

**CITY OF MONTPELIER  
CAPITAL CITY OF VERMONT**

**City Manager's Weekly Report – 12/02/2016**

**UPCOMING MEETINGS ...**

- |                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday, December 5    | Design Review Committee, 5:30 P.M. in the City Council Chambers                                                                                                                                        |
|                       | Development Review Board, 7:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers                                                                                                                                       |
| Tuesday, December 6   | 2017 Construction Public Meeting, 6:30 – 8:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers/Memorial Room                                                                                                          |
| Wednesday, December 7 | MBA, 8:30 A.M. in the Memorial Room                                                                                                                                                                    |
|                       | Special Joint Meeting of the Montpelier City Council and Barre City Council, 6:30 P.M. in the City Council Chambers/Memorial Room for Discussion of the Central Vermont Public Safety Board's Proposal |

**FOR YOUR CALENDAR ...**

- |                            |                                                                                   |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Thursday, February 9, 2017 | “Welcome Legislators” Reception, 5:00 – 7:00 P.M. in the Capitol Plaza's Ballroom |
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**ATTACHMENTS ...**

-  2017 Construction Public Meeting Notice

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

**FY18 Budget Process**

All public documents related to the FY18 Budget process are, and will be posted, here: <http://www.montpelier-vt.org/179/Annual-Budget>. Currently that includes the budget schedule, communications from the Finance Director, and department presentations. Our goal with this page is to provide a central location where all information is available. Past Annual Budgets are also available on this page.

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## Legal

*Illuzzi vs City, et al:* No further action to report since the July 12, 2016 VT Superior Court of Washington County issued its "Opinion and Order on Defendant's Motions to Compel, Enlarge, and Amend".

*VCFA vs. City, Supreme Court Appeal:* The Vermont Supreme Court heard oral arguments on Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 P.M. We now await their decision. Represented by Robert Fletcher.

## **WEEKLY REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS ...**

### Department of Public Works

As we now begin our third winter of utilizing a winter event based ordinance to prohibit overnight parking on the streets, we continue to have difficulty reaching a large number of people when a winter maintenance notification has been issued. We're uncertain whether the vehicle owners did not receive the notification, chose to disregard it, or for some other reason did not relocate their vehicles. Consequently, the number of vehicles remaining on the street during the ban is unmanageable, exceeding the capacity of our contracted towing company. During our first event of the 2016-17 season, 57 vehicles were issued overnight parking ban tickets. This number is nearly double the towing capacity of our contracted towing service company and when the capacity of the towing company is exceeded, Public Works crews must attempt to work around parked vehicles risking property damage and impacting effective maintenance measures.

When the number of parked vehicles found on the street during the parking ban exceeds towing capacity, a prioritization system will need to be employed based on the physical characteristics of the street such as width and other constraints. A prioritization system could be perceived as being unfair and presents a hardship for event management. Therefore, it is not sustainable.

The City would prefer not to issue tickets or tow any vehicle and we realize removal of vehicles is both costly for the owners and an inconvenience. We have employed several notification methods to reach people, yet we still receive complaints about lack of notice. In the interest of reducing the number of vehicles that have to be towed, a consistent and predictable towing plan was implemented last winter which calls for the removal of all vehicles parked in violation regardless of whether the prediction for snow fall turns out to be accurate or not; when the winter ban is announced, vehicles will be towed.

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New for this year will be the use of electronic message sign boards (2) as a furtherance of our concerted efforts to notify the public about a parking ban. One sign board will be stationed for the season at the Main Street / Memorial Drive / Northfield Street / Berlin Street intersection (Junction of Routes 2 and 12). The position of the 2<sup>nd</sup> sign has not yet been determined but will be announced when known. We may also use the 2<sup>nd</sup> sign in various locations to announce when parking is prohibited for snow bank removal operations, etc.

To help ensure the success and continuation of an event based winter parking ban and to avoid costly towing expenses, we ask that folks help with notifications to neighbors, friends, and visitors - even those people you don't know. Make them aware they need to find out if parking on the street is permitted for that night and to sign up for VT Alerts. The Montpelier City Council and City staff want to make this program a success and avoid returning to a seasonal parking prohibition, but the community must also do its part. The winter season has just begun, so please, spread the word.

As a reminder, notices of Winter Parking bans are posted on:

- The City's website – look for the flashing black “NOTICE” bar at the top of each page of the website;
- The City and Police Department's Facebook page;
- Front Porch Forum;
- A recorded message at 262-6200;
- Via phone calls, emails, or text messages from VT Alerts. To receive these messages directly to your device, go to [www.vtalert.gov](http://www.vtalert.gov) to sign up. Step by step directions on how to sign-up are available here: <http://www.montpelier-vt.org/807/Winter-Parking-Ban>; and
- Look for the new message board sign near the Main Street bridge.

### TOPICS FOR UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS ...

December 7

Joint Meeting with Barre City Council re: CVPSA Board's Proposal

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December 14	Goal: Healthy Community Department Update – Community Services Department Update – Government Services Berlin Pond Budget Preview Discussion Mowatt Proposal (?) Heney Lease (?) Skating Rink MOU
December 21	Goal: Affordable Community Budget Presentation
January 4	Budget
January 11	Budget
January 18	Budget – 1 <sup>st</sup> Public Hearing Warning – 1 <sup>st</sup> Public Hearing Bond Public Hearing
January 26 (Thursday)	Budget – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Public Hearing Warning – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Public Hearing Petitions



William J. Fraser  
City Manager

## PUBLIC MEETING

### 2017 Construction

2017 will be a busy construction year for Montpelier. We will be:

- Reconstructing Northfield Street including replacement of utilities
- Paving Main Street and State Street
- Paving Route 12 from Spring Street out Elm Street to the City line
- Reconstructing Taylor Street
- Starting construction on the Shared Use Path extension from Granite Street to the Civic Center

*We invite all interested members of the Montpelier community to a PUBLIC MEETING to learn more and provide input on the City-wide construction projects.*

**WHEN:** Tuesday, December 6, 2016  
6:30 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.

**WHERE:** City Council Chambers and Memorial Room  
City Hall (39 Main Street)

**WHAT:** Discussion will include

- \* Current project plans
- \* Timing of construction (day work vs night work)
- \* Detours planned to accommodate construction
- \* Communications plan

Questions? Contact Public Works Director, Tom McArdle at [tmcardle@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:tmcardle@montpelier-vt.org) or Assistant City Manager, Jessie Baker at [jbaker@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:jbaker@montpelier-vt.org).