

Mon., Jan. 27th	Planning Commission Meeting	5:30 PM	Memorial Room, City Hall
Wed., Jan. 29th	Homelessness Task Force	11:30 AM	City Council Chambers, City Hall
Thur., Jan. 30	Welcome Legislators Reception	5:00 PM	Capitol Plaza Hotel & Conference Center



Community Prosperity

Montpelier Development Corporation:

I received a communication from Mr. Kaplan last evening indicating that they would have financial records to us as soon as possible. He thought it could be as soon as today.

Tax Stabilization:

With the budget behind us, I hope to complete the tax stabilization policy update before Town Meeting day. Look for it on a February agenda.



Responsive and Responsible Government

City Council:

We welcome Council Member Richardson to City government. We should have his email, etc. set up shortly.

City Manager Review:

Reminder that we are conducting the Manager's review on February 12th. Please return your forms.



Inclusive, Equitable and Engaged Community

Social & Economic Justice Advisory Committee

The Social & Economic Justice Advisory Committee plans on issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) looking for Equity and Social Justice Consultants on January 31st. Consultants will be asked to provide a plan for assisting the City of Montpelier better engage with the community, disenfranchised demographics, and help the City recognize areas for growth within the organization. The RFP also requests consultants respond with proposals for both community and City employee training and open dialog sessions. The RFP is scheduled to remain open for proposals until March 18th.

Montpelier Recreation Renovation Proposal Survey:

As a result of the feasibility study that was previously sent, the City is looking at renovating the existing Recreation Center at 58 Barre Street. The City of Montpelier is considering the renovation of the City's Rec Center. The City Council would like to hear your feedback on the project proposal! [Survey is available here.](#)

Our goal is to collect extensive public feedback on improvement needs for the Rec facility. The City would like to consider public priorities to create a robust programming offering and the final potential concept design for the Rec space. Your input on this survey will help shape how the Rec Center facility could potentially be expanded and improved to serve our community.

More information can be found at the [Recreation Center Renovation Project Homepage](#) along with links to the various presentations regarding the project. We'd also be interested to hear your feedback on the concept design put forth by the City's architecture firm. Please click this link for the [Presentation on Rec Center Design Options](#).

Rink at State Street:

The weather watching continues for this year's skating 'Rink at State Street'. The Rink at State Street is a winter-season, public, outdoor ice rink situated on the State House lawn in downtown Montpelier. We've re-flooded the rink a few times now, trying to keep up with the weather. It still just hasn't been consistently cold enough to have it freeze solid! To address any funding concerns, the rink this year did not have any associated costs, other than the staff time and the repair costs for the first damaged liner- the rink was partially grant funded and paid for last winter. We will continue to communicate any updates, and appreciate your understanding and patience!

Off the Beaten Path Travel Talk Series: Cultural Observations from a Month in Japan with Therese Mageau & Peter Kelman:

Monday, January 27 | 7:00 - 8:30 pm | MSAC Community Room, 58 Barre Street

What do toilets, thank you notes, black business suits, ancestor reverence, no shoes, raucous baseball games, hot springs, etiquette, and samurai have in common? They are all cultural touch points in Japan, a country that is supremely beautiful and hospitable to the western traveler, but simultaneously a culture unto itself, one that a traveler can observe and learn to love, but never fully enter. Therese and Peter will share some of their observations, thoughts and experiences of traveling a month in Japan, visiting well-known destinations like Tokyo, Nara, Osaka and Hiroshima, but also immersing themselves in Japan's unique cultural history by hiking parts of the ancient Shinto pilgrimage trails and the 16th - 18th century Nakasendo, which linked the entire country to the main city of Edo (modern day Tokyo). Co-hosted by the Kellogg-Hubbard Library.

AARP Tax-Aide Clinic Appointments Still Available at Senior Activity Center!

Stop by the office at 58 Barre Street or call 223-2518 soon to make your appointment for a Monday, Wednesday or Thursday, still available in late February through early April. Be sure to pick up an intake form in advance, and there is also an important sheet of what to know and what to bring with you. Appointments are available to all regardless of age, as long as you have a simple tax return, are low-to-moderate income, don't own a business with employees or inventory, don't own rental property or an AirBnb, and don't have complicated capital gains or inheritances. Thank you to Georgia Valentine and the other volunteers who make this clinic possible! Volunteer greeters may still be needed – inquire if interested.

