

Minutes of the Montpelier City Council Meeting
January 26, 2017, 6:30 PM
City Council Chambers, City Hall

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

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

- 17-031. Without objection, the proposed agenda was approved with the addition of liquor license approvals in the consent agenda, a discussion of the annual “pre-town meeting” event, and a discussion of the city’s “Sanctuary City” status, as well as moving up the discussion of the proposed resolution honoring David Budbill.
- 17-033. Councilor Turcotte moved approval of the consent agenda as amended, Councilor Bate seconded. The motion carried 5-0 (Councilor Golonka recused himself from the vote, citing a conflict of interest on a proposed liquor license renewal).
- 17-040. The Council moved to consideration of a proposed Ballot Item honoring David Budbill. Comments were offered from Kim Bent and Andrea Stander. Councilor Bate moved the council approve the proposed article for the 2017 Annual City Meeting ballot, Councilor Olson seconded the motion which carried unanimously at 6:38.
- 17-034. The Mayor opened the second public hearing on the proposed FY18 Municipal Budget. at 6:38PM. The hearing was opened with a presentation from City Manager Bill Fraser. Comments were received from Jack McCullough (regarding the Housing Trust Fund and Council stipend level). Councilor Bate moved approval of the proposed FY18 budget. Councilor Watson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. The public hearing was closed at 6:53.
- 17-035. Rachel Muse & Judy Walke joined Kellogg-Hubbard Library Director Tom McKone for a presentation on the proposed library budget. Discussion followed. No formal action taken.
- 17-036. Superintendent Brian Ricca offered a presentation on the proposed school budget. Discussion followed. After a brief discussion, Councilor Bate moved the Council place the school board budget on the ballot. Councilor Turcotte seconded. The motion carried unanimously at 7:21.
- 17-037. Teresa Kajenski of Fothergill, Segale and Valley was joined by Todd Provencher and Ruth Dockter of the Finance Department to review the FY16 Audit Report. Brief discussion followed. Councilor Watson moved the Council receive and accept the audit, with Councilor Bate seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

There was a brief discussion of the “Pre-Town Meeting” event. Staff was eyeing the Senior Center on February 16 for a venue/time.

There was a discussion as to whether the city's recent "Sanctuary City" declaration posed a threat to federal grants. Jane Kast spoke up in support of putting the question on a ballot. Discussion segued into a One Taylor Street update.

- 17-039. The Clerk reported no additional petitioned items at the filing deadline.
- 17-038. There was a brief discussion regarding personnel costs. No formal action taken
- 17-041. At 7:58PM, the Mayor opened the second public hearing on the warning for the March 7, 2017 Annual City Meeting. Councilor Golonka moved approval of the Warning, Councilor Bate seconded. The motion carried unanimously at 7:59. The public hearing was closed.
- 17-042. Councilor Bate recounted and applauded the history of the Public Transit grant. Councilor Turcotte thanked the Police Department for their recent work on the demonstration and the recent homicide, also promoting "Coffee With a Cop" before also promoting the Markus Austin GoFundMe site. Councilor Edgerly Walsh echoed the GoFundMe promotion.
- 17-044. The City Clerk announced the launch of an online voting guide for City Meeting.
- 17-045. The City Manager thanked city departments, especially police and public works, for their work on recent city events. Councilor Bate also thanked the participants of the recent march.

Without objection, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned by acclaim at 8:06PM.