

Minutes of the Montpelier City Council Meeting – working doc/unfinished
September 22, 2021, 6:30pm
City Council Chambers and videoconference

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

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

- 2021-265. The agenda was approved unanimously by unanimous consent.
- 2021-266. General Business and Appearances: Stephen Whitaker spoke on health concerns on the multi-use path, bathrooms in the Transit Center and City Hall, Guertin Park, the art installation on Main Street, and his Central Vermont Public Safety Authority records requests.
- 2021-268. After discussion of item a, the Consent Agenda was moved by Councilor McCullough. Councilor Bate seconded and the motion carried unanimously
- 2021-269-271. The following appointments were taken up: Energy Advisory Committee Appointment, Appointment to Community Fund Board, Complete Streets Committee Appointment. Tim Favorite spoke on his Energy committee application.
- Councilor McCullough moved, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3), to go into executive session to discuss the appointment of a public officer with regards to items 5 6 and 7 on the agenda. Councilor Bate seconded and the motion carried unanimously at 6:40 PM. Councilor McCullough moved come back into open session at 6:43, Councilor Bate seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
- Councilor Casey moved the following appointments: Tim Favorite to the Energy Advisory Committee, Maraid Harris to the Community Fund Board, and Jeffrey Batista to the Complete Streets Committee. Councilor Ericson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.
- 2021-275. The Council discussed Land Conservation in the Berlin Pond Watershed with Christine Zachai. Nat Shambaugh spoke. Councilor Bate moved authorize the manager to send a letter of support and Council would consider ownership of the property in the future if that's necessary. Councilor Morton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- 2021-272. The Council discussed the Encampment Policy with the Assistant Manager. Stephen Whitaker, Seth Collins, and Emma Zavez participated. Councilor x moved to approve the policy as drafter with the changes from the Parks Commission and was seconded by Councilor Ericson. The motion carried unanimously.
- 2021-274. The Council discussed the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Adoption with the Assistant City Manager. Stephen Whitaker and Chris Winters offered comments. Councilor

McCullough moved adoption of the plan and Councilor Bate seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

The Council went into recess at 7:41 PMM and reconvened at 7:52.

2021-273. The Council discussed Strategic Planning. Stephen Whitaker spoke on the urgency of the goals. Martine Bisagni spoke on the process. No formal action taken.

2021-278. Councilor Bate reported on the coming joint Barre/Montpelier meeting with CVPSA. Also, a letter from a 9-year-old girl about Halloween (she indicated she wants the topic on the next agenda). She also had questions about the treatment plant odor.

Councilor Casey reported on the Homelessness Task Force report and Dan Richardson's first Burlington City Council meeting.

Councilor Ericson reported on testing of sound for a those dealing with the with the persistent mystery noise issue and acknowledged Donna Barlow Casey for her efforts.

Councilor McCullough congratulated Sue Allen for becoming the Bennington Banner. He also noted his colleagues' role in having the homeless hotel program extended.

Councilor Hierl reported on the Police Review Committee and inquiries for ARPA money decisions

2021-279. The Mayor reported on an art opening at T.W. Wood gallery October 1st, and the question of money for committee participation.

2021-280. The City Clerk noted his vacation schedule.

2021-281. The City Manager thanked the Council for their work on strategic goals planning

2021-276. Land Acquisition Discussion: Councilor McCullough moved the Council enter executive session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313 to discussing the negotiation for real estate or a lease and include the City Manager and Parks Director. Councilor Bate seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Without objection, the Council moved to come out of executive session and subsequently adjourn, by unanimous consent.