

Minutes of the Montpelier City Council Meeting
September 9 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.

- 2020-271. Without objection the agenda was approved by unanimous consent.
- 2020-272. The consent agenda was moved for approval by Councilor Richardson, seconded by Councilor Bate. It passed unanimously after a brief discussion.
- 2020-273. 2020-274. Social & Economic Justice Committee appointments and Design Review Committee appointments were taken up. Councilor McCullough moved the Council enter executive session to consider the appointment of a public official. Councilor Bate seconded. After brief discussion including Stephen Whitaker, the motion carried unanimously at 6:39. At 6:45, Councilor McCullough, seconded by Councilor Ericson, moved to return to open session. The vote was unanimous in approval.
- Councilor McCullough, seconded by Councilor Ericson, moved to appoint to the Social and Economic Justice Committee Lalitha Mailwaganam, Michael Sherman, Shaina Kasper, Julia Chafets and Janelle Perry, and to the Design Review Committee Eric Gilbertson and Stephen Everett. The motion carried unanimously.
- 2020-276. Kate Stephenson gave a Montpelier Energy Advisory Committee update. Discussion followed with no formal action taken.
- 2020-277. The Council discussed the proposed personnel policy. Tanya Chambers participated. Councilor McCullough moved to adopt the personnel policy subject to the suggestions and recommendations made earlier about credit checks. Councilor Richardson seconded. After brief discussion, the motion carried unanimously.
- 2020-278. The Council opened an initial discussion of winter parking options. Discussion included Zach Blodgett, Donna Barlow Casey, and Tom McArdle. Comments were offered from Stephen Whitaker. Councilor Bate moved to accept the presentation from DPW to move forward with the change of the winter parking plan with their alternating side winter parking proposal Councilor Casey seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

A recess was called at 8:47. The Council reconvened at 8:54.

- 2020-279. The public restroom discussion included Stephen Whitaker. No formal action.

- 2020-280. Council received a Covid-19 update from the Assistant City Manager. No formal action taken.
- 2020-281. Discussion of in-person meetings included Stephen Whitaker. No formal action.
- 2020-283. Councilor Bate reported on a recent DPW public discussion, and also attended an ice cream social, before she touched on CVPSA status. Councilor Casey offered best of luck to teachers and others on going back to school. Councilor Ericson echoes those comments and thanked teachers and school staff. Councilor Richardson expressed concerns about the Council's level of engagement with CVPSA and touched on the subject of the School Resource Officer. Councilor McCullough noted potential issues with the Council meeting schedule. Councilor Hierl asked for a Montpelier Alive update.
- 2020-284. The Mayor noted it was time to start thinking about budget process. Before giving a shout out to teachers and families going back to school.
- 2020-286. The City Manager spoke about coming meeting agendas and the SRO discussions. He engaged in questions about a possible COVID task force, and welcomed Mary Smith as the new Executive Assistant to the City Manager.

Without object, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 10:11 by unanimous consent.