

Weekly Report

May 31, 2019

Upcoming Meetings

Monday, June 3	Design Review Committee	5:30 PM	City Council Chambers
	Development Review Board	7:00 PM	City Council Chambers
Tuesday, June 4	Community Advisory Board	5:00 PM	City Council Chambers
	Transportation Infrastructure Committee	6:00 PM	Memorial Room
Wednesday, June 5	Complete Streets Committee	5:30 PM	City Manager's Conference Room
Thursday, June 6	Tree Board	5:30 PM	Memorial Room



Responsive and Responsible Government

Public Works Director

DPW Director Tom McArdle has formally submitted his plans to retire during 2019. He will conclude his full administrative duties in early August and will remain in a consulting and advisory capacity for several projects through December 31st. Later on I will say more about Tom's 38 years of dedicated service and many contributions to the City later. For now, I'll just say thanks and that his institutional knowledge will be sorely missed. I am laying out a process for filling the position and will include that calendar next week.

Water/Sewer Bill Payments Due Monday, June 17th

Your water/sewer bill shows payments are due on June 15th. However, since June 15th is a Saturday the payment due date is extended to Monday, June 17th. Payments may be made via mail, in person in the City Clerk's office, online using Official Payments at this link, or by using the drop box to the left of the rear entrance to City Hall. Please be sure to make your payment by the due date to avoid penalties. You may also enroll in automatic payments by submitting a completed enrollment form which you can access by clicking this link. Reasons to consider enrolling in automatic payments:

- Payments are automatically withdrawn from the account you designate on the actual due date, no need to pay days in advance or risk a payment being late or lost in the mail.
- Electronic payments are more secure. Checks contain your financial institution's routing number and your account number, information that is susceptible to fraudulent transactions and misuse.
- Electronic payments significantly reduce processing time. Checks and cash must be manually processed by staff and take a considerable amount of time to enter, especially during high volume payment periods.

Water System Operator Certification

Congratulations to the three employees of the Department of Public Works who passed their Vermont Water System Operator certification class D exam.

Organics to Energy

The Act 250 permit was received, which was the final permit required for the project. Mechanical and Electrical contractors will begin work at the site on Monday. DPW is coordinating with the contractors to ensure proper lock out/tag out safety measures are taken for all electrical equipment. Two of the City's solar power inverters have failed. These inverters need to be relocated and will be replaced through the contract. Staff is also working with a contractor to replace an oil tank which has accumulated sludge over time and currently has minimal storage capacity. With the wet spring, septage haulers have not been able to land apply solids. Consequently, the plant has been running at maximum capacity with overtime required to dewater solids. Plant operators have had to begin placing limits on the volumes received from the larger haulers in order to manage the levels in the digesters.

Water Filtration Facility

Our Water Filtration Facility held public tours in recognition of Water Quality Day on Thursday, May 30th with 3 different tours throughout the day and a total of about 30 city residents attending. Next week our Water Filtration Facility will be collecting samples of the City's water to complete our Lead and Copper testing. Our water is tested for Lead and Copper every three years in the month of June.

Berlin Pond

Berlin Pond is actively being re-posted by the City of Montpelier.



More Housing

1 Taylor Street

Work on the 30 units of mixed income housing on the upper floors at 1 Taylor Street is progressing on schedule. Drywall, insulation and other work is underway; the windows have been installed; one stairwell has been installed. These will be important quality, affordable housing units in our core downtown when completed.



Sustainable Infrastructure

<u>Cummings Street Bridge Project</u>

The demolition of the old bridge is continuing with the traffic diverted over the temporary bridge. During excavation, the contractor encountered old steel vessel which will be exposed and evaluated next Thursday with the state hazardous materials and waster coordinator present.

Clarendon Ave Reconstruction Project

The Project is now out to bid. Bid opening will occur on June 6th with construction anticipated to start later in the month. Project consists of new water, sewer, storm, and roadway improvements.

Elm Street Sidewalk Projects

Bids have been opened and Dubois Construction was the low bidder for the project. Contract to be awarded in June with construction to occur later in the summer. Schedule to be provided by the contractor after contract award.

