

Minutes of the Montpelier City Council Meeting [NOTES]
December 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 Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

- 2020-374. Review and Approve Agenda. After discussion, the agenda was approved with the removal of the conservation commission appointment.
- 2020-377-379. Councilor McCullough moved pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313 to enter executive session to consider the appointment of a public official. Councilor Richardson seconded. After discussion, the motion carried unanimously at 6:36. At 6:41, Councilor McCullough moved to return to open session and was seconded by Councilor Bate. Motion carried unanimously.
- Councilor Richardson moved to appoint Jody Brown to the Public Art Commission, Christopher Kaufman to the Community Fund Board, Merrick Modin as student member of Complete Streets Committee. Councilor McCullough seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- 2020-380. After discussion. Councilor Richardson moved to approve the consent agenda sans item b (Waste Hauler agreement for the Phase 1 contract at the Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF)) and with an edit of “MyRide” to the minutes. Councilor McCullough seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- 2020-281. The Council discussed upcoming legislative changes to the Town Meeting Day election. – Councilor Hierl moved to allot an additional \$8000 to fund a mail-in election. Councilor Bate seconded. Motion carried unanimously,
- 2020-382. Kevin Casey gave an update on housing initiatives. Peter Kelman participated. No formal action taken.
- 2020-383. Social and Economic Justice Advisory Committee members Shaina Kasper and Jeremy Beaudry made recommendations to the council. No formal action taken.
- 2020-384. The council heard a Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice funding Request. Sandy Rousse spoke. Councilor McCullough moved to waive petition requirement and place Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice \$23,500k request directly on the ballot for the 2022 budget. Councilor Bate seconded. Stephen Whitaker, Steve Dale, and Mary Kate Mohlman offered comments. The motion carried unanimously.
- 2020-380. Consent agenda item b. (waste hauler agreement for the Phase 1 contract at the Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF)) was taken up. Kurt Motyka answered questions during discussion. Councilor Richardson moved to approve Waste Hauler agreement for

the Phase 1 contract at the Water Resource Recovery Facility as presented). Councilor Bate seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting recessed at 8:44 and reconvened at 8:56.

- 2020-385. Budget workshop discussion. Christine Zachai spoke. Councilor Bate moved the Montpelier Community Fund be funded at \$131,050. Councilor Ericson seconded. After further discussion, the motion carried unanimously. Councilor McCullough moved to put in \$50,000 for the Housing Trust Fund and put in \$45,000 for the Homelessness Task Force into the budget. Councilor Casey seconded. Comments from Stephen Whitaker and Michael Sherman. Motion carried unanimously.
- 2020-387. Council Reports. Councilor Bate gave a CVPSA report. Councilor Casey discussed potential language on a cannabis retail ballot question. Councilor Ericson made note of a survey regarding the SRO position. Councilor Richardson discussed an incident during the recent pro-Trump rally (Police Chief Peete shared comments). Councilor McCullough commented on mowing to help the Recreation Department. Councilor Hierl asked for a check-in on winter parking ban progress in a future meeting (Public Works Director Donna Barlow Casey commented).
- 2020-388. The mayor gave an Energy Committee report.
- 2020-390. The City Manager and Chief Peete noted the chief's Crisis Intervention Training appointment to the national board.

Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 10:16PM by unanimous consent.