

**CITY OF MONTPELIER
CAPITAL CITY OF VERMONT**

City Manager's Weekly Report – 11/16/2018

City offices will be closed on Thursday 11/22 and Friday 11/23 in observance of Thanksgiving

UPCOMING MEETINGS...

Monday, November 19	Recreation Board, 5:30 PM, Barre St. Recreation Center
Monday, November 19	Design Review Committee, 5:30 PM, Council Chambers
Monday, November 19	Development Review Board, 7 PM, Council Chambers
Tuesday, November 20	City Council (Special), 4 PM, City Manager's Conference Room/Call-in
Tuesday, November 20	Social & Economic Justice Advisory Committee, 5:30 PM, Council Chambers
Tuesday, November 20	Energy Advisory Committee, 7 PM, Memorial Room

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT...

1 Taylor Street/Recreation Path – unchanged

Construction continues. Timeframe for 1 Taylor Street project:

- Weather tight building – March 22, 2019
- Substantial Completion – Aug. 15, 2019
- Project Completion – Aug. 22, 2019

Public Parking Garage

The DRB is scheduled to consider the application in deliberative session on Monday evening. They will issue their decision once it is completed. Our teams have been meeting around logistics, budget and schedule. Obviously schedule is dependent on city and state permitting processes.

First major snowstorm

As you know, we experienced our first major snowstorm of the season on Thursday night and into Friday. Our plow crews were out in full force starting around 3 a.m., getting as many streets and sidewalks as possible passable for the morning commute, and then back out to do additional clearing. As always, we started with the busiest streets, such as Main, State and Barre Streets, and areas around the schools. We also focused on safety issues, like steep routes such as the curve at the top of Main Street. We received a few calls from unhappy residents wishing their streets had been cleared earlier, which is expected, and we took care of many of them quite promptly. Our crews also focused on crosswalks all around the City, and cleaning up drainage issues and puddles caused by slush and snow banks at some of the crosswalks. We expect the need for additional hand work to open paths through the snow banks which is our common practice until snow banks can be removed.

The first winter parking ban went into effect for this storm as well. In preparation, MPD put fliers under the wiperblades of parked cars, and DPW launched a social media/press blitz to inform Montpelier residents of the ban. Again, as expected with the first storm, we had a number of cars towed (21) and more ticketed (47). We will continue to publicize the ban and encourage residents to sign up for Vermont Alert notifications to reduce the number of violations in the future.

Scooters

The Birds have flown the coop! With this week's storm, Bird collected their scooters and called an end to the

pilot project. We have been keeping track of calls and comments about the scooters and will prepare a report for Council.

Legal – unchanged

The City's petition to enter the proceedings concerning GMP's re-construction of the Marshfield Dam has been approved. We are now a party to the matter, for the purpose of monitoring the information in case there is anything relevant to the city.

Legal – unchanged

In the appeal by Conservation Law Foundation (CLF) of the City's WWTF discharge permit, the matter has now been fully briefed by all parties, including motions for summary judgment, responses thereto and reply filings. In its submissions to the Court, the City supported the legal briefs filed by the State of Vermont, Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) and also filed a separate reply memo addressing the issue of whether the discharge permit authorized an increase in phosphorous, as CLF has claimed. A hearing before the Environmental Court was held on July 30th to present oral arguments on the motions. We are now awaiting rulings on the motions and summary judgement.

City of Montpelier Help Wanted

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

View the latest City committee vacancies at <http://www.montpelier-vt.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?CID=22>

WEEKLY REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS ...

Public Works

Shared Use Path Project Granite St – Gallison Hill Road:

The contractor, J. Hutchins, Inc. will have a crew on site next week to begin work in earnest. They will be working on drainage structures in the rail yard and the bio-retention area and may be hauling soil from the stockpile at Trackside back to the rail yard. They will work Mon-Wed. They should be on site continuously with at least one (and maybe 2) crews for the foreseeable future.

Cummings Street Bridge Project (notice issued by the project outreach coordinator):

This is a multi-year project with most of the work occurring in 2019. Completion is scheduled for 2019. Work to be performed includes installation of a temporary bridge in the Fall of 2018, removal and replacement of the existing bridge in 2019. The temporary bridge is now in place, however temporary approach work including the temporary waterline will be postponed until spring due to forecasted below freezing temperatures and precipitation. WINTER SHUT DOWN: Austin Construction has begun winter shut-down activities. This includes pulling the filter curtains from the stream, moving some equipment, and general clean up.

