

1 **Special Meeting of the Barre City Planning Commission**
2 **Meeting Minutes for December 5, 2019 at 6:30 P.M.**

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4 A special meeting of the Barre City Planning Commission was called to order by Commission
5 Chair Michael Hellein at 6:30 pm at City Hall. In attendance were Commissioners David Sichel,
6 Jacob Hemmerick, Jim Hart, Rachel Rudi and Jackie Calder. Also in attendance was Planning
7 Director Janet Shatney. Chair Hellein determined that there was a quorum was present.

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9 **Absent:** Commissioner Rick Badem.

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11 **Adjustments to the Agenda:** None.

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13 **Old Business:**

14 **November 21, 2019 meeting minutes:** The November 21, 2019 minutes were approved with
15 minor edits by a motion from Commissioner Sichel, seconded by Commissioner Calder.
16 **Motion carried.**

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18 **Transportation segment with Commissioner Sichel comment:** Commissioner Sichel read
19 aloud a paragraph to be inserted into the transportation segment, by which fellow
20 Commissioners were fine with, and forwarded to the Director for inclusion into the draft plan.

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22 **Master Plan Work – begin at Public Utilities Segment:** The public utilities segment within
23 Section 3 was discussed and edited. Discussion surrounded:

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- Adding language for Act 194 regarding the pending mandatory state-wide composting,
26 and food scraps rules
 - Ensure proper language for the Green Mountain Power main station and various city
27 substations, as to which ones have been upgraded in recent years
 - Add language regarding the Central Vermont Internet initiative within the Central
28 Vermont Region
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32 The Energy segment was discussed, and Commissioners concluded that the edits to the
33 document are intense, but meet the requirements for adoption by the Central Vermont Regional
34 Planning Commission, and has been reviewed by the Energy Committee, therefore will leave
35 as edited.

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37 The Community Services and Amenities segment was reviewed as well. Grammatical edits
38 were made; a discussion regarding the City Budget table occurred, and an explanation
39 summary of the table needs to be added. Lastly, the Public Safety paragraphs for the Police
40 Calls and Crime Rates were discussed and Commissioners agreed that the crime rates table
41 needs to be revised so that its better understood with actual numbers, not a rate based on a
42 sample size, and change the US comparison to state-wide.

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44 **New Business:**

45 **Commissioner Hemmerick draft letter for Council/Manager:** Commissioner Hemmerick's
46 draft letter was discussed. Questions were asked regarding the ERAF (Emergency Relief
47 Assistance Fund) and the Community Rating System. Commissioner Hemmerick will edit it
48 and have the Chair sign for submittal. Motion was made by Commissioner Sichel to approve

To be approved at the 12-12-19 Planning Commission meeting

1 the draft letter subject to proofreading, seconded by Commissioner Hemmerick, **motion**
2 **carried.**

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4 **Planning Commission Annual Report:** the Director submitted a draft mock-up of an annual
5 report based on the Commission's monthly meetings. Commissioner Calder requested
6 something be added that that end of the fiscal year, a new slate of officers was elected. Chair
7 Hellein will write something from his perspective and have ready for the December 12, 2019
8 meeting.
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10 **Public Comment** No members of the public attended.

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12 **Staff Updates:**

13 Director Shatney updated the Commission on

- 14
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 - Seasonal slowdown of permit applications
 - The Barre Partnership calendar of events for the downtown throughout the holiday season
 - The VTrans welcome event occurred on Dec. 4
 - Winter parking ban went into effect for the period Nov. 15, 2019 through April 1, 2020
 - Barre RockSolid unveiling will occur at the Opera House on Dec. 11 beginning at 7 pm
 - City Council voted to raise parking meter and ticket rates on Nov. 26, to be implemented at a future date
 - A Ward III opening on the City Council and a caucus to fill that position will occur on Dec. 19, 2019 at 7 pm.

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25 **Roundtable:**

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 - Commissioner Sichel recognized Commissioner Rudi's singing abilities where he watched her at an event in Montpelier
 - Chair Hellein questioned that while Ordinance states residents cannot put snow on the sidewalks, there is no language that discusses how or who must remove the snow. Segments of some of the Ordinances appear out of date.

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32 **Motion to Adjourn:**

33 The Planning Commission meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm by a motion from Commissioner
34 Hemmerick, seconded by Commissioner Rudi. **Motion carried.**

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37 There is no audio recording of this meeting.
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Respectfully Submitted,
Janet Shatney, Planning Director