

**CITY OF MONTPELIER
CAPITAL CITY OF VERMONT**

City Manager's Weekly Report – 2/13/2015

UPCOMING MEETINGS ...

- **Pre-Town Meeting:** Tuesday, February 17th, at 7:00 P.M. at the Montpelier Senior Activity Center, 58 Barre Street.
- **Energy Advisory Committee Meeting:** Tuesday, February 17th, at 7:00 P.M. in the Memorial Room.
- **Special City Council Meeting:** Wednesday, February 18th, at 6:30 P.M. in the City Council Chambers.
- **“Friends of the Winooski” Meeting:** Thursday, February 19th, at 6:00 P.M. in the City Manager's Conference Room.

ATTACHMENTS ...

-  Entry Order from Vermont Supreme Court: Appeal Dismissed in Wallace S. Nolen
-  Press Release: Tom McArdle named as Director of Public Works
-  Insights in Conflict Evaluation

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT ...

1 Taylor Street

RFP's are out for appraisal work. Discussions about finalizing the contract with DEW have begun. We are waiting for comments from Redstone on the proposed development agreement. None of this is delaying project preparations right now.

Public Works Director

As announced this week, Tom McArdle officially assumed the position of DPW Director on Wednesday. Congratulations to Tom. With this appointment, we are looking at the department structure before filling his former position.

Bus Shelter

Council Member Watson connected me with the High School shop class. I met with them twice this week and they are doing a design project for a temporary (2 years) bus shelter in front of city hall. Once they have developed designs with cost estimates we will include the various stake holders and can decide whether to proceed with construction and installation. It's exciting to have the students involved.

Pre-Town Meeting

Reminder that the Pre-Town Meeting forum is on Tuesday night at 7:00 PM at the Senior Center.

Website Request for Proposals

In January we issued a Request for Proposals for a new municipal website. Responses were due this week. We have received 17 responses. A review team will review and score these responses over the next several weeks and then finalists will be invited in for an interview. We hope to have a recommendation of a vendor to the Council in April.

Legal

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

VCFA vs. City, Tax Appeal. –discovery from VCFA due today. Represented by Robert Fletcher.

Steuerwald 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.

Illuzzi vs. City, Law, Motyka, Renaud Bros. – Suit filed today regarding damage to a building allegedly caused by work done by the city. Represented by Jim Carroll through VLCT.

WEEKLY UPDATES FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS ...

Community Justice Center:

Several times a year, the MCJC delivers a two-part class called [Insights Into Conflict](#). This class is a very basic introduction to conflict resolution. It particularly focuses on attitudes about conflict and the choices one has in how to act when in conflict. It gets people to think before reacting. While the class was developed to be relevant for anybody interested in attending, typically it is filled with people who have been referred to the class because of fighting. We continue to offer this class on a regular basis because of the feedback we get about what people learn from it. The attached document is a compilation of feedback from the most recent class.

TOPICS FOR UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS ...

February 17	Pre-Town Meeting Forum at Senior Center 7:00 PM
February 18	Update from CV Public Safety Authority Update on Winter Maintenance

City Manager's Review (cont'd.)

March 3	City Meeting Election
March 10	Organizational Meeting Rules of Procedure Ethics Policy Dog Owners Greening America's Capitals Hazard Mitigation Plan
March 24	Goals and Priorities
April 8	Montpelier in Motion



William J. Fraser
City Manager

E N T R Y O R D E R

VERMONT SUPREME COURT DOCKET NO. 2014-233

JANUARY TERM, 2015

VERMONT SUPREME COURT
FILED IN CLERK'S OFFICE

FEB 3 2015

WALLACE S. NOLEN*

v.

STATE OF VERMONT, CITY OF
MONTPELIER, JOHN DOE 1-40, ANTHONY
FACOS, CITY OF MONTPELIER POLICE
DEPARTMENT

} APPEALED FROM:
} Washington Civil Division
}
} DOCKET NUMBER: 575-8-10 Wncv
}

In the above-entitled cause, the Clerk will enter:

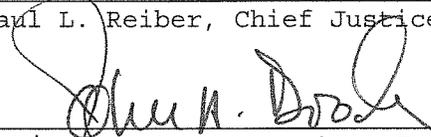
Appeal dismissed for failure to comply with this Court's Order dated
12/01/2014.

