CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Aldermen Minutes
Monday, October 17, 2022

Members present; President Doenges, Aldermen Ettori, Franco, Savage, Barbagallo, Talbott, Tadio, Gillam, DePoy and Davis. Also present; Mayor Allaire, Attorney Bloomer and City Clerk Heck. Alderman Whitcomb was absent.

7:00 PM BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING
President Doenges called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (October 3, 2022)
A motion was made and seconded (Savage, Talbott) approving the minutes of the previous meeting. **Motion passed.**

OUTSIDE THE RAIL
Barbara Spaulding & Mentor Connector Haunted House.
Mrs. Spaulding spoke about the event Haunted House on Bellevue Ave. and stated because of COVID-19 the annual event had been postponed the last two years. Mrs. Spaulding noted the event is free, but they were excepting donations to be presented to the Mentor Connector organization.

Heather Briard of RRMC spoke about a youth coordinator position that will be funded by a grant dealing with Rutland youth and prevention in the near future.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR
Mayor Allaire spoke about the recent visit of the Speaker of the Vermont House and the discussions that happened at that meeting. Mayor Allaire noted it was positive and informative.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA
There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

President Doenges then sought to move the agenda to Reports of Select Committees. There were no objections. President Doenges then presented his Parking Committee report.

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES
President Doenges; Parking Committee, *Finalize Long Term Meter/APP/Kiosk Strategy, Winter Parking Ban - Available Options, Parking Rates & Fee Schedule - Update and Round 2 Review*

President Doenges noted the committee report from September 22, 2022. President Doenges noted several items to be discussed at that meeting and reported first on the winter parking ban. The committee and members of the public shared thoughts on the current Forest Street parking situation and how to address parking for this winter. The Committee moved to allow overnight parking during the winter from River St. to West St. for one year, (Pending consultation with the City Attorney) Alderman Ettori so moved that motion. Alderwoman Savage seconded. Debate.

President Doenges noted on the back page of his report were options for amending the ordinance and that one of those options would be used to amend the present motion. Attorney Bloomer reviewed those options and noted a unanimous vote would be needed to amend ordinance 5044 that evening. Debate followed. A motion was made and seconded (DePoy, Davis) to amend the motion with Option 1A. Debate. Attorney Bloomer noted that § 5044, All-night parking prohibited, subsection (b) would be amended as follows, No person owning, operating or controlling a motor vehicle shall park, or cause to be parked said motor vehicle on any street or highway within the City of Rutland from 12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. inclusive from December 1, through March 31inclusive; provided, however, that the foregoing restriction shall not apply to Forest Street from West Street to River Street, until after November 30, 2023. President Doenges noted that an amendment had been moved and seconded and there was no further debate. **Motion passed unanimously.** President Doenges then noted the original motion as amended and sought debate. President Doenges noted if there was no further debate, he would call for a vote. **Motion passed as amended.**

President Doenges moved on to the next item the committee discussed. President Doenges gave a quick update regarding Park Mobile and how the City would forward with the new parking application.

President Doenges moved on to kiosk terminals and how to deal with them as that technology was sun setting. The committee discussed the options available and will continue to discuss at their next Parking Committee meeting. There was no action requested.

Parking rates, the committee reviewed parking rates and the option of increasing parking tickets for non-compliance. This item will be discussed further at their next meeting. This concluded President Doenges report.

<u>REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS</u>

Lyle Jepson, *"CEDRR Requesting Regional Marketing Initiative Funding for 2023."*

Lyle Jepson and Olivia Lyons of CEDRR where present to request funds for the continued regional marketing initiative. Mr. Jepson first thanked the Board for their support with a pledge of $400,000 from ARPA funds so CEDRR could apply for a Grant to which they were awarded. Mr. Jepson then noted his request for $16,000 to continue the Regional Marketing Initiative. Mayor Allaire spoke of his support and Olivia Lyons spoke on the process and the need to continually market the region. A motion was made and e seconded (Davis, DePoy) suspending the rules and taking action on the request. **Motion passed.** Lengthy debated followed. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Savage) approving the request for $16,000 for the continued support of the Regional Marketing Initiative with funds to come from the Mayor's contingency funds. **Motion passed.**

Barbara Spaulding; *RRA Resolution – FY23 Municipal Resolution for Bylaw Modernization*

Barbara Spaulding was present requesting the President to sign the resolution in support of the Bylaw Resolution. A motion was made and seconded (Talbott, Davis) suspending the rules and taking action on the request. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Talbott, Davis) approving the President's Signature on the attached resolution for Bylaw Modernization. **Motion passed.**

Barbara Spaulding; *RRA Public Engagement Information – Reimagine Depot Park*

Barbara Spaulding introduced the request noting the Come Alive Outside Committee receiving the Better Placements Grant for the Re-imagine Depot Park project. A motion was made and seconded (Talbott, Davis) to refer the issue to the Community and Economic Development Committee. **Motion passed.**

Superintendent Peters; *Approval of Signature for RAHA*

Superintendent Peters was present to ask the Board to allow Mayor Allaire to sign the RARA contract. Superintendent Peters noted RARA request to lower their hours from 180 to 160. A motion was made and seconded (DePoy, Gillam) suspending the rules and taking action on the request. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (DePoy, Davis) to reduce hours needed from 180 to 160 and to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract. Alderman Barbagallo noted a time error on the hours requested by RAHA. **Motion passed.**

