

Date	Committee	Time	Location	Links
12/4	Design Review Committee	5:30 PM	Zoom Only	Agenda and Zoom Link
12/4	Development Review Board	7:00 PM	Zoom Only	Agenda and Zoom Link
12/5	Housing Committee	6:00 PM	Zoom Only	Agenda and Zoom Link
12/6	Homelessness Task Force	11:30 PM	Zoom Only	Agenda and Zoom Link
12/6	Complete Streets Meeting	5:30 PM	74.5 East State Street and Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
12/7	Tree Board Meeting	5:30 PM	Manager's Conference Room and Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link

Improve Public Health and Safety

PACKAGE THEFT PREVENTION

MPD regularly receives reports of missing or stolen packages from outside residences throughout the Capital City. With the increase in package deliveries during the upcoming holiday season and generally, this has become a nationwide issue. In addition to keeping our eye out for "Porch Pirates" we compiled some preventative measures from a variety of sources that we hope will help:

- Keep an eye out in your neighborhood for suspicious persons and vehicles. Write down descriptions and license plates and call us if you actively see packages being taken.
- Use package tracking and delivery alerts to know when your package was delivered so you can retrieve it.
- Take advantage of delivery instructions or scheduling options when ordering to have the delivery made somewhere out of sight or at a time when you can be present.
- Install a video doorbell or camera system.
- Make it clear you have a home security or camera system by posting signage.
- Have your packages delivered to a local PO box or locker at a retail site, if available in your area.
- Ask a trusted neighbor to keep an eye out or to accept delivery for you.
- Invest in a porch lockbox to secure packages upon delivery.
- Require signature on delivery so a package will only be delivered in hand.
- Purchase a mailbox sensor so you receive notice that your mail has arrived so it can be retrieved.
- Have your package delivered elsewhere or to your place of business where it can be received or securely monitored.

What to do if your package has been stolen

- Check your homeowner's insurance policy -

Unfortunately, your homeowner's insurance won't help in most cases, unless the value of the item stolen is more than your deductible. If it's a big-ticket item, however, it's worth checking with them.

- Contact your credit card company -

If you purchased the item with a credit card, your credit card company may reimburse you for the cost of stolen items. Check their purchase protection policy.

- Contact the seller and carrier -

While various retailers have different policies, some may send you a replacement for lost or stolen items. You may also want to contact the carrier that delivered your package and file a complaint with them.

- File a police report -

Even for inexpensive items, filing a police report is important so we can keep track of activity in the area. You may also need the case number to file a claim for replacement or reimbursement.

We conduct regular neighborhood patrols to dissuade this type of criminal activity and can be reached 24/7/365 at (802) 223-3445.

WINTER PARKING IN EFFECT

Alternate Side Winter Parking began on November 15th and ends April 1st and is in effect regardless of weather conditions.

See the City's website for more winter parking information and guidelines.

<https://www.montpelier-vt.org/1192/Alternate-Side-Winter-Parking>

WEEKLY STATISTICS

INCIDENTS - For the week of November 24 – November 30, the Montpelier Police Department (MPD) logged 170 new incidents (calls for service and/or proactive initiations).

TRAFFIC - MPD conducted 58 traffic stops and directed patrols. Most of these car stops were for speed or other traffic violations.

ARRESTS - MPD made 2 arrests in the past week. One individual was arrested for DUI and the other was arrested for Larceny from a Person.

TRAINING – No officers attended training this week.

INFO – MPD is committed to transparency, accountability, and improving access to information. We have been working hard to create this organized database on our website to fulfill these goals and hope this information will help address community concerns. The Montpelier Police Department's website provides information monthly about arrests, traffic stops, crimes, and calls for service. Please go to the links below for access:

Media Logs

<https://www.montpelier-vt.org/Archive.aspx?AMID=39>

Monthly Arrest Reports

<https://www.montpelier-vt.org/Archive.aspx?AMID=130>

Monthly Traffic Stop Data

<https://www.montpelier-vt.org/Archive.aspx?AMID=125>

Monthly Raw Data Tables - Arrests / Traffic Stops / Calls for Service

<https://www.montpelier-vt.org/.../Monthly-Raw-Data-Tables...>

Our report for the third quarter of 2023, as well as previous quarterly reports, are available at this link: <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/Archive.aspx?AMID=124>

Provide Responsible and Engaged Government

Budget New

Last week our Leadership conducted what we call “Budget Congress”. We work together to develop an overall city budget to recommend formally on December 13th.

We build the budget by first calculating our expected revenues from non-tax sources. We work hard to make sure they are realistic but not overly optimistic.

