

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Aldermen Minutes
Monday, April 2, 2018

Members present, President Davis, Aldermen Notte, Humphrey, Ryan, Etori, Tommola, Mattis, Cook, Clifford, DePoy and Whitcomb. Also present Mayor Allaire, Attorney Bloomer and City Clerk Heck.

7:00 PM BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING

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

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (March 19, 2017)

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

OUTSIDE THE RAIL

Mr. Freeman of Rutland Town spoke of needing a street sign on the corner of Library and Cleveland Avenue. A motion was made and seconded (DePoy, Clifford) referring the request to the DPW Commissioner. **Motion passed.**

Michel Messier spoke of 2 times the normal rates for water & sewer as the penalty for excessive use of water and spoke of various reasons for increased rates.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Request for Vacation Carry Over

Mayor Allaire asked the Board to allow him to carry over 8 days of un-used vacation time. Mayor Allaire noted that this request has been used by previous Department Heads in the past. A motion was made and seconded (DePoy, Clifford) to suspend the rules and take the request up that evening. There was brief debate with a motion to send the issue to the General Committee for further debate. President Davis asked if the referral was for all carry-over requests of Mayor Allaire's. Alderman Etori stated his request for referring vacation carry-over was for all requests. President Davis then asked the Board to vote on the Mayors' request. **Motion passed.** President Davis then noted Alderman Etori's request for referral. That motion was seconded by Alderman DePoy. **Motion passed.**

Mayor Allaire then presented the name of James Larson as the new fire chief. Mayor Allaire read a brief work history and noted resumes were available. Mayor Allaire noted that this appointment was for Fire Chief only and the position of Emergency Management Director at this time would be held by Interim Chief Lovett. Mr. Larson was introduced and spoke briefly about working with the fire department. A motion was made and seconded (DePoy, Etori) to table the nomination of James Larsen as fire chief.

Mayor Allaire then noted a recent article in the Rutland Herald on the potential resettlement of Puerto Ricans to the Rutland area. Mayor Allaire noted there is no city involvement or money from the city being used, this is a State initiative and at this time there is no plan to bring anyone to Rutland.

President Davis asked Mayor Allaire about the Fire Chief resume and his contract. A motion was made and seconded (Etori, Ryan) to refer the Fire Chief Contract to the Public Safety Committee. **Motion passed.**

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were two (2) requests for additions to the agenda. The first was Attorney Bloomer for vacation carry-over and Commissioner Wennberg asked to add the Contract Pond Study. Both requests were so moved and seconded (Whitcomb, DePoy). **Motion passed.**

REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS

Brennan Duffy; RRA Director, BIAP Funding Request

Director Duffy introduced the request and noted that the application from VNA & Hospice of the Southwest Region met the eligibility requirements for the BIAP program. A motion was made and seconded (DePoy, Whitcomb) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** Alderman Tommola recused himself from debate or voting on this issue. A motion was made and seconded (DePoy, Clifford) approving the BIAP Request of \$10,000. Debate. Alderman Etori moved to refer the issue to the Community and Economic Development Committee and described why. Alderman Ryan seconded. Debate. **Motion failed.** President Davis then called for a vote on the original motion to approve. **Motion passed.**

Commissioner Wennberg; Pond Study Update

Commissioner Wennberg introduced the request and introduced Roy Schiff of Milone and MacBroom who spoke on the combination and Piedmont Pond study. Mr. Schiff presented a map outlining proposed plans to drain the ponds two (2) feet and line with shrub and tree buffers to hope lower the

water temperature. Art Crowley and Mike Messier, two (2) neighbors at combination pond spoke on the issue. This information was just an update on the continuing work to meet the State mandates for those ponds.

Commissioner Wennberg; Request for Executive Session, Discuss Acquisition of Property

This request was moved to the end of the meeting.

Commissioner Wennberg; Request for Referral, Advanced Metering Infrastructure RFP

Commissioner Wennberg noted the continued discussion on the advanced metering system and asked for a referral to discuss the RFP request on moving forward with the project. A motion was made and seconded (Clifford, DePoy) referring the request to the Public Works Committee. **Motion passed.**

City Engineer Rotondo; Two (2) Resolutions of Support for 2019 Municipal Highway Grant Funding

Commissioner Wennberg spoke on the requests and noted that the request for resolutions was part of the application process due on the 15th of April. Commissioner Wennberg noted that even if the award was granted that did not mean the City would use the money awarded. Commissioner Wennberg noted that the City would have about four (4) years after the grant award to come up with the matching funds needed. So even though the City was applying for the grants, it did not obligate the City financially.

