

Minutes of the Montpelier City Council Meeting
June 14, 2017, 6:00 PM
City Council Chambers, City Hall

In attendance: Mayor John Hollar (Chair), Councilors Justin Turcotte, Anne Watson, Ashley Hill, Rosie Krueger, Dona Bate and Jean Olson. City Manager Bill Fraser was in attendance. City Clerk John Odum acted as Secretary of the meeting.

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

- 17-184. The proposed agenda was approved by unanimous consent.
- 17-186. Councilor Watson moved approval of the consent agenda, Councilor Hill seconded. Motion carried 5-0 (Councilor Turcotte recused himself).
- 17-187. Planning Director Mike Miller came forward to participate in a discussion of the Master Plan development timeline. Comments were offered by Alan Goldman. No formal action taken.
- 17-188. Discrepancies in the City Charter regarding the Development Review Board's membership were discussed with Planning Director Miller. Daniel Richardson participated in the discussion. Councilor Krueger moved that the Council confirms that the problematic language in the 2014 charter change was an administrative error and did not reflect the Council's intent, and that the City begin process of correcting the error. In meantime, the council recommends the DRB initiate a process of recusal from voting as deemed necessary to avoid potential conflicts. Councilor Bate seconded the motion, which carried unanimously at 6:45.
- 17-189. There was a discussion of the summer Council schedule. No formal action was taken.
- 17-192. Councilor Krueger reported on the black bear in her yard and advised homeowners near her to keep an eye on their trash.

Councilor Watson reported on the flag voting process.

Councilor Hill noted the High School graduation.

Councilor Bate reminded citizens of the coming June 20 vote.

Councilor Olson called attention to the new Montpelier Foundation brochure, a \$35,000 gift to the Foundation from the Alan Weiss estate, noted that Tom Golonka joined the Board, and directed interested parties to the Foundation's website. She also offered a Montpelier Downsizing group report.

Councilor Turcotte thanked Sandy Pitonyak and Fred Skeels (who are retiring this month) for their service. He also reported on a letter from a citizen moving out of town before commenting on the Burlington Airport digital advertising opportunity, sharing a

report on Wrightsville beach, spoke about the Caterpillar Corporation's annual meeting and annual report, and shared that the New England Culinary Institute has been in communication with the new head of the Montpelier Development Corporation.

- 17-193. The Mayor reported on the French block development project. He also expressed concern about the country's withdrawal from the Paris Climate Accords, noting that he had endorsed Michael Bloomberg's coalition of mayors in support of the accord, and added that Mayor Weinberger of Burlington was spearheading a similar Vermont group.
- 17-194. The City Clerk's reported on the coming water/sewer bill due date, the coming special election (including early voting hours), and offered information on the flag contest.
- 17-195. The City Manager alluded to positive movement regarding Mowatt discussions, noted the recent Council retreat and also acknowledged retiring City hall employees Pitonyak and Skeels.
- 17-191. Planning Director Miller came forward once again to participate in the ongoing proposed zoning ordinance review (Part 3b). Public comments were offered by Christine Lindquist (concerns about illuminated interior signs), Phil Dodd (multiple concerns about plan), Eve Jacobs-Carnahan (multiple concerns on plan), Joe Castellano (concerns echoing Mr. Dodd's) and Peter Kelman (supportive of proposal).

The Mayor called a recess at 8:07. The meeting reconvened at 8:13.

Discussion continued with Mr. Miller. Public comments were offered by Michael Sherman (sign concerns) and Ben Huffman (written comments).

The Mayor approved a resolution in praise of the championship High School ultimate team.

Without objection, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 9:10PM.