

**CITY OF MONTPELIER  
CAPITAL CITY OF VERMONT**

**City Manager's Weekly Report – 03/17/2017**

**UPCOMING MEETINGS ...**

- Monday, March 20            Montpelier Senior Activity Center Advisory Council Meeting, 12:00 noon in the City Manager's Conference Room, City Hall
- Design Review Committee, 5:30 P.M. in the City Council Chambers
- Development Review Board, 7:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers
- Wednesday, March 22        Regular City Council Meeting, 6:30 P.M. in the City Council Chambers
- Thursday, March 23           Cemetery Commission, 12:00 noon in the City Manager's Conference Room, City Hall
- Montpelier Transportation Infrastructure Committee (MTIC), 6:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers/Memorial Room

**FOR YOUR CALENDARS ...**

- Tuesday, April 11            City Council's Goal Setting Session, 5:30 P.M. in the Police Department Community Room

**ATTACHMENTS ...**

-  Press Release: Montpelier Development Corporation (MDC) Hires Executive Director
-  Press Release: Police Training Exercise with National Life

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

**Zoning**

The Planning Commission has completed drafting a revised zoning ordinance, have approved it and formally transmitted it to the City Council for final review and, presumably, adoption.

# **CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT**

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The agenda item for next week is intended as a workshop for Council Members to be briefed on the contents of the recommendation and ask questions of Commission members and staff. It's important that the Council be informed and educated before wading into full deliberation and public comment.

Formal review of the proposal will take place over the next several meetings. You can decide how you wish to break up the content. Public comment will be most applicable during those sessions.

## **Goal Setting**

We have established Tuesday, April 11 at 5:30 PM in the Police Station Community Room as the date/time for the first Goal Setting Session as per the process outlined last week.

## **Council Retreat**

I have reached out to Delia Clark and Tim Traver who facilitated the Community Services consolidation process. They had good success and were well received by the participants. Through that process they have some familiarity with our city government but are not local and, therefore, don't have pre-conceptions or opinions about us.

I am working out the details with Delia. I shared with her the draft outline that I showed you. I expect that she will be in touch with each of you for an individual conversation before finalizing the retreat program. Those discussions will help her determine the highest priority content and the approximate amount of time needed.

At this time, the retreat will likely be held in early May. We had hoped for between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> but I've already been made aware of a couple of conflicts during those dates. We may want to think about a day long retreat, possibly on Saturday May 6<sup>th</sup> if that works for the facilitator. I know that time is important to everyone but, on the other hand, the Council had 17 Executive Sessions about some of these issues over the last year. At a one hour average, that's 17 hours. There were also legal fees spent. Investing time and money on a facilitator for one or two retreat sessions may be resources well spent.

Given time constraints, I'm also thinking of splitting up some of the topics. It may make sense to hold a VLCT workshop or workshops on public records/open meeting laws and board/manager roles. Those specific topics could potentially be on regular Council agendas (April 12th and 26th for instance) in advance of a May retreat where we can then discuss and process the information we've received. Alternatively, we could include the VLCT sessions as part of the retreat, perhaps at the beginning. Or try for another date but that gets challenging!!!

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## New Council Members

Reminder that we'd love to schedule facility tours and visits. Longer serving Council Members are more than welcome to join in as well. Please let me know dates and times that work for you. We can be pretty accommodating.

## Assistant City Manager

The vacant position has been posted with an April 3<sup>rd</sup> deadline. It's now been three weeks since the initial posting. In typical fashion, applications have slowed down. I expect another rush shortly before the deadline. I have now received 42 applications. Applicants thus far are from 17 states and 1 province. Sixteen are from Vermont with 7 being Montpelier residents. Twenty-six are male and 16 are female.

## Northfield Street Construction Project

Documents and information related to this project are available here: <http://www.montpelier-vt.org/925/Northfield-Street-Reconstruction>

## Downtown Paving Project

Information about this project is available here: <http://www.montpelier-vt.org/929/State-Paving-Project-STP29501>

## Legal

*Illuzzi vs City, et al:* Status conference requested by Court was convened on Monday the 27<sup>th</sup>. It was concluded that this case will proceed to trial.

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

### Department of Public Works

The snow storm on March 14-15 wasn't exactly a blizzard but it was a pretty significant event. The full contingent of staff from the Street and Water/Sewer Divisions, as well as our highly capable mechanics, all chipped in to clear the streets, sidewalks and parking lots. Work will persist for the next several days as we now address icing caused by the freeze/thaw cycles with the sun higher in the sky this time of year and below freezing temperatures at night.

