

**Minutes of the Montpelier City Council Meeting**  
**January 10, 2018, 6:00 PM**  
**City Council Chambers, City Hall**

In attendance: Mayor John Hollar, City Manager Bill Fraser, Councilors Anne Watson, Ashley Hill, Rosie Krueger, Dona Bate, Justin Turcotte, and Jean Olson was not present. City Clerk John Odum acted as secretary.

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- 18-014. Hearing no objection, the Mayor declared the proposed agenda approved by unanimous consent with the following amendments: Charter changes pulled from the consent agenda as a separate item for discussion, an appointment to the ADA Advisory Committee, a discussion of the GMTA transit, a discussion of a possible code of ordinances review, and an eminent domain action..
- 18-015. General Business and Appearances. Sara Duesterhoeft addressed the council on the upcoming AmeriCorps MLK Day event.
- 18-016. Councilor Turcotte moved approval of the consent agenda as amended. Councilor Hill seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

The Council discussed the proposed Charter Changes. Charter Change 1 is considered a technical correction to bring the City Charter into accordance with the preferred practice as regards committee membership. Charter Change 2 is considered a technical correction to reflect the establishment of the new Montpelier-Roxbury School District. Charter Change 3 is an amendment offered by the City Clerk to align the filing deadline for candidates for city office on the Annual City Meeting ballot to match the default state deadline (in order to avoid confusion and assist the Clerk's office administratively). The Council deferred to staff on the necessity of these changes.

Charter Change 4, which would exempt business reporting \$10,000 or less in property value from the business personal property tax, generated discussion as to whether that line should be drawn at a different number than \$10,000 as a business incentive. The City Clerk participated in discussion.

Councilor Bate moved that the Council file the four proposed Charter Changes as proposed with the City Clerk. Councilor Watson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

- 18-017. Authorities from the Central Vermont Public Safety Authority offered a presentation to the Council and participated in discussion. Participants included Tom Golonka, Paco Aumund, Doug Hoyt, Kim Cheney, Martin Prevost and Robert Sager. Police Chief Tony Facos participated. After discussion Councilor Olson moved that the Council support the actions of the Central Vermont Public Safety Authority to move ahead to create a partnership and that we would agree to support their request for \$28,200 (as an Annual City Meeting ballot question). Councilor Bate seconded, and the motion carried 4-2 (Councilors Turcotte and Hill voting nay) at 7:38.

The Mayor called for a recess at 7:39. The meeting was reconvened at 7:45.

18.018 City Manager William Fraser opened a discussion on the proposed budget, which included a discussion of separate financial items appearing on the coming ballot. Councilor Bate moved that the Council authorize the ballot question regarding Council and mayor payment to request \$2000 per councilor and \$4000 for the Mayor. Councilor Watson seconded. Discussion followed. At 7:55, the motion carried unanimously.

The Council discussed the status and cost of GMATA bus service in the City. No formal action was taken.

The Council discussed a potential top-to-bottom ordinance review process. No formal action was taken.

18-025. Councilor Hill moved the Council appoint Tina Wood to the ADA Advisory Committee. Councilor Bate seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

18-026. Councilor Watson moved the Council approve the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order regarding Eminent Domain of Cummings Street property. Councilor Bate seconded. Discussion followed. At 8:18, the motion carried on a 5-1 vote (Councilor Turcotte voting nay).

18-021. Councilor Turcotte thanked citizens for patience with winter challenges and praised the Department of Public Works. Councilor Watson reported on the opening of the skating on the Statehouse lawn.

18-023. The City Clerk reported on ballot petitions in circulation.

18-024. The City Manager opened a brief discussion on meeting process and scheduling.

18-019. Stephanie Hainley and Gail Henderson-King (of White and Burke Advisors) were joined by Assistant City Manager Sue Allen for a Council workshop on the TIF program. After discussion, Councilor Watson moved a finding that further discussion of the real estate related matter in open session would place the City at a substantial disadvantage. Councilor Bate seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Hill moved that the Council enter executive session to continue the discussion and include Ms. Allen, Ms. Hainley, and Ms. Henderson-King. Councilor Bate seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Without objection, the Council returned to open session by unanimous consent at 9:36PM.

Councilor Hill moved that the City approve a phase 2 contract for White & Burke for a potential TIF application. Councilor Bate seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Without objection, the Mayor adjourned the meeting by unanimous consent at 9:37.