

**Reminder- City Offices will be closed Monday May 30th 2022
in observance of Memorial Day**

Date	Committee	Time	Location	Links
6/1	Social & Economic Justice Advisory Committee	8:00 AM	Zoom Only	Agenda and Zoom Link



Improve Public Health and Safety

COVID-19 Response

Update: The State is using the COVID-19 Surveillance Report as their key public facing COVID data document. Here is the most recent [Weekly COVID-19 Surveillance Report for May 25th 2022.](#)

According to their data, Vermont still has **HIGH** levels of COVID cases and Washington County has **MEDIUM** levels of cases, according to the CDC. There are still three reported outbreaks of cases in Washington County active now, really reminding us that we all need to continue to take steps to keep ourselves and others safe and healthy!

COVID-19 Reminders:

- It is now recommended that those age 50+ or those who are immunocompromised age 12+ receive a second booster dose of either the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine. The FDA's guidance can be found [here](#). Find vaccination clinics [here](#), or call your preferred pharmacy.
- The health department now recommends that people who test positive isolate for five days, with the caveat that if you still have symptoms after completing isolation, you might choose to take extra precautions such as wearing a mask, which helps protect you and the people around you from getting or spreading COVID-19. More information can be found here: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/symptoms-sickness>
- **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](#).



Practice Good Environmental Stewardship

District Heat update

We are completing the application for the Northern Borders Grant. As you heard at this week's meeting, we're pursuing a snow melt station which will be a big environmental and operational improvement. It will also add another customer to the district heat system. A Council update is planning for June 8th.

Home Energy Labeling Ordinance New

We will begin publicity in advance of the July 1st effective date.

Sustainability/Facility Coordinator Position New

I received comments from MEAC about the draft job description and am making some adjustments. The job should be posted next week.



Provide Responsible and Engaged Government

High School Threat Incident

MPD has issued additional details for public review. The matter remains under investigation.

Community Surveys and Outreach update

We have a draft survey nearly ready to go out to the public. We have also got everything set up now to begin using the online polling features. We will be rolling this out soon.

General Business update

Cannabis Tax – the State did not authorize municipalities to collect additional taxes on cannabis sales. Nor did the State allocate additional revenues to host localities. The only potential local revenue for the city would be through enacting a local sales tax, the additional 1% would apply to cannabis sales.

Trash on Bike Path and elsewhere – this is a continual problem. The city's trash contractor does not have capacity or staff to add additional pick up dates. We are looking at alternatives including hiring a seasonal worker (assuming we can find one).

Idling truck – the city has a policy against idling vehicles except under some specific circumstances (mostly temperature related). We will follow up with reminders to staff.

Pride Month declaration – we will follow up with the caller to prepare a declaration for the Mayor.

Pending Legal

- *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.

- *Abdo Banfield v. City of Montpelier*. Appeal of DRB determination upholding decision of the Zoning Administrator. City is represented by Attorney David Rugh.
- *Ferry et al v. City of Montpelier*. The Superior Court dismissed the suit challenging the legality of the city's non—citizen voting provision but upheld the plaintiff's standing to raise the issue/. The plaintiffs have now appealed this decision to the Supreme Court. The City is likely to file a cross appeal challenging the standing decision.



Create More Housing

Elks Club Project NEW

With the approval of the RFP and funding plan, we'll be moving forward seeking a project manager.



Improve Community Prosperity

Recreation Staffing Update: Potential Impacts to the Pool NEW

The Montpelier Recreation Department is in urgent need of more summer lifeguards! Without bringing 8-10 more individuals on as lifeguards, the City may not have enough staffing to open the pool with its typical schedule. Not having enough lifeguards to safely staff the pool means we would need to reduce hours and/or limit the amount of the pool that can be used at one time- closing half of it at a time to public access. More lifeguards means a more normal schedule and the City is actively trying to recruit more staff. We have advertised through the schools, via the paper, and all social media.

Applications can be completed online at this link <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/Jobs.aspx?JobID=71> to the City's job portal, or you can email the Rec Director Arne McMullen directly at amcmullen@montpelier-vt.org. Our pool staff jobs have flexible schedule, start pay at \$13+ an hour, and reimburse for trainings and certifications!

Summer Camps in Need of Staffing: Potential Impacts to Camp Schedules NEW

The Recreation and Parks Departments both run summer camps, and both programs require full staffing to keep children safe! Each camp program operates with a ratio of adults to children set through best practice and licensing requirements. We are currently facing a shortage in camp counselors and educators, particularly in our FEAST Farm Camp and Summer Rec Camp. If we are unable to hire an appropriate amount of counselors for the summer, we may need to reduce camp sizes or cancel programs. Counselor and educator positions start between \$13.50-\$18 an hour.

