

Date	Committee	Time	Location	Links
10/12	Community Fund Board	9:00 AM	Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
10/13	Planning Commission	5:30 PM	Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
10/13	Community Advisory Board	5:00 PM	Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
10/14	Sprinkler Variance Committee	11:00 AM	Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
10/14	City Council Meeting	6:30 PM	Zoom and Council Chambers	Agenda and Zoom Link
10/14	Homelessness Task Force	11:30 AM	Conference Call	Agenda and Conference Call Number
10/15	Housing Task Force	5:15 PM		Agenda and Zoom Link



Public Health and Safety

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

City of Montpelier Response Update

In the State's press conferences this week, the Governor continued to emphasize that wearing masks is an altruistic act, and that it is necessary to suppress the COVID-19 virus. It is in our hands to prevent the spread- so follow the guidelines, wash your hands, and mask up!

In the same press conferences, Commissioner Michael Pieciak from the Department of Financial Regulation reminded Vermonters to get flu shots to keep infections down and to "make sure that our hospital capacity stays free and clear for those that need treatment throughout the rest of the fall and into the winter."

As a reminder to residents: [The Governor has made it mandatory to wear a mask in public starting August 1st.](#)

Weekly State Updates:

- October 9th Updates:
 - School Update: Guidance for winter sports should be out by the end of October.
 - Health Updates: current cases can be found on the [VT Health Department dashboard](#).

- Travel Update:

- Virus growth has continued throughout the northeast with new confirmed cases rising by 48% compared to last week.
 - With several counties going into red and yellow status on the [cross state travel map](#), the eligible number of travelers who can come to Vermont without quarantine fell from 4.2 million to 2.8 million.
- Everyone Eats Program RFP:
 - The State of Vermont has allocated \$5M from the Coronavirus Relief Fund to a new program called Everyone Eats, which supports restaurants feeding Vermonters in need.
 - Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA), the fiscal agent for the program, is requesting proposals from community organizations around the state to further these programs in the months ahead. Interested organizations should visit the [SEVCA website](#) for more information and to submit a proposal.
 - Application Deadline Extended for Agriculture Grants:
 - The deadline for the Vermont COVID-19 [Agricultural Assistance Program \(VCAAP\) Dairy Assistance Application and Agriculture and Working Lands Application](#) has been extended to November 15, 2020

City Updates:

- City Hall will be open for the public during regular Council Meetings starting October 14th. The public will be able to interact with the Zoom Council Meetings in the Council Chambers. Masks or a face shield and social distancing will be required inside City Hall. Masks will be on-hand with City Staff if members of the public do not have any available to them.
- The Recreation Department will be opening for limited use rentals only. Folks interested in renting the space can contact the Recreation Department at <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/838/Montpelier-Recreation> or 802-225-8699.

Regional Aid Groups Update:

Community Meal Information:

- Weekday dinners, M-F, will be available at Another Way at 125 Barre Street between 5-6 PM.
- Weekday lunches will be available at the current Sunrise Wellness Center at 157 Barre Street between 12:30-2:30.
- Weekend lunches will be available in front of the soon-to-be-opened Sunrise Wellness Center at 34 Barre Street from 12:30-2:30 PM.
- This is in addition to current church meal offerings during the day which will continue.

Donations Requested:

- Another Way, a community drop-in center located at 125 Barre Street, seeks clean camping gear in usable condition for distribution to folks in our community experiencing homelessness. At this time

they are accepting donations of Tarps, Tents, Sleeping Bags & Pads, and Backpacks. Sundry items such as tent stakes, para-cord, waterproofing sealant, flashlights & headlamps are also welcome.

- Another Way is not able to accept clothing of any kind currently.
- Please contact Another Way prior to donating by either calling 802-229-0920 or emailing janell@anotherwayvt.org to schedule a drop off.



Responsive and Responsible Government

WINTER PARKING CHANGES

Following the Council's preliminary approval of a new winter parking system, a project team has been established to finalize ordinance and operational details as well as manage public education and publicity efforts.

COUNCIL MEETING DATES

To avoid conflicts with holidays, the Council will hold **regular** meetings on the following dates:

- October 14 and 28
- November 4 and 18
- December 2 and 9
- January 13 and 21 (Thursday). The 27th is not yet confirmed.

Additional dates for **budget workshops** may be added including one between December 9 and 31 and another one on January 6th.

TEMPORARY PARKLET APPROVALS

As per ordinance, parklets must be removed by October 25.

Although the terms of the temporary ordinance were originally intended for 2020 only, we may wish to revisit this in early 2021 to determine whether conditions warrant an extension.

12 MAIN STREET (former TKS property)

As we know, the City needs to make a decision about whether to purchase this property for the \$134,000 of federal funding that was spent to to acquire it as part of the One Taylor Street/Bike Path project. We have made a proposal to VTrans for this purpose and will bring the issue to the Council when we have received a response. It was originally scheduled for this next meeting.

