

**Minutes of the Montpelier City Council Meeting
November 9, 2016, 6:30 PM
City Council Chambers**

In attendance: Mayor John Hollar (Chair), Councilors Anne Watson, Justin Turcotte, Dona Bate, Tom Golonka, Jean Olson and Jessica Edgerly Walsh. City Manager William Fraser was in attendance. City Clerk John Odum served as Secretary of the meeting.

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

- 16-315. The Mayor asked that an executive session to discuss the City Manager, and the proposed addendum to the consent agenda (items f and g: "Amend funding Authorization granted on July 27, 2016 to \$150,750. 'Authorize the City Manager to finalize and sign all easements and related documents with the Capitol Plaza Corporation, Mary M. Heney Trust/Lawrence P. Heney Trust, and Overlake Park LLC for the purpose of constructing a bike path as part of the One Taylor Street project and approve expense of \$126,750 for this purpose.'" and "Authorize City Manager to finalize and sign a lease agreement with the Mary H. Heney Trust/Lawrence P. Heney Trust for a 49 year lease on 60 State Street as per financial terms outlined in attached memo.) be added to the proposed agenda." respectively) be added to the proposed agenda for approval.

Councilor Olson moved approval of the agenda as amended and Councilor Turcotte seconded. Motion carried unanimously at 6:32.

- 16-317. After discussion, Councilor Turcotte moved approval of the consent agenda, with items f and g tabled for separate consideration. Councilor Watson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Watson moved approval of item f ("Amend funding Authorization granted on July 27, 2016 to \$150,750. 'Authorize the City Manager to finalize and sign all easements and related documents with the Capitol Plaza Corporation, Mary M. Heney Trust/Lawrence P. Heney Trust, and Overlake Park LLC for the purpose of constructing a bike path as part of the One Taylor Street project and approve expense of \$126,750 for this purpose.'"). Councilor Olson seconded. The motion carried 4-0 (Councilor Golonka recused himself for conflict of interest).

- 16-318. The opportunity for the public to address the Council regarding City Manager Bill Fraser's contract opened with the Mayor and Councilors Watson, Golonka, Bate, Edgerly Walsh, Olson, and Turcotte making statements.

Comments were offered from Stephen Walke, Vicki Lane, Ken Jones, June Bascom, Ethan Parke, Michael Sherman, Wayne Fawbush, Robbie Harold, Irene Facciolo, Liz Sykas-Ringgenberg, Jed Guertin, Nancy Sherman, Bob King, Peter Farrell, Jean Stetter, Doug Hoyt, Jamie Granfield, Vivian Ladd-Tomasi, Lori Cohen, Sue Aldrich, and Soren Pfeffer.

Mr. Fraser offered comments. No formal action was taken.

16-319. The Council opened a discussion of Goal B: Maintain Excellent Services. Councilor Watson stepped out at 7:41 and returned at 7:45.

16-320. The Junkyard Ordinance 2nd Public Hearing/Reading was continued from the previous meeting at 7:42. Councilor Turcotte reviewed his proposed edits. Discussion included Health Officer Bob Gowans and Planning Director Mike Miller. Vicki Lane offered comments. The public hearing was closed at 7:53. Councilor Edgerly Walsh moved passage of the proposed ordinance with the discussed edits presented by Councilor Turcotte. Councilor Turcotte seconded. After further discussion, the motion carried unanimously at 7:55.

16-321. The Council discussed the Approval and Signing of a resolution authorizing city staff to prepare and submit an application for CDBG Planning Grant Funds on behalf of Downstreet Housing and Community Development. Planning Director Mike Miller was joined by Eileen Peltier of Downstreet for a presentation. Discussion followed.

The public hearing was formally opened by the Mayor at 8:05PM. With no comments offered, the public hearing was formally closed at 8:06PM.

Councilor Edgerly Walsh moved the Council authorize Mr. Miller to proceed with preparing and submitting an application for CDBG planning grant funds on behalf of Downstreet Housing and Community Development. Councilor Turcotte seconded. Motion carried unanimously at 8:07PM.

16-322. Mr. Fraser introduced a discussion of Budget Targets. Following a discussion including all Councilors, no formal action was taken.

16-324. Fire Chief Bob Gowans offered a Fire Department update. Discussion followed. No formal action was taken.

16-325. Police Chief Tony Facos offered a Police Department update. Discussion followed, and no formal action was taken.

16-326. Councilor Bate reported on her accident (she was struck by a car), warned everyone to be careful, thanked the Fire Department for their response to the incident and praised city services and staff.

Councilor Olson noted the coming downsizers meeting on December 10th, discussing the group's history and purpose.

Councilor Turcotte noted that a resident was concerned about low-hanging branches on Forest Drive. He also reminded everyone about the coming Veterans Day parade, before thanking voters and the City Clerk for their election participation.

Councilor Watson formally announced her intent to run for re-election.

16-328. The City Clerk offered an election update. A brief discussion followed.

16-329. The City Manager reported that Rick Lee will be on the next agenda regarding a possible leash law. He noted the Animal Control Committee's response and recommendation regarding the incident with Mr. Lee's cat.

Councilor Watson moved the Council enter executive session to discuss the letter from City Manager Fraser's attorney. Councilor Bate seconded. Discussion followed, before the motion carried 5-1 with Councilor Turcotte opposed.

At 10:52PM, the Council returned to open session by unanimous consent, without objection.

Councilor Edgerly Walsh moved the Council retain an attorney to review the letter to the Council from Bill Fraser's attorney. Councilor Turcotte seconded. The motion carried 5-1 (Councilor Bate voting nay).

Hearing no objection, the Mayor adjourned the Council by unanimous consent at 10:53.