One Taylor St transit center, housing project & shared use path:

The contractor will continue to work on the new shared use path bridge with work now taking place on both sides of the river.

Miscellaneous:

The streets division has now fully transitioned to winter operations supported by the equipment division. The water & sewer division still has some work to complete including locating & repairing a water leak on Dewey Street and installing one more new water service from the new water main Towne Hill Road.

A serious water leak occurred on East State Street on the afternoon of November 16th which was repaired using a wraparound band which was completed late in the evening. This water main is prone to repeated failures and

is listed in the master plan for full replacement in about three years. DPW will do its best to patch the road damage with the hope that some favorable weather will allow a lasting repair for the winter. A water leak was also repaired recently on School Street.

Community Services

2018-2019 Sugarbush Ski Program

This season, the Montpelier Recreation Department Ski Program will no longer be providing transportation or supervision. The guardians(s) of each participant is responsible for their child's transportation and also their time at the mountain. Adults may participate in the program at the same rate as kids, but adults are not to take lessons. There are several options for the program including reduced price season passes, lift tickets and/or lessons for the 5 days and rentals. Forms must be completed and include payment by November 28 – no exceptions! All forms can be accessed online for download at <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/1073/2019-Ski-Forms> and mailed to 58 Barre Street, Montpelier, VT 05602 with payment.

Girls on the Run

Are you passionate about helping young girls achieve their goals, learn healthy habits, and form friendships and connections? Are you a runner, or someone who enjoys walking or hiking? Please consider joining the 2019 Girls on the Run team at either Union Elementary School or Main Street Middle School! You'll work with a group of eight to sixteen girls twice a week after school, teaching them about things like body positivity, friendship and relationships, perseverance and team work! The season starts in February and continues until a culminating 5K in June! Learn more about Girls on the Run and coaching these teams by calling Becky at 802-225-8694, or emailing rjohnston@montpelier-vt.org.

AARP Tax Clinic

It's almost everyone's favorite time of the year ... tax season!! Our local AARP Foundation group is seeking volunteers to help serve as tax counselors. These people work with taxpayers directly by filling tax returns on behalf of local residents. You'll receive training and IRS certification, and have the satisfaction of helping your neighbors through this complicated process. The AARP volunteer orientation meeting is December 3rd; for more information, please go to www.aarpfoundation.org/taxaidevolunteer or call 1-888-227-7699.

Healthy Aging Conference

Friday, October 26, seven members of the MSAC Advisory Council and one office trainee joined Director Janna Clar and 300 other Vermonters in attending the annual Healthy Aging Conference sponsored by the Vermont Association of Area Agencies on Aging in Killington. In addition to the wide variety of break-out sessions on a range of valuable topics, attendees had the chance to hear special guest Governor Madeleine Kunin read from her new book, *Coming of Age: My Journey to the Eighties*. Janna also presented at the conference on the topic of "Senior Centers Without Walls" – an important national trend exemplified by the many off-site programs and multi-sector partnerships that supplement MSAC's successful onsite programming.

Paintings by Monica DiGiovanni

Beloved MSAC yoga instructor, Monica DiGiovanni is currently displaying her paintings in the MSAC Community Room through the new year. She likes to make art in any creative modality that grabs her attention, most recently including: oil paint, soft pastels, ink, collage and movement. Look for her new work in 2019 at www.mywildbeat.com!

Thank You for Making MSAC Open House Possible!

Montpelier Senior Activity Center would like to thank everyone who attended the Open House, including Allison Mann and Colin McCaffrey who provided amazing jazz vocals and guitar, Rick Winston who talked about films in the Savoy DVD archive, Nina Thompson from VT Ethics Network who educated people about Advance Directives, and Alana Rancourt Phinney who led an amazing Flash Mob of Bone Builders!

Winter Course Registration is November 26th!

Montpelier Recreation and Senior Activity Center winter class registration opens on November 26th! The winter program guide will be going out to community members and up on the Montpelier website soon; keep an eye out and be sure to reserve your spot in one of our movement, arts and humanities, or language classes when registration opens at 8:00am on 11/26.

Real Estate Transactions: Small Bites

Join Jeanne Felmly, a licensed Real Estate Broker with New England Landmark Realty, for a discussion on the basics of the real estate transaction. Many people are overwhelmed by how complicated the process can become and this workshop is designed to educate the lay person starting with the common questions: What do I have to do to prepare my home for sale? How do Real Estate professionals qualify buyers and evaluate offers? Other relevant topics will include forms and disclosures required by law: know your responsibilities, representation and how the real estate community works together, what to expect from a home inspection and the potential impact on the sale and much more! Jeanne volunteers regularly at FEAST Together, serving lunch and helping tidy up the community room afterwards; thank you, Jeanne!

