

Date	Committee	Time	Location	Links
2/14	Cemetery Commission	12:00 PM	Zoom Only	<a href="#">Agenda and Zoom Link</a>
2/14	Recreation Advisory Board	5:30 PM	Zoom Only	<a href="#">Agenda and Zoom Link</a>
2/14	Planning Commission	6530 PM	Zoom and City Council Chambers	<a href="#">Agenda and Zoom Link</a>
2/15	Parks Commission	6:00 PM	Zoom Only	<a href="#">Agenda and Zoom Link</a>
2/15	Montpelier Energy Advisory Committee	7:00 PM	Zoom Only	<a href="#">Agenda and Zoom Link</a>
2/16	Homelessness Task Force	11:30 AM	Zoom and City Council Chambers	<a href="#">Agenda and Zoom Link</a>
2/16	Special City Council Meeting	5:30 PM	Zoom Only	<a href="#">Agenda and Zoom Link</a>
2/16	Conservation Commission	6:30 PM	Zoom Only	<a href="#">Agenda and Zoom Link</a>
2/17	Housing Task Force	5:00 PM	Zoom Only	<a href="#">Agenda and Zoom Link</a>



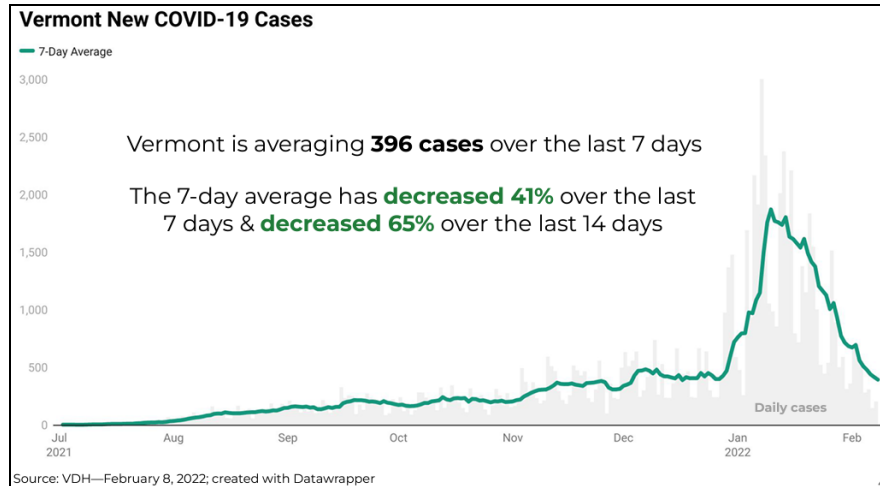
## Improve Public Health and Safety

### **COVID-19 Response- Updated**

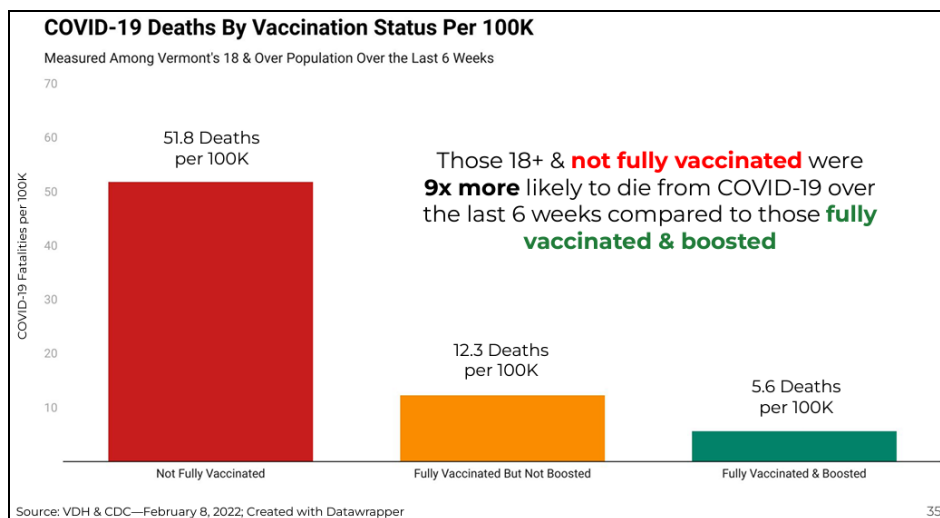
**Update:** The City Council voted on February 9<sup>th</sup> to extend their [Mask Mandate](#). They will take this up again for discussion at their March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, and the current expiration date of the mandate is March 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Update:** The State has released their [COVID-19 Modeling report, updated on February 8th, 2022](#). According to the report, COVID-19 cases are now on the decline in Vermont, with the State's forecasts predicting this trend will continue. According to the DFR report, Vermont COVID-19 cases are expected to continue to decline in the coming weeks, consistent with improving case trends in Vermont, the Northeast and the U.S.: However, there are still new cases being reported- with almost

400 new infections reported weekly. According to the [State's Town Case-map](#), over the last 2 weeks, Montpelier has had over 1,000 reported cases!



