

Date	Committee	Time	Location	Links
1/9	Homelessness Task Force Covered Structure Subgroup	1:00 PM	Zoom	<a href="#">Zoom Link</a>
1/9	Planning Commission	5:30 PM	City Council Chambers and Zoom	<a href="#">Agenda and Zoom Link</a>
1/9	Recreation Advisory Board	5:30 PM	Senior Center and Zoom	<a href="#">Agenda and Zoom Link</a>
1/10	Housing Committee	6:00 PM	Memorial Room and Zoom	<a href="#">Agenda and Zoom Link</a>
1/10	Historic Preservation Commission	7:00 PM	City Manager's Conference Room and Zoom	<a href="#">Agenda and Zoom Link</a>
1/11	Social & Economic Justice Advisory Board	8:00 AM	Zoom	<a href="#">Agenda and Zoom Link</a>
1/11	Homelessness Task Force Special Meeting	11:30 AM	City Council Chambers and Zoom	<a href="#">Agenda and Zoom Link</a>
1/11	City Council Meeting	6:30 PM	City Council Chambers and Zoom	<a href="#">Agenda and Zoom Link</a>

## Improve Public Health and Safety

### COVID-19 Updates:

**Surveillance Report:** 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 January 4, 2023](#)

- New COVID-19 cases, last 7 days: 62.66 per 100k
  - Weekly case count: 391
- New hospital admissions of patients with COVID-19, last 7 days: 10.74 per 100K
  - 67 total new admissions with COVID-19
- Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by patients with COVID-19 (7-day average): 5.64%

For this seven-day reporting period, the rate of new COVID-19 cases per 100,000 Vermonters is below 200.

The [CDC's COVID-19 County-level report also has Washington County Vermont](#) as a 'low' community spread level area.

Vermont Department of Health recommendations: [Protect Yourself & Others](#)  
 CDC recommendations: [COVID-19 by County | CDC](#)

#### COVID-19 Reminders:

- It is now recommended that all children, ages 6 months through 5 years, get the COVID-19 Vaccination. Find vaccination clinics [here](#), or call your preferred pharmacy.
- **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](#)

## Provide Responsible and Engaged Government

#### **Budget update:**

The budget will not be finalized until the completion of the public hearing process.

*January 11* – First public hearing on budget and related items

*January 26 (Thursday)* – Second and final public hearings on budget and related items. Deadline for adoption.

All budget materials are available on the City's website. Departmental budget presentation videos have been posted for public review.

Related to budget, the Homelessness Task Force passed a motion to urge the City Council to at least restore \$20,000 for the imbedded social worker shared with Barre if not expand funding for additional social workers.

#### **Charter Changes update:**

We anticipate that one charter change may be considered this year about possible local option sales tax. After researching stormwater utilities, we have determined that this can proceed without a charter amendment under the city's existing authority to regulate sewage.

*Discussion, Adopt language to file  
with Clerk (at least 10 days prior to 1<sup>st</sup> PH)*

January 11, 2023

*1<sup>st</sup> Public Hearing  
(at least 30 days in advance of voting)*

January 26, 2023

*20 days prior to election for revisions*

February 1, 2023 (if needed)

*2<sup>nd</sup> Public Hearing*

February 22, 2023

### **City Manager's Annual Review**

Reminder that the Council needs to conduct the Manager's annual review in February. This is normally coordinated by the mayor so, presumably, will be handled by the Council President this year. This is tentatively scheduled for the regular meeting of February 8<sup>th</sup> but can also be done at a separate time.

