- Advertising in key national publications.
- Participating in industry related expos.

Objectives FY25



- Barre Area Development rebranding post Strategic Plan – July 2025
- Recruit and assist new businesses opening in Barre.
- Support & showcase new and current Barre businesses.
- Showcase all ongoing initiatives.
- Foster housing and business expansion in Barre.
- Highlight progress and transformative developments in the community to attract external entrepreneurs.
- Proactively collaborate with business owners and innovators.

FY25 Budget is Level Funded to support BADC's work

	FY25 Proposed	FY24 YTD	FY24 Budget	FY23 Actual
City of Barre	\$ 81,335	\$ 20,334	\$ 81,335	\$ 52,779
Town of Barre	\$ 81,335	\$ 16,138	\$ 64,550	\$ 52,779

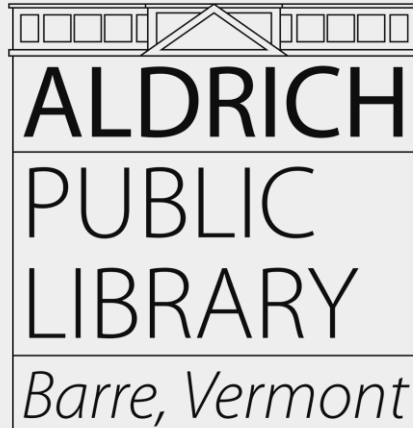
Continued support of level funding is requested in FY25 to support the critical work of BADC.



Questions

Aldrich Public Library

FY 2025 Municipal Request





ALDRICH
PUBLIC
LIBRARY
Barre, Vermont



If trouble viewing video, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=REhNBfbIXi0&t>

Rising Costs (Since FY 2021)

Maintenance Costs have increased by **314%**

- Signed service contracts for HVAC, Roof, Snow Removal, Cleaning, Elevator Maintenance
- Competitively bid to get the best value
- Previously relied on volunteers that have aged out

Utilities have increased by **33%**

9% union wage increases over three years from the Union Contract

Insurance costs have increased by **47%**

How Do We Meet The Rising Costs?

Investment transfers have increased by **100%** since FY2021

Anticipate increasing our non-resident fee

Budgeting **\$95,000** in fundraising and donations

Budgeting **\$12,000** in user fees

Actively pursuing grant funding opportunities

City and Town Appropriations (below state average)

What We Are Asking For

We are requesting **\$250,170**

- This is level-funded from last year
- Average of **\$29.67** per resident
- State average cost per resident for libraries serving 5,000+ residents is **\$41.97**

Where We're At

Under current budget proposal, projecting a **\$30,702** deficit

Recognize the City of Barre's tough financial situation

Continue our strong partnership with the City and community

Looking forward to future conversations about the growth of the library

**THANK
YOU!**