We will continue to share that the report still emphasizes the fact that those aged 18 and older & not fully vaccinated were more likely to be hospitalized or **die** from COVID-19 over the last 6 weeks compared to those who are fully vaccinated & boosted:



It is very important that all who are eligible get vaccinated- it's never too late! [Find vaccination clinics here](#), or call your preferred pharmacy.

### COVID-19 Reminders:

- **Keep up to date with CDC Recommendations!** You can find the CDC's updates regarding COVID-19 on their website [here](#). They have released an updated chart regarding their quarantine and isolation guidelines [here](#).
- **Federal Government Rapid COVID-19 Test Program** You can order at-home, rapid COVID-19 tests from the Federal Government at [www.covidtests.gov](http://www.covidtests.gov). Through this new federal program, each household is eligible to receive four tests, which are expected to ship within 7-12 days of ordering. Supplies are limited. Any Vermonter without internet access can call the Governor's Constituent Services Office at (802) 828-3333 for assistance in filling out the online request form.



## Practice Good Environmental Stewardship

### Home Farm Way Property

The City remains in conversations with the Preservation Trust of Vermont (PTV) and Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB) about the future of this property. PTV and VHCB are taking the lead to resolve the complicated ownership issues. It is very likely that the City will become owners of the 15 acre parcel in the back which abuts the river. The 2 acre parcel with the old house is less clear at this time.



## Provide Responsible and Engaged Government

**Strategic Plan Public Dashboard:** The 2022-23 Strategic Plan Public Dashboard is live and updated, available here: <https://performance.envisio.com/dashboard/montpelier-vt1777>. You can use the dashboard to see updates on where City Staff is on their work to achieve the City Council's goals.

It's easy to navigate to from the [city's homepage](#), you can click through to it by hitting this icon:



**February City Council Meetings:** City Council, in a reaction to the increase in community transition of COVID-19 and per the authority in the Vermont S.222 Act, will move both of their February Council Meetings to remote only. Council meetings in February will only be held via Zoom.


### Pending Legal

- *Ferry, et al v. City of Montpelier.* Filing of multiple parties seeking to invalidate the City's non-citizen voting charter amendment. The City is represented by Attorneys Michael Tarrant, Stephen Coteus, and Kimberly Devine.
- *Appeal of Zoning Permit.* Neighbors have appealed DRB approval of a permit to move a barn structure. City is represented by Attorney David Rugh. We are monitoring the case. Recent filings by appellants have challenged the validity of sections of the city's zoning ordinance.

- *IUOE Local 98 v. City of Montpelier*. DPW filing to Labor Board objection to the re-classification of one employee. City is represented by Attorney John Klesch.

**General Business Follow Up:**

2/9 A long series of comments and allegations were made at the meeting. I will provide a detailed, factual response to each issue probably for next week's report.



## Create More Housing



## Improve Community Prosperity

**Economic Development new:**

Community Development Specialist Kevin Casey will be leaving city service in early spring to pursue a full time real estate career. We are slightly re-tooling his position to Community & Economic Development Specialist and including some direct Economic Development responsibilities. The job posting will be out within a week.

**Public Lockers:**

The Leadership team has started a focus on issues related to homelessness, seeking to address one thing at time. We have tentatively identified a location adjacent to the Rec Center for locker space and are seeking prices and information about installation. We are also preparing a use policy. We will share with the City Council before taking action.

**Community Services Department Shared Info Updates/Events/Collaborations**

**Montpelier Community Services Divisions (Parks & Trees, Recreation & Senior Activity Center): To find information about our facilities, services and programs, visit the following linked websites/pages:**

Parks & Trees, Recreation, Senior Activity Center (MSAC), News and Announcements, Special Events, Hubbard Park Expansion Project, Capital Kids Afterschool Childcare Program, Facility Rentals, FEAST Senior Meals on Wheels and Curbside Meals, FEAST Farm, MSAC at Home services, Adult/Teen Winter Classes. To subscribe to the MSAC e-letter/newsletter, email a request to [msac@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:msac@montpelier-vt.org). To subscribe to the Parks/Farm Volunteer e-list, email a request to [jhuettenmoser@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:jhuettenmoser@montpelier-vt.org). Facebook pages for the divisions are: Parks & Trees, Recreation, MSAC, (and FEAST Senior Meals).