FY20 Concrete Sidewalks

Project is now out to bid. Bid opening is scheduled for June 7th. Contract to be awarded in June with construction to occur later in the summer. Sidewalk reconstruction is planned for the following locations: Intersection of Elm and Spring (repair from water leak), Hubbard Street between Wilder and Barre St, and selected sections on Main Street between Jay and Loomis (both sides of street). The final extent of work will depend on bids received vs available budget.

FY20 Street Paving

Gallison Hill Road will be reclaim & paving starting Monday, June 3rd. This project will be completed during the night hours to avoid school and other traffic conflicts.

Clarendon Ave reconstruction paving will be after utility completion.

Stonecutters Way project will be bid in the next few weeks for either a mill and fill, or a cold in place recycling project.

DPW is currently developing a bid for other streets to be paved within the paving program, those streets will include Dwinell, Dewey, Greenfield, Jordan and Redstone.

Caledonia Spirits will begin paving their parking lot Thursday June 6th which will have some overlapping coordination requirements with the Barre Street paving project.

Ballfield Reconstruction

In anticipation of the Mountaineer's home opener on Wednesday June 5th, the Public Works and Recreation departments have been working diligently to complete the reconstruction project behind the stadium. The drainage work is now complete and crews have begun to reconstruct the road base. Work on the road subbase is expected to be completed by Monday, June 3rd with paving to occur on Tuesday, June 4th weather permitting.

Water/Sewer Division

The Water/Sewer Division is scheduled to replace a water service along Towne Hill Road, near the intersection of Greenock Ave on Thursday. This is currently a relatively long galvanized line along the edge of Towne Hill Road which has been prone to leaks. Additionally, there is currently a water leak at the intersection of Main St. and Barre St. which is scheduled to be repaired on Thursday.

Crews will continue cleaning sewer mains and storm water catch basins throughout the next several weeks. We will also be inspecting the storm and sewer systems on all the streets that will be paved this season which is a routine practice to identify any potential issues.



Be Safe, Eat a Creemee!

The Montpelier Police Department is bringing back the popular "You were caught being safe" imitative this summer. The Police have partnered with Dairy Creme to provide officers with tokens and cards for free, small creemees to hand out to children observed using safe practices around town. This can include wearing a helmet while riding a bike, walking bikes across crosswalks, or looking both ways and waiting for cross signals when crossing the street, among others. Our goal is to encourage everyone, especially kids, to be as safe as possible when out and about this summer and to increase positive interactions between our officers and area youth.



Thoughtfully Planned Built Environment

Parking Garage/Hotel

The City, through our attorneys, filed Summary Judgment motions in Environmental Court today. The motions address the scope of issues eligible for court review and the grounds for legal standing of the appellant group.

Shared Use Path Project (Granite St. – Gallison Hill Road)

The installation of stormwater infrastructure on Barre Street and Granite Street is complete. A small amount of petroleum contaminated soil was encountered and removed during excavation on Gallison Hill Road. The material was reported to DEC and removed and stored in accordance with the approved remediation plan.

Now that preparation and utility work for the path project is complete, the street rehabilitation projects are ready to proceed with pavement removal and base paving will begin next week on Barre Street and Gallison Hill Road. The existing pavement on Gallison Hill Road will be reclaimed at night on Monday (6/3) and Tuesday (6/4). Milling work (cold plane) will take place during the day on each end of the project including a segment of Granite Street extending to the Sibley Avenue intersection and on the Pioneer St bridge end of the project limits. This will be followed by reclaiming beginning on Thursday June 6th through Friday the 7th. New base pavement will be placed on Gallison Hill Road on Saturday (6/8) during the day and on Barre Street on Monday (6/10) and Tuesday (6/11) during the day.

Construction Traffic Advisory: The Barre Street (and Granite Street) paving project will require the use of traffic control flaggers to manage one direction traffic flow conditions in the work zone. Motorists are advised to expect delays and to seek alternate routes during work times.

