

Date	Committee	Time	Location	Links
9/5	Design Review Committee	5:30 PM	Zoom Only	Agenda and Zoom Link
9/5	Montpelier Housing Committee	6:00 PM	Zoom Only	Agenda and Zoom Link
9/5	Development Review Board	7:00 PM	Zoom Only	Agenda and Zoom Link
9/5	Montpelier Transportation Infrastructure Committee	7:00 PM	Zoom Only	Agenda and Zoom Link
9/6	Homelessness Task Force	11:30 AM	Zoom Only	Agenda and Zoom Link
9/6	Complete Streets Committee	5:30 PM	Zoom and 74.5 State Street (Wilder Arts Studio)	Agenda and Zoom Link

Improve Public Health and Safety

Shelter

We have a tentative agreement with Good Samaritan Haven to provide winter shelter (and perhaps longer) at the former Elk's building for 15-20 beds starting in November. This is subject to state approval and Good Sam obtaining all necessary permits.

City Hall update:

We met with the FEMA team yesterday to get a better understanding of how to move forward addressing issues. We have created groups of "projects" (repairs or upgrades to buildings, facilities and infrastructure) which will go through the FEMA process.

The biggest "project" is restoration of City Hall, Police Station, and Fire Station. We have the go ahead to seek consulting services (architect, engineering, hydro engineering) to review the needs in these buildings, explore mitigation options which may include major internal building changes and/or external dry flood proofing, and designing the final choices for construction.

Realistically we are looking at a schedule something like this:

- Issue Request for Proposals (RFP) and receive proposals. Award contract to winning bidder at 10/25 Council meeting.
- Evaluations and design work completed by end of July 2024 (assuming 9 months for this)
- Construction bids and completion of work completed by April of 2025 (assuming 9 months for this, will vary depending on choice of work)
- Fully reoccupy City Hall in May of 2025.

We'll advance the work at the Fire and Police stations, as well as relocating utilities and getting the

elevator and generator functioning at City Hall as soon as possible. Obviously if we can expedite other things we will.

This means that current office relocations may remain for close to two years. It doesn't make sense to bring people back to city hall temporarily only to have them move out again while construction is happening.

Given that reality, **we plan to re-open the front of City Hall (Clerk, Manager, Assessor) to the public on Tuesday with the proviso that we will need to make reasonable accommodations for people who are differently abled.** The rest of the building will be closed off.

Flood Follow Up

As discussed, this week, City staff is performing an after action review of flood response and lessons learned. Our goal is to create a written summary for future use if needed.

Provide Responsible and Engaged Government

Where Can I Get More Updates from the City? The City of Montpelier is expanding the ways we share information and keep our community informed. You can now sign up for general updates from the City of Montpelier using the "Notify Me" feature on the City's website.

How to sign up: Go to <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/> and click on the "Notify Me" tile in the popular links, fill in the subscription box with your email, then check the box next to the "City of Montpelier" list name. You'll receive an email with a link asking you to confirm your subscription. Once your email is confirmed, you'll start receiving updates.

City Council Meeting Location. MRPS Superintendent Libby Bonesteel approved our request to use the High School Library for Council meetings for the foreseeable future. In the event of meeting conflicts, we will either change our date or hold that meeting virtually. This location is accessible and is all set up for ORCA and remote connection. This will start with the September 9th meeting.

Community Meetings about Flood Recovery update:

Paul Costello has led two very successful community conversations on August 10th and 22nd. The third and final in the series will be held on September 7th at 6:30 PM at the High School Auditorium.

The forum will take the top issues identified last time and seek to prioritize them and identify key next steps and lead groups in moving them forward. The issues are:

- Develop a Recovery and Resilience Leadership Structure
- Declare a Climate Emergency
- Reduce our Carbon by Creating an Assessment Tool for individuals and families.
- Montpelier should reduce its Carbon impact by Addressing Transportation and Heating
- Protect the Wastewater System
- Improve Wrightsville Dam
- Re-envision Downtown
- Celebrate and Boost Montpelier's Downtown in Recovery
- Invest in Adaptive Downtown
- Raise State, Federal and Philanthropic Funds for Recovery and Resilience

- A regional Commission should be convened to develop a plan for flood prevention.
- End Hunger
- Address the Housing Crisis
- Improve Mental Health in the Community
- Montpelier should de-toxify.
- Support the Future of Agriculture and Advance food security for all.
- Improved preparedness communications and disaster alert systems
- Build a Montpelier resiliency volunteer brigade.

The meeting will review these ideas and allow time for people to champion what they think is most important. There will be a voting process to set priorities. Once the highest priorities are set there will be discussions about who best to take lead on them. Small groups will break out for each of them to come up with suggested action steps for the lead agencies. There will also be an opportunity for people sign up to participate in the area of their choice.

Pending Legal

Moody vs. City of Montpelier. Insurance case filed regarding a pothole. Costs handled by VLCT PACIF, City represented by Attorney Brian Monaghan

Create More Housing

FEMA Housing update:

We are still in discussion with FEMA about placing “FEMA Trailers” in Montpelier for people who have been displaced by the flood. The most likely location would be at Country Club Road. We hope that this installation will result in construction of some infrastructure that can be used for future housing development. That outcome is not certain though. They would like to begin construction soon and expect these units could be in place for 18-24 months.