## Montpelier Parks & Trees Division updates/events

Save the date: Animal Tracking Intro Walk (2<sup>nd</sup> in a series)

**Sat. Feb.26** | 10am (rain/snow date, 2/27) | Free | all ages | Join Naturalist Gail Johnson at the New Shelter at Hubbard Park for an easy walk. This is the second in a series about animal tracking. We will review the basics and concentrate on track patterns and compression shapes. A handout showing basic track patterns and compression shapes.

### Montpelier Parks is hiring for the Summer!

We are seeking a half-year, full time Americorps member to run our FEAST Farm Camp. This is a great summer camp program that we piloted last year and are hoping to grow this year. This person will have the chance to work with our crew to shape the program and develop an on-farm camp program that provides a meaningful summer experience for local youth. Experience with summer camps and/or child care is required. More information can be found [here](#).

## Montpelier Recreation Division updates/events

The **Skating Rink** is creating awesome, free outdoor recreation for the community, and the weather has so far kept it frozen. **Open Gym** continues Wednesday and Friday nights, **Tai Kwan Do** continues Mondays and Thursdays, and some groups are **renting** the gym for private games. **Youth Basketball** is underway. **Recruitment** is underway for positions to **support Seasonal Maintenance**, the **Pool**, and our licensed, subsidy-eligible **Summer Camp**. Ongoing and flexible registration for residents of all towns is available at **Capital Kids Afterschool Childcare Program** running M-F from 2:30- 5:30pm. We are hoping to bring back the **Annual Egg Hunt** in April after a two-year pandemic hiatus – stay tuned! Questions about Recreation offerings? Call our office at 225-8699 or stop by the office at 58 Barre Street (first floor of the Senior Center).

## Montpelier Senior Activity Center Division updates/events

### Thanks to Red Hen Baking Co. for a \$7,700 contribution to the FEAST Kitchen!

FEAST Program Manager Kim Myers shared with us this week that [Red Hen Baking Co.](#) of Middlesex recently raised \$7,700 for re-opening and updating the FEAST Kitchen. The funds were raised as tips from customers over a recent two-week period. As RHB's staff explained, their staff pools the tips each month to decide what causes are dear to their hearts. We are incredibly grateful to be the recipient of such a generous gift, which will go a long way toward kitchen improvements for [FEAST Senior Meals](#)!

### Thanks to Ellie Hayes, Kellogg-Hubbard Library and Team FEAST for Lunar New Year celebration; two components continue!

Tuesday, February 1, local Central Vermonters joined more than 1.5 billion people around the world in celebrating Lunar New Year. MSAC and the Library collaborated to offer a curbside Chinese meal, a Tai Chi demonstration video, a Chinese paper-cutting activity online, a calligraphy exhibit and more. Special thanks to MSAC instructor Ellie Hayes, Michelle Singer at KHL, and Chef Shalonda James! There's still time to see the art exhibit of Ellie Hayes' Chinese calligraphy at 58 Barre Street AND participate in our "Tail of the Tiger" community art project, which invites the community (all ages) to contribute your hopes for the New Year. Send your word to [info@elliehayes.net](mailto:info@elliehayes.net) or fill out a slip in the lobby at MSAC at 58 Barre Street, and we'll add all the words to a Tiger painting on Wednesday, February 16.

## MSAC to Host CVRAN Welcoming new Afghan Family

The Central VT Refuge Action Network (CVRAN) will be meeting at MSAC to welcome a newly arriving Afghan family over the weekend. CVRAN is currently supporting a number of Afghani families in the Montpelier area and the City of Montpelier is working to find ways to support these recent immigrants. To learn more about how you can get involved, visit: <https://cvran.org/>

## MSAC's February 2022 *Active Times* Newsletter

To view the full 12 page newsletter, click [here](#). Inside, check out news about Financial Foundations of MSAC, MSAC at Home updates, FEAST News, special events, community announcements and much more! Join us in celebrating this season of **LOVE!**

## Save the Date / Volunteers needed: Community Champion Week celebrating Meals on Wheels March 18 – March 25

March is National *Meals on Wheels Awareness Month*, and we're planning a robust series of events and community engagement to raise funds and awareness for our vital [FEAST Meals on Wheels program](#). Special guest star appearance by [Justin Michael Williams](#), [Montpelier Community Gospel Choir](#) with John Harrison, and others. If you are interested in helping us celebrate this week or getting involved as an ongoing volunteer with the program, reach out to us: 262-6288.