Other activities planned in the coming weeks include ledge removal behind retaining wall #8 will also continue next week and work on the bio retention ponds. For erosion prevention & sediment control work, the contractor will also be working on permanent and temporary stabilization methods in accordance with the stormwater permit.

1 Taylor Street/Recreation Path

Painting has begun in the interior of the 4th floor. All drywall have been placed on the 3rd floor and interior painting will begin next week. Drywall will begin on the 2nd floor next week along with electrical rough in on the 1st floor. Also occurring next week will be the installation of electrical conduits under the railroad tracks between 1 Taylor Street and 100 State Street. These conduits will accommodate communication lines which are currently overhead along Taylor Street and the railroad tracks.



Inclusive, Equitable and Engaged Community

School Visit

On Thursday morning, we were honored to have students from The New School of Montpelier's Summit Program stop by for a tour of City Hall and Q&A with the City Manager. The students visited all of the offices in the building and engaged in fun conversations with each department. We loved having them and think they enjoyed being here as well.

Mental Health First Aid training

15 City employees received their Certification in Mental Health First Aid by the National Council for Behavioral Health after finishing an 8 hour (two 4 hour sessions) training on Mental Health First Aid. This course trained employees to provide initial help to people experiencing problems such as depression, anxiety, psychosis and substance use disorder. This training is extremely valuable and has provided us with strategies for handling potentially challenging situations and informed us of available resources to assist individuals in need.

Free lunches at Recreation Center summer camp

The Recreation Center summer day camp opens on June 24th, and this year the program will provide free lunches for all participants – as well as any children under 18 who need or want a free meal. In the past, free lunches were provided only to children whose families received a subsidy on camp fees, and was restricted to camp participants. But Rec staff worked with a State meals program to expand the program this summer to all children, including those who are not camp participants but might be swimming or using other Elm Street recreational facilities at the time. This is an efficiency savings for the City, but more importantly, another way to help ensure all children have access to meals during the non-school months.

Summer Class Registration Begins Monday, June 3rd

The Community Services Department is gearing up for the summer season and is excited to bring back many old favorites as well as 5 new classes open to ages 14+. These new classes include a "Drawing the Cityscape" art class with Janice Walrafen, a "Just for Fun" Film Appreciation Series with Rick Winston, A one-time "Summer of 69' from Moon Landing to Woodstock" workshop with Allan Mackey, a creative non-fiction class, "Stories of the World, Stories of Our Lives" class with Melanie Viets and a "HeartMath – More Ease, Less Stress" course with Edward Kentish. For more information about these or any of the other classes being offered this summer, please stop by 58 Barre Street and pick up a program guide or stop by between 9 am and 4 pm on Monday the 3rd and sign up!

Montpelier Senior Activity Center Member Art Show

Throughout the month of June come and see an exhibit of a wide variety of works by instructors and members of MSAC's diverse drawing, painting, pastels, and photography classes. During Art Walk on June 6 (4-9pm) in the Art and Community Rooms, additional works will be on display, including those by Clay and

Rug-hooking classes who aren't doing monthly exhibits. Some instructors and class members will be demonstrating their techniques!

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Thursday, June 6, 12:00 - 5:00 pm - Mobile Unit outside 58 Barre Street No reservations necessary. Open the general public. Register in MSAC lobby on June 6.

New Drop-In Elders Together Support Group to be offered at MSAC

Friday, June 7, 1:00 - 2:30 pm in MSAC Resource Room

A new, free, monthly drop-in support group, tentatively called "Elders Together", will offer an opportunity for older elders—perhaps living alone or with little family or other community support systems—to enjoy the company of others dealing with the challenges and opportunities of aging. Discussion topics and agendas, will be decided by the group in a confidential setting after FEAST lunch. If transportation is a problem, call Mary Alice Bisbee, MSAC member and facilitator, at 223-8140 and leave a message. If possible, car-pooling will be organized if needed.

