

Minutes of the Montpelier City Council Meeting
February 12, 2020, 6:30pm
City Council Chambers

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

Mayor Watson called the meeting to order at 6:30

- 20-047. Agenda was approved without objection
- 20-048. Seth Collins from Berlin asked the council to create a task force to start the implementation of a neighborhood watch.
- 20-049. Motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Councilor McCullough and seconded by Councilor Hierl and passed unopposed.
- 20-050. This months Above and Beyond award was awarded to Daniel Perry. Perry was not in attendance
6. 20-051. The council opened discussion on the proposed Climate Emergency Resolution. Kelly McCracken, Dan Jones, Diane Hagen, Leena Donofrio, Lynn Wild, and Darryl Bloom all spoke. Councilor Bate brought a few language concerns to the council's attention. Discussion followed.
- Council discussed striking "restore a safe climate" to be replaced with "reduce greenhouse gas emissions," adding "Montpelier has experienced multiple water main breaks in part to extreme freeze/thaw cycles and more frequent major storm and snow events," and extending the date to adopt the plan until 2021.
- After discussion council member Richardson moved to adopt resolution as modified by the Mayor with the exception of keeping the creation of the plan in place by the end of 2020 instead of extending it to 2021. Councilor Hierl seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.
- 20-052. Motion made to appoint Peter Luyckx to the currently vacant 2 year term on the Transportation Infrastructure Committee by Councilor McCullough seconded by Councilor Casey, all voted in favor.
- 20-053. The Council received applications for the Conservation Commission Appointment from Paige Guertin, Joseph Whalen and Stephanie Hunt. Paige and Joseph introduced themselves to the council. A Motion to enter into executive session was made by Councilor McCullough and seconded by Councilor Hutcheson. With no opposition the council entered into executive session at 7:33. Motion to exit executive session was made at 7:36 by Councilor Hutcheson and seconded by Councilor McCullough and

carried unanimously. Council member McCullough moved to appoint Paige Guertin and Stephanie Hunt to the 3 year terms and Joseph Whalen as Alternate, seconded by Councilor Bate. Motion passed unanimously.

- 20-054. Council received one application from Priscilla Fox to fill the vacant Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Commission seat. Priscilla addressed the council and a motion to appoint Priscilla was made by Councilor Bate, seconded by member Richardson and carried unanimously.
- 20-055. Development Review Board Appointment discussion. Council received one application from Roger Cranse to fill a 3 year vacant term. Motion to appoint Cranse was made by Council Member Richardson and seconded by Councilor Bate. Appointment passed unanimously.
- 20-056. The Council received a presentation from Mark Crane and Patrick Olmstead from the SE group on the Downtown Master Plan. After discussion no formal action took place.
- 20-057. Legislative agenda: Without objection the Mayor asked to move this item to the next council meeting.
- 20-059. Councilor Hutcheson noted that he would be at Bagitos at 9:30 for his usual Thursday morning meeting. He later mentioned that one of his constituents had voiced their concern over snow removal efforts and wondered if the city was budgeting enough.
- Councilor Richardson Thanked ORCA for their work on Candidate interviews and the interview with City Manager Fraser.
- Council Member McCullough- gave a brief update of the Main Street Middle school committee.
- Councilor Hierl- noted the upcoming CVSWMD meeting and the need for applicants for the committee.
- Councilor Bate echoed the Thanks to ORCA for the interviews and mentioned a new discussion that VEEP is having regarding integrating school and public transportation.
- 20-060. Mayor Watson reminded the public of her Tuesday city hall office hours as well as reminding the council about the self-evaluation surveys. She also announced that the Census is coming and the importance of their work.
16. 20-061. Deputy Clerk Chase reminded the residents that tax installments were coming due, but in consideration of the weekend and the holiday they would be accepting payments on Tuesday the 18th.
17. 20-062. The City Manager spoke of local government day that was happening the following day. He also mentioned that the ad for Police Chief was out and they would be accepting applications until March 16th. He also addressed the snow removal challenges that DPW

had been encountering the past week, noting that the issue was with the truck suppliers.

18. 20-063. Motion was made by Councilor McCullough and seconded by councilor Bate to enter into executive session to discuss the City Manager's evaluation. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Watson stated that no other business was to be discussed following the executive session.

The Councilor returned to open session and adjourned by unanimous consent at 9:21PM