### **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. Filings by appellants challenging the validity of sections of the city's zoning ordinance have been dropped.
- *Abdo Banfield v. City of Montpelier.* A decision has been rendered in the Abdo Bandfield case. In the original application, the property owner at 25 Cliff Street, Mr. Foelsche, was installing an access drive for some solar panels on his property. By state law, solar facilities are regulated by the Public Utility Commission (PUC) under 30 V.S.A. § 248 and are exempt from local zoning. The City therefore limited its review to the temporary access road needed for building the solar installation. The City Zoning Administrator approved the project and issued an administrative permit for the temporary access road, which was appealed to the DRB by a neighbor, Ms. Bandfield. Following a public hearing on the matter, the DRB also approved the issuance of the permit. Ms. Bandfield then further appealed construction of the access road to the Environmental Division of Superior Court. In his decision, Judge Walsh determined that the access road is part of the solar facility which had been approved by the PUC and thus not subject to review under the scope of the City's zoning authority. As a result, the City's zoning permit is void, Ms. Bandfield's appeal is dismissed for lack of subject matter jurisdiction in the Environmental Division, and Mr. Foelsche can proceed with his project.
- *Ferry et al v. City of Montpelier.* This case, concerning non-citizen voting, was argued in the Vermont Supreme Court on Wednesday October 27<sup>th</sup>. Case is pending decision from the Court.

## Create More Housing

### **Country Club Road Project**

Our consultants will make a full presentation to the Council and community on January 18<sup>th</sup>. This will be followed by three public forums on January 28<sup>th</sup> (on site), February 2<sup>nd</sup> (at City Hall) and February 9<sup>th</sup> (online).

### **Update from the Assessor's office **NEW:****

New England Municipal Consultant (NEMC) representatives continue to visit residential properties for the city-wide 2023 Montpelier Reappraisal and are approaching 70% completion of properties being inspected from the exterior. Please call Jane Aldrighetti in our office at 223-9504 to schedule an interior inspection to help ensure that we have accurate information regarding your home. Commercial properties are being viewed and measured from the exterior with interior inspections planned for this winter.

One of the most frequently asked questions is how we will determine fair market value given all that has happened with the real estate market in the past few years. In response, we will conduct a thorough analysis of the past three years of real estate sales to determine current fair market value. Vermont law specifies that assessments be 100% of current market value.

While most property values will rise, please understand that an increase in your assessment does not mean that your taxes will increase by that percentage. Your city taxes are driven by municipal spending, not property assessments. If all assessments double, the tax rate is reduced to half the current rate and each property owner would pay the same amount of tax. Those that receive state payments will still pay taxes based on household income.

You can expect to receive a booklet with Preliminary values in May. You will then have an opportunity to review your new value with the contractor. Official Change of appraisal notices will be sent to all property owners in June, followed by grievance hearings two weeks later.

We appreciate the cooperation of all property owners and if anyone should have any questions, or to schedule an inspection, please feel free to contact our office

## Improve Community Prosperity

**\*\*The Community Services Department weekly newsletter can be found at the end of this report, beginning after strategic plan items. \*\***

## Build and Maintain Sustainable Infrastructure

**\*\*The Department of Public Works weekly newsletter can be found at the end of this report, beginning after strategic plan items. \*\***

## Employment and Personnel Announcements

### **Finance Director new**

**(announced this week)** Sarah LaCroix will become Montpelier's new Director of Finance, filling the position previously held by Assistant City Manager Kelly Murphy.

LaCroix, a Woodbury resident, is a Certified Public Accountant with a BS in Accounting and a BS in Management from Norwich University in Vermont. Lacroix's background in public financial management and accounting includes managing the Orleans Southwest Supervisory Union business office and performing audits as a Senior Accountant with Sullivan, Powers and Company. She was selected from a field of twelve applicants.

LaCroix's starting date will be no later than February 1st.

### **Municipal Job Openings**

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

**FT Police Department- Officers:** The Montpelier Police Department has three police officer vacancies, if you have ever considered a career in law enforcement, now may be your time. To apply: <https://www.policeapp.com/Entry-Level-City-of-Montpelier-VT-Police-OfficerJobs/2921/>

