

**CITY OF MONTPELIER
CAPITAL CITY OF VERMONT**

City Manager's Weekly Report – 03/2/2018

UPCOMING MEETINGS...

Monday, March 5	Design Review Committee, 5:30 P.M., City Council Chambers
Tuesday, March 6	Annual City Meeting Election, polls open at 7 a.m.
Monday, March 12	Planning Commission, City Council Chambers
Wednesday, March 14	City Council Meeting, City Council Chambers

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT...

One Taylor Street/Mowatt Project

Remains on schedule. Demolition of the Association for the Blind Building and Montpelier Beverage, as well as the overall site plan for the Mowatt lot, will be reviewed again – and hopefully approved -- by the Development Review Board on March 19.

Capitol Plaza Project

The Capitol Plaza meets again with the Design Review Committee on Monday seeking approval for the hotel and parking garage proposal. This project still requires the approval of the Development Review Board.

TIF

We continue to work closely with White and Burke to determine what infrastructure projects would be required to spark growth – housing and economic development – in the City's growth district (specifically downtown and along Barre Street, and the intersection of Barre and Main Streets); as well as the value to the grand list of that development to ensure taxpayers are protected if the Council moves forward with a Tax Increment Financing District.

Senior Center

You might have noticed excavation outside the Senior Center on Barre Street. Three old abandoned sewer lines running in under the building were located, excavated, cut and capped. This was a complex team effort involving many players including Building Inspector Chris Lumbra, Fire Chief Bob Gowans, Recreation Director Arne McMullen, City Engineer Kurt Motyka and the Public Works Department, and Jason Merrill of J Merrill Construction LLC.

Amanda Pelkey

We are hoping to hold a community celebration next week with U.S. Women's Hockey Team member – and Montpelier's own – Amanda Pelkey and her family. Her travel schedule is still a little uncertain, but we will keep the Council posted as plans develop.

Fire Fighters Union Negotiations

Contract approved by Council at Wednesday's meeting.

City Manager's Review

Final action on contract required at the next Council meeting.

Legal

We continue to work on the Conservation Law Foundation (CLF) appeal of the discharge permit renewal for the Montpelier Water Resource Recovery Facility (one of eight permits under appeal) as issued by the VT Agency of Natural Resources. Parties have exchanged discovery requests (interrogatories) and engaging in settlement discussions. City represented by Joseph McLean, Esq., Stitzel, Page & Fletcher, P.C.

WEEKLY REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS ...

Fire Department

Following an incident earlier this week, with numerous used hypodermic needles found in downtown trashcan, we are advising people:

- If you use a needle, there are safe needle disposal boxes located at the Fire and Police Stations, City Hall, the Senior Center and the Recreation Center.
- If you find a needle, please call the Fire Department at 229-4913, and they will handle disposal.

Public Works

Seeking Input For Walking And Biking Improvements On Main and Barre Streets

<http://www.montpelier-vt.org/999/Main-and-Barre-Street-Corridors>

Route 302 (River Street) Ecosystem Restoration Program stormwater management planning study:

The attached letter was issued to the residents & property owners located within the Stonewall Meadows, Robinhood Circle & River St neighborhoods to give notice of planned survey activity. Only those properties within or immediately adjacent to the drainage and study area will receive the notice. The study will take place over the next several month with a fall completion date. Informational meetings will be scheduled and follow-up notices issued.

Also issued publicly this week:

COMMUNITY MEETING: NORTHFIELD STREET UTILITY UPGRADE PHASE II

As I'm sure you all remember Northfield Street has undergone some major reconstruction over

the last year. Phase I of the project extended from Memorial Drive to the intersections of Colonial Drive and Derby Drive before shutting down for the winter season. As the weather warms, construction will continue on Phase II in order to reach the project limits just south of Freedom Drive.

