

**Minutes of the Montpelier City Council Meeting  
September 27, 6:00 PM  
City Council Manager's Conference Room, City Hall**

In attendance: Mayor John Hollar (Chair, via phone), Councilors Dona Bate, Justin Turcotte, Anne Watson (arrived at 6:08), Ashley Hill and Jean Olson. Councilor Rosie Krueger was absent. City Clerk John Odum acted as secretary of the meeting.

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At 6:00 the mayor called meeting to order.

- 17-281. The 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the dog ordinance was removed, to be continued to the next meeting. The agenda as amended was approved by unanimous consent.
- 17-283 Councilor Hill moved approval of the consent agenda without the August 23<sup>rd</sup> minutes. Councilor Olson seconded. There was brief discussion of utility rates before unanimous approval.
- 17-284. Tony Snow and Tina Ruth addressed the Council regarding their candidacies for appointment to the Planning Commission. Councilor Watson moved the Council enter executive session to discuss the appointments. Councilor Bate seconded. The motion carried unanimously at 6:16.

At 6:41, the Council returned to open session without objection. No formal action taken.

- 17-286. Finance Director Todd Provencher came forward for a discussion of the budget process/schedule. Councilor Turcotte moved approval of the proposed budget schedule. Councilor Hill seconded. Motion carried unanimously at 6:50.
- 17-287. Joe Evans from the Montpelier Development Corporation presented an MDC update as part of a discussion of the Council's economic development goal. No formal action taken.
- 17-288. Assistant City Manager Sue Allen, Police Chief Tony Facos, and Fire Chief Bob Gowans came forward for a discussion about heroin and safe needle disposal. Councilor Hill moved the city allocate up to \$1000 to purchase sharp disposal containers to place across the city. Councilor Watson seconded. Motion carried unanimously at 7:14.
- 17-289. Planning Director Mike Miller came forward for the discussion of the proposed zoning ordinance. Alan Goldman (with attorney Mark Nemeth) and Steve Sease commented. The Mayor called a recess at 7:32.
- Council reconvened at 7:37. Discussion continued. Barbara Conrey of the Planning Commission added comments. No formal action taken.
- 17-290. After a brief discussion, Councilor Watson moved that Councilor Bate be appointed voting representative at the Vermont League of Cities and Towns Town Fair. Councilor Hill seconded. Motion carries unanimously at 9:27.

17-292. Councilor Bate offered comments on the zoning public comment process. Discussion followed.

Councilor Turcotte acknowledged the work of police officers, the Department of Public Works, and the Finance Department. He recommended topics for discussion regarding water/sewer fees. City Manager Fraser offered a report on the Econo Lodge nuisance building at Councilor Turcotte's request. Councilor Turcotte also indicated he had invited a state economist for a discussion on aging.

Councilor Watson noted the upcoming T.W. Wood gallery's gala. She also praised the success of the Farmers' Market on State Street.

Councilor Hill echoed the Farmers' Market praise, specifically recognizing Dan Jones and Elizabeth Parker.

17-295. City Manager Fraser offered further comments on Econo Lodge before initiating a discussion of upcoming meeting scheduling.

Without objection, the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 9:33PM.