

Minutes of the Montpelier City Council Meeting
August 26 2020, 6:30pm
Videoconference

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

The meeting was called to order at 6:30.

- 2020-258. Councilor McCullough moved approval of the consent agenda and was seconded by Councilor Richardson. Motion carried unanimously.
- 2020-259. The Council discussed a street closure/painting request from Ericka Redic. Addressing the Council were Dawnmarie Tomasi, Alice Flanders, Ericka Redic, Lynn Dike, Brock Coderre, Shaun Stephens, and Samantha Lefebvre. Permission was not granted for lack of a sponsor, per Council policy.
- 2020-261. Ken Russell of the Homelessness Task Force addressed the Council. Police Chief Brian Peete and Stephen Whitaker, Gary Gordon, and Susan Lamiere participated in discussion. Councilor McCullough moved that the city issue the RFP as it's been presented tonight with the due date to be determined by the City Manager or Assistant Manager in concert with the Homelessness Task Force. Councilor Ericson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- 2020-262. The Mayor opened the Design Review Public Hearing at 7:35 on changes to design Speakers were Planning Director Mike Miller, and Eric Gilbertson. The Mayor closed the hearing at 7:52. Councilor Bate moved to approve the proposed changes to the design review overlay district and the map. Councilor Ericson seconded. After more discussion, the motion carried unanimously.
- The Council moved to discussing zoning changes for pioneer street area. Public hearing opened at 7:56. Mike Miller addressed the Council. Also speaking was Brooke Dingedine. Councilor Richardson moved to approve change to the zoning districts in regards to parcels as indicated on the map in proximity to 186 River Street from riverfront zoning district to eastern gateway district as indicated on the map. Councilor Casey seconded and the motion carried 5-1 by roll call (Councilor Ericson voting nay.). The Mayor closed the public hearing at 8:29.
- A recess was called at 8:30, and Council reconvened at 8:40.
- 2020-264. Chief Peete participated in a community policing discussion. Also participating: Gary Gordon, Morgan Brown, Stephen Whitaker, Shaun Stephens, Lauren Griswold, Alison Byrnes, Carolyn Wesley, Isla Bristol, David Hershey, Constantinos Stavaros, Stephanie Gomory, Alicia Glover, Shaina Kasper, Rebecca Dalgin.

Councilor Richardson moved to direct the City Manager to direct the Chief to implement the action plan as laid out in the chief's report using strategic planning as an umbrella

for the strategic implementation. Councilor Casey seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

- 2020-263. The temporary residential parking ordinance public hearing (street closure for School Street/Park Avenue was opened at 10:52. After discussion, Councilor Bate moved to approve the temporary parking ordinance as stated in the memo. Councilor McCullough seconded and the motion carried unanimously. The hearing closed at at 10:54
- 2020-265. In-Person Meeting Planning Proposals – brief discussion, no formal action taken.
- 2020-260. COVID-19 Update – brief discussion, no formal action taken.
- 2020-266. Comments were received from Morgan Brown on city communications. No formal action taken.
- 2020-267. Council Reports. Councilor Bate brought up possible councilor social time. Councilor Ericson told the Council that his boy had a bad bike wreck and it was great that the neighbor helped and lauded the response from paramedics. He also offered thoughts on the impact of the pandemic on businesses. Councilor Richardson expressed concerns about long term pandemic impacts and spoke positively of how the Council has conducted itself. Councilor McCullough asked for a report on CVPSA, wanting the Council to re-engage with it. Councilor Hierl echoed Councilor Richardson’s comments on the Council.
- 2020-269. The City Clerk gave an election report.

Without objection the meeting was adjourned at 11:09 by unanimous consent.