Treasurer Markowski; *Treasurers Update and Report Quarter 1 – FY23 for the City and RRA, With Referral to Finance Committee.*

Treasurer Markowski was present to review her highlights and stated how difficult the Mayor's job will be with the new fiscal year budget due within the next couple weeks. Treasurer Markowski spoke about keeping current budgets within line. Treasurer Markowski noted the Parking Meter deficit to which Alderwoman Davis requested moving retiree payments out of that fund. The issue will be further vetted during the budget process. Treasurer Markowski spoke of the opioid payment coming from the State. A motion was made and seconded (Ettori, Talbott) to refer the issue of opioid funds to the Finance Committee. **Motion passed.** Treasurer Markowski sought a motion to refer the quarterly report to the Finance Committee. This request was so moved and seconded (Gillam, Davis) **Motion passed.**

Treasurer Markowski; ***ARPA – Request for accounting for revenue replacement under the one-time standard allowance.***
Treasurer Markowski introduced the issue and just wanted to brief the Board on how she is working with the auditors on the best accounting practices for the ARPA one-time standard allowance. No action was requested and Treasurer Markowski noted she will be back to re-address the issue with the Board.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES
Alderman Whitcomb, Finance Committee, ***Local Option Tax discussion, Capital Improvement Fund Discussion, ARPA Funds Request - Police Department***
Alderwoman Davis read the Finance Committee report from October 5, 2022 dealing with the ARPA funds request from the Police Department, Capital Improvements and 1% Local Option Tax. Alderwoman Davis noted the first request from Chief Kilcullen to which the committee listened to several requests for ARPA funding. In total Chief Kilcullen was looking for $600,000 in projects.

The Committee then heard from Zoning & Building Administrator Andrew Strniste about capital improvements. Alderwoman Davis noted prior discussion on this item with the main issue on how those improvements would be funded. The committee took no formal action and the issue will remain in committee.

Alderwoman Davis then reported on the final issue of a local option tax and what it would look like if approved by voters. Treasurer Markowski presented numerous documents related to the request. The committee shared concerns and questions. The issue is to remain in committee with a future meeting being scheduled including interested stakeholders. This concluded the Finance Committee report.

Alderman Talbott, Community & Economic Development, ***Completed Center St Scoping Study, Motion Endorsing Preferred Study to be presented.***
Alderman Talbott read his committee report from September 27, 2022. Alderman Talbott noted the first item was a presentation of the scoping study for the redesign of Center St. by DuBois & King. Alderman Talbott explained the lengthy process ensuring feedback from the community and business owners were heard. Three designs were presented with a curb less one-way design gaining the most support.

October 11, 2022 C & ED Meeting.
Alderman Talbott read his committee report from October 11, 2022. The committee again discussed the Center Street Scoping Study and their agreement to support the one-way design as presented by the study. The committee moved to recommend the curbless on-way design to the full Board and he so moved. Alderwoman Davis seconded. **Motion passed.** Alderman Talbott then noted step two of the study, with planned upgrades to utilities a coordinated engineering study of infrastructure beneath the street would initiate further engineering consultants. ARPA funding requests of $500,000 sits currently within the Finance Committee and discussion of funding for the engineering study will happen at their next meeting.

Alderman Talbott, C & E D, ***College of St Joseph Housing Study Focus on West Campus.***
Alderman Talbott read his committee report from September 27, 2022. The committee then discussed the partially –completed housing study of the former College of St. Joseph campus. The committee noted with the potential sale of part of the complex how the study should proceed. Mary Cohen of the

Housing Trust was present to share her recommendation. The committee wanted to wait on making any recommendations until the committee had more information on the buyer.

October 11, 2022 C & ED Meeting.
Alderman Talbott updated the Board on the recent purchase of part of the CSJ complex. Mary Cohen was present noting the Casella Waste was the buyer. Ms. Cohen stated she plans to meet with Casella to discuss their vision of the campus and to share what the recent study had shown. There was debate within the Board about the continuation of the housing study and whether the study should continue.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES
There were no reports

PETITIONS, LETTERS, MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATION
There were no petitions, or miscellaneous communications. President Doenges did note a letter from David Searls about parking on green space. President Doenges noted the Clerk had included within the packet related ordinance information on this issue. President Doenges sought the Board desire on the issue. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Ettori) to receive and file. **Motion passed.**

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
Alderman Franco spoke of his tabled request and not to take up the RRA issue as the Executive Director had resigned. Alderman Franco noted he would not seek a motion and the issue is to die out, per the BOA Rules. Alderwoman Davis noted Alderman Franco spoke about new opportunities and she noted missed opportunities and spoke about the Committee of the Whole meeting held in October of 2022, as well as a recent meeting in June. Alderman Franco noted he looked forward to working with the RRA Board and the BOA. Mayor Allaire spoke about the issue noting his office is open always and he as well was looked forward to working with all boards. Mayor Allaire spoke of the unfortunate circumstances relating to Director Duff's resignation. Alderman Gillam shared his constituents concerns with this issue.

MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, NEW BUSINESS
There were no miscellaneous motions, resolutions or new business to come before the Board.

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Talbott) to adjourn. **Motion passed.**

The Board adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Henry A Heck
Rutland City Clerk