Agenda for Regular City Council Meeting

City Council Chambers, City Hall
Wednesday, December 9, 2015
5:30 P.M.

1) **5:30 P.M.** Budget Workshop

2) **7:00 P.M.** Call Regular Portion of Meeting to Order by the Mayor

3) 15-316. Review and Approve Agenda

4) 15-317. General Business and Appearances

5) 15-318. Consideration of the Consent Agenda:

a) Consideration of the Minutes from the Council's November 18th Regular Meeting and their December 2nd, 2015 Special Meeting.

b) Authorize the City Manager to sign Procurement Agreement Amendment #2 and Thermal Energy Purchase and Sale Agreement Amendment #2 for the District Heat - Montpelier with the State of Vermont.

c) Approve Letter of Intent acknowledging support for City of Montpelier's application to Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) and Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) for Strong Communities Better Connections (SCBC) Grant Program to develop Complete Street Design Guidelines. The City of Montpelier will provide 10% local match required by the grant program; grant deadline is January 15, 2016.

d) Acting as the Liquor Control Commission, City Council Members may now consider the following:

1) Issuance of a new Second Class Liquor License to Bradley Perry, d/b/a Perry's Gas & Service Station, 152 State Street (new ownership).

e) Payroll and Bills

6) 15-319. Discussion of the Local Options Tax

a) This is a topic that Councilors have periodically mentioned.

b) Recommendation: Discussion; possible direction to staff.

7) 15-320. Kellogg-Hubbard Library Update

a) Library Director Tom McKone requested this time to provide Council with a brief update on library activity; one or two board members will be joining Tom as well.

b) Recommendation: Receive update; opportunity for questions.

8) 15-321. Infrastructure Discussion with Richard Sheir

a) Mr. Sheir requested this opportunity to discuss the City's infrastructure and budget timeline for improvements.

b) Recommendation: Receive Mr. Sheir's presentation; discussion.

9) 15-322. Adoption of Charter language related to the control of Berlin Pond.

a) One of the City Council's Goals is: "Address Long-term Utility and Environmental Infrastructure Needs."

b) "Seek Control of Berlin Pond via Charter Change" is one of the steps included in this Goal.

c) The following language was drafted by a legislative counsel staff member:

    1) §123. REGULATION OF WATER SUPPLY

    The City shall have the authority to regulate its public water supply in order to protect the water supply and prevent its corruption, including regulating the use of the source of the public water supply. The City's water supply sources include Berlin Pond in the town of Berlin

d) Recommendation: Conduct any further discussion; adopt proposed Charter language.

10) 15-323. Consideration of approving the Investment Committee's recommended Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Policy and Procedure addendum to the City's Investment Policy

a) At the October 14th City Council Meeting, Councilor Watson requested that the Committee come up with a "road map" for possible ESG restrictions on investments and how to deal with them.

b) In response to this request, the Investment Committee is recommending an ESG Policy and Procedure addendum to the City's Investment Policy (approved October 14th). See attached ESG Policy.

c) This addendum outlines the process for consideration of ESG proposals. Investment Committee Members will be present to discuss this proposed addendum.

d) Recommendation: Approve the Investment Committee's proposed addendum to the Investment Policy for Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) issues for investments of Montpelier (City) funds.

11) 15-324. Consideration of approving a Resolution to apply for a Disaster Recovery Grant, pursuant to the Council's Goal to "Maintain the Current Timeline and Budget for the 1 Taylor Street Redevelopment Project".

a) The City is applying for a Disaster Recovery Grant under the Vermont Community Development Program. If awarded, these funds would address the project's current funding gap. The attached Resolution needs to be approved by the Council for this grant application.

b) Staff will be present to answer questions about the status of the project and this grant application.

c) Recommendation: Approve and sign the Resolution.

12) 15-325. Council Reports
13) 15-326. Mayor's Report
14) 15-327. City Clerk's Report

15) 15-328. City Manager's Report

a) Executive Session re: Real Estate

1) It is anticipated that the entire substance of this discussion will be conducted in Executive Session in accordance with Title I, §313, Executive Sessions, (a)(2).

16) *Adjournment*

RESOLUTION FOR DISASTER RECOVERY GRANT APPLICATION AUTHORITY

Municipal Applicant

WHEREAS, the _The City of_ Montpelier________________(hereinafter "Applicant") is applying for a Disaster Recovery Grant under the Vermont Community Development Program; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary that an application be made and agreements be entered into with the State of Vermont.