**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

### **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>

Thank you,



William Fraser, City Manager

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

## Upcoming Agenda Items (*TENTATIVE*)

<b>1/11</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First PH Budget</li> <li>• First PH Warning</li> <li>• Adopt Charter Language</li> <li>• First PH Bonds if needed</li> <li>• Call special election for Mayor</li> </ul>	<b>1/18 Special</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Country Club Road</li> </ul>
<b>1/26 Thursday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> PH and adopt Budget</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> PH and adopt Warning</li> <li>• PH on Charter Changes</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> PH Bonds</li> <li>• Review petitions</li> </ul>	<b>2/8</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City Manager's Review</li> <li>• Fireworks?</li> <li>• Confluence Park</li> <li>• Potential Ordinance re: • building violations and zoning permits?</li> </ul>
<b>2/22</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Country Club Road Site</li> <li>• PH on Charter Changes</li> <li>• PH on Bond article if needed</li> <li>• ADA update</li> </ul>	<b>3/7</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City Meeting Election</li> </ul>
<b>3/8</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organizational Meeting</li> <li>• Orientation</li> </ul>	<b>3/22</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review Strategic Plan</li> <li>• CIT Update</li> <li>• Homelessness Plan?</li> </ul>
<b>4/12</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outside Agencies Policy</li> </ul>	<b>4/26</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>

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

### **Pending Items:**

- Potential nuisance violation hearing
- City Plan – summer 2023
- Outside Agencies/Community Fund Policy – spring 2023
- Casella re: leachate – spring 2023

# CURRENT PENDING STRATEGIC PLAN ITEMS

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

Month	Tentative Topic(s)
December	<b>**BUDGET**</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• City Master Plan (Summer 2023)</li><li>• Homelessness Plan (January)</li><li>• Barriers to Housing (in City Plan)</li></ul> <p><i>Note: items in the recently approved plan update have not yet been scheduled</i></p>

## Community Services Department Report Week in Review: January 2nd – 6th

- **Senior Activity Center Office Hours:**
  - Monday – Friday | 8:30am – 4pm
  - Closed January 16<sup>th</sup> for MLK Jr. Day.
- **Recreation Department Office Hours:**
  - Monday – Friday | 8:30am – 4pm
- **Parks & Trees inquiries can be fielded at either office.**

**Community Services Program Guide  
can now be found online:  
[www.montpelier-vt.org/cs](http://www.montpelier-vt.org/cs)**

### Montpelier Senior Activity Center (MSAC) News

Our January Newsletter is now available at the Senior Activity Center office or by download on our website:  
<https://www.montpelier-vt.org/304/Newsletter>

- **Thank you MSAC Donors! We've Raised 27k through our appeal:** We would like to thank all of the donors from this holiday season who helped MSAC raise over \$27,000 and counting! Your generosity is allowing us to build the intergenerational, inclusive community center that we've dreamed about for years after having to draw back on class and programming during the pandemic years. With your help, we're providing valuable nutrition to older adults in Central Vermont through our FEAST program, attracting desirable instructors and speakers for our programming, and building the infrastructure necessary to sustain our growth. So, thank you! And remember, our appeal season isn't over yet, so if you know anyone who wants to see more opportunities for older adults in Vermont, please share our mission and organization with them.
- **MSAC Works on Strategic Plan for Calendar year 2023:** MSAC Director, Sarah Lipton, with support from the MSAC Advisory Council, is currently in progress on many large maps to draw out the strategic plans for how MSAC will accomplish fiscal and service goals. Goals, strategies and initiatives are being called out to support all the operations of MSAC moving into the new calendar year. Staff will be entering a 2-day planning retreat on January 12-13 to map out the calendar for the year as well as engage in empowering activities to ensure a smooth, sustainable, and enriching work environment for everyone.
- **CVRAN Getting Involved:** MSAC is proud to partner with the Central Vermont Refugee Action Network (CVRAN) to host a joint event to rouse more engagement and volunteerism for refugees in our community. CVRAN provides housing, financial, medical, legal, and educational support, as well as friendship, to asylum seekers and refugees living in our communities. We invite you to come hear our panel of volunteers and asylum seekers talk about what we do, who we serve, and how you could get involved. Refreshments will be served. The award-winning Ghazi Goodies will serve delightful treats. In case of inclement weather, the event will be held the following Tuesday, January 24. Cancellation information would be posted on the CVRAN website: [www.cvran.org](http://www.cvran.org).



