

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Aldermen Minutes
Tuesday, January 3, 2023

Members Present; President Doenges, Aldermen Cupoli, Savage, Barbagallo, Talbott, Tadio, *Gillam, DePoy and Davis. Alderman Whitcomb's date of resignation was today. Alderman Franco was absent. Alderman Gillam arrived at 7:43 PM. Also present; Mayor Allaire, Attorney Bloomer and City Clerk Heck.

7:00 PM BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING

President Doenges called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (December 19, 2022)

A motion was made and seconded (Savage, Barbagallo) approving the minutes of the previous meeting. **Motion passed.**

OUTSIDE THE RAIL

No one spoke outside the rail.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Mayor Allaire Request for Executive Session.

Mayor Allaire asked for this request be moved to the end of the meeting.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

President Doenges noted the Finance Committee report from Alderman Whitcomb needs to be added. Attorney Bloomer then sought to delete item #5 of his requests and sought to potentially remove item #2, Parking Ordinance Amendment. Attorney Bloomer noted item #2 was 95% complete and could be referred to Charter & Ordinance if the Board so desired. Alderwoman Davis so moved, Alderman Talbott seconded. President Doenges noted the Parking Ordinance Amendment has been referred to the Charter & Ordinance Committee and been seconded, there was no debate. **Motion passed.**

President Doenges then sought a motion to add the Whitcomb Finance Committee report and to delete the item #5, the executive sessions request related to negotiations of a contract. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS

Attorney Bloomer:

1. Charter Amendment public hearings resolution

President Doenges introduced the request and Attorney Bloomer briefed the Board on the request. Attorney Bloomer noted mandates that did not meet meeting criteria for Public Hearing for the Charter Amendment on the Local Option Tax question to be placed on the March 2023 ballot and presented new dates. A motion was made and seconded (Talbott, Savage) suspending the rules and taking action on the request. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Talbott, Savage) to accept the resolution as presented and to circulate for signatures. **Motion passed.**

2. Parking Ordinance amendment proposal to accommodate ParkMobile

This request was referred to the Charter & Ordinance Committee.

3. Executive session related to labor relations agreement (Mayor's Request)

4. Executive session related to labor relations agreement

Both of these requests were moved to the end of the meeting.

5. Executive session related to negotiation of a contract

This request was deleted from the agenda.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Alderman Whitcomb; Finance Committee

President Doenges read the committee report from December 29, 2022 regarding ARPA Funding for the TIF District. President Doenges noted Alderman Whitcomb had officially resigned today and that he would read the report.

President Doenges noted the committee met to discuss ARPA funding and the development of a TIF district for Rutland City. The committee and partners for this project discussed funding locally developed TIF districts and their impact, who and how the TIF district would be guided.

The committee expressed support and a motion was made at committee to fund \$165,000 towards the TIF development. Alderwoman Davis so moved with a second from Alderman Talbott. **Motion passed.**

President Doenges noted that the resignation of Alderman Whitcomb took place yesterday, Monday, January 3, 2023 and thanked him for his report.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

There were no reports of representatives.

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES

There were no select committee reports.

PETITIONS, LETTERS, MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATION

There were no petitions, letters, or miscellaneous communications to come before the Board.

BOARD OF CONTROL COMMISSIONERS

There were no items for the Board of Control Commissioners.

BOARD OF CANNABIS COMMISSIONERS

There were no items for the Board of Cannabis Commissioners.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to come before the Board.

MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, NEW BUSINESS

There were no miscellaneous motions, resolutions or new business to come before the Board.

President Doenges then noted the executive sessions request from Attorney Bloomer and sought the language.

Attorney Bloomer noted a motion to find that premature general public knowledge regarding the negotiation of a labor relations agreement would clearly place the City at a substantial disadvantage because the discussion will divulge the Board's position on the agreement provisions to be negotiated. This language was so moved and seconded (Talbott, Davis). **Motion passed.**

Attorney Bloomer noted language to enter into executive session (including Police Chief, Mayor, Treasurer, Clerk and City attorney) to discuss the labor relations agreement as allowed under Title 1, section 313(a)(1)(B). This language was so moved and seconded (Talbott, Savage). **Motion passed.**

At 7:17 PM the BOA moved into executive session.

At 7:38 PM a motion was made and seconded (Davis, Savage) to come out of executive session.

There was brief debate.

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Savage) suspending the rules and taking action on the request. **Motion passed.** Attorney Bloomer then presented the following motions.

Motion to authorize the Police Chief to sign the Sign-on and Referral Bonus MOU, in substantially the form presented. This language was so moved and seconded, (Savage, Davis). **Motion passed.**

Motion to authorize the Police Chief to sign the Patrol OT Pay MOU, in substantially the form presented. This language was so moved and seconded, (Savage, Barbagallo). **Motion passed.**

President Doenges then asked for language for the next executive session request.

Attorney Bloomer noted a motion to find that premature general public knowledge regarding the negotiation of legal services-related contract(s) would clearly place the City at a substantial disadvantage because the discussion will divulge the Board's position on the contract provisions to be negotiated. This language was so moved and seconded, (Tadio, Talbott). **Motion passed.**

Attorney Bloomer then noted a motion to enter into executive session (with the inclusion of the Mayor, Treasurer and Clerk) to discuss the negotiation of a contract as allowed under Title 1, Section 313(a) (1)(A).

At 7:42 PM the Board moved into executive session.

At 7:52 PM a motion was made and seconded, (Davis, Barbagallo) to come out of executive session. **Motion passed.** The Board continued discussion on file retention.

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Gillam) suspending the rules to take action on the request. **Motion passed.**

Mayor Allaire then noted a motion to authorize the Mayor, on behalf of the City, to sign the letter agreement with Attorney Bloomer. This language was so moved and seconded (Davis, Savage). No debate. **Motion passed.**

Mayor Allaire then noted a motion to authorize the Mayor, on behalf of the City, to sign the engagement letter with Stitzel, Page & Fletcher. This language was so moved and seconded, (Gillam, Savage). No debate. **Motion passed.**

There was no further debate or items to come before the Board and a motion was made and seconded (Davis, Barbagallo) to adjourn at 8:07 PM. **Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,

Henry A Heck
Rutland City Clerk