Now, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. that Applicant possesses the legal authority as defined in the State Act [10 VSA §683(8)] to apply for the grant and to administer the program; and

2. that Applicant apply for a grant under the terms and conditions of said program and agree hereby to enter into Certifications and Assurances thereof; and

3. that _Kevin S. Casey Community Develop Spec._ is hereby authorized to be Contact Person and as such to provide, on behalf of Applicant, all documents and information necessary for the completion of said application and to provide such coordination as may be necessary for said application; and

4. that (Name)_William J. Fraser_, Montpelier City Manager___who is either the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), as defined by 10 VSA §683(8), or is the Town Manager, the City Manager, or the Town Administrator, is hereby designated to serve as the Authorizing Official (AO) for the Grants Management On-line System, Intelligrants; and

5. that it is understood that, if the application is funded, the receipt of VCDP funds, as federal funds passed through the State of Vermont, may require that an audit of the Applicant be conducted under the provisions of the Single Audit Act, as amended, and that VCDP funds may be used to fund only a limited portion of the audit cost.

Passed this __________________ day of ______________________, _____.

LEGISLATIVE BODY

____ ____

____ ____

____ ____

The above resolution is a true and correct copy of the resolution as adopted at a meeting of the Legislative Body held on the ____day of _______________, ____, and duly filed in my office.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand this _____ day of _________, _____.

____ ____

Clerk Signature

ATTACHMENT A

SCHEDULE FOR THE PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL CAPACITY

Capacity Price. The price of each additional Unit of Capacity is determined by dividing the total cost of placing the State Heat Plant into service after adjusting for overages and non-payments by the Capacity of the State Boilers, excluding backup, in Million BTU/Hour and adding the accumulated interest paid by the State on its General Obligation bonds in accordance with this Attachment A.

Schedule for the Purchase of Additional Capacity				
Notice Date*	**For Heating Season Beginning**	**Capacity Component Cost****	**Cost of Money Component*****	**Price per Unit of Capacity******
May 1, 2014	October 1, 2014	$539,090	$5,956	$545,046
May 1, 2015	October 1, 2015	$539,090	$18,027	$557,117
May 1, 2016	October 1, 2016	$539,090	$30,422	$569,512
May 1, 2017	October 1, 2017	$539,090	$43,149	$582,239
May 1, 2018	October 1, 2018	$539,090	$56,217	$595,307
May 1, 2019	October 1, 2019	$539,090	$69,635	$608,725
May 1, 2020	October 1, 2020	$539,090	$83,413	$622,503
May 1, 2021	October 1, 2021	$539,090	$97,560	$636,650
May 1, 2022	October 1, 2022	$539,090	$112,086	$651,176
May 1, 2023	October 1, 2023	$539,090	$127,002	$666,092
May 1, 2024	October 1, 2024	$539,090	$142,317	$681,407
May 1, 2025	October 1, 2025	$539,090	$158,043	$697,133
May 1, 2026	October 1, 2026	$539,090	$174,190	$713,280
May 1, 2027	October 1, 2027	$539,090	$190,770	$729,860
May 1, 2028	October 1, 2028	$539,090	$207,794	$746,884
May 1, 2029	October 1, 2029	$539,090	$225,275	$764,365
May 1, 2030	October 1, 2030	$539,090	$243,224	$782,314
May 1, 2031	October 1, 2031	$539,090	$261,654	$800,744
May 1, 2032	October 1, 2032	$539,090	$280,578	$819,668
May 1, 2033	October 1, 2033	$539,090	$300,009	$839,099
May 1, 2034	October 1, 2034	$539,090	$316,481	$855,571
May 1, 2035	October 1, 2035	$539,090	$326,632	$865,723
May 1, 2036	October 1, 2036	$539,090	$337,056	$876,146
May 1, 2037	October 1, 2037	$539,090	$347,758	$886,848
May 1, 2038	October 1, 2038	$539,090	$358,747	$897,837
May 1, 2039	October 1, 2039	$539,090	$370,031	$909,121
May 1, 2040	October 1, 2040	$539,090	$381,617	$920,707
May 1, 2041	October 1, 2041	$539,090	$393,514	$932,604
May 1, 2042	October 1, 2042	$539,090	$405,730	$944,820
May 1, 2043	October 1, 2043	$539,090	$418,273	$957,363
May 1, 2044	October 1, 2044	$539,090	$431,152	$970,242

Note:

*Notice of intent to purchase additional capacity may be given at any time in advance of the notice date.

