

**CITY OF MONTPELIER
CAPITAL CITY OF VERMONT**

City Manager's Weekly Report – 8/07/2015

UPCOMING MEETINGS ...

- Monday, August 10th Planning Commission Meeting, 5:30 P.M. in the City Council Chambers

- Wednesday, August 12th Special City Council Meeting, 5:30 P.M. in the City Council Chambers

ATTACHMENTS ...

- ✚ Press Release: Traffic Delays Due to Events in Montpelier on Saturday, August 8th

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT ...

Public Budget Discussion

One of the Council priorities for this year is to “initiate public discussion regarding long-term budget choices.” The Mayor, Council Member Olson and I, along with Assistant City Manager Jessie Baker and Finance Director Sandy Gallup, have met a few times to develop a format and process. In the course of these meetings, we invited Montpelier resident Paul Costello who conducts these sort of sessions in his professional capacity at the Vermont Council for Rural Development. As a result, we have created a general outline of two sessions which will be held on Thursday, September 24th and Tuesday, October 13th – location to be determined. We will do a full review of the proposed agenda and goals of these sessions at the August 26th meeting for your consideration and approval.

Road Improvements

Road paving and improvement projects are under way; National Life Drive is in progress now. We will be arranging a CIP Committee meeting within the next month to begin future planning.

One Taylor

Easement appraisals are in the final stages. The acquisition hearing for the Mowatt property is being moved to September 23rd. The City is actively pursuing several promising grant opportunities to close the project budget gap. Lease discussions continue for use of parking spaces.

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Economic Development Strategic Plan

Another Council priority was the creation of an Economic Development Strategic Plan. An RFP was issued with nine proposals received. The Steering Committee is reviewing those proposals. The current target is to recommend a contract for Council approval at the September 9th meeting.

Organizational Consulting Work

I am fortunate to have attended the ICMA Senior Executives Institute in June. It provided me with a lot of new ideas about how our organization can function differently. One of the benefits of this program is access to the instructors for consulting work. Craig Gerhart, former County Executive for Prince William County, Virginia and Manager in other locations, is one of the main teachers in the SEI program. He will be in Montpelier during the week of September 8-11 (exact dates not finalized) to work with our management staff and employees on some of these high performance organization concepts. He will also be working with the Council on the 9th so that all of the organization is using similar thinking and to assist us all with role clarification and best practices for assisting one another. My plan is to keep the actual agenda brief that night and use most of the evening for this organizational development workshop.

Berlin Pond

Survey of the potential pond access area is done. Some question still exists over the status of a particular section of land between Berlin's land and the pond. This will be subject to further review.

Parking

Council priorities included continuing parking counts and conducting a strategic planning process around parking issues. Counts have continued. The Planning Department will be preparing preliminary data and analysis to the Parking Committee in the fall. They will consider how to move forward with the planning process and make a recommendation to the Council.

VLCT Town Fair

The Annual Vermont League of Cities and Towns Meeting, called Town Fair, is being held on October 8th in Killington. All city officials are welcome to attend. One official needs to be designated as the City's voting representative for adoption of League policy.

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Personnel

As a result of Sharon Blatchford's retirement, we have promoted DPW Stock Records Clerk Todd Provencher into Sharon's HR position. Todd has an accounting degree and a lot of relevant experience. He'll be sorely missed at the DPW garage where he has done a superb job, but this is a great opportunity for him. We welcome Todd to City Hall in a new role and will begin looking for his replacement at DPW.

We are also in the midst of a hiring process for the Chief Operator position at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Legal

VCFA vs. City, Tax Appeal. – Motions for Summary Judgment were filed by both parties on June 15. Represented by Robert Fletcher.

Bettis/Powers vs. Bean – Motions being filed. Represented by Nancy Sheahan through VLCT.

Illuzzi vs. City, Law, Motyka, Renaud Bros. – Motions have been filed. Going into mediation. Represented by Constance Tryon Bell through VLCT.

WEEKLY UPDATES FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS ...

Department of Public Works

Sidewalk Reconstruction: A contract for the reconstruction of concrete sidewalks was awarded to Dubois Construction as a result of a competitive bid process. The contract includes replacement of various sections of deteriorated or misaligned sidewalks on Main Street near the Main Street Middle School and on State Street between Main Street and Bailey Avenue. The work will start on Main Street the week of August 10th with completion before the school year begins. The schedule for the State Street sidewalk work has not yet been determined.

TOPICS FOR UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS ...

August 12 **(5:00 P.M.)**

Consent Agenda Items Only

Award of Bid for Police Cruiser

Date Change of Mowatt Hearing

Resolution to Accept Terms and Conditions for a Grant Agreement

Authorize CVRPC to Review Draft Master Plan

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August 26	Winter Parking Ban Ordinances Overview of Public Discussion Community Fund Board Appointments to Community Fund Board Appointments to East CV Telecommunications District Alternate Transportation Funding Clarification
September 9	Consultant Work Economic Development Strategic Plan
September 23	5:30 Mowatt Site Visit 6:30 Mowatt Hearing
September 24	Public Budget Discussion 1
October 13	Public Budget Discussion 2
October 14	Regular Council Meeting



William J. Fraser
City Manager

City of Montpelier Police Department



Anthony J. Facos
Chief of Police

PRESS RELEASE

For more information, contact:
Chief Anthony J. Facos
(802) 223-3445

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 4, 2015

Traffic Delays due to Events in Montpelier on Saturday, August 8, 2015: -Motorcycle Toy Run -Vintage Camper Show

On Saturday August 8th, 2015, Montpelier will be host to the Vermont Vintage Camper Show. Vintage campers will be on display to the public on State Street as well as the Jacob's parking lot off of Main Street. **State Street, from Main Street to Elm Street, will be closed to traffic that day from 10:00 AM until 4:00 PM.**

The other major event for Saturday will be the United Motorcyclists of Vermont's Annual Toy Run. A parade permit for this event has been issued. Depending on the number of motorcycles that will be in this ride, traffic along the RT 2 corridor (River Street and Berlin Street) in Montpelier as well as State Street and Main Street will experience delays. **State Street between Taylor Street and Bailey Avenue will be temporarily closed to through traffic from approximately 12:45 PM to 2:00 PM, in order to accommodate the motorcycles in the vicinity of the State House.**

***Provisions have been made for the motorcycle parade to proceed left, onto State Street (from Main Street), and ride down the center lane that will be maintained by volunteers from the vintage camper show--the campers will be displayed along the sides of State Street.**

The Montpelier Police Department recommends that motorists seeking to avoid any traffic delays from 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM should seek alternate routes, away from the affected areas.