

**CITY OF MONTPELIER
CAPITAL CITY OF VERMONT**

City Manager's Weekly Report – 09/08/2017

UPCOMING MEETINGS...

Monday, September 11 Planning Commission Meeting, 5:30 P.M. in the City Council Chambers

FOR YOUR CALENDARS...

Monday, September 18 Design Review Committee Meeting, 5:30 P.M. in the City Council Chambers

Monday, September 18 Development Review Board Meeting, 7:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT...

One Taylor Street

Construction plans still moving forward as planned. At our invitation, FTA is making a site visit on September 26th to review the progress being made. We are planning a potential ground breaking ceremony for late November/early December.

Mowatt is communicating regularly with us.

The related Taylor Street renovation has been delayed in order to coordinate with a potential private development project.

Caledonia Spirits

Tax Stabilization second hearing will be on the September 13th agenda. The sewer connection issue is resolved. The rail crossing issue is very close to resolution.

Master Plan & Zoning

Continued on September 13th. The Planning Director is completing a draft Master Plan for Planning Commission review as per the proposed schedule.

TIF

White & Burke will be in Montpelier next Tuesday to meet with various groups to outline the TIF program.

Berlin Pond

No update.

Parking/Transportation Alternatives

As discussed by Council's Parking Subcommittee, all 10 M5 meters have been installed. The Subcommittee (Councilors Bate and Watson) will present a proposal for moving forward at the September 27th meeting.

Econo Lodge

DRB is expected to issue approval for the demolition plan shortly, with conditions. City staff is also reviewing COPS' plan. We have received formal notice that asbestos abatement has been completed.

Legal

Downstreet Permit appeal. As per council decision, the city will participate in this appeal to support the application. We discussed this approach with Attorney Rugh this week.

Collective Bargaining

I received a memorandum of agreement from the Police Union and responded with minor comments. I have not heard back from them. I expect to bring this to you soon.

State Street Farmer's Market Update

The Montpelier Farmer's Market will take place on State Street on September 23. City staff is meeting with sponsors, a downtown business rep and a Farmers Market rep next week on logistics.

CIP, Projects

Work on drainage to address basement mold issues will begin soon. We would like to convene the CIP committee during the week of September 18-22 to realign some planned work to accommodate these emergency but necessary actions.

WEEKLY REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS ...

Police Department

On Monday September 11th from 4:00 PM to 8:30 PM at the Central Vermont Medical Center, the

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC 5) will be conducting a tabletop exercise with the Vermont Department of Emergency Management. The focus of this exercise will be to test MPD's continuity of operations plan (COOP) for the department's regional emergency dispatch center. Other stakeholders of the LEPC 5 such as the CVMC and Green Mountain Transit will also be involved with this exercise and after action review.

This Thursday, three MPD Crisis/Hostage Negotiators participated in a training exercise with Vermont State Police's Crisis Negotiations Unit and Tactical Services Unit. The complex scenario training occurred at the U.S. Coast Guard station in Burlington.

Finance Department

A reminder that water/sewer bills are due Friday September 15. If you would like to sign up for automatic payment of your water/sewer, property tax bill or both, you can complete the form that was mailed with the water/sewer bills in August, obtain a copy in the City Clerk's Office or download a copy from the website at <http://www.montpelier-vt.org/DocumentCenter/View/4532>

During the property tax payment cycle in August, over 70 additional property owners signed up for automatic payment service!

The FY18 Adopted Budget document is now available on the website. Hard copies will be printed for City Council and Department Heads.

We continue to work on closing FY17 in preparation for the annual audit, FY18 is now in full swing and FY19 budget season starts in a few weeks! The preliminary budget schedule will be included in the September 27th agenda packet.

Public Works

The Street Division is set to finish the Sibley Avenue sidewalk with backfill and lawn restoration, and may begin repairing the section of sidewalk below College Street. There is also shoulder and curb backfill to do on the section of Winter Street that was paved this week. Outstanding maintenance work, which was put on hold while bigger projects were underway, are being addressed. This includes projects such as repairing a collapsing catch basin on School Street, painting more crosswalks (a couple on Terrace Street not yet done), sweeping streets, catch basin cleaning, street & sidewalk brush cutting, etc. To prepare for the Towne Hill Road project (Dover Road – Westwood Drive), we may be able to begin the installation of one of the new catch basins, repair a culvert headwall and work with the Parks Department on some tree trimming. The Water/Sewer Division will continue work on Harrison Avenue, where a hard to find water leak on the new main has been causing a great deal of aggravation and delaying our ability to put it into service. When the leak is repaired next week, work will begin connecting house services to the new water main.

Montpelier Senior Activity Center

Seeking Volunteers

The Community Services Department will offer a number of great events in October, including the Enchanted Forest (October 14), Ski and Skate Sale (October 21), and Halloween Party (October 28). We are looking for volunteers who can help make these events successful! We have a variety of positions to suit any interests and skill level. If you would like to volunteer, contact Becky Johnston at 225-8694 or rjohnston@montpelier-vt.org.

Managing Stress: A Workshop for Family Caregivers- Tuesday, September 12, 4-5pm
Montpelier Senior Activity Center, 58 Barre Street, Montpelier, Free and open to the public. Are you experiencing a growing level of stress as you care for a loved one? In this one-hour workshop we will look at the signs and causes of stress in the context of caregiving, and begin to explore strategies for reducing your stress while caring for others.

Managing Stress is a valuable one-session workshop for caregivers/care partners. It also serves as a preview for *Powerful Tools for Caregivers*, a 6-session class at MSAC this Fall (starts 9/26) that explores multiple strategies for self-care and practical problem-solving during the caregiving journey. For more information contact Barb Asen, CVCOA Family Caregiver Support Coordinator, at basen@cvcoa.org or call 802-476-2681.

Stowe Bike Path Walk - Thursday, September 21, 1-4:30pm | \$5
Join the Montpelier Senior Activity Center for a two hour walk on the far end of the paved Stowe bike path. This walk is through fields and along a brook from the mountain road end of the path. To sign up, contact the Montpelier Senior Activity Center at 223-2518.

One-On-One Yoga Therapy Sessions with Ragan Sheridan Royer

Starts Thursday September 14 at the Montpelier Senior Activity Center
No previous yoga experience is required. Ragan will create a personalized approach based on your specific symptoms, needs and goals to support you in finding relief, restoring balance and feeling better. Open to anyone 60 or older. Cost is \$45 for a 55 minute session. Contact Ragan Sheridan Royer to schedule at 802-552-8995 or ragan@rootsofsupport.com.

Recreation Department

Youth Soccer: Starts tomorrow and runs through Oct. 21.

We are issuing an RFP to repair the front entrance steps to the Rec Center, and cost estimates for repairs to the Little League Press box, which houses the score board controls and is used by volunteers during the Little League season.

TOPICS FOR UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS...

September 27

Zoning
Budget Process
Parking/team bridges
Asset Management update
Economic Development Goal
Recreation Center RFP?
Safe Needle Disposal

October 11

Zoning
Parklet Ordinance 1st Reading
Five Year Budget projection
Local Options Tax discussion
Wayfinding Signs Presentation
Central VT Public Safety Authority update
ADA Committee update
Downtown Improvement District budget

October 25

Zoning
Parklet Ordinance 2nd Reading
TIF Update
Quality of Life Goal
Aging in Place
Fees

November 8

Crosswalk Safety
Warming and Cooling Shelters
Accessibility



William Fraser
City Manager