We then calculate “what we do now” in next year’s costs. This includes updating salary, wages, and benefits, known operations costs (gas, oil, salt, sand, leases, electricity, specific departmental supplies) and any known fixed costs such as debt, organization dues, and the like.

We then add policy choices – for instance funding the capital and equipment plan at it’s full \$2.4 Million vs. \$2.153 Million in the current budget. It’s worth noting that we needed to cut \$3 Million in capital projects and equipment to get to \$2.4 Million.

We then add departmental, committee, policy, and other requests which go beyond the current base.

All of this creates the starting point for the budget. Fully funded, fully staffed, policies and goals reasonably addressed, and community requests funded.

The net of the fully funded budget less the estimated revenue results in the amount of money to be raised by property taxes. (We do a similar process with water, sewer and other non- tax funded operations)

The Budget Congress looks at the net amount of property taxes needed and compares it to budget goals.

The preliminary base budget would have required \$1,560,000 in new property taxes. This is 13.6% or around 11 cents. To keep the tax rate at no increase, the full \$1.56M will need to be cut. Keeping the tax rate at a 3.2% increase (current inflation) will require \$1.2M in cuts. Reaching the 0% or 3% goals could require as many as 4-10 position cuts depending on what else is included in the total.

My intention is to present you with a budget which reflects inflation along with a summary of which items are and are not included.

We will be publishing departmental budget video presentations within the week,

Pending Legal

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

Sign Up for 1-page Summaries of City Council Meetings: Don't have time to attend a meeting or watch the video? Get a 1-page summary of every City Council Meeting sent to your email the following day. Summaries contain highlights of agenda items and discussions, any action taken by the Council. and links to follow-up information. Sign up **here:** <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/list.aspx>

Create More Housing

Country Club Road New

The lease with FEMA is signed and they have completed final designs. They tell us work on the temporary housing units will begin in mid-December,.

In the meantime, the City will be to take advantage of the newly installed infrastructure. We will be seeking development partners to build permanent housing immediately at the conclusion of the FEMA housing program.

Improve Community Prosperity

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

Build and Maintain Sustainable Infrastructure

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

Stump Dump Temporarily Closed

The Montpelier Stump Dump is currently closed to the public while we work to ensure permit compliance. The City of Montpelier was recently notified by the State of Vermont about a permit compliance issue with Montpelier's Stump Dump located off Finch Road. The City was notified that fill material was encroaching on two Class 2 wetlands. The facility is required to obtain a solid waste utility permit to comply.

➤ **Where Can I Bring Yard Waste While the Stump Dump is Closed?**

While the Stump Dump is closed, those looking to dispose of yard waste can use the Casella Transfer Station at 378 East Montpelier Rd., or any other transfer station listed on the Central Vermont Solid Waste District website. Learn more about where to dispose of lawn and yard waste on the CVCSWD website here: <https://www.cvsmd.org/leaf-and-yard-waste.html>

Questions? Please contact the [Department of Public Works](#) at 802-223-9508.

Winter Operations: Clearing Rights-of-Way for Snow Removal

Winter is coming! With snow on the way, DPW is reminding businesses and residents to make a plan to relocate dumpsters, storage unites, and any other items in the public right-of-way so our crews can safely remove snow on streets and sidewalks. Public rights-of-way are streets, sidewalks, and City-owned parking spaces.

Please make sure large items are clear from the right-of-way by the start of Winter Operations on Wednesday, November 15th. Clearing these items will help DPW safely plow the streets and sidewalks without damaging private property and City equipment. If you have any questions about the best location for your items, please call the [Department of Public Works](#) at 802-223-9508.

Thank you for your help keeping our City thriving throughout the winter!

Employment and Personnel Announcements

NOTE – the City is currently in a hiring freeze due to financial circumstances.

Municipal Job Openings

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

Reminders

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Guidelines for Winter Parking

From 12:00 AM-5:00 PM: All cars must be parked on the correct side of the street as indicated by whether building numbers are odd or even according to the ODD or EVEN calendar day. Parking on ODD sides of the street on odd-numbered calendar days and EVEN sides of the street on even-numbered calendar days.

From 5:00 PM-11:59 PM Transition Period: Move your vehicle to the other side of the street at any time during this transition period.