**This is a two-step calculation. In the first step, the numerator equals $18.59 Million (the final cost of the State Heat Plant excluding the City's unpaid share of the cost of the City Room) and the denominator equals 40.2 Million BTU/HR (the Capacity of the State Boilers). To this calculation is added the second step. The numerator is $408,000 (the City's unpaid share of the City Room) and the denominator is 6.55 Million BTU/HR (the excess capacity of the State Boilers).

***This includes the acculumated interest paid by the State on its general obligations bonds and the accumulated interest on the $408,000.

****Per Unit of Capacity as defined in Section 1.1.

ATTACHMENT B

RATE SCHEDULE FOR THE RENTAL OF RESERVE CAPACITY UNITS

Reserve Capacity Rate. The Reserve Capacity Unit rental rate is calculated as the price per Unit of Capacity for the relevant Heating Season as set forth in Attachment A to this Agreement, as amended (Schedule for the Purchase of Additional Capacity), times 1.1 (110 percent) divided by 5,088 (the number of days in a typical Heating Season (212) times hours per day (24)).

Rate Schedule for the Rental of Reserve Capacity Units	
For Heating Season Beginning	**Reserve Capacity Unit Rental Rate***
October 1, 2014	$118
October 1, 2015	$121
October 1, 2016	$124
October 1, 2017	$126
October 1, 2018	$129
October 1, 2019	$132
October 1, 2020	$135
October 1, 2021	$138
October 1, 2022	$141
October 1, 2023	$145
October 1, 2024	$148
October 1, 2025	$151
October 1, 2026	$155
October 1, 2027	$158
October 1, 2028	$162
October 1, 2029	$166
October 1, 2030	$170
October 1, 2031	$174
October 1, 2032	$178
October 1, 2033	$182
October 1, 2034	$185
October 1, 2035	$188
October 1, 2036	$190
October 1, 2037	$192
October 1, 2038	$195
October 1, 2039	$197
October 1, 2040	$200
October 1, 2041	$202
October 1, 2042	$205
October 1, 2043	$207
October 1, 2044	$210

Note:
*The amount listed is the rental rate per Reserve Capacity Unit for the given Heating Season in accordance with Section 3.2. This rate is to be billed to the City in accordance with Section 6.

STATE OF VERMONT
DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS AND GENERAL SERVICES

It is hereby agreed by the State of Vermont, Department of Buildings and General Services (hereafter called "State"), and the City of Montpelier (hereafter called "City"), that the Procurement Agreement dated January 23, 2012 ("Agreement") between them is hereby amended as follows:

I. Section 5(h) is hereby modified to add a new subsection (vi):

(vi) As of May 1, 2014, the State completed the construction of the Heat Plant and the Heat Plant was placed into service by agreement of the parties on September 29, 2014. The final accounting of the cost of construction and placing the Heat Plant into service was $19,822,997.This represents a final cost overrun of $4,529,229. In accordance with subsection (ii) of this Section, the parties hereby agree to share the cost overrun as follows:

(1) $3,968,314 of the cost overrun represents the State's share of the cost overrun and costs not related to the City which shall be assumed by the State.
(2) The City shall reimburse the State $408,000 for the cost of the Thermal Conversion Unit which shall be added to the price of Additional Capacity purchases by the City, with the price of each Unit of Capacity to be determined in accordance with the payment schedule in Attachment A of the Thermal Purchase and Sale Agreement.
(3) The City shall reimburse the State $111,481 which is comprised of $152,984, less $38,407 (75.84% of the State's share of the design and construction of the City's mini system), less $6,007 (75.84% of the State's share of the reserved parking revenue, plus $2,910 for 2.68% bond cost. The $111,481 shall be paid over nineteen years in monthly payments to be made during the Heating Season (as defined in the Thermal Energy Purchase and Sale Agreement), of each year beginning October 2015 and ending April 1, 2036. Each monthly payment shall be $838.20 and shall be presented as a separate line item in each monthly invoice entitled "Construction Cost Overrun Contribution."

Except as modified by this Amendment No. 2, all provisions of the original agreement, as amended, remain in full force and effect.

The signatures of the undersigned indicate that each has read this amendment to the Agreement in its entirety and agrees to be bound by the provisions enumerated herein.

