

**CITY OF MONTPELIER
CAPITAL CITY OF VERMONT**

City Manager's Weekly Report – 12/28/2018

***City offices will be closed on Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2018**

UPCOMING MEETINGS...

Wednesday, January 2	Complete Streets Committee, 5:30 PM, City Manager's Conference Room, City Hall
Wednesday, January 2	Special City Council, Budget, 6:30 PM, Council Chambers
Thursday, January 3	Tree Board, 5:30 PM, Memorial Room, City Hall

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT...

Former Councilor Nancy Sherman

We were saddened to learn of the passing of former City Councilor Nancy Sherman, who served on the Council for 12 years. Our hearts go out to Michael and the Sherman Family. We will miss Nancy's warm smile and unwavering optimism!

https://www.timesargus.com/news/local/city-mourns-sherman-s-passing/article_428c876f-74de-5e0d-a4a8-20926f237691.html

1 Taylor Street/Recreation Path

Much of the Transit Center portion of the site has been covered to allow for work during inclement weather. Construction continues. Timeframe for 1 Taylor Street project:

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

Budget

[The budget worksheet and books are on the website for the public to review.](#) Reminder of next week's special meeting to work on the budget. We'll be prepared to discuss the police officer, fire overtime, parks/trees staffing and any other issues on January 2nd.

Ice Rink

The City's new ice skating rink on the State House lawn has been installed. Now we're waiting for the weather to cooperate to allow us to officially open the rink to skating. The weather today is too warm; we hope temperatures fall and we can have skating by the New Year. Fingers crossed.

Use of Area on the East Side of the North Branch -- unchanged

I have reached out to interested parties for a discussion and will be following up with suggested dates. My plan is to have the working group identify options along with pros and cons of each option. We'll then hold a public session when people can offer comments on the alternatives. After that session, the small group will prepare a summary for the city council to consider.

Public Parking Garage -- unchanged

Our team is focused on meeting the conditions of the DRB approval in anticipation of receiving a permit. In addition, we are preparing for our Act 250 (abbreviated version for a designated downtown) hearing on Jan. 16.

We are pushing forward with our schedule since extended delays could add costs which might make either the hotel or garage less financially feasible.

French Block – unchanged

Downstreet Housing & Community Development and Housing Vermont are holding a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to celebrate the rejuvenation of the French Block Apartments in Downtown Montpelier. The event is on January 3rd:

4:00 - 5:00 PM: Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Memorial Room of City Hall, 39 Main Street, Montpelier

Hear from community leaders and project partners, and watch the ribbon fall!

5:00 - 7:00 PM: Community Celebration and Open House

French Block Apartments, 34 Main Street, Montpelier

The public will be allowed to browse through the halls and all 18 apartments to admire the renovations. Lite-fare will be provided by local restaurants!

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.

WEEKLY REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS ...

Buildings

Air-sealing (caulking) of windows at City Hall is almost finished. The LED replacement bulbs for the Lost Nation Theater house lights have finally arrived and will be installed soon.

The Police Station cooling system upgrade project is underway (39% complete).

Work on the 2019 Annual Report is underway.

The survey of the former Stonewall Meadows Recreation Association land (now a City Park) on Hebert Road is nearly complete.

Public Works

Shared Use Path Granite St – Gallison Hill Road:

The contractor, J. Hutchins, Inc. has completed exploratory excavations to locate and obtain measurements of the existing water main in preparation for the relocation work now tentatively planned for the week of January 7th. DPW water division staff will be heavily engaged in a supporting role for this work. Very little work is scheduled for next week considering the contractor will not be working on Monday & Tuesday but they do plan

to work on Old Country Club Road drainage systems including new culverts, head walls, stone outfall treatment and slope stabilization measures along the sides of the road. This work will persist into the week of January 7th.

The contractor also expect to be able to demolish the old Coniff home on Old Country Club Road during the second week of January as soon as the environmental remediation contract is completed.

UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS (TENTATIVE)...

Jan 2	Budget Finance/CM	Jan 9	Budget public hearing CM Warning Public hearing CM Riverfront Access plan P&D Community Indicators CM Investment Policy Finance Parking Ordinance DPW Social & Economic Justice Charge CM
Jan 24 (Thurs)	Budget public hearing CM Warning Public hearing CM Charter Public hearing CM Bond public hearing/necessity res. CM Approve warning CM Scooters ATCM Audit Report – Finance State's Attorney presentation Main/Barre Corridor Study DPW Committee appts: ATCM -Social & Economic Justice Advisory Committee -Investment Committee -Tree Board -Solid Waste Management Committee	Feb 13	Restructure revolving loan funds P&D Complete Ordinance review – 1 st , ATCM City Manager Review CM Voluntary rental inspection program P&D Tax Stabilization CM North Branch East plan
Feb 27	Main/Barre Implementation Plan DPW Ordinance review – 2 nd reading ATCM Sabin's Pasture Plan? CM	Mar 13	Organizational Meeting Livable Wage/Min wage ordinances CM Personnel Plan Open Meeting/Public Records



William Fraser
City Manager