

Minutes of the Montpelier City Council Meeting
July 21, 2021, 6:30pm
City Council Chambers and videoconference

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

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

- 2021-210. Review and Approve Agenda. Unanimous consent approval at 6:32PM.
- 2021-211. General Business and Appearances. Kianna Bromley on her coming music festival. Steve Whitaker on the condition of the Guertin shelter, the recreation bridge along the railroad track, concerns about the slopes, concerns about congestion in the alley by Aubuchon's
- 2021-212. Councilor McCullough moved approval of the consent agenda and was seconded by Councilor Richardson. The Motion carried unanimously.
- 2021-213, 214 Councilor Richardson moved to go into executive session to consider the appointment as allowed under 1 V.S.A. § 313. Councilor Hierl seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Councilor Casey moved to return to open session and was seconded by Councilor Hierl. The motion carried unanimously.
- Councilor McCullough moved the following appointments: Historic Preservation Committee, Yana Walder, Public Restroom Committee, Shaina Kasper, Carolyn Ridpath, and Zach Hughes, and Council representatives Conor Casey and Dan Richardson. The motion carried unanimously.
- 2021-215. The City Encampment Response Policy Review discussion led by the Assistant City Manager Cameron kicked off with presentation.
- Comments from: Jamie Swan, Stephen Whitaker, Seth Collins, Vanessa Brown, Mary Messier, Ken Russell, Cathy Partlow, Morgan Brown, Jose Aguayo, Peter Kelman, Cary Brown, Dawn Little.
- The Chair recessed the meeting at 8:30 and reconvened at 8:40. No formal action was taken.
- 2021-216. Finance Director Kelly Murphy came forward to discuss the ARPA Funding Plan. Councilor Hierl moved to authorize the City Manager to make expenditures consistent with the undone capital projects except for \$50,000 we would hold back for future allocation. Councilor Casey seconded and the motion carried unanimously.
- Council Reports. Councilor Bate: pleased we had so many participants and thanks. Councilor Casey echoed the sentiment.
- Councilor Ericson acknowledged and thanked the Parks Department and the creation of the Montpelier Youth Conservation Corps.
- Councilor Richardson gave a shout out to the Recreation Department for opening the pool.

- 2021-218. Councilor McCullough noted it was great to be back in person and great that people can still participate remotely. Also had a call from a resident about the encampment policy
Councilor Hierl expressed gratitude for participation by volunteers and staff on the Police Review Committee.
- 2021-219. The Mayor noted the meeting date changes and reported on the Net Zero 2030 plan.
The City Clerk commented on Birchgrove Bakery and the nearby park.
- 2021-220. The City Manager noted the large amounts of pending items for Council discussion.
- 2021-221. Councilor McCullough moved Council find that premature knowledge of contract negotiations and pending litigation would put the city at a substantial disadvantage. Councilor Richardson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.
Councilor McCullough moved to enter executive session to discuss collective bargain and to discuss possible legal action, in accordance with 1 V.S.A § 313 (f)(1)
Councilor McCullough moved to come out of executive session and was seconded by Councilor Richardson. The motion carried unanimously. Councilor Richardson moved the City end all litigation with regards to the hotel and parking garage development project and was seconded by Councilor McCullough. The motion carried unanimously. Without objection, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent.