

**CITY OF MONTPELIER  
CAPITAL CITY OF VERMONT**

**City Manager's Weekly Report – 7/22/2016**

**UPCOMING MEETINGS ...**

Monday, July 25	Planning Commission, 5:30 P.M. in the City Council Chambers
Wednesday, July 27	City Council Meeting, 5:30 P.M. in the City Council Chambers
Thursday, July 28	Board of Civil Authority Meeting, 5:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers
	Pedestrian Advisory Committee, 5:15 P.M. in the Police Department Community Room

**UPDATED LIST OF CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS ...**

Wednesday, July 27 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting for Consent Agenda Items ONLY
Wednesday, August 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Rescheduled Eminent Domain Hearing for the Jacobs Property at 5:30 P.M. (if needed)
Wednesday, August 10 <sup>th</sup>	Regular City Council Meeting

**ATTACHMENTS ...**

-  Notice: City Announces WiFi Now Available at the Montpelier Pool
-  Ad: Montpelier Community Fund Board Vacancy
-  Ad: Planning Commission Vacancies

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

**One Taylor Street**

Significant progress has been made on the three easements. All are at VTtrans for final review and will be on a Council agenda as soon as possible. Once these are finalized, the Mowatt land purchase/development deal and railroad land swap will be the only remaining right-of-way issues.

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## Finance Director

We have received 9 applications to date with a range of qualifications. The deadline is August 5<sup>th</sup>.

## Econo Lodge

They are actively working to address health and safety issues for which they were cited. Discussions about future uses of the property are occurring but nothing specific is proposed.

## Legal

*Illuzzi vs City, et al:* On July 12<sup>th</sup>, the Vermont Superior Court of Washington County issued its "Opinion and Order on Defendants' Motions for Summary Judgement and Mr. Illuzzi's Motions to Compel, Enlarge, and Amend". The City & its employee defendants were granted summary judgement except for the issue of causation. All of the motions filed by the Plaintiff were denied or dismissed. The attorney for the City will now consult with VLCT as to the next course of action.

*Police Investigation:* Discussions between attorneys continue. No date set for a new hearing at this time.

*VCFA vs. City, Tax Appeal:* Notice was received that Vermont College of Fine Arts has appealed the recent judgment from Vermont Superior Court, Washington Unit, to the Vermont Supreme Court. The Superior Court judgment upheld the City's determination that Schulmaier Hall is taxable due to its lease for "a general commercial purpose".

Represented by Robert Fletcher.

## WEEKLY UPDATES FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS ...

### Senior Center

#### *Dementia-Friendly City Initiative*

- One of the Senior Center's priorities last year--and continuing into this year--is to make Montpelier a more dementia-friendly city. Toward that goal, we have sponsored a number of community education initiatives over the past year, including The Intergenerational Memory Puppet Project and continuation of the Montpelier Memory Cafe. We intend to offer various trainings to Montpelier Business Association members and City employees, among others, with the goal of increasing awareness and

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tolerance and teaching best communication strategies for those who interact with people who have memory disorders.

- An important partner in our work is the Alzheimer's Association, and on June 23rd, they presented a comprehensive talk and slide show, "Know the Basics" to a grateful audience at MSAC.
- On **Thursday, July 28, from 1:00-2:30**, the Alzheimer's Association returns to MSAC to present the workshop "**Know the Ten Signs, Early Detection Matters**" which is **free and open to the public**. Call the Alzheimer's Association at 800-272-3900 to pre-register. If you or someone you know is experiencing memory loss or behavioral changes, it's time to learn the facts. Early detection of Alzheimer's disease gives you a chance to begin drug therapy, enroll in clinical studies and plan for the future. Join us for this interactive workshop, which features video clips of people with Alzheimer's disease.
- Save the date for the Alzheimer's Association's third workshop in the series: "Effective Communication Strategies" on Thursday, August 25, at 1:00 P.M. at MSAC.

### *Reminder*

Due to staff summer vacations and kitchen deep cleaning, FEAST Together meals and van rides to MSAC are cancelled for Tuesday, July 26<sup>th</sup>. FEAST Together's onsite meals at 58 Barre Street resume their normal Tuesday/Friday noon schedule on Friday, July 29<sup>th</sup>, and weekly van rides resume on Tuesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>. FEAST at Home delivered meals continue through the summer break. For reservations or more info about these services, call 262-628.

