

**CITY OF MONTPELIER
CAPITAL CITY OF VERMONT**

City Manager's Weekly Report – 3/13/2015

UPCOMING MEETINGS ...

- **Planning Commission Meeting:** Monday, March 16th, at 5:30 P.M. in the City Council Chambers.
- **Energy Committee Meeting:** Tuesday, March 17th, at 7:00 P.M. in the Memorial Room.

ATTACHMENTS ...

- ✚ [Press Release: Arrest of Federal Parolee for Burglary](#)
- ✚ [Press Release: PD Investigates Multiple Burglaries](#)
- ✚ [Press Release: Arrest of Suspect for Selling Heroin in a School Zone](#)
- ✚ [Press Release: Flood Precaution](#)

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT ...

Planning Department Staffing

This week Zoning Administrator, Dina Bookmyer-Baker, resigned from her position effective at the end of March. Planning Director Mike Miller and his team are working on a transition plan to ensure that all zoning, Design Review Committee, and Development Review Board efforts continue as the City looks for a new Zoning Administrator. Mrs. Bookmyer-Baker has worked for the City since February 2013. We are sad to see her go and wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors!

Website Redevelopment

The Website Review Team met this week and narrowed the vendors looking to build the City a new website down to two finalists. They are CivicPlus and Civic Live. We will hold virtual interviews with both firms the week of March 23rd and will then recommend a finalist to the City Council in April.

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Legal

Hallsmith vs. City, Fraser, Baker – Appealed to Supreme Court. Represented by Bernie Lambek. Oral arguments were held on December 18, 2014. Awaiting decision

VCFA vs. City, Tax Appeal. –discovery from VCFA received. Represented by Robert Fletcher.

Steuerwald vs. Fraser, Cleveland, City –Motions being filed. Represented by Nancy Sheahan through VLCT.

Bettis/Powers vs. Bean – Motions being filed. Represented by Nancy Sheahan through VLCT.

Illuzzi vs. City, Law, Motyka, Renaud Bros. – Represented by Jim Carroll through VLCT.

WEEKLY UPDATES FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS ...

Senior Center

- We appreciate the Town Meeting 2015 support of voters in the six towns of Berlin, Calais, East Montpelier, Middlesex, Moretown (new!) and Worcester for their yes votes to support our FY16 operating expenses. Together, these towns will provide us \$17,800, an increase of \$1,800 over our supporting town public funding for FY15.
- We received word this week that Montpelier Rotary Club is once again able to give us a grant this year. We will be receiving \$500 this spring to support our FY15 operating expenses for healthy aging and lifelong learning programming. Thank you, Rotarians!
- We also received notice recently that a \$1,750 grant provided by Hunger Mountain Coop Community Fund last year (and unspent for its original purpose) will be able to be re-allocated to use toward purchasing re-usable containers for the “FEAST at Home” or home delivered meals program for senior nutrition. This will allow us to reduce solid waste, educate people, and help save our partner, Just Basics Inc., money that was previously spent on disposable containers for approximately 9,700 meals per year. Thank you, Hunger Mountain Coop!
- We welcome Just Basics’ new Executive Director, Kristen Andrews, who brings a wealth of experience in school food service programs, sustainable agriculture education, and food education, among other things. Kristen, a teacher, farmer, community connector and health food enthusiast, takes the helm of the FEAST senior nutrition program at MSAC as well as the Montpelier Food Pantry. We thank outgoing JBI Executive Director, Theresa Murray-Clasen, for her commitment to FEAST last year!

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- On Tuesday, March 17th, we will host three special St. Patrick's Day events, and members of the public of all ages are invited:
 - ✓ Starting at 10:30, the Swingin' Over Sixty Band will be playing Irish music, with lyrics provided for a sing-along before lunch.
 - ✓ From noon to 1:00, the "FEAST Together" lunch menu features corned beef and cabbage, potatoes, and Irish Soda Bread. No charge for age 60+ (suggested donation \$7); \$9 for under age 60. Reservations appreciated at 262-6288.
 - ✓ From 1:00-2:30, we host "**The Irish 'Wave' in the Green Mountains,**" a presentation sponsored by the Vermont Humanities Council through its Speakers Bureau Program. Learn the history of Irish immigrants in Vermont. Vince Feeney, author of *Finnigans, Slaters and Stonepeppers: the History of the Irish in Vermont*, tells the little known story of the impact Irish immigrants had on Vermont life in the mid-19th century. Free and open to the public; donations welcome.

Planning Department

- Department submitted a downtown transportation grant for \$100,000 to make improvements to Taylor Street in anticipation of the construction at One Taylor Street. Announcement expected in April to find out if we are funded.
- Dina Bookmyer-Baker has announced her resignation as the Zoning Administrator after two years of service to the City of Montpelier. She was given a challenging task to perform a formerly full time position at a half time and we wish her well. Her last day will be March 26, 2014.

TOPICS FOR UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS ...