STATE OF VERMONT

By: __________________________

Name: _______________________

Title: ________________________

Date: _________________________

CITY OF MONTPELIER

By: _____________________________

Name: __________________________

Title: ___________________________

Date: ___________________________

STATE OF VERMONT
DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS AND GENERAL SERVICES

It is hereby agreed by the State of Vermont, Department of Buildings and General Services (hereafter called "State"), and the City of Montpelier (hereafter called "City"), that the Thermal Energy Purchase and Sale Agreement ("Agreement") between them is hereby amended as follows:

I. Attachment A, Section 1.1, Definitions, is hereby amended to add the following definition:

"Construction Cost Overrun Contribution" shall be the City contribution to any construction cost overrun determined upon final reconciliation and to which the parties agree in accordance with the Procurement Agreement, as the same may be amended from time-to-time.

II. Attachment A, Section 6.2, Payment, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Payment. The City shall pay the State for Energy delivered under and pursuant to this Agreement at the Energy Payment Rate and any Reserve Capacity Units rented during the month. The City shall also pay the State the Fixed Payment Rate and the Construction Cost Overrun Contribution. Payment, except for any amounts disputed in good faith, shall be made to the State by the City within thirty (30) days after receiving such billing for the first year of this Agreement following the Commercial Operation Date. After this first year, payment shall be made to the State within fifteen (15) days after receipt of such billing. All such payments shall be sent to the Commissioner.

III. Attachment A, Schedule for the Purchase of Additional Capacity, is amended to delete the Schedule for the Purchase of Additional Capacity and replace it with the Schedule attached.

IV. Attachment B, Schedule for the Rental of Reserve Capacity Units, is amended to delete the Schedule for the Purchase of Additional Capacity and replace it with the Schedule attached hereto (Revision Date 08-12-2015).

Except as modified by this Amendment No. 2, all provisions of the original agreement, as amended, remain in full force and effect.

The signatures of the undersigned indicate that each has read this amendment to the Agreement in its entirety and agrees to be bound by the provisions enumerated herein.

STATE OF VERMONT	**CITY OF MONTPELIER**
By: _________________________	**By: ___________________________**
Name: ______________________	**Name: _________________________**
Title: _______________________	**Title: __________________________**
Date: _________________________	**Date: __________________________**

CITY OF MONTPELIER

TITLE: Consideration of Environmental, Social, and Governance Policy and Procedure

ADOPTION DATE:

POLICY

The City of Montpelier Council (Council) adopts this policy regarding consideration of environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues for investments of Montpelier (City) funds. Investment actions which promote an ESG goal such as rewarding nondiscrimination, promoting environmental, social and local interests, will be considered if the proposed action does not adversely affect investment risk and/or return for the fund portfolio and if the resulting expected return on investment and related risk for the proposed action are comparable to other available investments in the same category. Furthermore, ESG goals are not a required component for City investment actions. ESG goals should augment otherwise like investment strategies, adding value and consideration to strong investment plans. The City is required by law to strive to maximize total return on investment, within acceptable levels of risk, in accordance with the standards of care established by the prudent investor rule under 14A V.S.A. § 902 (the "prudent investor rule"). While the Council will give serious consideration to environmental, social and governance issues, investments will not be selected, rejected, or divested from based solely on those considerations.

PROCEDURE FOR CONSIDERATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE WHEN REVIEWING INVESTING PROPOSALS

A proposal for consideration which includes an ESG component may take the form of a proposal to make a particular investment(s), to refrain from doing so, or to take any other action related to the handling of the City's assets or the rights associated with those assets. Any and all such proposals are to be considered in the manner outlined in this policy. This policy does not detail any particular ESG goal.

Specific ESG goals and objectives will be stated in each fund portfolio and included in any Request for Proposals (RFPs) seeking fund management investment advisors. Special ESG goals may be predetermined by stipulations of bequeathed funds and shall be included when soliciting for funds management.

The City of Montpelier has directed the Montpelier Investment Committee to draft descriptions of each fund portfolio, RFPs for fund management selection, and recommend management selections based on RFP responses. All final document adoption, RFP materials, and investment management selections reside with the City Council.[1]

[1] See Montpelier Investment Policy for specific roles and responsibilities.

