

Minutes of the Montpelier City Council Meeting
November 20, 2019 6:30pm
City Council Chambers

In attendance: Mayor Anne Watson (Chair), Councilors Dona Bate, Conor Casey, Glen Hutcheson, Jack McCullough, and Lauren Hierl. Councilor Ashley Hill arrived at 6:42. City Clerk John Odum acted as secretary.

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

- 19-339. The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.
- 19-340. Dan Richardson introduced the boy scouts in the audience working towards obtaining a badge. He also acknowledged the City Manager for his coming participation in a scouts meeting.
- 19-341. Councilor McCullough moved approval of the consent agenda and Councilor Hutcheson seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).
- 19-342. Appointment to the Housing Authority: Ed Larson addressed the Council on his candidacy. Councilor McCullough moved to appoint Ed Larson to another 5 year term to the Housing Authority. Councilor Bate seconded and the motion carried unanimously (5-0).
- 19-343. Conservation Fund: Brenna Tomen addressed the Council on the committee's requests. Discussion followed. Councilor Hutcheson moved the City post for two at-large positions to serve on the Conservation Fund Subcommittee. Councilor Casey seconded and the motion carried unanimously (5-0).
- 19-344. A Social & Economic Justice Advisory Committee update and funding request was offered by Jamie Carroll, Shaina Kasper, Michael Sherman, and Julia Chafets. Discussion followed. Councilor Bate moved to commit \$10,000 for this project to move forward. Councilor Hill seconded. After more discussion, the motion carried unanimously (6-0). Brief further discussion followed.
- 19-346. A Homelessness Task Force update was offered by Assistant City Manager Cameron Niedermayer, Dawn Little, and Ken Russell. Councilor Hill Move that we maintain the Homelessness Task Force as a standing city committee. Councilor Hutcheson seconded. Discussion followed. The motion carried unanimously. Further discussion followed with Police Chief Facos participating. Councilor Bate moved that the Council allow the remainder of the \$10,000 (previously allocated) to apply to the spring of 2020. Councilor Hill seconded and the motion carried unanimously. Brief further discussion followed.
- 19-345. The Mayor opened the 1st public hearing on revisions to Code of Ordinances Chapter 13, Natural Resources, at 7:45. The Mayor called a recess at 7:46. The meeting reconvened at 7:55. Discussion followed.

Councilor McCullough moved to delete section 13-306. Councilor Bate seconded. After further discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

The public hearing was closed at 8:37.

19-347. The Council discussed a proposed Winter Ban Amendment to add Sibley Avenue & Prospect Street to the list of unconditional winter ban roads. No formal action taken.

19-349. Councilor Bate reported on the Park Commission meeting.

Councilor Casey announced a second constituent meeting and complimented Lisa Maxwell of the Montpelier Development Corporation.

Councilor Hutcheson reported that the new multi-use path is being heavily used, reporting on several sections of the path. He also noted his weekly Bagitos meetings.

Councilor McCullough reported on the recent meeting of the Vermont Democratic Party where labor representatives expressed their appreciation for the responsible employer ordinance.

Councilor Hierl thanked everyone for their support of the Social and Economic Justice Advisory Committee.

19-350. The Mayor reported on her recent re-election campaign announcement and discussed some of her policy priorities moving forward. She also noted her more regular office hours in City Hall (Tuesdays and Fridays 3:30 to 5:00).

19-352. The City Manager reminded listeners of the coming holiday hours, and reported on the hiring process for open positions.

The Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 8:51 by unanimous consent.