Similar to last year, Francine Perkins of FRP Enterprises will be the Project Outreach Coordinator working with VTrans and the City of Montpelier to develop and implement a comprehensive project communication outreach plan. Weekly construction updates and special notices will be emailed and posted on www.roadworkupdates.com, on Montpelier's Front Porch Forum, the City's Facebook page, and Twitter feed. Weekly updates will continue to be sent out to all that were on the list last season; if you did not receive the updates and wish to sign up for the weekly construction updates, email jfp1999@myfairpoint.net with "Montpelier Paving Project" in the subject line – list your name, address and email address in the body of the email.

Before Phase II of the Northfield Street project is kicked off, the City will be hosting a community meeting at City Hall. The purpose of this meeting will be to answer questions, go over the proposed detour plan, and address any concerns of the neighborhood. The meeting will be Wednesday March 7th at 5:30 PM in the "Memorial Room" located in City Hall.

Contact Francine Perkins at 802-479-6994 with comments, questions or concerns about the project. Kurt Motyka, City Engineer kmotyka@montpelier-vt.org, and Zach Blodgett, Public Works Staff Engineer zblodgett@montpelier-vt.org, can also be reached at the Public Works Office at City Hall, 802-223-9508.

LANDLORDS, please share this important information with your tenants.

Sincerely,

Department of Public Works

Finance Department

I would like to thank Councilors Jean Olson and Justin Turcotte and Mayor John Hollar for their support and service to the city during my tenure as Finance Director. Their commitment to the community and their personal sacrifices to participate in local governance are greatly appreciated.

Water/sewer bills are due Thursday March 15, 2018.

Community Services

This was Dan Groberg's last week with Community Services, where he has been a key player in the Department's fundraising, communication and planning. Next week Dan starts his new position as Executive Director of Montpelier Alive, and we look forward to working with him in this new role!

Spring and Summer Programs!

Registration for spring programs starts Monday, March 5 at 8:45am! Our new Program Guide is now out and contains info about great new youth and adult programs like cooking and swing dancing, summer camps, Vermont Mountaineers schedule and camp, and more. Find our spring/summer preview at newsstands alongside next week's issue of The World and our full Program Guide online at www.montpelier-vt.org/CS or at our office at 58 Barre Street.

MSAC Painting Class Exhibit at East State Salon

You are cordially invited to meet the artists of Sylvia Walker's MSAC Painting Workshop at their reception at the Gallery at East State Salon, 32 East State Montpelier, on Friday March 9 from 4 to 6 pm. The show is open at the Gallery on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 10 am to 4:30 pm through April 1st. Call the Salon at 802-477- 3181.

Travel Talk: Hill Towns of Lazio, Umbria and Tuscany

Sunday, March 11, 6:30-8:00pm at MSAC

Local architect and MSAC member John Rahill received a two-month fellowship to study the sustainability of Civita di Bagnoregio, a small Italian hill town. He will show images and share impressions from his town and several hill towns he had a chance to visit in late 2017 while in Italy. Free and open to the public.

Lunch with a City Official: City Clerk John Odum

Tuesday, March 13, 12:30-1:30pm at MSAC

Along with being the election administrator for the last six years, John just got his CEH certification (Certified Ethical Hacker). This credential strengthens his expertise in election security. Join John to learn more about the CEH field in general and about our city's 2018 elections in particular. Scheduled one week after Town Meeting voting! Optional FEAST lunch.

Hiring Summer Staff

We have summer pool and camp positions available. Applications can be picked up at the Montpelier Recreation Department (58 Barre Street) between 9am-4pm or on our website. For more information please contact our office at 225-8699 or visit www.montpelierrec.org/jobs. Montpelier Recreation is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Apply by March 31!

TOPICS FOR UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS...

Mar 6	Annual City Meeting Election		
Mar. 14	Elect Officers Ethics Policy Rules of Procedure Goals process & schedule D2 Council Seat Calendar	Mar. 28	Apartment inspections Army Corps update Project Development Plan

	Orientation/Information Final Action on Manager's Contract		
April 11	Water Resource Recovery Facility	April 25	

Susan Allen

Assistant City Manager