

**CITY OF MONTPELIER  
CAPITAL CITY OF VERMONT**

**City Manager's Weekly Report – 1/16/2015**

**UPCOMING MEETINGS ...**

- **Energy Committee Meeting:** Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 P.M. in the Memorial Room.
- **Bike Committee Meeting:** Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 8:00 A.M. at the Police Department's Community Room.
- **"Friends of the Winooski" Meeting:** Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 6:00 P.M. in the City Manager's Conference Room.
- **Special City Council Meeting:** *Thursday*, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 6:30 P.M. in the City Council Chambers.

**FOR YOUR CALENDAR ...**

- **"Welcome Legislators" Reception:** Thursday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, from 5:00 to 7:00 P.M. at the Capitol Plaza.
- **Pre Town Meeting:** Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, at the Montpelier Senior Activity Center, 58 Barre Street ... time to be determined.

**ATTACHMENTS ...**

-  Press Release: "Coffee with a Cop"
-  Press Release: Net Zero Montpelier Selected as a Semifinalist for the \$5 Million Georgetown University Energy Prize
-  Ad: Montpelier Energy Advisory Committee
-  Thank You Letter to Montpelier Housing Authority

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT ...**

**Wastewater Facility Wins Two Regional Awards!**

The New England Water Environment Association (NEWEA) recently announced their 2014 award recipients for excellence in public water management. Robert Fischer, Montpelier's Wastewater Plant Chief Operator, was awarded an Alfred E. Peloquin Award and the Montpelier Water Resource Recovery Facility received an award for wastewater utility.

# CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

January 16, 2015

Page 2

The Wastewater Utility Award was awarded from the NEWEA Utility Management Committee for operations and performance excellence and energy conservation. More information can be found here: <http://www.newea.org/>. We are proud of Bob and the staff at the Water Resource Recovery Facility!

## Legal

*Hallsmith vs. City, Fraser, Baker* – Being appealed to Supreme Court. Represented by Bernie Lambek. Oral arguments were held on December 18, 2014. Awaiting decision

*VCFA vs. City, Tax Appeal.* – in discovery. Represented by Robert Fletcher.

*Steuerswald vs. Fraser, Cleveland, City* – Motions being filed. Represented by Nancy Sheahan through VLCT.

*Bettis/Powers vs. Bean* – Motions being filed. Represented by Nancy Sheahan through VLCT. Mandatory mediation was held on Monday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## **WEEKLY UPDATES FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS ...**

*None this week*

## **TOPICS FOR UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS ...**

January 22 (Thursday)	Second Public Hearing: Budget & Warning Deadline for Petitions Approve Budget and Warning Audit Final Approval of Community Fund Grants
February 11	Review of Flood Mitigation Plan City Manager's Review One Taylor – Construction Manager
February 18	Montpelier in Motion City Manager's Review (cont'd.)
March 3	City Meeting Election



William J. Fraser  
City Manager



*America's Small Town Capital*

Mayor John Hollar

William Fraser  
City Manager

City Council Members:

Dona Bate  
Jessica Edgerly Walsh  
Tom Golonka  
Thierry Guerlain  
Justin Turcotte  
Anne Watson

Jessie Baker  
Assistant City Manager

## **PRESS RELEASE** **"Coffee with a Cop"**

"Last month's Coffee With a Cop at [Birchgrove Baking](#) was so successful that the Montpelier Police Department plans to hold "Lunch with a Cop" on February 6 at 12:00 PM. Head over to the Montpelier Senior Activity Center (58 Barre Street) for a delicious lunch and an opportunity to discuss community issues and build relationships with officers from the Montpelier Police Department. Lunch is \$9 for those under 60 years of age and no charge with a \$7 suggested donation for those 60 or older. If you plan to come for lunch, please call (802) 262-6288 or email [justbasicsinc@gmail.com](mailto:justbasicsinc@gmail.com) by February 4 so we can reserve you a meal. Don't have time for a full lunch? Stop by for a cup of coffee instead. Hope to see you there!"

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 14, 2015

**Net Zero Montpelier Selected as a Semifinalist in the of  
the \$5 million Georgetown University Energy Prize**

Today, Montpelier officially advances to the Semifinal round of the [Georgetown University Energy Prize \(GUEP\)](#), a national competition that is challenging communities across the U.S. to rethink their energy use. At a press event in Washington, D.C. today, Montpelier was announced as one of the 50 communities who are leading the way on energy efficiency.

“Montpelier has set an ambitious goal to eliminate or offset fossil fuel use in the Capital City completely in 15 years,” said Montpelier Mayor John Hollar. “Supported by the Montpelier Energy Advisory Committee (MEAC), our goals will be reached as we come together as a community to change our energy use habits. The GUEP opportunity not only provides even more motivation to act but an opportunity to collaborate with two other Vermont communities to achieve our goals. We look forward to rolling up our sleeves and moving ahead.”