A. To receive consideration, ESG investment proposals must meet the following requirements:

1. It must be specific, presented in writing and in response to an RFP issued by the City;
2. It must include objective, reasoned analysis indicating how the proposal meets the fiduciary obligations of the City, and that the return on investment to the City and related risk of the proposal are comparable to other available investments in the same category;
3. It must appear to be reasonably feasible for the City to accommodate within the specific portfolio of investment or in a reasonable modification.
4. It must not, in the discretion of the Council or Investment Committee, be considered duplicative of a recently-considered proposal.
5. All ESG related questions in the RFP are adequately addressed[2].
6. Any ESG Initiatives should be able to be quantified, reviewed and monitored by the Committee, without inappropriate expenditure of time and resources.

B. If an ESG investment proposal meets all of the requirements of Section A as determined by the Investment Committee, it shall be forwarded to the Council for review as detailed in the City's Investment Policy.

C. If the Investment Committee reports that the ESG proposal meets the requirements of the City's investment policy, the Council shall consider the proposal, after receiving such additional information as it may deem necessary or appropriate from the fund manager investment advisor, Investment Committee and any other professionals.

D. The fund manager investment advisor is required to provide ESG performance data along with all reporting as described in the Investment Policy.

E. The Investment Committee may be requested to provide an annual overview of the ESG issues and industry responses City ESG goals to the Council. The purpose of this work is to inform future policy and practices with respect to ESG proposals and will be based on data received from existing City fund manager investment advisors and industry trends.

[2] See example RFP questions, Attachment A.

ATTACHMENT A

Example questions for consideration when drafting a RFP that solicits responses where ESG goals are included as part investment strategies

1. Does your firm have a policy that incorporates Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) issues into the investment decision making process?

2. What is your firm's position on the investor perspective that environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors are risk factors which can have a material impact on investment performance. Does your firm support the concept that companies can enhance value and long-term profitability by incorporating ESG factors into their strategic plans?

3. Does your firm prepare and issue, periodically, ESG/sustainability performance reports? Are such reports made available to clients?

4. Which ESG issues do you assess in company evaluation and how do you assess their relevance to the company's long-term business prospects? Examples include, but are not limited to, corporate governance structure, climate change, supply chain integrity, labor practices, and human resource management.

5. Will you be able to quantify and provide performance reports that address the following specific ESG goals?[3]

6. Does your firm allocate resources, including an internal staff and/or external services, to review and evaluate sustainability reports of companies whose securities are held in client accounts and/or are potential investments under consideration?

[3] To be determined on a portfolio by portfolio basis, if included by the Council.

LOCAL OPTIONS TAX INFORMATION

			Sales	Rooms. Meals & Alc.	Combined
Based on 2014 State Tax Numbers			$128,515,414	$31,177,985	$159,693,399
1% Tax Revenue			$1,285,154	$311,780	$1,596,934
Less State PILOT Fund	30.00%		$385,546	$93,534	$479,080
NET TOTAL			**$899,608**	**$218,246**	**$1,117,854**
FY16 General Fund Budget	$12,622,056	**% of Budget:**	7.1%	1.7%	8.9%
FY16 Municiapl Prop Tax - ALL	$8,552,740	**% of Tax:**	10.5%	2.6%	13.1%
FY16 Municipal Grand List	$857,825,125	**Rate Impact:**	$0.1049	$0.0254	$0.1303
Current Municipal Tax Rate	$1.0037	**% of Rate:**	10.45%	2.53%	12.98%
Avg. Res. Prop. Value	$223,550	**Avg $ Saved:**	$234.44	$56.88	$291.31
Amount to Spend In Montpelier to break even			$23,443.86	$5,687.51	$29,131.37
Weekly Average to spend to break even			$450.84	$109.38	$560.22
Total Grand List required to raise same money			$951,542,274	$874,282,448	$979,260,693
Increase from current GL required			$93,717,149	$16,457,323	$121,435,568
Percent of GL increase required			10.9%	1.9%	14.2%
Equivalent Avg. Residential Units			419	74	543
Equivalent "National Lifes"			2.13	0.37	2.76

Minutes of the Montpelier City Council Special Meeting
December 2, 2015, 5:30PM.
City Manager's Conference Room, City Hall

In attendance: Mayor John Hollar (Chair – via telephone), Councilors Anne Watson, Justin Turcotte, Tom Golonka, Jean Olson, and Dona Bate (via telephone). Councilor Jessica Edgerly Walsh arrived after the meeting was underway. City Manager William Fraser was in attendance. City Manager William Fraser served as Secretary of the meeting.

