

**CITY OF MONTPELIER
CAPITAL CITY OF VERMONT**

City Manager's Weekly Report – 05/25/2018

UPCOMING MEETINGS...

Monday, May 28

City offices closed in observance of Memorial Day.

Wednesday, May 30

Housing Trust Fund, 5:30 PM, Memorial Room

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT...

Capitol Plaza Project

The project completed the DRB process and is awaiting the formal decision. We continue to meet with the owners about the parking garage.

TIF

Following Council approval this week, the City filed the TIF District Plan with the City Clerk and Assessor's offices. In addition, the application was officially filed with the State today.

One Taylor

Reminder that the Council is invited to the 1 Taylor Street groundbreaking ceremony with Sen. Leahy and Gov. Scott on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. If the weather permits, we will be at 1 Taylor Street; we'll be in City Hall if it rains.

WRRF

We are preparing a proposal for Council consideration at an upcoming meeting, based on feedback from Council at the last presentation on this topic. A written summary will be provided a week in advance. We expect to recommend proceeding with Phase I of the organics to energy project which provides the opportunity to add the CHP component as a Phase II project. You will be asked to affirm which project we pursue. You will have a final go/no go decision in September with consideration of a warning a bond vote for this project.

Strategic Planning

Thank all the Council members who devoted two nights last week to the Strategic Planning session. It was great to hear your thinking on issues, and map out your goals for the coming year and two years. Staff will follow up with draft vision statement, directional statements for each Strategic Outcome area, success measures and specific work plans. These will likely come to you at one or both of the June meetings.

Charter Changes

Passed the Legislature.

Scribner Street

Reminder that the Site visit is at 6:15 PM on June 13th. The formal hearing will occur during the regular meeting that evening,

Legal

Both the Appellant, Conservation Law Foundation (CLF) and Appellee, State of Vermont, Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) filed "Oppositions to Motions for Summary Judgement" with the Superior Court, Environmental Division. Attorneys for other Appellees, including Montpelier and South Burlington, filed "Memorandum in Support of State of Vermont's Motion for Summary Judgement and Opposition to Appellant CLF's Motion for Summary Judgement." The appeal involves a challenge by CLF of the renewal of nine waste water treatment plant discharge permits, including Montpelier's discharge permit, on the grounds that the phosphorous limits are not strict enough. The State of Vermont, ANR is being represented by the Attorney General's office. The City is being represented by Joseph McLean, Esq., of Stitzel, Page & Fletcher, P.C.

We were named as a defendant in an action against both the Town of East Montpelier and the City of Montpelier regarding provision of ambulance service. The case is not covered by VLCT PACIF and we are being represented by Attorney Brian Monahan.

City of Montpelier Help Wanted

View the latest job opportunities at <https://vt-montpelier.civicplus.com/Jobs.aspx>

WEEKLY REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS ...

Cemeteries

During the morning hours, Green Mount Cemetery Commissioners will each take 1 hour on Memorial Day to be available at the Cemetery for anyone with questions, comments and concerns. Director Patrick Healy will also be present for the morning, as he has been for the past 31 years.

Public Works

Construction Update:

State Street, Main Street, and VT 12 – Elm Street - Work to include milling, paving, manhole and drainage structure adjustments and extensive sidewalk improvements. **VT 12-Northfield Street** - new water, sewer, storm water improvements, sidewalks and a stabilized road base.

Northfield Street – Construction Area: Derby Drive to Freedom Drive

TRAFFIC DETOUR: The detour route below will continue to be in effect from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM, M-F, for Northfield Street traffic between Derby Drive and Freedom Drive.

- All southbound (towards Northfield) thru traffic will use Memorial Drive to Dog River Road to Northfield Street
- Northbound (towards downtown) passenger vehicles will be allowed to travel through the construction zone
- Northbound (towards downtown) truck thru traffic will be directed to use Dog River Road to Memorial Drive. Local delivery trucks will be allowed through the project.
- A detour map can be found at <https://frpenterprises.com/montpelier-08-10-17.html> Click on "MAP"
- Message boards and detour signs will be in place to direct traffic.
- Sidewalks will remain open for pedestrians and bicyclists may ride with traffic in the northbound direction or walk their bikes along the sidewalk, in either direction, until they reach the end of the construction zone.