- **Seeking some Fun??** Join our wide variety of drop-in groups, most open to all ages. Hankering for music? Poetry? Drumming? Dancing? Community service? Games? Coffee & Conversation? Book discussions? Meals? Drag Bingo? We've got it all!

### Drop In Groups

*\$5 suggested donation appreciated for drop-in groups to help keep our space beautiful.*

**Monday Walks** | Mondays | 9:30 am | on-going | meetup locations vary week to week  
**Coffee & Conversations** | Mondays | 9:30-10:30 am | on-going | MSAC Community Room  
**Artists Group In-Person at MSAC** | Mondays 10am-12 pm | MSAC Art Room  
**Beginner-Friendly English Country Dance** | 4 Mondays (Starts 2/27) 7-9 pm | MSAC Community Room  
**Readers' Choice** | Tuesdays | 12:45 - 1:45 pm | MSAC Activity Room  
**Italian Group** | Tuesdays | 1:15 - 2:30 pm | MSAC Resource Room  
**Scrabble** | Tuesdays & Fridays 1-3pm | MSAC Art Room  
**Trash Tramps Outdoors** | Tuesdays | 2:00 pm | meets at 1:50 pm inside MSAC  
**Winter Poetry Group** | every other Wednesday | 10:30 am-12 pm | MSAC Resource Room  
**Crafters Group In-Person at MSAC** | Wednesdays | 12-2:30 pm | MSAC Art Room  
**Bridge** | Thursdays | 12:30-3:15 pm  
**Community Jam with Experienced Musicians** | Biweekly 1st & 3rd Thursdays | 6:15-8pm | MSAC Community Room  
**Ukulele Players** | Biweekly 2nd & 4th Thursdays | 3:30-5pm | MSAC Community Room  
**Long Life Qi Gong** | Fridays | 11:45 am - 12:15 pm | MSAC Activity Room  
**The Rhythm Method** | Fridays | 2:30 - 3:30 pm | MSAC Activity Room  
**Mah Jongg** | Fridays 1:00-3:30 pm

### Montpelier Recreation News

• **Ice Skating Party at the State House Lawn!**

**January 14 | 2-5pm | State House Lawn, Montpelier**

Winter is here!  
Now is the time to lace up your

skates and join us at the State House Lawn this January. Celebrate the beginning of winter at the State House Lawn Skating Rink on Saturday, January 14! Enjoy food, hot cocoa, music, and skating. The Recreation Department is supplying skates to borrow on-site, and all are welcome to join! This event is also supported by the Montpelier Roxbury Public Schools Partners in Education (MRPS PIE) and the Vermont Youth Service Bureau. The Montpelier outdoor skating rink is operated by the city of Montpelier and provides people with free open skating any day of the week. Enjoy a day of shopping, ice skating under the Golden Dome, and a hot meal at a local restaurant! For more information, visit Montpelier Alive's website: <https://montpelieralive.com/calendar>.

- **Registration** – You can deliver registration forms either:
  - in person at the Recreation Center
  - by mailing forms and payment to 58 Barre Street, or
  - using [our online registration platform](#)

Extra registration forms and a locked drop box are in the side vestibule of 58 Barre Street (the Senior Activity Center) for after-hours use.

- **2022-23 Pickleball Open Gym**
  - The Montpelier Recreation Center offers two indoor courts. There is a 12-player maximum per session. Open gym is for adults (18+). Please bring your own paddles. The Recreation Department will supply balls to play on open gym days. All levels are welcomed. See below for days and times.

