

**CITY OF MONTPELIER  
CAPITAL CITY OF VERMONT**

**City Manager's Weekly Report – 8/26/2016**

**UPCOMING MEETINGS ...**

Wednesday, August 31<sup>st</sup> Special (Phone-in) City Council Meeting, 5:30 P.M. in the City Council Chambers (One Consent Agenda Item Only)

**ATTACHMENTS ...**

 PD Press Release: High Speed Crash in Residential Neighborhood Involving Stolen Vehicle

 Press Release: Police Sergeant Retires, Hearing Canceled

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

**Finance Director**

Jessie and I completed the first round of interviews this week and will be arranging for the finalists to meet with the Finance team and Management team as soon as feasible.

**Council Meeting Dates**

Reminder that the September 28<sup>th</sup> regular meeting is being moved to September 21<sup>st</sup> due to schedule conflicts.

**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 and 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.

*VCFE 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.

# CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

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## WEEKLY REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS ...

### Department of Public Works

#### *60 State Street Parking Lot – Resurfacing Project*

The contractor working for the City on multiple paving projects around town has submitted their schedule for the planned resurfacing of the 60 State Street parking lot. Also known as the “Heney Lot”, this is the site that hosts the weekend Farmer’s Market situated between the Christ Church and Julio’s restaurant. The portion of the lot leased by the City for public parking will undergo a pavement resurfacing preparation process known as cold plane or milling which involves grinding off a couple inches of the surface for leveling and re-profiling purposes. This work will be done on Thursday and Friday of next week (September 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>). The lot will be re-opened on Friday afternoon and the Farmer’s Market will take place as normal utilizing the milled asphalt surface. If the weather cooperates, the lot will be paved on Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>. Re-marking of the parking spaces will take place that night or, if conditions are not conducive to night painting, marking will occur on Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. During the work (9/1, 9/2, 9/6 and possibly 9/7,) parking cannot be permitted within the lot and access will be restricted. Staff will begin individual notifications to all concerned and impacted today and early next week.

Contact Zach Blodgett or Corey Line at the DPW office with any concerns or questions at 223-9508.

#### *Barre Street Culvert Replacement*

A 40-foot section of metal culvert located near the intersection of Sibley Avenue is failing and sink holes were discovered in the road surface following the recent heavy rains. Utilizing an abbreviated bidding process, a contractor was selected to undertake the replacement project. The contractor, Courtland Construction, has indicated they will begin the work on Tuesday, August 30<sup>th</sup> and, if all goes well, will complete the work in three days. The DPW crew will pave the excavation area on Friday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> or the next regular work day.

#### *Sidewalk Projects*

Work on the East State Street sidewalk is expected to be completed by next week (week of August 29<sup>th</sup>). We anticipate having the entire sidewalk in the work zone open for use in time for the 1<sup>st</sup> day of school on Wednesday. The contractor will next to move to other areas planned for sidewalk replacement, or crosswalk ramp construction including a few sections of School Street, multiple sites on Main Street north of School Street, and a few sites on State Street such as the replacement of one of the crosswalk ramps at the Elm Street intersection.

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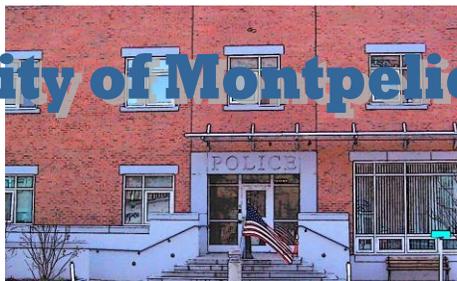
## TOPICS FOR UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS ...

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| August 31    | 5:30 PM – Special Council Hearing<br>(ONE CONSENT AGENDA ITEM ONLY)  |
| September 14 | Goal: Housing/Economic Development<br>Bike Path Update<br>Junkyard Ordinance – 1st Reading<br>Montpelier Energy Advisory Committee Fund<br>Personnel Pan Review<br>Tax Stabilization – 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading (tentative)<br>Community Fund Board Presentation<br>LDC Follow-up<br>MTAC<br>Street Closure Policy<br>Berlin Pond – Jed Guertin |
| September 21 | Zoning<br>Goal: Clean Environment<br>Storm Water Master Plan<br>Water Source Protection Plan<br>Junkyard Ordinance – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading<br>Tax Stabilization – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading (tentative)<br>Car Share Update<br>LDC (if needed)<br>DID – Montpelier Alive   |
| October 12   | Zoning<br>Budget Schedule<br>Housing Strategies Plan (tentative)<br>Goal – Vibrant Downtown<br>LDC (if needed)   |
| October 26   | Zoning<br>Budget Targets   |
| November 9   | Zoning   |

  
William J. Fraser  
City Manager



# City of Montpelier Police Department



**Anthony J. Facos**  
Chief of Police

## PRESS RELEASE

**For more information, contact:**  
**SGT William Jennings or**  
**Officer Jeffrey Pearson**  
**(802) 223-3445**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

August 22, 2016

## **High Speed Crash in Residential Neighborhood Involving Stolen Vehicle**

On Saturday August 20, 2016 at approximately 5:24 AM, the Montpelier Police and Fire Departments were dispatched to the scene of an accident in front of 61 College Street, Montpelier, VT. The accident involved a mini-van that had crashed into a tree. Based on the initial scene assessment, the mini-van was traveling at an extremely high rate of speed when the operator lost control of the vehicle. Upon arrival, the driver (no other persons involved) was unconscious and trapped in the vehicle. MFD personnel needed to use the "Jaws of Life" to extricate the operator from the vehicle. The operator was identified as James A. Dopp Jr (18) of Montpelier. Dopp was transported to the Central Vermont Medical Center and later transferred to Fletcher Allen in Burlington.

Upon further investigation, police learned that the vehicle involved, a 1995 Toyota PRV mini-van was stolen from a residence in Montpelier. Dopp was also believed to be involved with several thefts from area motor vehicles and an attempted burglary.

Dopp will be facing criminal charges of operation of a motor vehicle without owner's consent, attempted burglary, and larceny from a motor vehicle--all in addition to charges relating to his negligent operation.

The incident remains under investigation. Anyone with information is asked to contact the Montpelier Police Department at 802-223-3445.



**1 Pitkin Court, Montpelier, VT 05602 ❖ 802-223-3445 ❖ FAX 802-223-9518**



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

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Police Sergeant Retires, Hearing Canceled  
For Immediate Release - August 25, 2016  
William J. Fraser, City Manager**

Montpelier City Manager William Fraser announced today that Police Sergeant Richard Cleveland has retired from the Montpelier Police Department, effective August 22, after 29 years of service to the City.

In May, the City Manager and Police Captain Neil Martel investigated allegations that Sgt. Cleveland spent portions of some work shifts at his home. The investigation, conducted pursuant to the established internal affairs policy of the Montpelier Police Department, confirmed the allegations. However, subsequent meetings between the City, Sgt. Cleveland and his health provider revealed that an undiagnosed medical condition was a significant factor in his conduct. The City has been made whole for sixty (60) hours of lost time.

Fraser noted that, at his request, and also pursuant to the established internal affairs policy of the Montpelier Police Department, the Vermont State Police reviewed the facts of the case. That investigation determined that no criminal charges were warranted.

In light of all of the above information the personnel hearing before the City Council, scheduled for August 31<sup>st</sup>, has been cancelled.

“Under all the circumstances, I view Sgt. Cleveland’s decision to retire as a positive step for the City, the police department and for himself.” Fraser said. “We appreciate his 29 years of service and wish him the best for his health and for his future career.”