

**CITY OF MONTPELIER
CAPITAL CITY OF VERMONT**

City Manager's Weekly Report – 05/11/2018

UPCOMING MEETINGS...

Monday, May 14	Planning Commission, 5:00 P.M., Memorial Room
Monday, May 14	Recreation Board, 5:30 P.M., Recreation Building, Barre St.
Monday, May 14	City Council Site Visit, 5:00 PM, MSAC & Recreation Building
Tuesday, May 15	Energy Advisory Committee, 7:00 P.M., Memorial Room
Tuesday, May 15	Parks Commission, 6:00 P.M., Police Dept. Community Room
Wednesday, May 16	Complete Streets Committee, 5:30 P.M., City Manager's Conference Room
Thursday, May 17	ADA Committee, 10:00 A.M., City Manager's Conference Room
Thursday, May 17	Housing Task Force, 5:15 P.M., Council Chambers

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT...

Capitol Plaza Project

The proposal completed the DRB process this week and is awaiting the formal decision. We are meeting with the owners on Monday to continue discussions about the parking garage.

TIF

As discussed this week, the final hearing and vote on TIF will occur at the May 23rd meeting. Please let us know if you need more information.

One Taylor/Mowatt

Real estate closing for the Mowatt property is set for this Tuesday the 15th. The beverage store will be allowed to operate until May 31st and will have until June 10th to vacate the premises. This will be a direct sale rather than the multiple parcel transaction originally contemplated. We are executing the railroad boundary adjustment in conjunction with the Mowatt closing. This finalizes all right of way acquisitions for the One Taylor project. Construction is scheduled for this summer.

WRRE

Thanks for the good questions and feedback about the proposed upgrade project. We will schedule another plant tour when we get close to a vote on the project.

Complete Streets

Current plan is for the complete streets presentation to be held on May 23rd pending the health of the consultant.

Strategic Planning

Please arrange your conversations with Julia Novak. The leadership team is meeting on Wednesday to go through some of her questions for us and to outline staff priorities and issues for the council's consideration.

Parking

We had a meeting last night with a group including State officials, Green Mountain Transit, merchants and others on short term parking alternatives for the upcoming construction work over the next years. Council Member Bate and I were in attendance. Some good ideas were generated with some follow up efforts needed.

Farmers Market

City Staff and Dan Groberg from Montpelier Alive met with the Market reps on Monday. Dialogue about locations continues. It may well be that remaining in the current lot is the best alternative, at least until construction begins.

Scribner Street

We have attached the Notice of Hearing and Resurveying of Scribner Street. The Notice of Hearing and Survey was sent by certified mail this date to land owners and interested parties. The Hearing will take place on June 13th.

Legal

Both the Appellant, Conservation Law Foundation (CLF) and Appellee, State of Vermont, Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) filed "Oppositions to Motions for Summary Judgement" with the Superior Court, Environmental Division. Attorneys for other Appellees, including Montpelier and South Burlington, filed "Memorandum in Support of State of Vermont's Motion for Summary Judgement and Opposition to Appellant CLF's Motion for Summary Judgement." The appeal involves a challenge by CLF of the renewal of nine waste water treatment plant discharge permits, including Montpelier's discharge permit, on the grounds that the phosphorous limits are not strict enough. The State of Vermont, ANR is being represented by the Attorney General's office. The City is being represented by Joseph McLean, Esq., of Stitzel, Page & Fletcher, P.C.

We were named as a defendant in an action against both the Town of East Montpelier and the City of Montpelier regarding provision of ambulance service. We have referred the case to VLCT PACIF for an insurance coverage determination.

City of Montpelier Help Wanted

View the latest job opportunities at <https://vt-montpelier.civicplus.com/Jobs.aspx>

WEEKLY REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS ...

Police

The police department would like to congratulate and formally recognize Dispatch Supervisor Fred Cummings for his completion of the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials—International (APCO-International) Registered Public Safety Leader (RPL) certificate program. His successful completion of this year long program will further enhance his ability to manage and direct the day to day emergency communications function as well as assist with the future planning of

MPD's Dispatch. Also, Dispatcher Cummings is the President-Elect of the Atlantic Chapter of APCO-International.

Last week, MPD's Hostage Negotiation/Crisis Team (SGT Jeff Person, CPL Matt Knisley, and Officer Ben Michaud) attended a two-day New England crisis negotiators training in Plymouth, MA.

Facilities

Foundation replacement and structural repairs to the Little League Concession Stand at the Recreation Field were completed this week.

Public Works

[Construction update for the week of May 14th can be viewed by clicking this link.](#)

Finance

The 3rd installment of the 2017-2018 property taxes are due on Tuesday, May 15, 2018. Payments may be made in person at the City Clerk's office Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., by mail, or 24 hours a day by utilizing the drop box at the rear entrance to City Hall. [You may also pay online using Official Payments by clicking this link.](#) An administrative fee is charged by the vendor for online payments. In addition, the city offers convenient and free automatic payment processing. By signing up, you never have to worry about missing a payment. The payment is withdrawn from your bank account electronically on the actual due date. This service is available for property tax payments, water/sewer bills or both. [If you would like to enroll, please click this link and complete the authorization form.](#) You can drop off the completed enrollment form at the City Clerk's office or mail to:

City of Montpelier
Attn: Treasurer
39 Main Street
Montpelier, VT 05602

Community Services

[MSAC's Movement for Parkinson's Class to Perform on Flynn Main Stage during Flynn Student Showcase | Tuesday, May 15, 6:30pm](#)

Sara McMahon's leads this amazing group of dancers who work to overcome the many physical, emotional, and cognitive challenges of Parkinson's. They are the opening act and as in the past, they "bring the house down"! Check out the new website, www.movementforparkinsons.com for information about classes, events, and Teaching Assistant training opportunities. Sara reports she is honored to dance with such an amazing group of dancers from her Burlington and Montpelier classes. Please come and support the Flynn and all the dancers.