### **Public Works Department:**

DPW projects are now in full swing with seven streets in various stages of completion for resurfacing work. With the recent addition of a portion Hill Street to the paving list, five more streets are planned for work this summer which will begin soon. Also, funding was recently approved to resurface part of the bike path between Bailey Avenue and Taylor Street which will be done before the end of the construction season. Last but not least, on the list for resurfacing this summer is the municipally-operated parking lot at 60 State Street where the Farmer's Market is held. Your Public Works Department has been supporting these projects with advance storm and utility repair work. For Cedar Street resurfacing preparation, the DPW crew removed and replaced the silt and clay contaminated subbase with a new reinforced gravel foundation to support the pavement and a new sidewalk.

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In addition to the paving projects, work on critical infrastructure by a DPW crew included the unplanned replacement of 270' of failing sewer main on Terrace Street with more replacement needed. Storm drains were also installed on North Street and Towne Street to remove clear water from the sewer system to reduce the incidences of combined sewer overflows, as well as foul odors.

Other major infrastructure projects planned for this season include construction of three retaining walls and several sidewalk reconstruction projects throughout town as listed below. These projects were all designed by DPW engineering staff and competitive bids have been solicited with contract award recommendations scheduled for acceptance at the City Council's July 27<sup>th</sup> meeting. A crosswalk ramp and enhancement project funded by a State grant will also be occurring this summer and the Spring Street (Rte. 12) bridge deck rehabilitation project recently began with a late August completion date. Note that several additional deteriorated sections of concrete sidewalk and most of the crosswalk ramps in the downtown area (Main and State Streets) will be replaced in 2017 as part of the planned paving projects involving State Street (Main – Bailey) and Rte. 12 (Main Street bridge – Middlesex town line). By the end of next summer, all sidewalks in the downtown will be in good to excellent condition.

Also planned for the end of this season is the reconstruction of Taylor Street between State Street and the bridge. This project will include storm water quality improvements funded by an Ecosystem Restoration Grant, the burying of multiple telecommunication lines, and new sidewalks connecting State Street with Memorial Drive sidewalks and the bike path.

### Retaining Walls:

- 65-79 River Street: a textured precast block wall to support an unstable roadside slope.
- Woodrow Avenue: a textured precast block wall to allow for construction of a sidewalk to provide sidewalk continuity
- 55-59 East State Street: a textured precast block wall to support the upper slope of a large granite retaining wall (continuation of project begun last year)

### Sidewalks:

- State Street: four sections between #120 – 136, and six sections on south side between Spring and Vine

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### Sidewalks (cont'd.):

- Elm Street: two sections on east side between State and Langdon
- School Street: two sections – one near the bridge; the other at Bethany Church corner
- Cedar Street: reconstruction with paving project
- Main Street: about a dozen sections on both sides between School Street and Spring Street
- Spring Street: sections to be done with bridge contract
- East State Street: Hubbard Street to the crosswalk at #76 East State Street
- Bailey Avenue: Terrace Street – Clarendon Avenue
- Clarendon Avenue: Bailey Avenue – Hubbard Park Drive

### Crosswalk Projects:

#### Crosswalk Enhancements:

- Barre Street at the Recreation / Senior Center Crossing
- Bailey Avenue at the Bike Path Crossing
- Main Street at the Franklin / Liberty Street Intersection
- Main Street at the North / Jay Street Intersection

#### Crosswalk Ramps:

- Main Street at intersections with College Street, Towne Hill Road, Franklin Street, and North Street
- Park Avenue at intersections with Loomis Street and Hubbard Street
- Bailey Avenue at the Bike Path
- East State Street at intersections with Hubbard Street and near #76 East State Street

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## Illegal Dumping:

The intersection of Foster Street and College Street is being used again as an area for setting up a neighborhood "free pile". Complaints are being received at Police and Public Works that items not worthy of re-use are being discarded at the site and the individuals responsible for placing the items at the site are not retrieving them after a reasonable amount of time. Consequently, the unwanted items are considered an eye sore and Public Works is repeatedly asked to remove the pile and haul it away to the dump at taxpayer expense. Given the "free pile" is typically in the public right-of-way and not in front of a home where a "free pile" is more appropriately located and can be managed by the resident, the Public Works Department considers the material to be litter and those responsible should be cited for a violation of the State's littering law (VSA 24, §2201.) Accordingly, the Director has ordered the installation of a "No Dumping" sign and asked the Police Department to monitor for enforcement.

