

Minutes of the Montpelier City Council Meeting
January 15 2020, 6:30pm
City Council Chambers

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

Mayor Watson called the meeting to order at 6:30

- 20-017. The agenda was approved by unanimous consent with the following additions to the consent agenda: Liquor Licenses for Sodexo Enterprises (1st class), Mobil Mart (2nd class) and The Abbey Group (1st class).
- 20-018. The following people spoke under general business and appearances: Zack Hughes (offering thanks to Community Justice Center Director Yvonne Byrd in regards to the Homelessness Task Force and congratulations to Police Chief Tony Facos regarding his pending retirement), Laura Rose Abbott (regarding concerns about Councilor Bate's comments on the Homelessness Task Force budget request – to which Councilor Bate responded), and Stephen Whitaker (in regards to prioritization of public works maintenance).
- 20-019. Councilor McCullough moved approval of the consent agenda (as amended previously) with the necessity resolution removed. Councilor Casey seconded, and the motion carried unanimously (5-0).
- 20-020. Jamie Duggan of Two Rivers Partnership gave a 5 Home Farm Way update. After brief discussion, no formal action was taken.
- 20-021. A discussion of a potential city bond was introduced with a presentation from City Manager Fraser. Discussion followed. No formal action taken.
- 20-022. Bond Public Hearing opened at 7:10. Stephen Whitaker offered comments. Public hearing closed at 7:13.
- 20-023. The Mayor opened the budget public hearing at 7:14. Participating in discussion were were offered by Ericka Reil, Dawn Little, Zack Hughes, Stephen Whitaker, Karon Asencio, Dan Richardson, Laura Rose Abbott, Ken Russel and Nancy Smith. Public hearing closed at 8:07. No formal action taken.
- 20-024. The Annual Meeting Warning public hearing opened at 8:09 and discussion commenced. Councilor McCullough moved to remove Article 12, Councilor Bate seconded and the motion carried unanimously. Stephen Whitaker offered comment. Councilor Bate moved to change Article 14 that the amounts would be 23,500 from Montpelier and 26,500 from Barre City. Councilor McCullough seconded and the motion carried unanimously. The public hearing was closed at 8:15. Councilor McCullough then moved to schedule the 2nd public hearing on the proposed city meeting warning for next week,

- 20-025. The first public hearing on proposed changes to the Dog Ordinance opened at 8:16. Assistant City Manager Cameron Niedermayer came forward for discussion. Laura Rose Abbott offered comments. The public hearing was closed at 8:24. Councilor Bate moved to schedule the 2nd hearing at the next meeting which is January 23rd. Councilor McCullough seconded and the motion carried unanimously.
- 20-027. Councilor Bate reported on the Regional Planning Commission meeting and activity on the Clean Water Basin Plan. Brief discussion followed, before noting transportation groups and committees that should be working together. Councilor Casey reported on a River Conservancy meeting regarding dam removal. Councilor Hutcheson noted upcoming MLK day and reminded listeners of his weekly Bagitos constituent meeting. He added a reminder of the homelessness event at the Statehouse. Councilor Hierl gave a Social and Economic Justice Committee update.
- 20-028. The Mayor's reported on her office hours in City Hall and gave an update on the energy efficiency labeling ordinance update
- 20-029. The Clerk noted the upcoming filing deadlines.
- 20-030. The City Manager discussed the coming Council appointment and the timing of the next meeting.

Without objection, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:38 by unanimous consent.