March 25

Goals and Priorities
Car Share Vermont - 2nd Reading
EV Station Agreement

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April 8

Montpelier in Motion
Winter Parking Ban Review
Greening America's Capitals
Hazard Mitigation Plan
Zoning Update
One Taylor Development Agreement
Appointments: Design Review Committee
Development Review Board
Tree Board

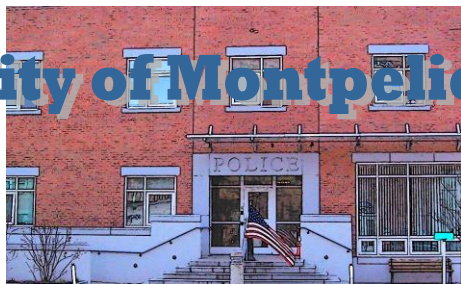
April 22:

Appointment: Pedestrian Advisory Committee



William Fraser
City Manager

City of Montpelier Police Department



Anthony J. Facos
Chief of Police

PRESS RELEASE

For more information, contact:
Chief Anthony J. Facos
(802) 223-3445

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 9, 2015

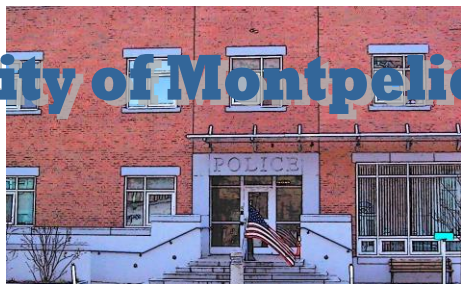
Arrest of Federal Parolee for Burglary of Montpelier Business

On the morning of December 22, 2014, the Montpelier Police Department was called to the scene of a burglary which occurred at the Positive Pie restaurant on State Street in Montpelier, VT. The suspect had forced entry in to the building, ransacked the office and attempted to gain access into a safe.

The investigation identified Nathan Giffin (30) of Montpelier as the person responsible for the burglary. Giffin, who had been previously convicted in U.S. District Court for bank robbery, was arrested by Montpelier Police on Sunday March 8, 2015. Giffin was arraigned today (March 9, 2015) in Vermont Superior Court in Barre, VT to answer to the charge of burglary. He will also be held accountable for violating the conditions of his federal parole as well.



City of Montpelier Police Department



Anthony J. Facos
Chief of Police

PRESS RELEASE

For more information, contact:
Chief Anthony J. Facos
(802) 223-3445

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 12, 2015

Arrest of Suspect for Selling Heroin in a School Zone

On Thursday March 12, 2015, at approximately 7:45 PM, the Montpelier Police Department executed a search warrant at 2 Park Avenue in Montpelier, VT. During the previous week, MPD officers conducted a controlled purchase of heroin from the suspect, Karyn Mayhew (52) of Montpelier, at the Park Avenue location. Mayhew was arrested at her apartment this evening (03/12/2015) without incident during the warrant service. Mayhew is suspected of selling heroin from her apartment which is located directly across from the Union Elementary School.

Mayhew was cited to appear in Washington Superior Court on March 26, 2015 to answer to the charge of sale of heroin in a school zone.



America's Small Town Capital

Mayor John Hollar

William Fraser
City Manager

City Council Members:

Dona Bate
Jessica Edgerly Walsh
Tom Golonka
Thierry Guerlain
Justin Turcotte
Anne Watson

Jessie Baker
Assistant City Manager

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 13, 2015

City Asks Residents and Business Owners to Prepare for Potential Flooding

With the extreme weather conditions the area has experienced this winter, the City of Montpelier is asking city residents and businesses to prepare for potential flooding.

The US Geological Survey (USGS) recently measured the ice on the Winooski at 18 inches deep – a result of the many weeks of deep freeze we experienced this winter. As temperatures warm up, our flood risks increase. The National Weather Service in Burlington is monitoring the spring flood outlook. Currently, snowmelt or ice jam flooding is not forecast through late March. Their outlook is available here: [NWS Burlington Flood Outlook](#).

Locally, Public Safety personnel continue to monitor river levels daily. Currently the levels remain normal, but it is anticipated that these will increase with snow and ice melt. Additionally, the city has an excavator onsite and ready for deployment if ice jams arise.

While there is no imminent threat of flooding, the City is asking that residents and businesses with flood-prone basements in Montpelier take the necessary precautions to prepare for flooding. Specifically, those properties on Elm, Langdon, and Main Streets should check their basements, remove items from the floor of the basements, and consider potential electrical issues associated with basement flooding.

The City will continue to monitor the situation closely and will share information with residents and businesses through the City's website, Facebook page, and the VT Alert emergency notification system. If you haven't already, please sign up for Montpelier-specific VT Alert messages at www.vtalert.gov.

For on-going information, please visit www.montpelier-vt.org for river gauge information, periodic updates and flood guidance documents or like us on Facebook.

