



**CITY OF
MONTPELIER
MONTPELIER,
VERMONT**

Agenda for Regular
City Council
Meeting

Wednesday, January
13, 2016
05:30 P.M.

- 1) Call to Order by the Mayor
- 2) 16-010. Review and Approve Agenda
- 3) 16-011. General Business and Appearances
- 4) 16-012. Continuation of the Budget Workshop
 - a) Department Heads provided comments at the Council's January 6th Budget Workshop; this will be an opportunity for Council to review, discuss and provide their thoughts for their proposed FY17 Budget. 6:30 P.M. .
- 5) 16-013. Consideration of the Consent Agenda:
 - a) Approve Minutes from the December 9th, December 16th, 2015 Council Meetings and January 6, 2016 Budget Workshop.
 - b) Approve the Detailed Budget Status Reports for General Fund, Water Fund, Sewer Fund, Cemetery Fund, Parks Fund, Parking Fund, Senior Center Fund and District Heat Fund for a Five-Month Period Beginning July 1, 2015 and Ending November 30, 2015.
 - c) Approve a waiver of the fee for the use of City Hall Auditorium for an evening performance by the Vermont Comedy Divas Group on Saturday, March 5, 2016; this will be a fundraising event scheduled by the People's

Health & Wellness Clinic. See attached letter from Peter Youngbaer, Executive Director.

- d) Accept the Merchants Bank's ambulance financing proposal for a four-year note in the amount of \$142,000 at a 1.65% interest rate with four annual payments beginning in January, 2017 and ending in January, 2020; Council Members' signatures are required to execute the loan documents.

- e) Payroll and Bills

7) 16-015. Appointments to Montpelier's Bicycle Advisory Committee

- a) Two members have stepped down (Dan Homeier and Bill Merrylees) so staff advertised to fill these vacancies. Responses received are as follows:

- 1) Warren Vail, III, Barre Street

- 2) Heather Voisin, Elm Street

- 3) Jonathan Harris, Colonial Drive

- 4) Ron Merkin, Downing Street

- 5) Gary Holloway, Barre Street

- 6) Farid Quraishi, Msgr. Crosby Avenue

- b) Recommendation: Opportunity to meet applicants; it is anticipated that City Councilors will enter into Executive Session in accordance with Title I, §313, Executive Sessions, (3) The appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee to discuss; return to public session and announce appointments. There are no set terms for these appointments.

8) 16-016. Appointment to the City's Conservation Commission

- a) Emily Byrne's 1-year Alternate term expires on January 15th. Staff advertised and only received a response from Emily who would like to be

reappointed.

b) Recommendation: Appointment.

9) 16-017. Appointment to the Montpelier Foundation

a) Current members have served for many years and have indicated they would like to step down and allow new people to serve.

b) Staff advertised and received one letter of interest from Jim Higgins, Mechanic Street.

c) Recommendation: Opportunity to meet Mr. Higgins; appointment. Four of the six current members have agreed to stay on the board and help with the transition until others step forward to serve.

10) 16-018. Community Fund Board Report

a) Members of the Community Fund Board will present their compilation of funding recommendations (attached).

b) Recommendation: Receive presentation; discussion; approve, with or without amendments.

11) 16-019. Public Safety Authority Presentation

a) This is an opportunity for the Board Members to update Councilors on the Board's progress and present proposed wording for March 1st Annual City Meeting Warning.

b) Recommendation: Receive update; discussion.

12) 16-020. Consideration of the Alternative Transportation Fund Plan

a) Public Works staff will provide the Council with an update on the activities of the Transportation Advisory Committee.

- b) The objectives and priorities of each individual advisory committee and how they relate to the Alternative Transportation Fund Plan will be presented by staff and Committee members.
- c) The City Council has voted to dedicate 5% of the gross Parking Fund revenues to alternative transportation projects and tasked the Transportation Advisory Committee with making a recommendation on the use of these funds. The proposed plan is attached.
- d) Recommendation: Receive presentation; discussion; consideration of the motion to "adopt the Parking Fund Plan and appropriate \$49,000 in FY16 and \$43,000 in FY17 to complete the alternative transportation work as outlined."

13) 16-021. Conduct the First Public Hearing on Charter Changes (Berlin Pond and Local Options Tax)

- a) Charter language for Berlin Pond would read as follows:
 - 1) §708. REGULATION OF WATER SUPPLY The City shall have the authority to regulate its public water supply and public water sources in order to protect the water supply and sources from corruption. The City's water supply sources include Berlin Pond in the town of Berlin.
- b) Charter language for the Local Options Tax item would read:
 - 1) §1204. LOCAL OPTIONS TAX
 - A) Local options taxes are authorized under this section for the purpose of affording the City an alternative method of raising municipal revenues.
 - B) The City Council may assess rooms, meals and alcohol taxes of one percent.
 - C) Any tax imposed under the authority of this section shall be collected and administered by the Vermont Department of Taxes, in accordance with state law governing such state tax or taxes.

- D) Of the taxes reported under this section, 70 percent shall be paid to the City of Montpelier for calendar years thereafter. Such revenues may be expended by the City of Montpelier for municipal services only, and not for educational expenditures. The remaining amount of the taxes reported shall be remitted monthly to the State Treasurer for deposit in the PILOT special fund established in Sec. 89 of No. 60 of the Acts of 1997. Taxes due to the City of Montpelier under this section shall be paid by the State on a quarterly basis.
- c) Lettering of each section under §1204 would be lower case; formatting for posting agendas to the City's live stream site requires this type of set-up.
- d) Recommendation: Conduct the First Public Hearing; possible direction to staff.

14) 16-022. Bond Public Hearing

- a) The Warning Article would read:
 - 1) Shall the voters authorize the City Council to borrow a sum of money not to exceed \$710,000 for the construction of improvements for the One Taylor Street Project from Taylor Street to Main Street, a shared use path from Granite Street to Gallison Hill Road and retaining walls? If approved, bonds for these capital items would be issued for a term of 20 years. With a 20-year bond, approximately \$13,921 would be required for the first year interest payment and approximately \$52,779 for the second year principal and interest payment and future payments declining each year as the principal is repaid. (Requested by the City Council)
- b) DPW staff is considering bonding for Wastewater Treatment Plan improvements; if this proposed plan moves forward, documentation will be reviewed and provided prior to the Council Meeting.
- c) Recommendation: Conduct the Public Hearing; possible direction to staff.

15) 16-023. Conduct the First Public Hearing on Warning for March 1, 2016

Annual City Meeting

- a) A draft warning of ballot items for the Annual City Meeting is being prepared and will be available prior to this evening's meeting.
- b) Recommendation: Conduct Public Hearing; provide direction to staff as necessary.

16) 16-024. Set date, time and location for Annual City Meeting

- a) Recommendation: Set date/time for the Annual City Meeting on Tuesday, March 1, 2016, from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. in the City Hall Auditorium.

6) 16-014. Conduct the First Public Hearing on the Proposed FY17 Municipal Budget

- a) The City Manager presented a recommended budget on December 16, 2015.
- b) Council conducted a Budget Workshop on January 6th and continued it earlier this evening.
- c) Conduct the First Public Hearing; possible direction to staff.

17) 16-025. Council Reports

18) 16-026. Mayor's Report

19) 16-027. City Clerk's Report

20) 16-028. City Manager's Report

Adjournment