

Minutes of the Montpelier City Council Meeting
February 9, 2022, 6:30pm
videoconference

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

Call To Order By The Mayor at 6:30PM.

- 2022-037. The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.
- 2022-038. Vicki Lane had a question about a water leak by tractor's supply. Gene Leon expressed zoom meeting concerns. Stephen Whitaker agreed and commented that the water leak work and winter snow and ice cleanup were inadequate. He suggested the Council was not forthright about Elk's land purchase cost implications. Gene Leon further called for a closer look at the city manager's contract.
- 2022-039. Councilor McCullough moved approval of the consent agenda without item e (below). Councilor Casey seconded and the motion carried unanimously. Councilor Bate moved to approve consent agenda item e ("Hubbard Park universally accessible trail bid from Timber and Stone to do the ADA transition plan for our trails) and was seconded by Councilor McCullough. Motion carried 5-0-1, with Councilor Ericson recusing himself.
- a. Minutes
 - b. Payroll and Bills
 - c. Liquor License Applications
 - d. Mileage Certificate Certification
 - e. Hubbard Park Universally Accessible Trail Bid
 - f. Mask Mandate Extension
 - g. Tax Increment Financing (TIF)- Certification of Increment & Annual Report
- 2022-040-41. Storm Water Committee Appointments and appointment to Montpelier Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. Councilor McCullough moved we appoint all the candidates (Jim Condos for Stormwater Committee and Hanif Nazerali for Transportation and Infrastructure) without going into executive session and was seconded by Councilor Bate. The motion carried unanimously.
- 2022-042. Council received a Community Justice Center Presentation from Carol Plante. Comments were offered from Stephen Whitaker and Vicki Lane. No action taken.
- 2022-043. Police Committee follow up conversation with Police Chief Peete presentation. Alyssa Schuren participated, and comments were offered from Stephen Whitaker. No action taken.

The meeting went into recess at 8:32 and reconvened at 8:42.

2022-044. City Manager Review and Contract. Comments were offered by Stephen Whitaker and Vicki Lane.

Councilor McCullough moved pursuant to enter executive session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a)(3) to discuss a review of public officer, and to include the City Manager. Councilor Bate seconded.

2022-046. Council Reports: Councilor Bate encouraged early voting and the land purchase bond's passage. Councilor Casey thanked Public Works staff for their work and commended the Police Department for their handling of a recent incident. Councilor Ericson echoed the previous two comments and praised the volunteer work being done on the trails. Councilor Morton voiced support for the proposed land acquisition. Councilor McCullough echoed Councilor Casey's comments and praised the new VR Police training system. Councilor Hierl called for a lobbying committee meeting.

2022-047. The Mayor agreed with all the Council comments and commended the Assistant City Manager for managing zoom interruptions earlier in the meeting. She indicated she would start virtual office hours in February Sundays at 2PM.

2022-048. The City Clerk reported that ballots were in.

The Mayor called the question on the open executive session motion and it carried unanimously at 9:16.

The meeting returned to open session and was subsequently adjourned by unanimous consent.