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM

15-314. Councilor Watson moved to approve the agenda with the addition of a Real Estate Discussion. Councilor Turcotte seconded and via roll call the vote was 5-0 in favor.

15-315. Councilor Watson moved to go into executive session under VSA 313 (a) (1) and (2) to discuss the Hallsmith case and a real estate matter and to include Attorney Stackpole, the City Manager and the Assistant City Manager. Councilor Golonka seconded, and roll call vote was 5-0 in favor. The Council entered executive session at 5:37 PM.

At 5:42 PM Council Member Edgerly Walsh arrived and joined the executive session.

Hearing no objection, the Chair brought the Council out of executive session and adjourned the meeting by unanimous consent at 7:37 PM. No other action was taken.

Minutes of the Montpelier City Council Meeting
November 18, 2015, 6:30PM.
City Council Chambers

In attendance: Mayor John Hollar (Chair), Councilors Anne Watson, Justin Turcotte, Tom Golonka, Jean Olson, Jessica Edgerly Walsh and Dona Bate. City Manager William Fraser was in attendance. Deputy City Clerk Crystal Chase served as Secretary of the meeting.

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:30PM.

15-301. Councilor Golonka moved approval of the proposed agenda with the Executive Session item (a) be removed from the agenda (a general discussion regarding real estate with the City Manager). Motion was seconded by Councilor Edgerly Walsh and passed unanimously.

15-303. Motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Councilor Watson and seconded by Councilor Bate. Councilor Turcotte asked to have for the following amendment to the minutes from the November 4th meeting: item 15-289 3rd sentence of the second paragraph include; "That included an estimate from the vendor that this project would reduce the cost of the cities electricity by about$50,000 per year." Without objection, the motion was amended and was seconded by Councilor Watson. Motion carried 6-0 at 6:33.

15-304. Kevin Casey of the Planning Department gave a brief background and requested that the city approve the Loan Fund Committee's proposed recommendations regarding the refinancing and reassignment of Heaton Woods Community Development Loan. Councilor Watson made motion to approve which was seconded by Councilor Turcotte. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

15-305. Public Works Director Tom McArdle came forward for the discussion of City Council Goal D: Address Long-term Utility and Environmental Infrastructure Needs. Mr. McArdle introduced Julie Moore from Stone Environmental, who has been working with the City to help develop the Storm Water Management Master Plan.

Councilor Watson asked that further discussion of the topic be put on hold to move up the next agenda item.

15-306. In the context of City Council Goal D: Address Long-term Utility and Environmental Infrastructure Needs, Rep. Warren Kitzmiller rose to thank the Council for their support for the proposed Berlin Pond protective City charter amendment. Maxine Leary also addressed the council to recommend a language revision ("The City shall have the authority to regulate the use of its water supply, including the use of the source of the water supply, in order to protect it and prevent its corruption"). Page Guertin suggested a possible language change to include "Public Water Supply" and "Continue to be in Power of." Paul Giuliani, Jed Guertin, and Jeff Shuman all came forward to thank council for their support. No formal action was taken.

15-305. At 7:31, Mr. McArdle resumed his presentation. The Mayor called for a recess at 8:06PM. The meeting reconvened at 8:14PM, and the discussion resumed. No action was taken.

15-307. In context of City Council Goal B: Balance and Control Municipal Budgeting, Taxes and Services Relative to Current Population and Grand List Tax Base, Bev Hill and Paul Guiliani addressed the Council regarding the history and process of the Montpelier Foundation. No formal action was taken

15-308. Finance Director Sandy Gallup reviewed the budget memo that was presented to the Council. A discussion of the budget targets followed. No formal action was taken.

15-310. Councilor Bate noted that she would like to see more public forums on the CIP and storm water issues.

Councilor Turcotte thanked all involved in the Veterans Day parade and celebration. He also noted that he had talked with the head of the Kellogg Hubbard Library and that they would not be asking for an increase this year.

Councilor Watson spoke of e-mails she had received about serious safety issues from bicyclists on Elm Street, and requested a timeline on implementing the bike master plan and getting an update.

15-313. Mayor Hollar Thanked the fire departments and all involved with getting holiday lights up thought they looked great. He also congratulated Montpelier teacher Susan Koch for being names Teacher of the Year.