Assessor's Office

- New GIS map link on Assessor's Page of City website. Entitled "Montpelier GIS Link". It has all of the features of the existing Interactive Parcel Maps, which it will be replacing, and many new features,



Inclusive, Equitable and Engaged Community

Police Department modified lobby opening

The Montpelier Police Department's front lobby will remain locked, but available once again for prescription drug drop offs. Residents are asked to ring the front door buzzer to speak with dispatch and to wear a mask when entering the building. Anyone showing any signs of sickness is asked to stay away from the building and only one person will be allowed in the lobby at a time. The Department will also be hosting a DEA drug take back day on October 24, 2020 between 10am-2pm.

POLICE REVIEW COMMITTEE

The following has been advertised with an application deadline of October 22nd for council consideration on the 28th.

The City of Montpelier seeks interested residents to serve on a Police Review Committee. The number of members and length of terms has yet to be determined. The City Council has charged the committee with the following work:

- 1) Review the historic functions of Montpelier police department;
- 2) Review modern policing trends and practices, such as those embodied in the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing and other reference materials;
- 3) Meet with community stakeholders for feedback on the role and function of the Montpelier Police Department. (list of stakeholders will be provided but can be expanded)
- 4) Review existing historic law enforcement data for trends, significant issues, and other observations or conclusions that are relevant to current and future planning and funding of the Montpelier Police Department. (list of data will be provided but can be expanded)
- 5) Review and analyze the functions of the Montpelier Police Department, its existing policies, and help create the Department's current strategic plan
- 6) Compile the information into a report to be delivered to the City Council by June 30, 2021. The report will include recommendations for this committee's future charge and function.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

According to newspaper reports, the MRPS school board has voted to form a committee to look at the SRO position. It appears that this will include a City Council representative. The committee will be aided by professional facilitators.

COMMUNITY SERVICES UPDATES

MSAC Village Offering Raking, Wood stacking and other Outdoor Chore Help this Fall and Recruiting Volunteers

Have any leaves that need to be raked, wood that needs stacking, or a garden to be put to bed? If

you're a Montpelier resident, let MSAC know! As part of an initiative to create a Village model here in Montpelier, we are pleased to announce the offering of assistance with outdoor chores in the month of October! If you – or your Montpelier friends, family, or neighbors – need any assistance with an outdoor to-do list, we are here to help. Contact AmeriCorps member Andrew Gribbin at 262-6287 or at msac-ameriacorps@montpelier-vt.org to learn more about this new initiative and to register for the services today. We hope to see you – socially distanced – in your yard soon! Additionally, we are looking for volunteers who would be willing to lend their time in support of this project. Please contact Andrew Gribbin to learn more about ways to assist or to register as a volunteer.

FEAST Together Distantly w/MSAC Staff via our first-ever Conference Call

Friday, Oct. 16 | 12:30 - 1:15 pm | via phone

Join MSAC Staff (Director, Janna Clar, FEAST Manager, Sarah Lipton and/or new AmeriCorps Aging in Place Coordinator Andrew Gribbin) and other MSAC members for lunch together over the phone. You'll be able to ask questions, get answers and spend some time with friends, old and new! Email Harry at msac@montpelier-vt.org or call 223-2518, preferably a day or more in advance to receive a phone number to call in. Help from Chet is available if you're new to a conference call; just ask!

Inaugural FEAST Farm Visit

Did you know that the FEAST programs have been supported all summer long (and into Fall now) by fresh produce planted, grown, and harvested from a city-maintained farm here in Montpelier? The Montpelier Parks Department, along with hard-working volunteers, have worked tirelessly since April to transform a plot of land at the confluence of the Stevens Branch and Winooski rivers into productive farmland that has generated healthy – and delicious – food used to support both the FEAST at Home and FEAST to Go programs. As the growing season comes to an end, now is the perfect time to catch up on all they have accomplished and see the farm that has put food on many a plate these past six-months. Join us in mid-October for an inaugural visit to the FEAST farm to celebrate the harvest and enjoy the grounds that have contributed so much to the FEAST program this past year. Plus enjoy a tasty treat along the way! Contact the FEAST office at 262-6288 or email feast@montpelier-vt.org to learn more, and keep an eye out for additional details coming soon!

FEAST Senior Meals To Go! Served outside Tuesdays and Fridays, 12:00-12:30

Pick-up in our beautifully landscaped courtyard in front of 58 Barre Street. Requires mask-wearing and six feet distancing in line. **Meals for age 60+**, by suggested donation of \$5 – 10 with completed Annual Nutritional Survey; **Under 60**, fee of \$7-10. Reservations appreciated, and/or request vegetarian by calling **262-6288** by the previous day. All meals include milk. Next week's menu below. Full October menu available on website.

