

Date	Committee	Time	Location	Links
6/27	Planning Commission	5:30 PM	City Council Chambers and Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
6/29	Social & Economic Justice Advisory Committee	8:00 AM	Zoom Only	Agenda and Zoom Link



Improve Public Health and Safety

COVID-19 Response- Updated

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 June 22nd 2022.](#)

Statewide community levels: Low. Low. The rate of new COVID-19 cases per 100,000 Vermonters is below 200. New COVID-19 admissions are below 10 per 100,000 Vermonters per day, and the percent of staffed hospital beds occupied by COVID-19 is below 10%.

- New COVID-19 cases, last 7 days: 103.21 per 100K
 - Weekly Case Count: 644 (decrease from last week)
- New hospital admissions of patients with COVID-19, last 7 days: 6.73 per 100K
 - 42 total new admissions with COVID-19 (increase of 7 from last week)
- Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by patients with COVID-19 (7-day average): 2.13% (decrease from last week)

During this reporting period around 3% of emergency visits in participating emergency departments have included COVID-like illness. This is the lowest proportion since March of 2022, though slightly higher than the same calendar dates in the previous two years.

Vermont Department of Health recommendations: [Protect Yourself & Others](#)

CDC recommendations: [COVID-19 by County | CDC](#)

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](#).

Locker Project Update:

Information about the locker program is now on the City website: <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/1105/Homelessness-Task-Force>. Locker installation has been delayed due to staffing capacity but is being prioritized and should be done soon. More updates to come!

Homelessness Task Force – New

The Homelessness Task Force has released an RFP for a consultant to evaluate local needs and make a recommendation for facilities and/or services needed. ARPA money has been allocated for this study and, potentially, for the resulting recommendations.

Police Department Staffing – new

Like many communities, we continue to struggle with filling police positions. Compounding the problem is that ongoing vacancies create stress for the existing staff because of the time and effort needed to fill shifts. We may need to look at some alternatives for the department. More to come.



Practice Good Environmental Stewardship

Sustainability Coordinator – update

The position is being advertised now with a closing date of July 8th. We have received 8 applications to date. Ken Jones from MEAC is assisting me with applicant review.

City Building Energy Policy – new

We have developed a complete inventory of energy sources for all city buildings. We are seeking assistance to provide estimated costs of conversion to non fossil fuel sources.



Provide Responsible and Engaged Government

Community Outreach - new

In order to improve our community outreach, communication, and engagement, we have hired a temporary part time Communications Coordinator. Evelyn Prim is a UVM student completing both a Bachelors in Public Communications and a Masters in Public Administration in May. She will lead the website upgrade and Polco projects, our social media/FPF presence, and other aspects of the city's communications. We are funding

this through the ARPA public outreach money in the budget.

Council Agenda Items – New

Due to the choices at the last meeting, I've shuffled the tentative agendas for the next few meetings a bit. Planned items are listed below.

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 - update

The City is closing on the property on July 1st. The RFP for Project Manager is being released today with the goal of awarding the contract at the 8/24 meeting. Reminder that this work is being funded by the \$50,000 for economic development in the budget as well as Community Development Loan funds.

VCFA - new

The city has been in contact with VCFA and their real estate consultants. We would like to play some role in the decision making about the future of the property. We may also consider whether some of the buildings and land have value for city use.

Housing Committee – new

Community and Economic Development Director Josh Jerome will be staffing the newly formed Housing Committee. He is arranging the organizational meeting. The Community Justice Center will assist in providing a facilitator for the initial meeting to help the group sort through the various housing issues, set priorities, and lay out an agenda.



Improve Community Prosperity

Recreation Department Updates:

It has been a busy week in the recreation Department. This was the first week of day

camp and they are off to a great start, but still need some additional staff and substitutes. The pool has been busy this week with the nice weather and looking at the forecast it will continue to be for a little while especially this weekend. Looking forward into next week there will be lots of camps going on including, baseball, soccer, tennis and regular Day Camp as well.

