

**Minutes of the Montpelier City Council Meeting**  
**September 13, 2017, 6:00 PM**  
**City Council Chambers, City Hall**

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

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At 6pm, the Mayor called the meeting to order.

17-263. The Clerk asked that the minutes be pulled from the consent agenda. Items b) c) and d) on the consent agenda were also tabled for discussion. Councilor Bate moved approval of the agenda as amended, Councilor Krueger seconded. The motion carried unanimously at 6:02.

17-265. Councilor Turcotte moved the consent agenda (as amended) be passed, with item e) being tabled for discussion. Councilor Bate seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The Council took up consent agenda items b) appointments to the Development Review Board, c) appointments to the Design Review Committee, and d) appointments to the Historic Preservation Commission. Eric Gilbertson came forward and spoke about his candidacy for reappointment to the Design Review Committee and answered questions. Gregory Tisher and spoke about his candidacy for the 2-year Historic Preservation Commission position.

Councilor Watson moved the Council enter executive session to discuss the appointments. Councilor Hill seconded. The motion carried unanimously. At 6:25, Councilor Krueger moved the Council return to open session and was seconded by Councilor Bate. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Krueger moved the Council make the following appointments: To the Development review board, James Lamonda (full term), William Schebaum (alternate), Ryan Kane (alternate). To the Design Review Committee, Eric Gilbertson (full term), Stephen Everett (full term), Seth Mitchell (full term), Benjamin Cheney (alternate). To the Historic Preservation Commission, Gregory Tisher (2-year term), Jenna Lapachinski (3-year term). Councilor Turcotte seconded. Motion carries 5-1 (Councilor Hill voting nay).

17-266. Fire Chief Gowans came forward for a discussion of the sprinkler ordinance. After discussion, Councilor Turcotte moved the Council create a committee to review the issue that would include Councilors Olson, Watson, and Krueger. Councilor Hill seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

17-267. City Manager Fraser took a moment to recognize Police Chief Facos for his 30 years of service. Afterwards, Planning Director Michael Miller and Eric Gilbertson joined in a discussion of the proposal to expand the Montpelier Historic District. Questions and discussion followed. Councilor Watson moved the Council approve the amended Montpelier Historic District report. Councilor Bate seconded. After further discussion,

motion passed 4-1 (Councilor Turcotte voting nay, Councilors Watson, Krueger and Bate, along with the Mayor, voting aye. Councilors Olson and Hill did not vote. Further discussion followed.

- 17-268. Without objection, the Chair continued the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the proposed Dog Ordinance, to the next meeting.
- 17-270. Planning Director Miller, along with Barbara Conrey and Tina Ruth of the Planning Commission, came forward for the discussion of the proposed zoning ordinance. Comments were offered from Steve Sease. Councilor Turcotte moved to amend the proposal for the Towne Hill neighborhood (from slide 11-1) to change lot size from 17,000 to 23,000. Motion died for lack of a second. No formal action was taken.
- The Chair called a 5 minute recess at 8:07. Council reconvened at 8:15. Discussion continued on zoning and closed with a brief report on the master plan process.
- 17-269. The Caledonia Spirits Tax Stabilization 2<sup>nd</sup> public hearing was opened at 9:01. Hearing no comments, the hearing was closed at 9:02. Councilor Olson moved approval of the proposed Caledonia Spirits Tax Stabilization and was seconded by Councilor Turcotte. Motion carried 5-1 (Councilor Hill voting nay).
- 17-271. The City manager opened a discussion/update on the Council's Housing Goal Planning Director Miller participated in discussion. No formal action taken.
- 17-272. Councilor Olson introduced a discussion of the alternative transportation definition for the alternative transportation fund. Councilor Olson moved to accept the proposed definition offered on the agenda with the word "commuting" to "moving around" other than driving alone. There was no second.
- After discussion, Councilor Olson moved to accept the proposed definition of alternative transportation to say "alternative transportation refers to moving around in any way other than driving alone. Examples including biking, walking, carpooling and taking public transportation." Councilor Turcotte seconded. More discussion followed. Motion carried 4-2 at 9:41PM (Councilors Bate and Hill voting nay).
- Hearing no objection, the Chair postponed discussion of consent agenda item e) Water/Sewer rates to the next meeting.
- 17-273. The Council discussed the City Manager/City Council evaluation process in the Council policies. Councilor Olson moved to amend the language under the documents section reading "results will be tracked for 5 years" to "results will be tracked for the tenure of the City Manager." Councilor Krueger seconded. After discussion, the motion was withdrawn.
- Councilor Watson moved the Council approve the proposed City Manager and City Council evaluation process with direction with minor clarifications as discussed. Councilor Krueger seconded. Motion carried unanimously at 9:52.

- 17-275. Councilor Watson noted the upcoming TW Wood art gallery fall gala on October 14<sup>th</sup>. Councilor Bate encouraged councilors to attend the Vermont League of Cities and Towns upcoming town fair. Councilor Turcotte thanked the Recreation Department for their work on fall sports programs.
- 17-276. The Mayor's reported on the fundraising dinner at the Vermont College of Fine Arts, and noted the American Cancer Society was holding a fundraising dinner the next Tuesday. He also reported on a successful meeting on the TIF district the previous day.
- 17-277. The City Clerk noted that water/sewer bills were coming due, and reported on the index card digitizing process in his office.
- 17-278. The City Manager reported on the coming Master Plan public hearing, and also indicated there would be a CIP meeting soon. He also reported on the misspelled Montpelier, France soccer jerseys that were being sent to Montpelier, as they had been misprinted with a single letter "L."

Hearing no objection, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 10:00PM.