- Find us on [playerlineup.com](http://playerlineup.com). Search: “Montpelier Rec Center PB”
- Open Gym Schedule (based on skill level)
  - **Beginner:** Mondays - 1:30 – 3:00 pm | Wednesdays - 9 – 10:30 am
  - **Beginner/Intermediate:** Thursdays – 1:30 – 3 pm
  - **Intermediate:** Mondays - 9 – 10:30 am | Wednesdays – 1:30 – 3 pm | Thursdays – 1:30 – 3 pm
  - **Intermediate/Advanced:** Fridays – 9 – 10:30 am
  - **Advanced:** Tuesdays – 9 – 11 am
- Open Gym Fees:
  - **Walk-Ins:** Montpelier Residents: \$4; Non-Montpelier Residents: \$6
  - **Punch Cards (22 visits):** Montpelier Residents: \$45; Non-Montpelier Residents: \$60

● **2023 Winter/Spring Noontime Basketball**

- **Are you ready to shoot some hoops?** Register now for 2023 Winter/Spring Noontime Basketball in the Recreation Department gym at 55 Barre Street. Basketball is held on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 11:45am – 1:15pm starting January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, and continuing through until April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
- The walk-in fee is \$4 for residents and \$6 for non-residents. Register at the Recreation office. Season passes are also available. They are \$90 for residents and \$130 for non-residents.

● **2023 Open Gym at the Recreation Center**

- Join us at the Rec Gym this fall and winter for open gym hours! Hours are posted on our website at <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/915/Rec-Center>. The Recreation Department gym is located at 55 Barre Street
- **Open Gym:**
  - K-8 Resident \$1.50 / Non Resident \$3
  - 9-12 Resident \$2 / Non Resident \$4
  - Adult Resident \$3 / Non Resident \$6
  - Family Resident \$6 / Non Resident \$12

● **Capital Kids Afterschool Program (Winter Semester)**

- The Capital Kids Afterschool Program is now register for the Winter semester starting on November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022 through March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023. <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/1186/After-School->



beginning to Monday, Learn more: [Childcare](#)

● **Tae Kwon Do – Winter 2023 | Classes start January 9<sup>th</sup>**

- Instructor Matthew Girouard welcomes beginners to join his Tae Kwon Do classes. This is a class for people who want to learn the art of Tae Kwon Do and is an instructional class. Tae Kwon Do will be offered twice a week for ten weeks.
- There are two classes available: 2526-A is for students aged 6-8 years old, and 2526-B is for students 9 years and older. Both classes meet on Mondays and Thursdays. 2526-A meets from 5-6 pm while 2526-B meets from 6-7 pm. Class size ranges from 10-20 students.

## **Montpelier Parks**

- **X-Mas Tree Drop Off at Country Club Road Site:** Attention Montpelier (and Central Vermont) residents! Looking for a place to recycle your used Christmas tree? The Montpelier Parks Department is collecting used trees at the Country Club Road Site (Former Elks Lodge property) this year, so please drop your trees off to the parking lot at 203 Country Club Road in Montpelier. Questions? Contact our office at [802-223-7335](tel:802-223-7335).
- **Ice on Fire Returns to Country Club Road Site | Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 2PM:** Join us for Ice on Fire, Central Vermont's premier winter festival! Come one, come all to this whimsical festival, which celebrates the warmth of our Montpelier community even in the frigid depths of winter. It is a fun afternoon of dance, theater, music, storytelling, and poetry performed by local artists and community members. There will also be winter games, kids' activities, and more. Don't miss it. Save the date!
  - We'll be back for 2023 on Sunday, February 5th starting at 2pm and finishing around dusk with our bonfire. More details about Ice on Fire will be coming soon. Stay tuned to the Montpelier Parks' social media pages and Front Porch Forum for the latest updates on this and all Montpelier Parks' events coming in 2023. Follow us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/MontpelierParks/](https://www.facebook.com/MontpelierParks/)

January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023

## Winter Weekly Round-Up

### This Week in Montpelier

#### DPW in the News!

There's been a lot of talk about infrastructure in the local news this week! And for good reason: Montpelier is set to receive several federal and state grants which will fund some much-needed upgrades to our water infrastructure. Check out these stories about the upgrades coming to the City's Water Resource Recovery Facility in the media this week:

