

**CITY OF MONTPELIER
CAPITAL CITY OF VERMONT**

City Manager's Weekly Report – 08/25/2017

UPCOMING MEETINGS...

Monday, August 28 Planning Commission Meeting, 5:30 P.M. in the City Council Chambers

FOR YOUR CALENDARS...

Monday, September 5 Design Review Committee Meeting, 5:30 P.M. in the City Council Chambers

Monday, September 5 Development Review Board Meeting, 7:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT...

One Taylor Street

Construction plans still moving forward as plans. Have meeting with Mowatt trust rep and their attorney on Tuesday to try to finalize the purchase and sale agreement.

Caledonia Spirits

Tax Stabilization second hearing will be on the September 13th agenda.

Master Plan & Zoning

Continued on September 13th.

TIF

Stephanie Hainley and Gail Henderson-King from White & Burke will be in Montpelier on Sept. 12 to meet with various groups to outline the TIF program and Montpelier's potential application. The Council and Mayor will be included in that meeting during the lunch hour, and should have received an invitation.

Berlin Pond

No update.

Parking/Transportation Alternatives

The Subcommittee (Councilors Bate and Watson) will present a proposal for moving forward at a September meeting.

Econo Lodge

Mitigation plan was approved this week by you. They have already submitted permit applications for demolition. Scheduled for DRB review on September 5th.

Legal

Illuzzi vs City, et al: Mediation was held on Wednesday and settlement was reached. You approved the terms Wednesday evening. This matter is concluded.

Downstreet Permit appeal. As per council decision, the city will participate in this appeal to support the application.

Collective Bargaining

We reached tentative agreement with the Police Union last week. I do not have the draft memorandum of agreement from them yet.

Parklets

Due to the size of agendas, this ordinance is being moved to October. Positive Pie parklet is being placed today.

State Street Farmer's Market Update

The Montpelier Farmer's Market was scheduled to take place on State Street on September 23rd and September 30th. However, organizers of the event cancelled these plans for logistical reasons. The market will remain at the Heney lot on those dates. The organizers are still considering having the market on State Street on October 7th, but it is to be determined.

City Hall

As noted at the Council meeting, work is beginning today on roof replacement at city hall due to leaking issues. Work on drainage to address basement mold issues will begin soon as well. We need to convene the CIP committee to re-align some planned work to accommodate these emergency but necessary actions.

4-Way Stop, Spring & Elm

The sign installation has been pushed back at least a week, possibly slightly longer. We are drafting an informational campaign to get people prepared.

WEEKLY REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS ...

Public Works

Water & Sewer Division:

The Harrison Avenue project achieved its first major milestone with the completion of the water main on August 24th from Loomis St to Main St. Once the new main passes a pressure test and is then flushed and disinfected, the water main will be activated and service connections to all of the homes will begin immediately afterwards which we expect will begin the week of the 28th. When complete, adequate fire flows for the neighborhood will be available and the sprinkler system in the Beth Jacob Synagogue can be made fully operational. Following the water service connections, work will resume on the new sewer main and a crew will follow with road restoration work.

Street Division:

Project highlights for the week of August 25th:

- The Sibley Avenue sidewalk project was dealt a slight setback due to a mechanical problem with the curb machine which was repaired and work resumed on this date. Construction of the new sidewalk will begin during the week of the 25th and work should move swiftly.
- One DPW crew has been assigned the task of weed cutting and other vegetation trimming around town to address obstructed visibility at intersections, unsightly guardrails, and crowded sidewalks.

"Makeover Montpelier" Project (State & Main paving & sidewalk reconstruction):

The contractor will be removing cones & barricades in the downtown area although some construction signs will remain because punch list items to be addressed including clean-up & repairing defects such as puddling. Staff met with the VTrans resident engineer and contractor to finalize the punch list and work to address the items will commence the week of the 25th. The work on the Elm Street phase of the project is progressing on schedule with milling of the 3 mile mainline section complete and side roads expected to be finished by the 28th or 29th. Placement of the leveling / shim course of pavement will begin on the 29th or 30th which will take 2-3 days to complete. While crosswalk curb ramps and structure adjustments are taking place over the next several weeks, parking will be allowed on the street to the extent possible. See the update provided by FRP Enterprises for additional information.

Annual Street Paving & Sidewalk Contracts:

Paving of High School Drive & Governor Davis Avenue was completed during the week of the 21st and the base course of pavement was placed on upper Winter Street. A DPW crew will begin restoration work and finishing touches on these streets such as backfilling curbs the week of the 25th and construct a new drainage ditch on Winter Street. The new Winter Street drainage ditch will allow the elimination of storm water entering one of the combined sewer drains as part of our ongoing efforts to ultimately eliminate combined sewer overflows (CSO). Work will continue on the construction of sidewalk ramps in the vicinity of the Vermont College of Fine Arts. This work is being done to bring all of the ramps around the College into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Northfield Street Reconstruction:

The contractor reached two significant milestones with the completion and activation of the lower section of new water main and the phase one installation of the new sewer main to Derby Drive. Service connections are now being made as these mains are activated. The next milestone will be construction of the new water main to the interconnection at the lower end of Colonial Drive. See the update provided by FRP Enterprises for additional information.

Community Services

New fall program guide is now available, including information about upcoming programs and events offered by the Recreation, Parks and Trees, and Senior Activity Center divisions of the Community Services Department. This is the first time that programs from all three divisions have been helpfully compiled into one guide. Visit www.montpelier-vt.org/cs or stop by the Montpelier Senior Activity Center, the City Clerk's office, or the Police Department to pick up a copy and learn more about our more than 100 recreational opportunities this fall for people of all ages. Learn a new language, express your creativity in an art class, participate in a youth sport, or take a yoga class. There's something for everyone!

Montpelier Senior Activity Center

Fall Class Registration Begins Monday, August 28. The Montpelier Senior Activity Center is offering more than 70 affordable weekly classes to encourage healthy aging and lifelong learning. Our classes include film appreciation, painting, rug hooking, writing, yoga, tai chi, and dozens more. We're especially excited about our new poetry class at Down Home Kitchen, our new yoga class and pastels class at Middlesex Town Hall, and our many other new classes. Learn more at www.montpelier-vt.org/msac or stop by the office at 58 Barre Street.

TOPICS FOR UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS...

September 13

- Zoning
- Dog Ordinance 2nd Reading
- Caledonia Spirits Tax Stabilization 2nd Hearing
- Parking/Team Bridges
- Sprinkler Ordinance discussion
- DID Budget
- Water/Sewer Rates
- Historic District
- Housing Goal
- City Manager Evaluation Process (continued)
- Update Council Policy

September 27

- Zoning
- Budget Process
- Asset Management update
- Economic Development Goal
- Recreation Center RFP?
- Safe Needle Disposal

October 11

- Zoning
- Parklet Ordinance 1st Reading
- Five Year Budget projection
- Local Options Tax discussion
- Wayfinding Signs Presentation
- Central VT Public Safety Authority update
- ADA Committee update

October 25

- Zoning
- Parklet Ordinance 2nd Reading
- TIF Update
- Quality of Life Goal
- Aging in Place
- Fees



William Fraser, City Manager