#1 Mill & Fill Paving Project on Strongs Avenue

#2 Remove & Replace Grove Street Bridge #24

A motion was made and seconded (DePoy, Clifford) suspending the rules and taking action on the request that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Ryan) to circulate both resolutions for signatures. **Motion passed.**

City Engineer Rotondo; Authorization to Contract for Professional Services

Commissioner Wennberg spoke on the request. The request did not require more money; it just asked to authorize the Mayor to sign the amended contract of the Water Distribution System Improvements Project (RF3-341). A motion was made and seconded (Clifford, Notte) to suspend the rules. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Clifford, Mattis) approving the request and authorizing the Mayor to sign. **Motion passed.**

City Engineer Rotondo; Authorize Amendment to Professional Services Contract

Commissioner Wennberg spoke on the request to contract for professional services. Commissioner Wennberg noted the need for a comprehensive inspection of the two (2) primary digesters at the WWTF. Commissioner Wennberg noted two (2) proposals were received and opened on February 28, 2018. Based on City Engineer Rotondo's score sheet Weston & Sampson received the best score and recommendation for the project. A motion was made and seconded (Clifford, DePoy) suspending the rules and taking action on the request. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Clifford, Whitcomb) approving the contract and authorizing the mayor to sign. **Motion passed.**

Commissioner Wennberg; Pond Study

Commissioner Wennberg asked to amend the consultant's contract to expand the scope of work to delineate the wetlands (which he knew would be needed from the start of the project) and some engineering investigations at the dam, which are needed before they can finalize the design. The additional scope is almost all sub-contractor work and will cost no more than \$35,000. Pending approval of a grant amendment it will cover 100% of the additional cost. Commissioner Wennberg checked with the state and they told him the work is eligible and we have over \$40,000 left in the account. A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Mattis) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Clifford) authorizing the amendment to the engineering services contract between the City and Milone and MacBroom to increase the Combination and Piedmont Ponds Study scope of work to include Wetland Delineation, Dam Breach Analysis and Geotechnical Analysis as described in the attached proposal of amendment, the cost of which is not to exceed \$35,000. This authorization is contingent upon approval of a Grant Agreement Amendment with the State of Vermont to cover the full cost of the additional work. **Motion passed.**

Attorney Bloomer; Request for Vacation Carry-Over

President Davis introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Ryan) suspending the rules and taking action on the request. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Clifford) approving the request to carry-over 20.25 hours of vacation time. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Alderman DePoy; Recreation

Alderman DePoy noted that his committee met earlier in the evening to discuss the request of Superintendent Peters about making one of the part-time admin jobs a regular fulltime position. Alderman DePoy noted that there would be no increase to the salary line for this FY2018 Budget. A motion out of committee was to support the part-time to full-time Programs and Office Admin position and Alderman DePoy so moved that motion to the full Board. Alderman Notte seconded. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES

There were no select committee reports.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

There were no representative reports.

PETITIONS, LETTERS, MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATION

SEP Request; Memorial Day Service, May 28th from 10 AM to Noon, West St. Cemetery

President Davis introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Ryan) suspending the rules and taking action on the request. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Ryan) approving the Special Events Permit request for the Memorial Day Service, May 28th at the West Street Cemetery from 10AM to noon. **Motion passed.**

SEP Request; Walk a Mile Rutland County, New Story Center, April 29 from 9 AM – 4 PM

President Davis introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Ryan) suspending the rules and taking action on the request. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Ryan) approving the Special Events Permit request for the Walk a Mile Rutland County, April 29th from 9AM – 4 PM pending proof of insurance and the hiring of the two (2) police officers. **Motion passed.**

SEP Request; Great Strides Rutland, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, May 19, 7 AM – 2 PM

President Davis introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Ryan) suspending the rules and taking action on the request. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Whitcomb) approving the Special Events Permit request for the Great Strides Rutland, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, May 19th from 7AM to 2PM at Pine Hill Park. **Motion passed.**

SEP Request; RAVE Car Show, Rutland Fair Grounds, July 14 & 15 from 9 AM – 3PM

President Davis introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Ryan) suspending the rules and taking action on the request. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Whitcomb) approving the Special Events Permit request for the RAVE Car Show at the Rutland Fair Grounds on July 14th & 15th from 9 until 3PM. **Motion passed.**

Annual Rutland Downtown Farmers' Market Application, Saturdays and Wednesdays

President Davis introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Ryan) suspending the rules and taking action on the request. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Ryan) approving the request of the Downtown Farmer's Market in Depot Park and setting their fee at \$500. **Motion passed.**

BOARD OF CONTROL COMMISSIONERS

There were no items to come under the Board of Control Commissioners.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to come before the Board of Alderman.

MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Ettori asked to refer the issue of the area robotics club to the Marketing Committee. Alderman Whitcomb seconded. **Motion passed.**

Alderman Cook then asked for a point of personal privilege to announce his resignation from the Board of Alderman. Alderman Cook read a prepared statement and asked to speak on the refugee resettlement issue. Alderman Cook read his statement and thanked everyone who helped or assisted him in the last year.

President Davis thanked Alderman Cook for his service and noted the Board had an executive session and sought language from Attorney Bloomer.

Attorney Bloomer noted only one motion was necessary and stated a motion was needed to enter into executive session, including the Mayor, DPW Commissioner and City Attorney, to discuss the negotiation of a real estate purchase, as allowed under Title 1, section 313(a)(2). This language was so moved and seconded (Ryan, Mattis). **Motion passed.**

At 8:32 PM the Board moved into executive session.

At 8:44 PM a motion was made and seconded (Ryan, Mattis) to come out of executive session. **Motion passed.**

A motion was made and seconded (Cook, Ryan) to adjourn. **Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,
Henry A Heck
Rutland City Clerk