More counselors means a more robust and set summer camp schedule- so if you are interested, please reach out! Applications can be completed online at this link <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/Jobs.aspx> to the City's job portal. You will find all camp related jobs under the "Community Services Department" section of the Montpelier job's webpage.

Community Services Department Shared Info Updates/Events/Collaborations

Recreation's Capital Kids Summer Day Camp Registration is open

Click [here](#) for info and registration form, which includes options for signing up for FEAST Farm Camp as well. The Community Services / Recreation office is also processing registration for Mountaineers baseball camp again this year.

Montpelier Senior Activity Center News & Updates:

- **Anti-Ageism in Montpelier | A Presentation with City Leadership**
 - Discrimination is the problem, not aging. Aging is living, and we are all aging. The city leadership team gathered recently at MSAC for a presentation with Director Sarah Lipton to learn how to create a more age-friendly Montpelier. Each department leader was asked to contemplate big ideas around inclusivity and accessibility for older adults.
 - They were challenged on how to be more inclusive in their own lives and through their department initiatives. Finally, all leaders took a moment to recognize the ways we're already being inclusive and celebrated our wins.
 - The ideas and strategies outlined in the meetings are being drafted into a report that will become part of Montpelier's Strategic Plan Proposal. Overall, the group was energized to discover strategies to help older adults thrive in our community.



City Leadership Team Meets at MSAC | (L-R) Patrick Healy, Arne McMullen, Kelly Murphy, Tanya Chambers, Sarah Lipton, Mike Miller, Carol Plante, Alec Ellsworth, Dona Barlow Casey, Bill Fraser, Cameron Niedermayer

- **Feeding 100 Meals at Veteran's Luncheon**
 - MSAC hosted a Veteran's Luncheon on Friday, May 27th in reverence of Memorial Day weekend. We were honored to serve 100 meals to the many veterans in our community who have served us time and again. We also wanted to thank the many people who helped make this luncheon possible.
 - Thank you to FEAST Program Manager Kim Myers and Chef Shalonda James for organizing these meals. Thank you to our FEAST high school interns who have helped us these past few months and were honored on Thursday, May 26th for their service. Thank you to WebIndustries for their sponsorship of this event. Thank you to the Swingin' Over 60 band who helped make our luncheon more alive. And finally thank you to all the volunteers who make FEAST run on a daily basis.
 - We also wanted to remind the public that MSAC will be closed on Monday, May 30th for Memorial Day. We will see you all in our office on Tuesday!

- **Pride Gallery**
 - On June 3rd from 4-8pm, MSAC is proud to be participating in Montpelier's first Pride Festival and hosting an Art Walk celebration filled with art, music, poetry, and community. Artists featured include: Ashley Strobridge, Nate Buck, Cameron Niedermayer, Sarah Lipton, Laura Smith, Linda Quinlan, and more.
 - Join the fun and help us celebrate our LGBTQIA+ friends and their allies!

- **FEAST Farmstand**
 - MSAC is happy to announce that we're opening the FEAST Farmstand this summer. Starting on June 15th and open on Wednesdays from 11am-1pm, the FEAST Farmstand is a low-cost, city run, senior centered farm stand serving anyone who would benefit from access to local, healthy vegetables sold under the market rate. We hope to foster community engagement through cooking demonstrations, live music, and yoga classes.
 - The Farmstand will run through October, and we hope to serve plenty of healthy, locally-grown produce during that time. If you want to stop by, we will be located in front of the Montpelier Senior Activity Center at 58 Barre Street. We are also looking for volunteers to help us run the farm stand. We are seeking individuals who would be available from 10:30am-1:30pm every Wednesday. We prefer volunteers who can commit to doing it every week on a regular basis, but we welcome all the help we can gather.

- **Clark Museum**
 - Trips are slowly coming back to MSAC, and the first trip will be to the Clark Museum in Williamstown, Mass. The trip will be on July 11th, and registration is now open for MSAC members. Beginning June 6th, registration will be open to the public, and all must register before June 24 by calling [802-223-2518](tel:802-223-2518). The trip costs \$75, and trip participants may bring their own lunch or enjoy lunch in the café there.