- **Tuesday, 10/13:** Chicken Enchiladas, Corn, Rice & Beans
 - **Friday, 10/16:** Beef Stroganoff, Poppy Seed Coleslaw, White Rice Pilaf w. Herbs
- Optional Event: 12:30-1:30: FEAST Together by Conference Call; RSVP by October 15

FEAST Celebrates the Arts

In collaboration with our senior community artists, we are thrilled to unveil a series of artistic expressions representing the FEAST. As the weather cools, the pandemic still rules, and we are working hard to support our isolated community members, we wanted to bring a celebration of community, warmth, nourishment, harvest and richness right to you. Stay tuned for an unveiling of this in-person and virtual art tour! If you want to contribute YOUR art, please do so, just call us to find out how: (802) 262-6288

Unveiling A New Monthly Recipe

Come on over to our website to see a healthy, delicious and seasonally-appropriate recipe provided by our very own Chef Mike! We'll provide a list of local farms you can source your veggies from too. And, if you don't cook - share this with a friend who can cook it for you!

Rec Department's Afterschool Program off and Running!

The new afterschool program celebrates the completion of its' first week of operations. So far it has gone very well.

Looking into re-starting In-person activities at Rec Gym

The Rec. Dept. is looking into starting some programming in the Recreation Gym for activities that can be run in adherence to State COVID-19 protocols (social distancing and mask wearing). Stay tuned for more details.

DPW Street & Water/Sewer Divisions:

Department of Public Works Street Division has completed two weeks of leaf pickup throughout the city. Leaf pick up continues through October 20th, 2020 with the schedule of the following:

Mondays: Barre Street to East State Street areas.

Tuesdays: East State Street to Main Street areas.

Wednesdays: Towne Hill, North Street, Elm Street, Cliff Street,
Court Street, Meadow areas.

Thursdays: Terrace Street and Lower State Street area.

Fridays: Berlin Hill, River Street, Colonial Drive, and
National Life Drive areas.

Bagged leaves should be left at the curbside. Bags should contain **leaves only**: No brush, garden debris or flower stalks will be accepted. Leaves raked into the street **MUST** be bagged for removal, and all bags must be securely tied.

Our Street Division has begun preparing materials for winter operations, winter sand has been received and put away in the City Garage.

The Water/Sewer Division has spent all of this week on N College Street installing the water main. This project will continue through all of next week.

Food Scrap Drop Off and Other Materials

The Central VT Solid Waste Management District ARCC – Additional Recyclables Collection Center offers residents the opportunity to recycle a variety of unique household items not taken at regular drop off locations. The ARCC is located in the Dollar General Plaza at 540-552 N Main St, Barre, VT 05641. Save resources, support our region's solid waste district efforts to maintain a clean, non-toxic environment, and comply with the State's recycling mandate! Follow this link to take a look at all the materials you can bring to this facility. <http://www.cvsmd.org/arcc.htm>

DON'T FLUSH THAT:

Due to the public health crisis, not only is our city seeing a shortage on toilet paper, but many communities are as well. ***The Department of Public Works would like to remind everyone about what should NOT be flushed.*** Flushing the items listed below could cause sewer

blockages, which could cause plugged and overflowing toilets, poorly draining sinks and showers, raw sewage backing up through floor drains and/or manholes overflowing onto the ground or into nearby surface waters, health hazards and nuisance odors, and this could result in increases in the City's maintenance costs and costly repair bills for involved residents.

The following items should NOT be flushed!

- Paper towels
- Baby wipes
- Moist towelettes
- Cosmetics and cosmetic wipes
- Cloth or paper napkins
- Shop towels
- Condoms
- Tampons and pads
- Diapers
- Cat litter
- Cigarette butts
- Dental floss
- Latex gloves
- Hypodermic needles
- Facial tissues
- Fats, oils or grease
- Clothing or rags
- Medications (pills or liquid)
- Bandages
- Cotton balls
- Food scrapes
- Swiffer pads
- Plastic of any kind

ORCA MEDIA

ORCA Media supports the City of Montpelier by live streaming videos to local TV and on YouTube. Recently, Comcast changed the government channel to 1085.

- Click here to access City Council Meetings: <https://www.orcamedia.net/series/montpelier-city-council>
- Click here for Live Stream Events: <https://www.orcamedia.net/series/live-stream-events>

Thank you,
City Manager



William Fraser

Upcoming Agenda Items (*TENTATIVE*)

11/4	Childcare Option Update Meet with Legislators (tentative) COVID-19 Update 12 Main Street Property	11/18	COVID-19 Update
12/2	Housing Initiatives Update Budget COVID-19 Update	12/9	Budget COVID-19 Update
1/6/21	Budget Workshop	1/13/21 Thursday	Budget Public Hearing Strategic Plan Progress Update Review 2 nd quarter budget status
1/21/21 Thursday	Budget Public Hearing Warning Public Hearing Approve Warning Review/Approve Petitions	2/10/21	City Manager Review
2/24/21		3/2/21	Annual Meeting Election

REPORTS DUE:

Universal Recycling Law – Periodic updates

MDC/MA Partnerships – Periodic updates

Protect, Maintain and Improve Built Infrastructure – Update in October

Supporting the Community in Rebound from COVID 19 – Regular updates