

Mon., Feb. 24th	Planning Commission Meeting	5:30 PM	City Council Chambers, City Hall
Wed., Feb. 26th	Social & Economic Justice Advisory Committee	10:30 AM	City Manager's Conference Rm., City Hall
Wed., Feb. 26th	Homelessness Task Force	11:30 AM	City Council Chambers, City Hall
Wed., Feb. 26th	City Council Meeting	6:30 PM	City Council Chambers, City Hall



Community Prosperity

Health Insurance

The Senate Finance Committee is holding a hearing on S.216, the bill which would enable municipal governments with over 100 employees to join the State's Health Care exchange. I was scheduled to testify yesterday, the 20th, but the hearing was moved to next Thursday the 27th. I am not able to attend that session but have sent a memo (included) with my comments.



Responsive and Responsible Government

Strategic Planning

Staff has begun work on the Strategic Plan, with the goal to meet with the Council in April for a collaborative priority setting session. The staff work includes laying out work plans for items that we are already doing and/or committed to doing. This will allow Council to see a more complete picture when establishing your initiatives. We are working within the same overall framework that you have created over the last two years.

Police Chief Hiring Process

This week I met with members of the Police Department to hear their concerns and suggestions about the next Chief. I will hold a similar meeting with some community members in March. To date we have received applications.



Inclusive, Equitable and Engaged Community

Community Transit Week

The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission is pleased to announce Community Transit Week, a collaboration of Central Vermont transit providers and advocates that will take place Saturday May 2nd—Friday May 8th. Their goal is to spread awareness of public transit options across the region, and help connect potential riders to routes that serve their needs. The week will feature:

- An Opening Day Celebration on Saturday, May 2nd at the Montpelier Transit Center will focus on accessibility, including a stationary demo bus providing an opportunity to try many GMT accessibility features like wheel-chair lifts and bike racks; Transit partners and advocates will also be tabling there with more information and transit opportunities.
- A Free Ride Day on Monday, May 4th when all GMT rides in the Central Vermont Region will be free of charge
- A week-long On-Board Raffle for bus riders who can enter their name for a drawing of free bus passes and other prizes
- An Elected Officials Ride the Bus Day, where constituents will have an opportunity to connect to their legislators and municipal officials on the bus
- A Ride-the-Bus Photo Competition where you upload your picture to the Community Transit Week Instagram and/or Facebook page
- Plus many other events

Please feel free to contact Grace Vinson (vinson@cvregion.com) at the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission with any questions, comments or concerns.

Off the Beaten Path Travel Talk and Slideshow: Incredible India with Bill Doelger

Wednesday, February 26 | 6:00 - 7:30 pm | MSAC Community Room, 58 Barre Street

Incredible India in three parts: alone, with a tour group, and with an Indian Catholic priest. The caste system, a vehicle on the moon - so many contrasts! The largest and one of the youngest democracies in the world is 80% Hindu. Bill will show some photos of the 38 UNESCO World Heritage sites. There will be discussion of the language, culture, history and adventures that Bill and Linda experienced. 6th in our 7-event series co-sponsored by KHL, free and family-friendly. Our last 2020 OTBP Travel Talk (originally scheduled for March 16) has been rescheduled to Monday night, March 30, 6:30 pm at K-H Library when Ela Chapin presents: "The Ruby Mines of Madagascar in 1999."

Rec Center Gym times during Feb. School Break

During the week of Feb. School break, Monday, Feb. 24 – Friday, Feb. 28 there will be open gym from 1-4 pm.

Trail Grooming Update

The Parks & Trees Department has been busy keeping trails groomed for winter use throughout the park system as well as on the North Street ridge. The trails around North Street are all on private land and are maintained with help from a group of volunteers. Maps can be found at <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/211/Park-Maps>



DPW Street & Water/Sewer Divisions:

The City of Montpelier's Street Division spent 2 days plowing, salting and sanding our streets and sidewalks due to the mid-week winter storm. A winter parking ban was in effect Friday, February 21st, 2020 from 1:00am till 7:00am for snow removal operations. Our street crew also completed the following task list:

- Cold patched throughout the city in needed areas;
- Installed a sign at Christ Church;
- Cleaned and opened up the Elm Street Sidewalk in front of Sweet Melissa's;
- Filled sand barrels;
- Plowed off Stump Dump in preparation for McCullough Crushing;
- Undertook sign and meter repair on Langdon Street;
- Repaired receiver at Coop entrance on Stone Cutters Way;
- Members of our crew attended a full day class for Class D Licensing;
- Smoothed apron on Freedom Drive (frost heave).

Next week our Street Division will use our new asphalt reclaimer making hotmix to repair the Bailey Avenue Bridge, Memorial Drive, Berlin and Barre Streets. Our crews will also continue to watch and handle freezing runoff on sidewalks and streets as well as continuing snow removal.

Our Water/Sewer Division spent the week locating valves and conformations for map correction; undertook daily checks on all stations; continued work on the brick archway from Loomis Street to Saint Paul Street; made daily repairs to water meters; undertook winter maintenance of fire hydrants; engaged in equipment training and several dig safes; and, answered several customer concerns.

Next week our Water/Sewer Division expects to work on completing the following list:

- Valve repair on West Street (as long as weather cooperates)
- Assist with winter operations
- Continue equipment training on an active water leak (small one on Terrace Street)
- Continue with map corrections as needed
- Address day to day maintenance and customer concerns
- Continue work on the brick archway from Loomis Street and Saint Paul Street
- Water meter repairs and reading

WRRF:

The new boiler is now set in place, final piping and electrical is underway. The bathroom near the electrical room has been reconfigured for isolation requirements. The new Rotary Drum thickener has been set and electrical and controls are being installed. New conduit for dewatering equipment has been run in the garage building.

William Fraser
City Manager

Upcoming Agenda Items (TENTATIVE)

2/26	Rental Survey Veteran’s Homelessness Resolution Legislative Agenda CHP contract CVSWMD Appointment Audit Report Homelessness Task Force request	3/3	Annual Meeting Election
3/11	Organizational Meeting Downtown Master Plan Set Schedule for Strategic Planning Committee appointments Possible Sabin’s Pasture update	3/25	Ordinances TKS Property Tax Stabilization Policy – tentative Personnel Plan – tentative Ordinances
4/8	Ordinances W/S Budget, Rates Parking Fees Parking Garage Update	4/22	Ordinances