Mayors and executives across the country have told us that this Prize gives them the momentum to accelerate their energy efficiency efforts,” said Dr. Francis Slakey, Founder and Executive Director of the Georgetown University Energy Prize. Slakey continued, “these Semifinalist communities are leading the way for other small- and medium-size cities and counties to secure their energy efficient future.”

“The Net Zero Montpelier effort that underpins Montpelier's interest in the GUEP is exciting and unique”, said Andrea Colnes, executive director of the Energy Action Network. “I believe we are one of the only cities in the country that has committed to getting all of the energy we use for transportation, heating and electricity from renewables and efficiency”.

Montpelier joins two other communities from Vermont in this friendly competition to improve energy efficiency for all. The South Burlington and Waterbury/Duxbury teams were also chosen for the GUEP semifinals.

“This is an exciting development for Montpelier, and a reflection of the hard work, commitment, and collaboration that has been at the heart of the Net Zero Montpelier effort,” said Jim Merriam, Director of Efficiency Vermont. “We are looking forward to helping support the great work of South Burlington, Waterbury/Duxbury, and Montpelier as they all continue to advance in the national competition and demonstrate Vermont's leadership on energy efficiency.”

“The competition looks truly like America,” said Dr. Slakey, “not only do these communities come from across the map, they come from across the political spectrum, represent all socioeconomic strata, and include demographically diverse populations. Some are paying the highest prices for energy, some have the ambition to be carbon net-zero, but all communities share the goal of transforming America's energy future.”

To learn more about the Georgetown University Energy Prize and to track the competition's progress, visit [www.guep.org](http://www.guep.org), or follow the Prize on Twitter (@GUEnergyPrize) or Facebook ([www.facebook.com/guenergyprize](http://www.facebook.com/guenergyprize)).

For more information about Net Zero Montpelier and ways you can get involved, please visit <http://eanvt.org/net-zero-montpelier/> or contact MEAC Chair Tim Shea at (802) 229-3559 or [tshea@nationallifegroup.com](mailto:tshea@nationallifegroup.com).

### **About Georgetown University Energy Prize**

The \$5 million Georgetown University Energy Prize challenges small- to medium-size towns, cities, and counties to rethink their energy use, and implement creative strategies to increase efficiency. To compete for the Prize, local governments, residents, utilities, and others will need to work together to demonstrate success in sustainably reducing energy consumption over a two-year period. For more information, visit [www.guep.org](http://www.guep.org).

#### **Jessie Baker**

*Assistant City Manager*

City of Montpelier

39 Main Street

Montpelier, Vermont 05602

P: (802) 262-6250

[jbaker@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:jbaker@montpelier-vt.org)

[www.montpelier-vt.org](http://www.montpelier-vt.org)



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Assistant City Manager

January 12, 2015

The Times-Argus

Please insert the following ad with other Montpelier notices on Thursday, January 15<sup>th</sup>; and Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.

## **MONTPELIER ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The Montpelier City Council is seeking three (3) applicants interested in serving on the Montpelier Energy Advisory Committee (MEAC.) MEAC meets once a month to guide and review progress on Net Zero Montpelier, discuss other energy projects and new initiatives, and provide recommendations to the City Council on city energy issues. Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 P.M. Letters of interest should be submitted to the Office of the City Manager, City Hall - 39 Main Street, Montpelier, Vermont 05602 (or by e-mailing [spitonyak@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:spitonyak@montpelier-vt.org)) on or by Wednesday, February 4, 2015. The City Council will make this appointment at their February 11, 2015 meeting. Applicants are encouraged to attend. All municipal meetings are accessible to people with disabilities and are held in accordance with the public meeting and public records laws.

Office of the City Manager





*"America's Small Town Capital"*

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City Manager

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Assistant City Manager

January 8, 2015

Jo Ann Troiano, Executive Director  
Montpelier Housing Authority  
155 Main Street  
Montpelier, VT 05602

Dear Jo Ann:

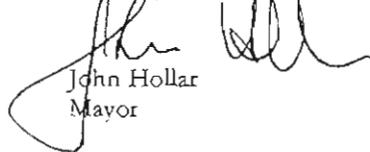
On behalf of the Montpelier City Council, I would like to thank you and the Montpelier Housing Authority Board Members for your payment of \$2,750.00 in lieu of taxes for the Gould Apartment complex for the 2015 fiscal year.

As these challenging economic times still continue, City officials understand how difficult it is to make a payment in lieu of taxes when any extra funds might be needed for the rising costs of heating, plowing and any unforeseeable emergencies that are looming in the not-too-distant future.

City officials greatly appreciate this money and as we have conveyed to you in past letters, it would be nice if owners of all exempt properties felt as strongly as your Board about making such contributions when financially feasible.

Thank you again for your generous contribution and as always, the City will continue to support your efforts and assist you whenever possible.

Sincerely,

  
John Hollar  
Mayor

JH:sjp