PLEASE NOTE: We are still low on Day Camp Staff, and so some operating hours may be different. Please check the Rec website and Facebook for up-to-date information here: <https://www.facebook.com/MontpelierRec> and <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/844/Montpelier-Pool>

Community Services Department Shared Info Updates/Events/Collaborations

• FEAST Farm Stand

- We held our second FEAST Farm Stand this past Wednesday. Despite the inclement weather, we had more folks turnout than our first week. We sold out of our chard and went through almost all of our other fruits and veggies. Among our produce for sale this week, we had mint, oregano, strawberries, garlic scapes, lettuce, chard, and turnips.
- We also want to announce that we were featured in last Friday's Time Argus as the front page photo. How exciting!
- Join us for the next farm stand on Wednesday June 29th from 1-3pm. We will have chair yoga with Maddie Sholar as our special event starting at 1 pm.
- Also, we are still looking for volunteers to help us run the farm stand. We are seeking individuals who would be available from 1-3pm 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.
- Check out some of the highlights from this week:



FEAST Farm Stand: Ruby Bertola of the Vermont Foodbank showcases her fresh Kale Pesto samples.



FEAST Farm Stand: Patrons and volunteers join us at the farm stand.

- **World of Birds Walk | Sat., June 25, 8AM (rain date Sun. June 26)**
 - Open your senses to experience birds. How to use your eyes to find and identify birds as well as notice their behavior and adaptations. How to use your hearing to remember bird songs. Bring binoculars or you can share mine. Meet Naturalist Gail Johnson at the New Shelter, Hubbard Park. Free. Open to all ages.
- **Annual Meeting | Tues. June 28th, 12-2:30 pm | Montpelier Senior Activity Center**
 - Join MSAC's Advisory Council, Director Sarah Lipton, staff and volunteers to learn more about the vision for the coming year, exciting updates about Trips, FEAST Senior Meals and the FEAST Farm Stand. We will have a special guest performance by Rick Winston & his Swedish Folk Band and tasty treats available from Chef Shalonda in the FEAST Kitchen.
- **Barre Street Potluck| Tues. June 28th, 5:30-7:00 pm | Montpelier Senior Activity Center**
 - Join with the organizers and directors of Capital Area Neighborhoods, the Center for Arts and Learning, MSAC, Montpelier Alive, Montpelier City Counselors and Barre Street residents and neighbors for a community potluck. This has come together out of the desire to create more engaging events to bring the Barre Street neighborhood together and learn more about what the community wants to see happen in the future.
 - The organizers have dreamt some possibilities, including the eventual development of Barre Street into Montpelier's arts district, but want to hear from the folks who actually live here to learn what it is they want to see happen. So, bring something to share and your own plate ware, and join the conversation!

- **End of Life Series | 1st Wednesdays, 1-2:30 pm | Montpelier Senior Activity Center**
 - 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 a screening of the film Being Mortal on July 6th; Advance Care Planning on August 3rd; Understanding and Communicating Through Dementia on September 7th; and Taking Control at End of Life on October 5th. Call to register: [802-223-2518](tel:802-223-2518)

- **A Call to Service: MSAC is looking a new AmeriCorps Member this September**
 - Calling all gap year students, recent college grads, and young professionals! MSAC is looking for a new Aging in Place Coordinator to serve MSAC's mission of being a gathering place of healthy aging, lifelong learning and delicious meals for older adults.
 - This is a dynamic role where the member will be working to create a vibrant intergenerational community that offers a little help to the older adults who need and deserve it.
 - The position is full-time (40 hrs/wk for 48 wks), and members will receive a living allowance of \$25,500 (pre-tax) plus an education award of \$6,495 (also pre-tax) upon successful completion of service. MSAC will offer the member with a \$250/mth rental subsidy and a ServSafe food handling certification as part of their service.
 - **Our VHCB AmeriCorps position begins September 12th, 2022 and ends August 11th, 2023. The deadline to apply is August 24th 2022**, and prospective candidates can apply through the AmeriCorps portal: <https://vhcb.org/our-programs/vhcb-ameri-corps/positions>

