

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Aldermen Minutes
Monday, February 1, 2021

Members present; Interim-President Davis, Aldermen Gorruso, Humphrey, *Ryan, Etori, Talbott, Mattis, Gillam, Clifford and DePoy. President Whitcomb was absent. Alderwoman Ryan signed off at 7:34 PM. Also present; Mayor Allaire, Attorney Bloomer and City Clerk Heck

President Whitcomb noted earlier last week that he tested positive for COVID-19. After conferring with the City Attorney it was decided to poll the Board on a replacement just in case President Whitcomb became ill and could not chair the meeting.

Alderwoman Davis was confirmed and chaired the February 1, 2021 meeting.

7:00 PM BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING

Interim-Chair Davis called the meeting to order.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (January 19, 2021)

There were no minutes to approve as the Clerk had not finished them.

OUTSIDE THE RAIL

Mary Feldman of Madison Street spoke about the Board and their discussion on the January 6, 2021 incident at the Capitol in Washington DC. Ms. Feldman also noted a previously discussed issue of a confederate flag being flown on Madison Street. (Name?) Gentleman spoke on the same related issue on Madison Street and the incident in Washington.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Mayor Allaire had one item for the Board and shared his support for the BIAP recommendation coming to the Board that evening. Mayor Allaire noted that Healthy Design Ltd. Co. was moving into the space at 27 Wales Street, the former Herald building, for a start-up medical device company.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS

Brennan Duffy, RRA Director, RRA Board Recommendation BIAP Grant

Brennan Duffy, Director of the RRA introduced his Boards request for a \$5,000 BIAP Grant to help offset initial start –up cost of Healthy Design Ltd. Dr. Marie Pavini was available to brief the Board on items to be manufactured. Mr. Duffy asked the Board to approve the recommendation of awarding the \$5,000 BIAP Grant. A motion was made and seconded, (Gorruso, Talbott) suspending the rules and taking action on the request. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Gorruso, Gillam) approving the recommendation to Healthy Design Ltd. For the BIAP Grant in the amount of \$5,000. **Motion passed.**

Barbara Spaulding, RRA, VTrans Scoping Study for Center Street

Brennan Duffy briefed the Board on this request, noting that the City received a \$28,800 scoping study grant to advance the Center Street Project. Mr. Duffy noted a request authorizing the Mayor to sign the agreement on behalf of the City. Barbara Spaulding was available to answer any questions. A motion was made and seconded (Garruso, Gillam) suspending the rules and taking action on the request. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Garruso, Gillam) authorizing the Mayor to sign the scoping study agreement. **Motion passed.**

Tara Kelly; B&Z Administrator, City Owned Property Discussion & Time Extension Request

Tara Kelly was available to brief the Board on one of her requests. Z.A. Kelly noted the time extension request from Jon and Andrew Kiernan for 31 East Street. Z.A. Kelly reviewed the guidelines when city owned property is purchased and acknowledged that the City Owned Property Committee was in receipt of a request to extend the plan until June 2021 and recommended the Board approve. A motion was made and seconded (Garruso, Etori) suspending the rules and taking action on the request. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Garruso, Clifford) approving the request for 31 East Street to extend their project to June 2021 as presented by Z.A. Kelly. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Alderwoman Mattis; Charter & Ordinance

Alderwoman Mattis read her committee report on the continuation of the sign ordinance re-write. Alderwoman Mattis noted that this was a continuation and provided sign sizes and the need for enforcement to make this work. The committee discussed grandfather clauses and how the new guidelines would be implemented. Alderwoman Mattis noted that this report was for information only and her committee would continue their work on this item.

Alderman Ettori; Finance Committee

Alderman Ettori read his committee report on the 2nd Qtr. Treasurer's Report findings referred to his Finance Committee. Alderman Ettori reported on numerous items within the report and stated that COVID-19 had continued effects on the City finances, but not as severely projected. Alderman Ettori's report was for information and no action was sought.

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES

There were no select committee reports.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

There were no representative reports.

PETITIONS, LETTERS, MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATION

RAVE Car Show July 10th & 11th 2021

Chair Davis introduced the request and noted that this event was happening on private property and a special events permit was not required. Chair Davis noted the applicant, the RAVE Car Show and explained the event happening in July 2021. Alderman Garruso gave a brief history on the name of the Regional Ambulance Service. A motion was made and seconded to receive and file the RAVE Car Show permit. **Motion passed.**

BOARD OF CONTROL COMMISSIONERS

There were no items to come before the Board of Control 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.

With no other business to come before the Board, Chair Davis sought a motion to adjourn.

That request was so moved and seconded (Gorruso, Talbott). **Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,

Henry A Heck
Rutland City Clerk