- About the Clark Museum: The major exhibit there is Rodin in the United States: Confronting the Modern. It considers the artist's legacy in America from 1893 to the present. While there has been much consideration of Auguste Rodin's (1840–1917) reputation in France and throughout Europe, less attention has been paid to his reception in America. This exhibition tells the story of the collectors, art historians, critics, gallerists, and philanthropists—notably, many of whom were women—who endeavored to make Rodin known in the United States. Included are approximately fifty sculptures and twenty-five drawings. Check <https://www.clarkart.edu> for more information.
- Finally, we want to send a big thank you to Tina Muncy for helping us get trips back up and running at MSAC. We cannot wait to take more trips!
- **End of Life Education Series**
 - Beginning on Wednesday, June 1st from 1-2:30pm, Join Cynthia Stadler APRN, from BAYADA Hospice, for a four-part series exploring important issues encountered towards the end of life. We will introduce a different topic each session, but also allow plenty of time to discuss questions, concerns, and thoughts participants wish to bring.
 - Sessions will be in-person at MSAC and refreshments will be served. Topics include Advance Care Planning (more than just a will!); Screening of the film Being Mortal; Understanding and Communicating Through Dementia; and Taking Control at End of Life. Call to register: [802-223-2518](tel:802-223-2518)
- **Tai Chi on the College Green**
 - Drop-in to weekly practice sessions for people familiar with the Yang long form of Tai Chi with Judy Copa. The gatherings will be weekly for as long as people show up and are weather dependent.
 - Classes begin on Wednesday, June 1st at 10:30am at the Vermont College of Fine Arts. For questions, email: judy@madriver.net.
- **Farewell to Harry**
 - Sadly, MSAC announces the departure of our administrative assistant, Harry Divack, at the end of this week. Harry has been a valuable member of the MSAC team for five years, and while it is tough to see him go, we wish him all the best in Philly!
 - As a note to all, our office hours will be reduced in the interim of Harry's absence, so please be advised that hours will shorten to 9am-3pm temporarily as we adjust for this transition. We thank you for your patience.
- **Check out our Latest Newsletter!**
 - The June Newsletter will be published this weekend, and we're excited to have everyone read it, especially with all the updates we included to make it a better

reading experience for all. Find it in our office, by signing up for our emails, or going online: <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/304/Newsletter>



Build and Maintain Sustainable Infrastructure



Employment and Personnel Announcements

Municipal Job Openings

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

FT Police Department- Patrol Officers For applications and more information, click [here](#) or email recruiting@montpelier-vt.org. We have one more open officer position.

Seasonal Recreation Positions: Day Camp, Pool Clerk, Lifeguards, and Pool Director for Spring-Summer 2022

Seasonal Park/Recreation Maintenance Staff: Spring-Summer-Fall

Mowing, driving tractors, maintaining sports fields, keeping parks and facilities clean. Call 225-8699, 9am-4pm to inquire.

Summer Pool Lifeguards and Pool Clerks: 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. 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. Email amcmullen2@montpelier-vt.org for more information.

FT 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.

FT Streets Maintenance Worker Truck Driver, Level 1: 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: 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 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>

City-wide Reappraisal Property Inspections Continue!

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:

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William Fraser'.

William Fraser, City Manager

Upcoming Agenda Items (*TENTATIVE*) (bold for date required)

6/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water/Sewer Fund Budgets • Water/Sewer Rates • Leachate Update • GMT Transit Presentation • Legislative wrap up? • District Heat Update • Zoning Fee Schedule • PRC-Officer Recruitment Standards Recommendation Discussion • City Building Energy Policy? 	6/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRC – Prostitution and Sex Work • Use of ARPA Housing Funds? • Elks Club Update • TIF/Tax Stabilization Updates • 12-16 Main St Future • Permanent Parklet Ordinance review • Public Bathrooms
7/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set Tax Rate – special call-in meeting 	7/20 New Date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Reading Parklet Ordinance • PRC – Fair and Impartial Policing • Equity Update report • Strategic Plan Update • Year End financial report • Elks Club Update
8/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRC – Internal Affairs • PRC – Citizen review • Website/Public Outreach Update • 2nd Reading Parklet Ordinance • CAN Update • Storm Water Utility Update • Elks Club Update 	9/14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Community Survey results • PRC – Public Drinking • PRC – Progress Update • Potential Ordinance re: building violations and zoning permits • Workforce Development Plan? (Possibly removed due to higher priorities)
9/28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor Recreation and Economic Development • Begin Strategic Planning Process • Elks Club Update 	10/14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Planning • Mutual Aid Update

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

CURRENT PENDING STRATEGIC PLAN ITEMS

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

Month	Tentative Topic(s)
June	Economic Development – Strategic Plan, TIF, Tax Stabilization Updates
July	Creative Discourse Recommendations Status Update
August	Website Updates / Capital Area Neighborhoods Presentation/ Stormwater Utility Updates (tentative)
September	Strat Planning/ Accomplishments and Future Plans for Outdoor Recreation and Economic Development / Parks Commission Survey/Review Community Survey results, / Workforce Development program
October	Strat Planning, City Master Plan (Fall/Winter 2022)/Mutual Aid Issues with Middlesex and Berlin, Homelessness Plan, Barriers to Housing
November	ADA Transition Projects/ Net Zero Projects Update/ FEAST Program Updates/ **BUDGET** / PFAS Updates
December	**BUDGET**
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May be removed from list 	