- **Summer Class Registration is Now Open**
 - Summer classes are open for members and the public!
 - Registration Forms & Instructor Bios can be found on our Classes webpage: <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/751/Classes>. The Registration Form has full instructions for registration as well as Zoom training info. The order of classes below is the same as on the Registration Form. Membership information can be found at <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/364/Become-a-Member>. Call our office at [223-2518](tel:223-2518) or email msac@montpelier-vt.org if you have questions.
 - Focus on classes that need to be filled (external newsletter content)



Build and Maintain Sustainable Infrastructure

Updates coming next week!



Employment and Personnel Announcements

Municipal Job Openings

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

Sustainability Coordinator: The City of Montpelier is seeking a Facilities and Sustainability Coordinator. This is a key staff position for facility management, implementing the City's Net Zero plan, and recommending energy policy. Develops and manages practices and programs within the municipality's government and in concert with City residents and businesses. This position will focus on the City's commitment to reducing energy consumption, greenhouse gas emissions, ecological impact, and overall costs; strengthening reliability, resiliency, and sustainability; sustaining investments in facilities, and employing new technologies and energy infrastructure. To view the complete job description, go to [here](#).

Recreation Administrative Assistant: Position performs skilled work in office administration and management. Position is lead on creating documentation and infrastructure support for Community Services and Recreation Programming. Position has frequent and direct interaction with the general public in person or via the phone and email concerning service requests, program registrations, and complaints, etc. Email cover letter and resume to amcmullen2@montpelier-vt.org.

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 please 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 'W. Fraser', written in a cursive style.

William Fraser, City Manager

Council Meeting Agenda Schedule and Strategic Planning Items on following pages.

Upcoming Agenda Items (*TENTATIVE*)

7/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set Tax Rate – special call-in meeting 	7/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Reading Prostitution Ordinance • Parklet Ordinance • 12-16 Main Street • Set District Heat Rates • Time limit for public comment • Equity Update report • Strategic Plan Update • GMT My Ride report • Elks Club Update • HUB?
8/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd Reading Prostitution Ordinance • 1st Reading Parklet Ordinance • PRC – Fair and Impartial Policing • Website/Public Outreach Update • CAN Update • TIF/Tax Stabilization • City Building Energy Policy/ • Year End financial report • Elks Club Update • Award Elks Club PM Contract 	9/14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd reading Parklet ordinance • Review Community Survey results • PRC – Internal Affairs • PRC – Citizen review • Potential Ordinance re: building violations and zoning permits • Workforce Development Plan? (Possibly removed due to higher priorities) • Storm Water Utility Update • Public Bathrooms?
9/28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRC – Public Drinking • Begin Strategic Planning Process • Elks Club Update 	10/12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRC – Progress Update • Strategic Planning • Mutual Aid Update
10/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winter Schedule • Outdoor Recreation and Economic Development • Preliminary Budget Discussion • Elks Club Update 	11/9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PFAS/Leachate • ADA Update • Homelessness Plan? • Barriers to Housing? • FEAST 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)
July	Creative Discourse Recommendations Status Update
August	Website Updates / Capital Area Neighborhoods Presentation/
September	Strat Planning/ Workforce Development program, Stormwater Utility Updates (tentative)
October	Strat Planning, (Fall/Winter 2022)/Mutual Aid Issues with Middlesex and Berlin, Homelessness Plan, Barriers to Housing, Parks Commission Survey/Review Community Survey results, Accomplishments and Future Plans for Outdoor Recreation and Economic Development
November	ADA Transition Projects/ Net Zero Projects Update/ FEAST Program Updates/ **BUDGET**/ PFAS Updates
December	**BUDGET**

- May be removed from list
- City Master Plan (spring 2023)