Introduction to Appreciative Living

Pre-registration required

Life expectancy for women in the US is 81.1 years. Have you ever considered how you want to live the second half of your life? Do you feel optimistic and excited about the years to come? Or do you go through the days on autopilot, checking things off the list, feeling rushed, pulled in too many directions, constantly fighting unhealthy habits, and stuck in negativity after listening to the morning news? Now imagine if you could wake up each morning feeling confident that whatever life brings, you have a full toolbox to handle it.

This workshop introduces participants to the science of positive psychology and Appreciative Inquiry (AI). In this session, you will learn about the principles of AI and how they apply to everyday life. Most importantly, you will practice the most basic and powerful tool of this approach, “the flip,” and walk away feeling energized about what lies ahead of you. Register at MSAC office by Wednesday, November 21 or call (802) 223-2518

Alexandra Arnold, MS HR/OD, is a virtual life coach who specializes in helping introverted and sensitive women navigate midlife using positive psychology and appreciative inquiry.

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Nov 28	<p>Report on PCI Targets DPW Main/Barre Corridor Study DPW Master Plan Update – P&D Zoning Fixes – P&D Conservation Commission Appts. – ATCM Montpelier Foundation 501-C-3 – Finance Sprinkler Ordinance Amendments – ACM Old Country Club Road Planning – CM Housing Task Force – P&D</p>	Dec 12	<p>Budget Finance/CM Official Map P&D Complete Streets Plan DPW Personnel Plan Revision CM Central VT Internet Rep ATCM Silver Maple Housing? CM</p>
Dec 19	<p>Budget Finance/CM Economic Development Summary P&D MDC goals/measures CM/MDC Housing Strategy (Purchasing land?) P&D Tax Stabilization Policy CM/P&D/MDC Storefront Incentives CM/P&D Livable Wage/Min wage ordinances CM Ex-Officio Committee Appts ATCM Energy Efficiency Charter Language - ACM</p>	Jan 2	<p>Budget if needed Finance/CM</p>
Jan 9	<p>Budget Finance/CM Voluntary rental inspection program P&D</p>	Jan 16	<p>Budget public hearing CM Warning Public hearing CM Riverfront Access plan P&D District heat summer operations plan ACM Sabin's Pasture Plan CM</p>
Jan 24 (Thurs)	<p>Budget public hearing CM Warning Public hearing CM Charter Public hearing CM Bond public hearing/necessity res. CM Approve warning CM Audit Report - Finance</p>	Feb 13	<p>Restructure revolving loan funds P&D Complete Ordinance review – 1st, ATCM Manager Review CM</p>
Feb 27	<p>Main/Barre Implementation Plan DPW Ordinance review – 2nd reading ATCM</p>		

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Not calendared as agenda items:

- Utilize TIF for applicable projects – ***being done with Garage***
- Reinststitute council budget survey **CM done**
- Implement municipal facility best practices for stormwater **DPW - ongoing**
- Ensure any new facility or renovation meets net zero goals **Facilities**
- Publish and Post resources for landlords and tenants **ACM/P&D done**
- Conduct public outreach about housing rights and issues **ACM/P&D done**
- Add public dashboard from Envisio (October) **ATCM done**
- Community workshops on social justice if approved by council
- Continue W/S master plan **DPW - ongoing**
- Continue planning for CSO elimination **DPW ongoing**
- Seek grants for EV Charging stations **P&D done**
- Employee parking incentive **ACM/P&D in process**
- Substance Abuse prevention program with schools **CS**

For Budget:

- Upgrade street lights to LED **DPW**
- Consider Net Zero fund/benefit charge **CM/MEAC**
- Seek funding to expand COSA to work with DCF families **CJC**
- Prioritize non-fossil fuel based vehicles in equipment plan **DPW/Finance**
- One Taylor Street – develop & Fund maintenance plan **DPW**
- Evaluate compatible fuel match **DPW**
- Police staffing and training **MPD**
- Replace aging fire vehicles **MFD**
- Facility Management **CM/Facilities**
- Community Services integration and staffing **ACM/CS**

Pending Meeting items:

- Parks tour and meeting with Parks Commission - **done**
- Open Meeting/Public records briefing



William Fraser
City Manager