Improve Community Prosperity

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

Benefit Concert for Flood Relief:

Montpelier Alive, Barre Area Development, the City of Montpelier and others are partnering to hold a benefit concert on Saturday, September 9th from 3 to 7 on the State House Lawn (pending approval from BGS), Scheduled performers are Guagua, Rey Vega, Dwight & Nicole and the Dave Keller Band. This event had been considered for the Country Club Road location but is moving to the State House Lawn to create a better and safer experience for all involved. Performances and support are being donated so that all proceeds can go to the Montpelier and Barre flood relief funds.

Build and Maintain Sustainable Infrastructure

****The Department of Public Works weekly newsletter can be found on the City’s Department of Public Works webpage.****

Employment and Personnel Announcements

Staff Development

Municipal Job Openings

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

Mental Health Clinician: Montpelier Police, Barre City Police and Washington County Mental Health are still looking for a police mental health clinician to work with our agencies. If you have any interest either call Chief Nordenson at 802-223-3445 or apply directly at

: <https://wcmhs.applytojob.com/apply/rZGj0OPhbn/Police-Mental-Health-Clinician>

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 Meeting:
- Click here for Live Stream:

Thank you,



William Fraser, City Manager

Upcoming Agenda Items (*TENTATIVE*)

9/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCR Workshop • Ballard & King results • Outside Agency Policy • 2023 Strategic Plan wrap up • Staff Appreciation 	9/27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year End financials • Winter Schedule • Strat. Plan prep (?)
10/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2024 Strategic Planning 	10/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Plan Draft • Budget Preview
11/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	11/15?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
12/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget 	12/20?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget

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

11/15 and 12/20 dates are possible conflicts with School Board

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

Month	Tentative Topic(s)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stormwater Utility – delayed due to DPW staffing

Community Services Department Report, Week in Review: August 28th – September 1st

- **The volunteer hub will shift to remote operation** Due to staffing needs and lower volume of requests, **the physical volunteer hub at Barre & Main Streets will close after September 1st.** If you need help or wish to volunteer, please find all hub information on their website: www.montpelierhub.com.
 - If you'd like to stay informed on all volunteer and hub activities, subscribe to our email list found on **the City of Montpelier's Resource Log**, which has all resources related to flooding event in Downtown Montpelier: <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=467>
- **For more updates and resources**, follow the City of Montpelier's Facebook page: [@MontpelierVT](#) and our new Volunteers pages: [@MontpelierVolunteers](#) on Facebook and Instagram. You can also follow our Community Services Departments pages: [@MontpelierSeniorActivityCenter](#), [@MontpelierRec](#), and [@MontpelierParks](#).

Montpelier Senior Activity Center (MSAC)

- **Read the September Newsletter and Fall Program Guide (to be released Monday, September 11th)** here: <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/304/Newsletter>
- **MSAC Fall Class Registration begin on Monday, August 28th** [See the full fall lineup of classes at: https://www.montpelier-vt.org/751/Classes.](#) **Deadline to register is Friday, September 22nd, and most classes begin the first week of October.**
- **Next FEAST congregate lunch is Thursday, September 7th at noon inside MSAC.**
- **OLLI Lecture Series returning to MSAC this Fall!** The OLLI lecture series begins on Wednesday, September 20th with Singer and Historian Linda Radtke for ***From Parlors to Polls: Vermont Suffragettes***. Go to learn.uvm.edu/olli/centralvt and register online, or pick up a brochure in our office for other registration options.
- **Sprouting Change: A FEAST Senior Meals Fundraiser**
 - ***Can you be a champion for local food and nutrition?***
 - After the July 2023 flood, FEAST Senior Meals is looking to support us and sprout change from now until September floodwaters devastated our farm, which provided vital our Meals on Wheels program. We're asking you to food and nutrition through this small dollar donation drive.
 - By going to our website, www.montpelier-vt.org/FEAST, donate \$15, which is the average cost of a meal for client, friend to do the same. Together, we can regrow our local food system and sustain our operations during this critical time of year for our older adult neighbors in Central Vermont.
- **FEAST Farmstand is returning soon!** Although we lost almost all our annual crops at the FEAST Farm, the FEAST Farmstand will be returning in September with donated produce and other goodies to sell.



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We have not set a return date yet, but we will have an announcement in the next couple of weeks. Thank you for your support of FEAST during this tumultuous time!

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

Montpelier Recreation News

- **Program 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](#) (**ONLY IF YOU HAVE A USER ACCOUNT ALREADY! Please call 802-225-8699 for setup assistance**)

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.

- **Montpelier Public Pool opens for Dog Days at the Pool**
 - Thank you to the Central Vermont Humane Society for co-hosting this event with us this week. And thank you to all who braved the cloudy, rainy skies for fun times with their pups!



- **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 welcome. See below for days and times.
 - Find us on [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, pickleball only):** Montpelier Residents: \$45; Non-Montpelier Residents: \$60
- **2023 Summer Noontime Basketball**
 - 2023 Summer Noontime Basketball takes place in the Recreation Department gym at 55 Barre Street on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 11:45am – 1:15pm.

Montpelier Parks

- **Thank you Volunteers for supporting local trail work!**
 - Thank you to all the volunteers who came out to support our trail work this past Thursday in North Branch River Park. There has been a backlog of trail work to do post-flood, and your help will repair our biking and walking trails for regular use.