- **MyNBC5**  
<https://www.mynbc5.com/article/montpeliers-water-resource-recovery-facility-receives-nearly-dollar20-million-dollar-investment/42389381>
- **The Bridge**  
<https://montpelierbridge.org/2023/01/19-5m-headed-to-montpelier-through-usda-grant-loan/>
- **Times Argus**  
[https://www.timesargus.com/news/local/grant-money-and-gasification-coming-to-montpelier-treatment-plant/article\\_5c347999-8ed5-5b47-8738-2a4a2e2ac0aa.html](https://www.timesargus.com/news/local/grant-money-and-gasification-coming-to-montpelier-treatment-plant/article_5c347999-8ed5-5b47-8738-2a4a2e2ac0aa.html)
- **WCAX**  
<https://www.wcax.com/2023/01/03/montpelier-wastewater-plant-benefit-20m-upgrade/>
- **VT Digger**  
<https://vtdigger.org/2023/01/03/montpelier-continues-wastewater-plant-upgrades-with-help-from-federal-money/>
- **VermontBiz**  
<https://vermontbiz.com/news/2022/december/15/montpelier-gets-195m-usda-water-infrastructure>

#### Tip of the Week

##### **Check your water pressure-reducing valve.**

A water pressure-reducing valve helps protect your home's plumbing from damage caused by high water pressure. Check with your local plumber to ensure yours is working properly.

#### Alternate Side Parking in Effect

In the coming weeks, DPW will be installing more Alternate Side Parking signage in the neighborhoods outside the downtown.

Alternate Side Parking began on November 15<sup>th</sup> and will be in effect until April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. On even-numbered days, park on the side of the road with even-numbered addresses, and on odd-numbered days, park on the side with odd-numbered addresses.

For more information about alternate side parking, check out the Public Works page on the City's website here <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/1192/Alternate-Side-Winter-Parking-Newly-Adop>

---

## Road Work

---

### East State Street

DPW engineers are actively working on project design. DPW is currently developing options for the project's streetscape, including sidewalks, parking, and bike lanes. DPW anticipates these options will be ready to present to the City Council in February of 2023.

The East Street project includes the disconnection of the existing storm sewer system from the existing sanitary sewer system, also known as a Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) connection. The design includes a new outfall constructed through the Rialto bridge abutment.

The City has received confirmation from the State that the project will be partially funded using Clean Water State ARPA dollars. DPW received a \$1.4 million dollar grant as part of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) dedicated to CSO projects. The majority of funding for this project will come from a low-interest loan from USDA, Rural Development. The City also received a \$3.25 million grant which will support both the City's Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF) Phase 2 project and the East State Street project. East State St. construction is anticipated to begin spring of 2023.

---

## Other DPW Projects

---

### Stormwater Utility

The Stormwater Utility Committee met on Thursday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, and selected a rate structure proposal for this project. The next step will be to review the legal requirements for implementing the utility. DPW anticipates a charter change for the project will be on the Town Meeting Day ballot in March of 2023.

#### Background

The City now has a webpage dedicated to this project on the Public Works page linked under the "Projects" tab. [Click here](#) to go to the Stormwater Utility webpage.

The Storm Water Utility Committee has been tasked with building out/developing a new stormwater utility and to present to City Council on their findings. The committee will solicit proposals to partner with a consultant to assist with the development of the utility.

The Stormwater Utility Committee will work closely with the selected consultant to address the feasibility of the utility, the financial impacts of said utility, and engage the public throughout the development of the utility. [Click here](#) to learn more about the committee on the City's website.

The City's goal is to complete the project by July 1 of 2023. There will be opportunities for staff to report back to the City Council on the status as well as for the public to be involved.

Brown and Caldwell have been awarded the contract to develop the Montpelier Stormwater Utility.

#### **What is a Stormwater Utility?**

A stormwater utility is a dedicated funding mechanism to pay for a community's stormwater management program. The revenue generated for the utility's fee supports stormwater-related services and improvements. City Council identified this in the FY23 strategic plan.

### State Street Combined Sewer Overflow

DPW received a \$675 thousand dollar grant from the State this week to help fund this project. The State of Vermont's Clean Water funding will provide the grant. The State provides low-interest loans to help municipalities complete clean water infrastructure projects through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund.