## Build and Maintain Sustainable Infrastructure



## Employment and Personnel Announcements

### Assessor

We are close to agreement with a new Assessor. Hopefully an announcement will be coming soon.

### Municipal Job Openings

Visit the City website for more information: <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/Jobs.aspx>

- **FT Police Department- Patrol Officers:** The Patrol Officer is responsible for the efficient performance of required duties in conformance with the laws and the Department's rules, regulations and policies. Duties shall consist of, but are not necessarily limited to, a number of general police responsibilities necessarily necessary to the stability and safety of the community. For applications and more information, click [here](#) or email [recruiting@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:recruiting@montpelier-vt.org). We have one more open officer position.
- **PT or Contract City Assessor:** The City of Montpelier, Vermont (population 8,000), seeks qualified candidates for the position of City Assessor. This position directs the operations of the Assessor's Office and the inspection and valuation of 2,900 real and 500 personal property accounts in the City. The Assessor is responsible for all of the assessing functions of the City including appraisal and assessment of all properties, defense of values, maintenance of the City's parcel maps and other lists. The Assessor leads field functions in inspecting and valuing

residential, commercial, and industrial properties. Work is performed under the administrative direction of the City Manager and in accordance with state statutes. The Assessor will be responsible for overseeing the contracted city-wide reappraisal in which all property in the City of Montpelier will be reappraised for the 2023 Grand List. Work on this initiative has begun as of October 2021. A minimum of 5 years of experience as a lister/assessor, or equivalent experience and education, is desired as well as a thorough knowledge of appraisal methodology, State laws pertaining to appraisal and assessing of property, the Current Use Program, and rules and procedures regarding maintenance of the City's Grand List. Knowledge of State mapping requirements and updating of the City parcel maps is also required. If interested, please submit your resume and letter of interest to City Manager Bill Fraser at [wfraser@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:wfraser@montpelier-vt.org) or by mail at City of Montpelier, City Hall, 39 Main Street, Montpelier, VT 05602. This position is open until filled.

- **Seasonal Park/Recreation Maintenance Staff:** Spring-Summer-Fall  
Mowing, driving tractors, maintaining sports fields, keeping parks and facilities clean. This is a busy, hands-on physical job that requires some heavy lifting and being on your feet for long periods of time. Visit <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/869/Employment> for more information about the positions available and how to apply. Or call 225-8699, 9am-4pm to inquire.
- **Looking for Summer Pool Staff!** The Montpelier Recreation Department is seeking seasonal pool staff for the municipal swimming pool this summer. Full and part-time positions are available. Staff will start work June 11 - August 21. There will be pre-season training prior to the start of the pool season. Training dates to be announced. Responsibilities would include supervising patron activity in and around the swimming pool, teaching swimming lessons, and front desk responsibilities. Applicants who do not hold a current Lifeguard certification could be accepted contingent on successful completion of a lifeguard course prior to the pool opening date, and reimbursement would be paid at end of season. Please submit a resume and cover letter describing your interest and qualifications. Please submit to [amcmullen2@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:amcmullen2@montpelier-vt.org) or Montpelier Recreation Department, 58 Barre Street, Montpelier, VT 05602. Please submit applications by March 31. The City of Montpelier is an Equal Opportunity Employer
- **PT EMERGENCY SERVICES DISPATCHER/CLERK:** The Montpelier Police Department is seeking applications for the position of Emergency Dispatcher/Clerk. This part-time career position involves the appropriate call handling of both emergency and non-emergency requests for police, fire, and emergency medical services, and determining the nature and urgency of those calls. The position requires a considerable degree of initiative and independent judgment within procedural boundaries in responding to emergency and non-emergency situations. The dispatcher is also the first point of contact for those that come to the police station seeking assistance.
- **FT Streets Maintenance Worker Truck Driver, Level 1:** Montpelier, Vermont has a current opening for a Street Maintenance worker within the Streets Division of Public Works. The person filling this position will work with a streets crew performing skilled work in winter operations, construction, maintenance and repair of streets, drainage culverts, sidewalks, signage, and other appurtenances in the City Right of Way.
- **FT Water/Sewer Truck Driver Level 1:** Montpelier, Vermont has a current opening in the Water-Sewer Division of Public Works. The person filling this position will work with a water and sewer crew performing skilled work in the construction, maintenance and repair of water distribution, raw water distribution, wastewater collection and wastewater transmission systems.





