

**Minutes of the Montpelier City Council Meeting**  
**October 9, 2019 6:30pm**  
**City Council Chambers**

In attendance: Mayor Anne Watson (Chair), Councilors Dona Bate, Conor Casey, Glen Hutcheson, Jack McCullough, Ashley Hill and Lauren Hierl. City Clerk John Odum acted as secretary.

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The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:30.

- 19-288. The agenda as presented with addendum was approved by unanimous consent.
- 19-289. Elizabeth Parker spoke in regards to a poor person mobility coop working group report. With Hani Nazarali, she reported on a coming event. The City Manager announced the hiring of the new Assistant City Manager.
- 19-290. Councilor McCullough moved approval of the consent agenda, Councilor Hutcheson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
- 19-291. The Council received a Complete Streets Committee update from Gary Holloway. No formal action taken.
- 19-292. The council opened a discussion on the Bethany Shelter time extension. Speakers from the public were: Rob Farrell, Ken Russell, Rick DeAngelis, Stephen Whitaker, and Travis Hill.

After discussion, Councilor McCullough moved to allocate out of the source identified by the manager, funding of that amount to commence when Good Samaritan is ready to start providing those services at the rate stated, at whatever time they are available to do so, up to November 15 when the state funding arrives. Councilor Hutcheson seconded. Further discussion followed.

Without objection, the motion was amended to the following: that the city allocate and authorize expenditures up to but not exceeding \$10,000 to Good Samaritan to operate the Bethany Shelter up to and until November 14, 2019, at the rate of \$17/bed and 20 beds per night. Motion passed 5-1 (Councilor Bate voting no).

- 19-293. A preliminary budget discussion was held with Finance Director Todd Provencher. No formal action taken.
- 19-294. Councilor Casey introduced a discussion of a possible responsible employer ordinance. Public Works Director Donna Barlow Casey participated.

A public hearing was opened by the Mayor at 7:57. Members of the public offering comment were: Danielle Bombardier, Mike Smith, Larry Moquin, Peter Kelman, Tim Labombard, and Sheila Healy.

Councilor Casey moved to ask the City Manager to have the proposal reviewed by a lawyer with the changes, and to set the first public hearing at the next meeting. Councilor Hierl seconded and the motion carried unanimously. The public hearing was closed at 8:15.

The mayor called a recess at 8:16. Councilor Hill left the meeting, which reconvened at 8:23.

19-295. The Council discussed proposed Chapter 8 ordinance amendments. Councilor McCullough moved to schedule another public hearing to discuss an amendment to Chapter 8. Councilor Hutcheson seconded. Discussion followed.

The Mayor opened the third public hearing at 8:26. More discussion followed including comments from Laura Smith Riva and Rosie Krueger. The motion carried unanimously (5-0) and the public hearing closed at 8:40.

19-296. The second public hearing on proposed Chapter 9 ordinance amendments was opened at 8:41. After discussion, Councilor McCullough moved to schedule another public hearing incorporating all the amendments that made tonight. Councilor Hierl seconded and the motion carried unanimously. The public hearing was closed at 9:37.

19-297. Brief discussion on the tax stabilization policy took place. No formal action taken.

19-299. Councilor Bate noted the dam safety workshop on November 5 and gave a VLCT municipal meeting report. She also referenced a barking dog complaint, suggesting possibly making a change in the ordinance.

Councilor Casey gave an update on his health and announced a potluck game dinner through the Fish and Wildlife Commissioner.

Councilor Hutcheson offered a Homelessness Task Force report followed by a brief discussion. He also promoted his weekly constituent meeting.

Councilor Hierl gave a Social and Economic Justice Advisory Committee report.

19-300. The Mayor gave a report on the prior week's regional transportation. She went on to announce the One Taylor street opening on October 25 and apologized for the original scheduling date. Finally she noted the opening for the Shared use path at Barr Hill.

19-301. The City Clerk's indicated he would be gone from October 29<sup>th</sup> to November 11<sup>th</sup>.

19-302. The City Manager's reported on the River Master Plan and his attending the regional planning meeting. He also spoke further on the new Assistant City Manager.

Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 10:12.