#### **Background**

The City Council awarded this contract to Hebert Excavation at the City Council meeting on Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup>. DPW will be working with Hebert Excavation to develop a project timeline and schedule and anticipates this project will be completed by July 1, 2023.

### School Street Water Main Replacement – Complete!

This project is now complete! The contractor finished utility work earlier this week, and DPW has been restoring the roadway along School St. Crews installed 450 ft of water main and reconnected 3 service hookups. Traffic flow will be back to the normal two-way flow beginning next week.

DPW plans to complete additional water work next summer to further improve the water main on School St.

Although this project took longer than expected to complete, the community will be better served with these much-needed infrastructure upgrades.

**Thank you!**

We greatly appreciate your patience and understanding throughout the duration of this project!

### Grout Road Bridge

DPW met with the design consultant and the State of Vermont to arrange for a temporary bridge while construction gets underway. The temporary bridge will be rented from the State of Vermont for a very low cost per day. DPW anticipates the temporary bridge will be set in June 2023 with reconstruction on the existing bridge soon following.

DPW is working with our consulting engineer to conduct historic property evaluations. Public comments were received on the wetland permit application, and DPW is working with the consultant to address the comments. The timeline for this project has been pushed back slightly. DPW is hoping to bid the project out before the end of this year. This project is being funded through ARPA grants and a Class 2 Highway Structure grant.

## FAQs

*“I read it in the DPWNews”*

### Bike Path Lighting Repair

DPW crews have been repairing light fixtures along the bike path near Taylor St. this week. Several light fixtures have been damaged by critters chewing the wiring and insulation inside the fixtures, causing them to be inoperable. This photo on the right shows the extent of the damage inside one fixture.







### YouTube Budget Videos!

The City of Montpelier is now on YouTube! Each department shared their budget presentations in short videos which are now posted on the City’s channel. DPW Director Kurt Motyka and Deputy Director Zach Blodgett reported on DPW’s proposed budget for FY24 in a series of four videos: one each on the General Fund, Water/Sewer, District Heat, and Capital Improvements Plan. [Click here](#) to view the playlist.

### Municipal Planning Grant Application

DPW and the Planning and Zoning Department applied for a municipal planning grant. If awarded, the grant would provide funding for LiDAR technology (light detection and ranging) to assess our roads’ pavement conditions and conduct an inventory of street tree locations. The automated conditional analysis would provide a more accurate, data-driven approach to managing Montpelier’s pavement conditions, and help save time and resources of City staff from having to manually inspect the roads.

## Careers

### Join Our Team!

Full job descriptions and requirements are posted on the City’s website: [Montpelier-vt.org/jobs](https://montpelier-vt.org/jobs)

The City of Montpelier, Vermont is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. Applications from women, individuals with disabilities, and people from diverse cultural backgrounds are encouraged.

- (1) Water/Sewer Truck Driver, Level 1

#### How to Apply:

Pick up a job application:

- In-person at 783 Dog River Road Montpelier VT 05602



- By email Jasmine Benson at [jbenson@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:jbenson@montpelier-vt.org)
- Online: <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/.../DPW-Application-Revised...>

Submit a letter of interest along with a completed job application and resume to Jasmine Benson at [jbenson@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:jbenson@montpelier-vt.org).

## Contact Information

### *Got Questions or Comments?*

Montpelier Department of Public Works - Phone: (802) 262-6276

Kurt Motyka, Director [kmotyka@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:kmotyka@montpelier-vt.org)

Jasmine Benson, Project Assistant [jbenson@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:jbenson@montpelier-vt.org)

Website: <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/167/Public-Works>

Facebook: Department of Public Works – City of Montpelier

**Emergency Dispatch:** (802) 223-3445



**Sign up for Notifications**

### Subscribe to the DPW Weekly Newsletter!

1. Go to <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/>
2. Scroll down and click on the gold “Notify Me” banner
3. Add your email and click “Sign in”
4. Click on the envelope icon in front of DPWNews!