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The streets are again loaded with snow banks narrowing the travel lanes and sidewalks and impeding access to and from the parking aisles. Therefore, we will begin the snow bank removal process starting at midnight Sunday/Monday morning and continuing on Monday/Tuesday morning. We'll need to implement the on-street parking ban to clear the streets but will only request towing where vehicles are obstructing operations. The streets identified for snow bank removal are as follows and will be completed approximately in the order listed:

## 1<sup>st</sup> Night:

1. Main Street – Memorial to Past Library
2. Main Street – Liberty to Jay
3. State Street – Main to Bailey
4. Barre Street – Main to Hubbard
5. Elm Street – State to Winter
6. Langdon
7. Court Street
8. Gov. Davis Avenue
9. School Street – Entire Length

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Night:

10. East State – Main to Hubbard (entire length if possible)
11. Hubbard - Liberty to East State
12. Loomis – Main to School
13. Park Avenue
14. Liberty – Main to Hubbard
15. Bailey Avenue – Memorial to Baldwin
16. Baldwin
17. Barre Street – Hubbard to Sibley

This is an aggressive schedule but if all goes well, we will move on to additional streets. However, we now have limited capacity to dump and store snow because only two dumping locations are now available to us: the Stump Dump and Lower State Street under the interstate. Over the years, we have lost the use of several dumping sites and the recent loss of the former Grossman's property site has further impacted capacity (currently awaiting permission to use one more time). Until other sites can be secured or an alternative means of snow removal is available, we may not be able to remove very much more snow this season.

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## Police Department:

Sgt. Jeff Pearson and Detective Cpl. Steve Nolan conducted a crime scene investigation course on Thursday and Friday (March 16 and 17) for all MPD personnel. The class was a four-hour block of instruction.

## TOPICS FOR UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS ...

March 22	Zoning Workshop Parking Strategy Building Code Proposal – 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading Tax Stabilization/Development Agreement (tentative) Planning Commission Appointment Vermont Mountaineers Proposal One Taylor
April 5	Goals Workshop
April 12	Zoning Building Code Proposal – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Dog Ordinance (?) – 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading
April 26	Zoning Adopt Goals Dog Ordinance (?) – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Committee Assignments
May 10	Zoning



William J. Fraser  
City Manager

March 17, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Michael Nobles (802) 229-5514

**Montpelier Development Corporation Hires Executive Director**

MONTPELIER, VT. On March 16, 2017, the Montpelier Development Corporation announced the hiring of Joe Evans as the Corporation's first Executive Director. Evans and his family moved to Vermont in 2012 after a successful career as an executive marketing leader, corporate strategist, and hands-on management consultant.

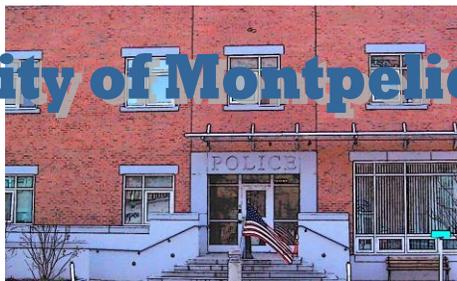
"Joe Evans is an insightful, dynamic, and personable individual who will use his skills and experience to help implement the strategies and projects described in Montpelier's Economic Development Strategic Plan," said Board Chair Michael Nobles. "The other board members and I are excited to work with Evans to make a significant impact on the growth and sustainability of Montpelier."

The MDC is an independent non-profit corporation that serves as steward of the Economic Development Strategic Plan for the City of Montpelier. The Economic Development Strategic Plan (EDSP) was created for the City with a goal of positioning Montpelier as a superior quality location for development so that it can increase economic activity, private-sector jobs and population in the City. To implement the EDSP, the Montpelier Development Corporation was created by act of the Montpelier City Council and the Board of Montpelier Alive (Montpelier's downtown community association). The MDC's mission is to build upon the capitol city's existing strengths as well as identify and facilitate new opportunities in business and housing.

Reporting to the Board of Directors of the MDC, the MDC Executive Director will work closely with local government, area businesses and organizations to assist individual entrepreneurs and already-existing firms to establish, relocate, or expand their businesses within the City of Montpelier.

In addition Michael Nobles, who serves as Chair of the board, the other board members for the corporation are Sarah Jarvis (Vice Chair), Cheryl LaFrance (Secretary), Steve Ribolini (Treasurer), Elinor Bacon, Tim Heney, Harrison Kahn, Bill Kaplan and Robert Kasow.

# City of Montpelier Police Department



**Anthony J. Facos**  
Chief of Police

## Press Release

**For Immediate Release (March 6, 2017)**

## Training Exercise

**Montpelier, Vermont.**

On **Thursday March 9, 2017** the Montpelier Police Department along with Vermont State Police will be conducting a training exercise at the National Life Building (1 National Life Drive, Montpelier, VT 05604) and surrounding neighborhood. This will be a joint training including *the Vermont State Police Tactical Services Unit, Vermont State Police Crisis Negotiation Unit, and the Montpelier Police Department Crisis Negotiation Unit*. There will be a large number of police and police vehicles in the area. Any questions please call the Montpelier Police Department at (802)223-3445.



**MONTPELIER POLICE**



**VERMONT STATE POLICE**