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

July 27	Consent Agenda only meeting
August 3	Eminent Domain Hearing – Overlake Park, LLC (If needed)
August 10	Master Plan Outreach French Block Update and MOU Approval Goal: Safe Community Street Closure Policy and Fees EDSP Implementation Plan Montpelier Transportation Advisory Committee Dog Ordinance - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Junkyard Ordinance -1st Reading Appointment to Community Fund Board Appointments to Planning Commission
September 14	Zoning Goal: Housing/Economic Development Bike Path Update Junkyard Ordinance – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Montpelier Energy Advisory Committee Fund Personnel Pan Revisions

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September 28

Zoning

Goal: Clean Environment

Storm Water Master Plan ?

Water Source Protection Plan ?

October 12

Zoning Wrap Up

Housing Strategies Plan ?

Goal – Vibrant Downtown



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  
Jean Olson  
Justin Turcotte  
Anne Watson

Jessie Baker  
Assistant City Manager

### **City Announces WiFi Now Available at the Montpelier Pool**

July 21, 2016

Today the City of Montpelier activated public WiFi at the Montpelier pool on Elm Street. With a download speed of 11.6 Mbps and an upload speed of 2.0 Mbps, visitors will have better access to data use while visiting the pool. To access this service, connect to the network "pool." Upon initial connection, users will need to hit "accept" on the first screen and then will be able to use WiFi freely.

"We are excited about this new service for the visitors to the Montpelier pool," said City Manager, Bill Fraser today. "Parents, children, and visitors will now be able to connect to the online world while taking a break from the refreshing water of the pool!"





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Jessie Baker  
Assistant City Manager

July 20, 2016

The Times-Argus

Att: Mandy/Danielle

Please insert the following with City of Montpelier notices on Friday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, and Thursday, July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Thank you!

### **CITY OF MONTPELIER**

#### **Montpelier Community Fund Board Vacancy**

The Montpelier City Council is seeking individuals interested in filling an expired 3-year term on the Montpelier Community Fund Board; said term will expire in August, 2019. Letters of interest and brief resumes should be submitted to the Office of the City Manager, City Hall - 39 Main Street, Montpelier (or sent by e-mail to [spitonyak@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:spitonyak@montpelier-vt.org)) on or by Thursday, August 4<sup>th</sup>. The City Council will make these appointments at their August 10<sup>th</sup> 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. Further information may also be obtained by contacting the City Manager's Office at 223-9502.

William J. Fraser  
City Manager



*America's Small Town Capital*

Mayor John Hollar

City Council:

Tom Golonka, President  
Thierry Guerlain, Vice President  
Dona Bate, Parliamentarian  
Anne Watson  
Jessica Edgerly Walsh  
Justin Turcotte

William J. Fraser  
City Manager  
[wfraser@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:wfraser@montpelier-vt.org)

Jessie C. Baker  
Assistant City Manager  
[jbaker@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:jbaker@montpelier-vt.org)

July 20, 2016

The Times-Argus  
Att: Classifieds

Please insert the following with City of Montpelier notices on Friday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, and Thursday, July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Thank you!

**CITY OF MONTPELIER**  
**Planning Commission Vacancies**

The Montpelier City Council is seeking individuals interested in filling four expired terms on the Montpelier Planning Commission; all are 2-year terms. Letters of interest and/or resumes should be submitted to the Office of the City Manager, City Hall - 39 Main Street, Montpelier (or sent by e-mail to [spitonyak@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:spitonyak@montpelier-vt.org)) on or by Thursday, August 4<sup>th</sup>. The City Council will make this appointment at their August 10<sup>th</sup> 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. Further information may also be obtained by contacting the Planning and Development Office at 223-9506.

William J. Fraser  
City Manager