[Introduction to Transcendental Meditation | Thursday, May 17, 1:30-3pm at Montpelier Senior Activity Center, 58 Barre Street, FREE](#)

Learn how the Transcendental Meditation technique can help you recharge your mind and body. The TM technique involves no effort since you do not need to concentrate, control the mind, monitor thoughts or your body, or try to empty the mind. It is a simple technique - not a religion, philosophy, or lifestyle. At this presentation you will also learn how the technique has been shown by peer-reviewed research to create improvements in memory, focus, mental clarity, creativity, reduction in the effects of stress and other improvements in health. There will be time to ask questions and find out

the steps to learn this easy technique. Presented by Edwards Smith, MD and Janet Smith, certified instructors from the Vermont Transcendental Meditation Center in Williston. Both learned the TM technique in the 1970's, started working full time with the TM organization in 1979, and have been teaching the TM technique since 1990. For more info call 802-923-6248.

Touch a Truck: Sunday, May 20 at Montpelier High School Track

Family \$10.00 | Adult: \$4.00 | Child (2-18) \$3.00

- Join us at the Montpelier High School Track where children and truck fanatics will have their chance to climb in and play on all of their favorite vehicles! Admission gains access to Construction Trucks, Emergency Vehicles, Delivery Trucks, Entertainment, and a free one day pool pass which can be redeemed any day at the Montpelier Pool. We will also be selling burgers and dogs and other concessions.
- We will be joined by special guest Pirate Man Dan who will provide entertaining stunts, balloons, and humor for all ages. Face Painting by Donna will also be attending.
- If you have a unique truck or vehicle that you or your business would like to share please contact us at 225-8691. This is a great chance to network and promote your business!

Montpelier Senior Activity Center Trip Season is Underway!

Tina Muncy and Nancy Schulz have been busy planning great trips already. Visit the website at www.montpelier-vt.org/313/Trips for a copy of the Trip Registration Form and more detailed trip flyers, including VINS & Simon Pearce on June 2, Perry Hill Hike in Waterbury on June 7, Summer Solstice Continuous OM at Noyes Pond on June 21, and Lupines and Pancakes in Sugar Hill, NH on June 25. Many more trips for summer and fall are still in the works (including local walks, theater excursions, overnights to Montreal and PA Amish Country) so stay tuned in future e-letters and updates to the website this week!

Documentary Film Series: The Story of the Jews | 5 Sundays, May 6-June 10, 5-7pm (skip May 27)

- Following high attendance at our film series about Israel and Palestine this February-March and a well-attended OSHER presentation about Islam in April, we present another opportunity for lifelong learning, awareness-raising and respectful community discussion. Montpelier residents Jamie Granfield Carroll and Joseph Carroll host this series and share light refreshments representing different Jewish culinary traditions each date. Each episode is 55 min., followed by informal audience reflection and discussion for those who wish to stay. All events are free and open to the public. All are welcome. Donations to MSAC are appreciated. No advance registration is required. Co-sponsoring and hosting this series does not imply endorsement of any particular position on the part of MSAC staff, the MSAC Program Committee or the City of Montpelier.
- Series Summary (shortened from PBS website): Author, documentary-maker and Emmy-Award winner Simon Schama hosts this five-part documentary series for PBS. It follows him as he travels the globe, exploring the imprint Jewish culture has made on the world. The series is a personal journey for Schama who has been immersed in Jewish history since his postwar childhood; a meditation on its dramatic trajectory, and a macro-history of the Jewish people's mark on the world. It draws on centuries of diverse primary sources, and Schama talks about the turning points of the recent history with living witnesses. More information about the series is available at <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/story-jews/>
- Episode 2: Medieval Jews struggle to preserve their identity under Christian and Islamic rule. This episode will be screened at Montpelier Senior Activity Center on May 13th at 5pm.

TOPICS FOR UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS...

May 14	Site Visit 5:00 PM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior Center • Recreation Building 	May 21-22	Strategic Planning Retreat
May 23	Community Services Presentation Tree Board Update Conservation Commission Update Downsizers Central VT Public Safety Authority Complete Streets Plan	June 13	6:15 Scribner Street hearing & site visit Environmental, Social, Governance Investment Policy Department Presentations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cemetery • Community Justice Center New Directions, smoke-free
June 27	Set tax rate Department Presentations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire (possible site tour the same evening) 	July 11	WRRF ?

WHAT TO EXPECT IN THE FUTURE...

May	Green Up Day Montpelier Mayfest Art Walk Strategic Planning	June	Setting tax and water/sewer rates
July	Board of Civil Authority meets July 3 rd Celebration Zoning Fixes Mayor at HKS program	August	
September	Mid-year City Manager check-in Art Walk Possible warning for special November voting for bonds ICMA Conference for Manager	November	Set budget guidelines State general election, possible bond votes
December	Budget Art Walk	January	Budget Ballot
February	City Manager review Welcome Legislators Reception	March	Orientation



William Fraser
 City Manager