- Publish
- Do Not Publish

BY THE COURT:



Paul L. Reiber, Chief Justice

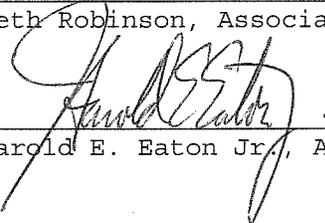


John A. Dooley, Associate Justice



Marilyn S. Skoglund, Associate Justice

Beth Robinson, Associate Justice



Harold E. Eaton Jr., Associate Justice



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

MONTPELIER NAMES McARDLE AS PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

February 11, 2015

Montpelier, Vermont – Montpelier City Manager William Fraser announced today that he has appointed Thomas J. McArdle, 55, of Calais to position of Public Works Director for the city effective immediately. McArdle has served as the Acting Public Works Director for Montpelier since November. He has been the Assistant Public Works Director for the city since 2000 and previously worked as a project manager in the department since 1982

McArdle has an Associates Degree in Applied Science from New Hampshire Technical College and is a graduate of Montpelier High School. He has completed numerous technical trainings and classes related to surveying, public transportation and infrastructure.

McArdle replaces Public Works Director Todd Law who resigned in November to accept a position with the State of Vermont. He was selected from a field of 24 applicants. City department heads, DPW supervisors, DPW union members and a Montpelier Alive representative assisted Fraser in the interview and selection process. McArdle's starting salary will be \$82,000 annually.

Fraser said, "Tom carries an incredible wealth of knowledge about the city, the department, our infrastructure and project history. He is a very dedicated employee who has an excellent grasp of the current and future challenges facing the community. I am confident that he will step in seamlessly and lead the Public Works Department on issues such as steady state funding, stormwater, aging water/sewer lines and the new district heat utility. He has been a very valuable asset for 32 years and is ready to move into this key management position."



INSIGHTS INTO CONFLICT EVALUATION

January 28, 2015

1. What are three things you learned in this class?

To avoid conflict; to talk, knowledge: is it really a conflict?

Something that I will definitely take away from this class is the “ways people handle conflict” chart

How to deal with conflicts

Working together; listening about one another; split the difference

That people have the same problems as me; to work the differences out; split the difference with the person

Ways to view conflict—importance of the conflict—is it worth it? Not always

I learned that someone with power over you in a conflict is recognized as damaging to both solving it fairly; I learned that the regular conflict resolution techniques won't help with my ex; I spoke with someone who is in my same situation and learned a female perspective.

Different approaches to handle conflict; breathe; communicate the conflict and find a way to come to a solution.

2. How will you use what you learned?

In everyday situations; with work, family

Ever since seeing and learning this, I have thought back to the conflict chart and it has helped me work through whatever was happening.

In everyday issues

To work with the other person

To listen to the other person

I will use these tools professionally as well as personally—conflict everywhere; build communication with my daughters

When dealing with someone with authority over me, I will suppress my need for them to be respectful and try to get through it; if they truly cross the line I will use the appropriate channels to have my say.

Think before I act.

3. What did you like about this class?

Open dialogue; small class size

I really liked how open and comfortable it was to talk about my problems

Everybody shared

Listening to one another

That people had the same problems as me and they're going through the same thing.

I like how it was admitted that it's not an answer for everything. But would only work on reasonable people. So it lets me know that I've been on the right track as far as dealing with her and she needs to meet me halfway.

Ways to avoid conflict

4. What surprised you about this class?

Honesty from participants

How supportive the other people were

It was fun and easy to share

Learning about different people's feelings

To work with the person and to work out my differences

That I got something out of it...came as a show of support for my daughter and found that I needed to look at my own contribution to our conflict.

Small groups and feel a little comfortable sharing.

5. What would make this class better?

Should be 3-4 classes for participants to learn more

Nothing ☺

More snacks

To work more as groups

To work together more as groups

Coffee!

More help with the ones who need to deal with crazy/fake people

The classes could be longer