Ice on Fire Volunteer Opportunity:

The Parks Department is gearing up for Ice on Fire, which will take place on Sunday Feb. 2, 2-5pm at North Branch Nature Center. We need volunteer help to assist with parking, winter games, set up and clean up. Reach out to

eco-amerikorps@montpelier-vt.org if you're interested!

We also need help next week to prepare the space for the winter celebration. If you're available to join during one of the following times and are comfortable working outdoors, please join us at North Branch Nature Center.

Saturday, 1/25: 8:30a-4p

Tuesday, 1/28: 11a-4p

Wed. 1/29 8:30a-4p

Thurs. 1/30 8:30a-4p

Friday, 1/31: 8a-4p



Sustainable Infrastructure

DPW Street & Water / Sewer divisions:

Public Works' Street Division worked throughout the City plowing snow and sidewalks as the recent winter storms approached Montpelier. Snow removal represents a significant portion of the week's work. Snow was removed around schools, parking lots (Capital Plaza, City Hall and Stone Cutters), crosswalks, around the Senior Center and Sibley Avenue. Our crews will work on night time snow removal of downtown. Many other tasks were completed inclusive of the following:

- Sign Repairs
- Mailbox Repairs
- Coldpatch pot holes around the City

Next week the Street Division will continue winter operations, responding to snow events, as well as snow removal on secondary streets. Our employees will begin training on the Department's recently purchased asphalt reclaimer. A benefit of this machine is that it allows us to patch potholes as they develop over the winter months, resulting in a longer lasting solution to winter street repairs.

The Water/Sewer Division assisted our Street Division with winter operations and snow removal as well as plowing and sanding our pump stations. Our crews also worked on daily tasks such as:

- Daily station checks and maintenance
- Meter repairs and readings
- Various customer calls (Broken Meter, Water entering basement, Sewer smell...)
- Undertook several Dig Safes
- Camera the sewer main on Nelson Street
- Cleaned trucks and equipment
- Inventoried our stocked supplies and restocked as needed
- Checked and maintained problem manholes

Next week our Water/Sewer Division will continue hydrant maintenance, work on Pump Station repairs (leaking seals, stuck valve, cleaning of solenoids and back checks, and more), daily station checks, continue cleaning and organizing our cold storage area, water meter repairs and readings, clean sewer mains as weather permits, tool and equipment safety check as well as answer dig safe request, customer calls, and any other day to day tasks.

WRRF:

This week the new Mezzanine in the headworks building was completed. The Grit Classifier and control panel are also being installed this week. HVAC work continued in the dewatering building. Next week installation of the new boiler will begin along with preparations to install new dewatering equipment.



New Design Review Regulations proposal under consideration:

The Planning Commission has scheduled a public hearing for January 27th from 5:30PM to 7:30PM to give a presentation and take comments and questions on a new proposal to change the Design Review rules in the zoning. During the development of the zoning that was adopted in 2018 a proposal was made and ultimately withdrawn to make changes to the rules and boundary of the district. In 2018 and 2019 the Historic Preservation Commission and Planning Commission worked to develop new rules based on the public comments received earlier. Those new rules and new boundary are now under ready for review. We hope to hear from residents about these proposals to know if we should move them forward to adoption or if additional changes are needed. The draft rules and map can be found at <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/1112/Zoning---Design-Review-Proposal> . Please send any questions or comments to Mike Miller at mmiller@montpelier-vt.org or attend the hearing to see the presentation.

William Fraser
City Manager

Upcoming Agenda Items (TENTATIVE)

2/12	Home Equity Labeling Ordinance Rental Survey Hazard Survey City Manager Review Conservation Commission Appointment Ordinance Amendments Legislative Agenda MTIC Appointments Tax Stabilization (?) ADA Commission Appointment	2/26	Parking Fees Ordinance Amendments CVSWMD Appointment Personnel Plan (?) CHP Project contract
3/3	Annual Meeting Election	3/11	Organizational Meeting

Upcoming Reports (TENTATIVE)

TBD	Downtown Master Plan
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