Please note: Northfield Street between Memorial Drive and Derby Drive will be open to two-way

traffic.

Every day next week:

- ~Sewer main line work will continue. Approximately two weeks of sewer main work remains. Crews will continue connecting services to the new sewer main throughout the week.
- ~Water main work to begin once services are complete.

Downtown/Elm Street Update

- The Taylor St. railroad crossing should be open. The road will remain open at the crossing until Wednesday morning. A full closure at the crossing is expected to resume on Wednesday morning, 5/30 in order to complete crossing work along the roadway. The closure period ends at the close of the construction day on Wednesday, at which time Taylor St. will be open to through traffic and will remain so.
- On Wednesday, 5/30 the parking lots on Taylor St. located on the north side of the crossing will only be accessible from State St. The large parking lot between the crossing and the river can be accessed via Route 2 only.
- The pedestrian crossing/bicycle path located to the west of the crossing will be closed on either Tuesday or Wednesday (5/29 or 5/30) in order to replace the crossing at this location. The sidewalk located at the rail crossing will be open for bicycle and all pedestrian traffic.
- Crews will be completing minor work throughout the project over the next few weeks. This work will not impact traffic or travel lanes.

In observance of the Memorial Day holiday, crews will be off the road by noon on Friday, 5/25/18 and work will not resume until 7:00 AM Tuesday, 5/29/18.

Community Services

2nd Annual “Remembering Our Veterans” Event Held at Senior Activity Center

Community members gathered Friday, May 25 in observance of the upcoming Memorial Day holiday. City Manager Bill Fraser welcomed those in attendance, and representatives from the Vermont Veteran’s Home and Honor Flight New England gave brief presentations. FEAST Chef Justin Turcotte prepared a festive FEAST Together luncheon of BBQ chicken, baked beans, potato salad, cole slaw, watermelon and strawberry shortcake with whipped cream. Veterans and their guests, as well as members and friends, were served by volunteer employees of Cad Cut, Inc., and there was an open mike opportunity for those in attendance to share stories. Special thanks go to Cad Cut Inc. for underwriting the meal cost, to Carole Baker, Patricia Paola, Mary Smith and Jessica Sanderson for planning this special event, and to all who participated and made it possible.

June Art Show

The artists of Suki Ciappara’s Expressive Intuitive Arts Exploration class are pleased to present works they have done recently. The show will hang in the Community Room gallery at Montpelier Senior Activity Center, 58 Barre Street, during the month of June, and an opening is scheduled for the evening of Monday, June 25.


TOPICS FOR UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS...

June 13	6:15 Scribner Street site visit	June 27	6:00 Fire Dept Tour
----------------	---------------------------------	----------------	---------------------

	Scribner St hearing Department Presentations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cemetery • Community Justice Center Pocket Park MHS Student presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plastic Bag Ban • Indoor Rec Facility WRRF – select project option Strategic Plan update Tax Stabilization App – Timber Homes		Set tax rate Fire Department Presentation Environmental, Social, Governance Investment Policy New Directions, smoke-free Social equity Dogs/Parks Commission Tax Stabilization – second hearing Strategic Plan – final adoption
July 11	No Meeting	July 25	Zoning Fixes Open Meeting Law Parklet Ordinance?
August 8	No Meeting	August 22	Parking Garage Parking Issues WRRF update (?)

WHAT TO EXPECT IN THE FUTURE...

June	Setting tax and water/sewer rates New - Review/adopt goals	July	Board of Civil Authority meets July 3 rd Celebration Zoning Fixes Mayor at HKS program
August	New - Parking	September	Mid-year City Manager check-in Art Walk Possible warning for special November voting for bonds ICMA Conference for Manager
November	Set budget guidelines State general election, possible bond votes	December	Budget Art Walk
January	Budget Ballot	February	City Manager review Welcome Legislators Reception
March	Orientation		


 William Fraser
 City Manager