Downtown

1:00 AM -6:59 AM: No Parking is allowed

7:00 AM-12:59 AM: Daytime Parking is allowed as usual (regardless of the day)

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 (<i>TENTATIVE</i>)			
12/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FY25 Budget Meet with Legislators VLCT re: funding Adopt Strategic Plan 	12/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FY25 Budget
1/3/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FY25 Budget 	1/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget PH Warning PH Bond PH if needed Charter PH if needed
1/17 If needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FY25 Budget Charter PH if petition 	1/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget PH Warning PH Bond PH if needed Charter PH if needed Petitions Zoning Amendments
1/31 Special	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PH for petitioned charter change 	2/14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zoning Amendments Short Term Rentals Manager's Review
2/28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bond PH if needed Charter PH if needed Short Term Rentals 	3/5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City Meeting Election Day
3/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organizational Meeting Council Overview 	4/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">

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

11/15, 12/20, 1/3, and 1/17 dates do not have location set yet

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 Updates

- **The volunteer hub is now a remote operation** If you need help or wish to volunteer, please find all hub information on their website: www.montpelierhub.com.
- **For more updates and resources**, follow the City of Montpelier's main page: [@MontpelierVT](#); and Volunteers page: [@MontpelierVolunteers](#) on Facebook and Instagram. You can also follow our Community Services Departments pages: [@MontpelierSeniorActivityCenter](#), [@MontpelierRec](#), and [@MontpelierParks](#).

Montpelier Senior Activity Center (MSAC)

- **A Rising Tide: An Appeal to Members & the Public:** Your commitment to our organization in the past year cannot be understated. With your support, we've been able to weather the storm of flood recovery, leadership changes, and the ongoing challenges stemming from COVID-19. You've supported us with your donations, your thoughtful comments, and your activism. Thank you!
 - Despite all that support, we're still in need of your help... We've set our 2023 Appeal Goal for \$50,000. We envision MSAC thriving as it had before the pandemic with twice-weekly congregate lunches, classes filling up every room each day of the week, creating space for high-quality events and speakers to come visit, and hosting programs that cater to all needs and wants of older adults in our Montpelier community.
 - If you can donate \$25 today, you can help us return to those days. We know this year has been hard on all of us. We appreciate any support you can give this holiday season, even if it is sharing our appeal with friends and family.
- **Read the December Newsletter and Winter Program Guide here:** <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/304/Newsletter>
- **Next FEAST congregate lunch is Thursday, December 7th at noon inside MSAC. The menu will be published on Monday, December 4th – check website for more info.**
- **Next MSAC potluck lunch is Friday, December 29th at noon inside MSAC. RSVP with our office by Friday, December 22nd. Call 802-223-2518 or email msac@montpelier-vt.org. Bring your best homemade dishes and celebrate the new year with MSAC!**

- **OLLI Lecture Series continues at the Savoy!** The next OLLI lecture is Wednesday, December 6th with **To Be Or Not To Be** (1942): a film screening at the Savoy Theatre. Go to learn.uvm.edu/olli/centralvt and register online, or pick up a brochure in our office for other registration options.
- **Subaru Share the Love event** with FEAST Senior Meals & 802 Subaru!
 - Now through January 2nd, during the Subaru Share the Love event, local Subaru retailers will support local charities and organizations like FEAST Senior Meals. Go to our website to learn more: www.montpelier-vt.org/FEAST.
- **FEAST Farmstand on Wednesdays through December 27th!** FREE produce on Wednesdays from 8-11 am.



Learn more: www.montpelier-vt.org/FEAST.

- **Readers' Choice begins on Tuesday December 5th at 12:30pm in the Activity Room.**
- **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

- **Open Gym is back at the Rec Gym from Wednesday to Saturday during the evening hours.**
- **Dodgeball at the Rec Gym – Tuesdays from 7-9pm | \$55 for Montpelier Residents for the season! | Learn more online: www.montpelier-vt.org/rec.**
- **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.

- **Capital Kids Afterschool Program suspended until January** Due to low staffing, the Capital Kids Afterschool Program will be suspended for the fall semester.
- **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

- **Support the Parks Legacy Fund!**

- All of our Parks were created through generous donations of land or funds from people who felt passionate about keeping land open and accessible for future generations. This spirit of generosity has led to the amazing network of parks and trails that we enjoy today.



- Our Parks Legacy Fund supports the strategic expansion of our Parks System, and matches grant funds for large capital improvement projects.
- You can support this goal through a donation of funds, stock, or a legacy gift.
- Please consider an annual donation as part of your annual giving plan.
- Some of our recent successful projects include:
 - 78-acre expansion to Hubbard Park in 2021
 - Construction of a Universally Accessible Trail from the New Shelter to the Tower in Hubbard Park in 2022.
- To learn more about the fund, please contact Parks Director Alec Ellsworth at aellsworth@montpelier-vt.org.
- All donations to Montpelier Parks are tax deductible under section 170(c)(1) of the tax code (just like donations to a 501(c)(3), just a different tax number).