

**Minutes of the Montpelier City Council Meeting  
November 28, 2018 6:30 PM  
City Council Chambers, City Hall**

In attendance: Mayor Anne Watson (Chair) and City Manager Bill Fraser, Councilors Conor Casey, Ashley Hill, Glen Hutcheson, Rosie Krueger, Jack McCullough, Dona Bate. Deputy City Clerk Sheila Healy acted as secretary.

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Mayor Watson called the meeting to order at 6:30pm

- 18 -358. Mayor Watson proposes to reverse order of items 368 and 369. Agenda approved without objection
- 18-359. Sandy Vitzhum speaks and reads prepared letter. City Manager Bill Fraser spoke in response
- 18 -360. Discussion regarding consent agenda item "c" included Finance Director Todd Provencher. Councilor McCullough moved to approve consent agenda, Councilor Bate seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- 18-361. Councilor Hill moves to begin executive session in accordance with Title I, VSA §313, Executive Sessions (a)(3). Councilor Bate seconded and the motion carried unanimously at 6:40.
- Councilor McCullough moved to return to open session at 6:43, Councilor Hill seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- Councilor Casey moves to appoint Katie Michels as the voting member of the conservation commission. Councilor Krueger seconded and the motion carried unanimously.
- 18-362. Ed Flanagan and Paul Giuliani speak on behalf of the Montpelier Foundation in regards to forming a 501c(3). Discussion followed. [CHECK MOTION].
- 18.363. Polly Nichol (Co-Chair of Housing Task Force) & Rep. Mary Hooper came forward for a Housing Trust Fund Guidelines Update. Discussion followed.
- Councilor McCullough moved to approve proposed document with section 106-5 stricken. Councilor Hutcheson seconded. Discussion followed. Motion carries unanimously.
- 18.364. Zach Blodgett, staff engineer presented a Pavement Condition Index report with input from Tom McArdle, Public Works Director. Discussion followed. No formal action taken.

- 18-369. Bill Fraser provides overview of the status of the former Mowatt property. Discussion included: Didi Brush, John Snell, Dan Jones, Elizabeth Courtney, Richard Littauer, Laura Gephardt, Jay Light, Tim Heney.
- Councilor Bate moved to direct the city manager to establish a process and a schedule for addressing the questions and making a recommendation using the Old Country Club Road property. Councilor Hutcheson seconded. Further discussion followed. Vote passed unanimously.
- 18.364. The city manager presented a map of Old Country Club Road to open discussion on the property. Tino O'Brien and Ricarda Ericson participated in the discussion. Councilor Bate moved to direct the city manager to create a process and a schedule for making a recommendation. Councilor Krueger seconded and the motion carried unanimously.
- 18-365. Planning Director Mike Miller presented on a Master plan update and zoning fixes. Discussion included Laura Rose Abbott. No formal action taken.
- 18-366. Finance Director Todd Provencher presented a baseline budget to begin larger budget discussion. No formal action taken.
- 18.367. The Mayor opened the discussion of proposed sprinkler ordinance amendments. Discussion included Fire Chief Bob Gowans. The Mayor opened the public hearing on the proposals. Hearing no comments from the public, the public meeting was subsequently closed by the Mayor. Councilor Hill moved to set the second reading for the next council meeting and was seconded by Councilor Hill. The motion passed unanimously. More discussion followed.
- 18-371. Councilor Hill reported on the overdose deaths in recent weeks, encourages people dealing with substance abuse issues to reach out to treatment options and assistance from the police department.
- Councilor McCullough reported on the coming raising of the Statehouse Ceres sculpture.
- Councilor Krueger announced that she will not be running for re-election.
- Councilor Bate noted she has received complaints about the street lights being removed and about deer in town, noting that Wildlife Commissioner Louis Porter wants to allow deer hunting within city limits.
- 18-372. The mayor reported on her continued conversations around energy efficiency ordinances as part of charter change around sustainability.
- 18-374. The city manager addressed the rash of break-ins, tied to substance abuse. He then noted the coming budget congress and reminded the council that the master plan meeting needs to be scheduled.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:28pm by acclaim.