William Fraser City Manager

CONTINUE ON FOR TENTATIVE AGENDA ITEMS, REPORTS, BUDGET ITEMS AND ATTACHMENTS

Upcoming Agenda Items (TENTATIVE)

6/12	Berlin St. Speed Limit, 1 st Public Hearing DPW MTIC Alternative Transportation Fund Budget Ch. 2 Ordinance Amendments, 2 nd PH ATCM Ch. 3 Ordinance Amendments, 1 st PH ATCM Ch. 1 Ordinance Fines, 1 st PH, ATCM Conservation Commission updated MCC Strategic Outcomes work plan CM Strategic Planning consultant CM Winter Operations Debrief DPW Validation resolution CM	6/26	Berlin St. Speed Limit, 2 nd Public Hearing FEAST Contract MSAC Ch. 1 Ordinance Fines, 2 nd PH, ATCM Ch. 3 Ordinance Amendments, 2 nd PH ATCM Ch. 5 Ordinance Amendments, 1 st PH ATCM Zoning Planning
7/10	ADA Plan Adoption DPW/ADA Committee Ch. 5 Ordinance Amendments, 2 nd PH ATCM Ch. 7 Ordinance Amendments, 1 st PH ATCM Set Tax Rate Finances Tax Stabilization Policy CM Strategic Plan update CM French Block PH Downstreet	8/14	Energy Efficiency and Disclosure Policy MEAC Ch. 7 Ordinance Amendments, 2 nd PH ATCM Ch. 8 Ordinance Amendments, 1 st PH ATCM Transportation Alternatives- tentative CM
8/28	Living Wage/Responsible Employer Ordinance Ch. 8 Ordinance Amendments, 2 nd PH ATCM Ch. 9 Ordinance Amendments, 1 st PH ATCM Substance Abuse update PD	9/11	Confluence Park/Waterfront Ch. 9 Ordinance Amendments, 2 nd PH ATCM Ch. 10 Ordinance Amendments, 1 st PH ATCM Event Fees –tentative CM
9/25	Economic Development Strategic Plan P&CD Grant for Net Zero plan P&CD Revolving Loan Fund CD Ch. 10 Ordinance Amendments, 2 nd PH ATCM Ch. 11 Ordinance Amendments, 1 st PH ATCM Strategic Plan update CM	10/9	CSO Financials DPW/Finance Complete Streets Committee update Ch. 11 Ordinance Amendments, 2 nd PH ATCM Ch. 13 Ordinance Amendments, 1 st PH ATCM
10/23	Ch. 13 Ordinance Amendments, 2 nd PH ATCM Ch. 16 Ordinance Amendments, 1 st PH ATCM Personnel Plan CM/HR	11/13	Ch. 16 Ordinance Amendments, 2 nd PH ATCM Ch. 17 Ordinance Amendments, 1 st PH ATCM Recreation Building ACM IRC Codes Planning
11/20	Ch. 17 Ordinance Amendments, 2 nd PH ATCM Ch. 19 Ordinance Amendments, 1 st PH ATCM Ch. 20 Ordinance Amendments, 1 st PH ATCM WiFi feasibility Finance/Tech Strategic Plan update CM	12/11	Budget Ch. 19 Ordinance Amendments, 2 nd PH ATCM Ch. 20 Ordinance Amendments, 2 nd PH ATCM
12/18	Sabin's Pasture CM	1/8	Hazard Mitigation Plan update

Upcoming Reports (TENTATIVE)

June	Alternative fuels for Vehicles	Aug.	Energy efficiency and Disclosure policy
			Roof drain connection
			Transition of PD fleet to HEV
Oct.	Police Department Social Worker	Nov.	WiFi feasibility
Jan.	Rental properties survey	?	Downtown Master Plan
			Process for adding new projects/funding

Budget

ADA projects

Combined Sewer Overflow projects

Downtown Master Plan Implementation

Emergency Management Operations

Fuel

Parking Garage Operations

Housing Trust Fund

Infrastructure

Downtown LED light conversion

Personnel Plan matters

Police Dept. Social Worker

Recreation Center

Confluence Park/Riverfront efforts

Sabin's Pasture (purchase?)

WiFi