Motion to move into executive session pursuant to Title 1, V.S.A. Section 313(a)(3) to discuss the Council's 6-month evaluation of City Manager was made by Councilor Edgerly-Walsh and seconded by Councilor Olson. The motion passed 6-0 at 10:05pm.

Without objection, the Mayor ruled the meeting return to open session, and then be adjourned, by unanimous consent.

America's Small Town Capital

Mayor John Hollar
City Council Members:
Dona Bate
Jessica Edgerly Walsh
Tom Golonka
Jean Olson
Justin Turcotte
Anne Watson

William Fraser City Manager

Jessie Baker
Assistant City Manager

December 9, 2015

Dear Jackie and Richard –

On behalf of the Montpelier City Council, I am pleased to pledge our support our application for the Strong Communities Better Connections Grant Program and the 10% grant match requirement.

The City of Montpelier is a community that values its human scale, walkability, safety, and long term planning, and it takes its commitment to planning for Complete Streets seriously. To demonstrate this commitment, the City of Montpelier has recently undertaken a number of planning initiatives which will provide the critical foundation for a comprehensive complete streets plan:

- Montpelier City Council has had the goal of implementing complete streets since 2010 in support of this effort, the City Council 5% of parking revenue to study and implement bike and pedestrian improvements

- In the summer of 2015, the City of Montpelier completed its Bicycle Master Plan which identified current challenges and opportunities for Montpelier as it seeks to fulfill City Council's goal of making Montpelier a bicycle friendly community.

- In the Fall of 2015 The City of Montpelier began working with Stone Environmental on its Storm water Master Plan which will identify the challenges and opportunities to mitigate the impact of impervious surfaces

- In the summer of 2015, The City of Montpelier in partnership with the E.P.A. and O.R.W. / Greenman-Pederson completed the EPA's Greening Americas Capitals Grant which outlined a number of conceptual solutions bicycle, pedestrian and stormwater management solutions. The City of Montpelier has embraced the ideas presented in the report and is seeking opportunities to implement the recommendations

- The development of the Multimodal Transportation Center and associated private development is entering the design stage and the first phases of construction is anticipated to begin in the summer of 2016

Each of these plans and initiative satisfy many of the goals of the SCBS, FHWA Livability Principles, Statewide Planning Goals and VTrans Strategic Plan Goals for 2016-2021 and the City will leverage the Strong Communities Better Connections Grant to accomplish the following:

(1) Secure the services of a professional design firm to Develop Complete Street Design Guidelines to guide the Planning and Public Works Department

(2) These Guidelines will incorporate the findings of the Greening Americas Capital's, Taylor Street Multi-Modal Project, Storm water Master Plan, Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan, and will Develop Standard Street Typologies

(3) Apply Standard typologies to the existing street system

Working in the public right of way is fraught with conflict and contradictions. The desire to maximize on street parking is often in direct conflict with the goal of increasing dedicated bike lanes; more bike lanes mean an increase in impermeable surfaces which is in direct conflict with stormwater goals to maximize infiltration and passive retention. SCBC funding will allow the City of Montpelier to plan for these inherent conflicts that occur in the public right of way while maximizing public benefits and public safety.

The City will engage in a vigorous public discussion and invite the input from multiple citizens committees including the Bicycle, Parking, Pedestrian Committees as well as the Conservation Commission in order to inform the long term complete streets capital planning priorities.

The Strong Communities Better Connections Grant (SCBC) will provide the critical foundation for a comprehensive policy to inform future transportation and community development decisions. Funding of this effort will ensure that Montpelier acts as a model for complete streets implementation throughout the State. We are excited at the opportunity to apply for the SCBC Grant program and look forward to working with VTrans and ACCD on this exciting project.

Sincerely,

John Hollar
Mayor

CITY OF MONTPELIER, VERMONT
RESOLUTION of APPLICATION

WHEREAS, THE CITY OF MONTPELIER has approved funds as a 10% match for the Street Design Guidelines included in 2016 Strong Communities Better Connections Program application

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Montpelier has authorized the aforesaid Application and endorses this resolution of application

Adopted this 9th day of December 2015

Signed:

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Mayor John Hollar

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Councilmember Donna Bate

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Councilmember Jean Olson

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Councilmember Jessica Edgerly Walsh

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Councilmember Justin Turcotte

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Councilmember Anne Watson

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Councilmember Tom Golonka