## Reminders

### **Social Worker Available to Residents**

The Montpelier Police Department, the Barre City Police Department and Washington County Mental Health have partnered in providing an onsite social worker to help residents in crisis or needing an extra hand during the pandemic. If you would like to speak to Susan please contact her through email at: [susan.lemere@wcmhs.org](mailto:susan.lemere@wcmhs.org) or contact MPD and we can assist with connecting you to Susan.

### **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 see City Council Meetings: <https://www.orcamedia.net/series/montpelier-city-council>
- Click here for Live Stream: <https://www.orcamedia.net/series/live-stream-events>
- Or stream via ORCA's YouTube channel during meetings here: <https://www.youtube.com/user/orcamedia>

### **City-wide Reappraisal Property Inspections Have Begun!**

We have begun the process of a city-wide reappraisal of all real property. Representatives from the New England Municipal Consultants will visit each property in the city to gather data. The inspection process will start in late 2021 and continue through the spring of 2023. NEMC will mail notices to property owners in advance of conducting inspections.

### **Stump Dump:**

Need to get rid of lawn debris, stumps, and branches? The City Stump Dump is open! Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Please call the City Garage at 802-223-9510 before going to dump to approve of your items!

### **Trash Receptacles:**

As a resident of Montpelier, are you wondering about the best area to place a trash receptacle for trash pickup? Please, always, place trash receptacles for pick up at the corner of the driveway, behind the sidewalk. If you do not have a sidewalk on your street, please place receptacles on the corner of the drive, in the street closest to the curb. (Not obstructing traffic). Please do not place receptacles within the sidewalk.

Questions? Please contact Jasmine Benson with DPW at 802-223-9508.

Thank you,

William Fraser, City Manager



Upcoming Agenda Items ( <i>TENTATIVE</i> )			
2/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Special meeting re: City Manager's contract.</li> </ul>	2/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> PH on Bonds</li> <li>Budget information meeting</li> <li>Parklet Ordinance</li> <li>Police Review Committee Schedule</li> <li>Public lockers?</li> </ul>
3/9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organizational Meeting</li> <li>Elect Officers</li> <li>Rules of Procedure</li> <li>Ethics Policy</li> <li>Committee Assignments</li> <li>Mask Mandate extension</li> <li>Election results review</li> <li>Meals on Wheels proclamation</li> </ul>	3/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Zoning Revisions?</li> <li>Reaffirm Strategic Plan</li> <li>VRC Confluence Park</li> <li>Public Records Fees?</li> </ul>
4/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mask Mandate Update</li> <li>3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Financials</li> <li>Community Center update</li> <li>Water/Sewer Fund Budgets</li> <li>Zoning Revisions</li> </ul>	4/27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategic Plan Update</li> <li>Zoning Revisions</li> <li>Community Survey</li> </ul>
5/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water/Sewer Rates</li> <li>District Heat</li> <li>Public Bathrooms</li> <li>Summer Schedule</li> </ul>	5/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Telecommunications Infrastructure Update (CVPSA)</li> <li>Conduit Policy</li> </ul>
6/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economic Development Strategic Plan</li> <li>TIF/Tax Stabilization Updates</li> <li>Workforce Development Plan?</li> <li>12-16 Main St?</li> </ul>	6/22	

? = Date is tentative, may shift to a different date

### **CURRENT PENDING STRATEGIC ITEMS**

#### **Topics from the FY22-23 City Council Strategic Plan for Future Council Agendas:**

Month	Tentative Topic(s)
March	Zoning Changes and Housing Project Updates/ VRC Confluence Park Presentation
April	Community Center Updates
May	Public Restrooms/ District Heat (end of heating-season wrap up)

June	Economic Development – Strategic Plan, TIF, Tax Stabilization Updates/ Workforce Development program
July	Stipend Implementation Plan Recommendation (from SEJAC)
August	Website Updates / Capital Area Neighborhoods Presentation/ Stormwater Utility Updates (tentative)
September	Economic Development Strategic Plan Contract (Launch) / Strat Planning/ Accomplishments and Future Plans for Outdoor Recreation and Economic Development / Review Community Survey results
October	Creative Discourse Recommendations Status Update/ Strat Planning
November	ADA Transition Projects/ Net Zero Projects Update/ FEAST Program Updates/ **BUDGET**/ PFAS Updates
December	**BUDGET**

**Topics Pending Scheduling:**

Homelessness Plan

- Mutual Aid Issues with Middlesex and Berlin
- Update Barriers to Housing Study
- City Master Plan (Fall/Winter 2022)