

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Aldermen Minutes
Monday, October 15, 2018

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

7:00 PM BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING

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

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (October 1, 2018)

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

OUTSIDE THE RAIL

No one spoke from outside the rail.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

RFP Request; City Furnace Servicing

Mayor Allaire explained the need for the RFP noting that the City needed to retain the services of a heating technician. A motion was made and seconded (DePoy, Gillam) suspending the rules and taking action on the request that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was so moved and seconded (Clifford, Gillam) to the language provided by President Davis, stating we would need a motion approving the RFP for seeking City Furnace Services.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

Attorney Bloomer asked to add an Executive Session regarding negotiation of a contract. The request was so moved and seconded, (DePoy, Etori). **Motion passed.**

REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS

Tara Kelly; Planning Director & ZA, City Owned Properties Committee Recommendation

Planning Director Kelly was present to introduce the request, noting that this was the last of the city owned properties and sought Board approval to accept the offer from Boniface Kadima-Mazela in the amount of \$1,000 for the parcel at 114 South Street. There was brief debate. A motion was made and seconded (Mattis, Ryan) suspending the rules and taking action on the request that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Mattis, Gillam) authorizing the sale of 114 South Street to Mr. Boniface Kadima-Mazela in the amount of \$1,000, pursuant to 6-2 of the Rutland City Charter and to further authorize the Mayor to sign all sale related documents. **Motion passed.** There was brief discussion on the issue after the motion passed.

Treasurer Markowski, QTRly Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Markowski was present to review her report on the status of the City after the first quarter. Alderman Etori complemented her for the single page breakdown highlighted by bullet points, noting how much easier it was to digest the information. Upon the completion of the report, a motion was so moved and seconded (Etori, Gillam) to receive and file. **Motion passed.**

Susan Schreibman; Creek Path, Segment 4

Request BOA Authorize Mayor to Sign JTC Construction Inspector Contract.

Susan Schreibman introduced the request, noting that this was for segment 4 of the creek path. Ms. Schreibman also noted that this project had both Federal and State funding and as such, there needed to be an on sight inspector, thus the request authorizing the mayor to sign the contract. A motion was made and seconded (Gillam, DePoy) suspending the rules and taking action on the request that evening. A motion was so moved and seconded (Gillam, DePoy) based on the language presented by President Davis, to authorize the Mayor to sign the JTC construction inspector contract. **Motion passed.** Ms. Schreibman then spoke on her next request.

Authorize Mayor to sign Low Bidder Project Construction Contract

Susan Schreibman then noted that there were three (3) bids received and opened at the Board of Finance. Those bids are being reviewed by the project engineer and then will be forwarded on to VTRANS for their approval and then back to the City. Ms. Schreibman was looking to have the Board approve her request allowing the Mayor to sign the low bidder construction contract as soon as VTRANS has signed off as the Board of Aldermen will not meet until Early November and she was hoping that the project could be started before then.

President Davis noted a motion to suspend the rules if the Board desired would be in order. That request was so moved and seconded (DePoy, Gillam). **Motion passed.** Alderman DePoy was unsure of the motion based on the request. Debate on that motion continued until President Davis noted a motion authorizing

the Mayor to sign the approved low bidder meeting the federal specs and reviewed by the City Attorney and VTRANS. **Motion passed.**

Rec Superintendent Kim Peters; Authorize Mayor to Sign RAHA Ice Rental Contract

Superintendent Peters was present to introduce her request noting the contract with RAHA was very similar as in the past the only notable difference was the amount of hours needed. Superintendent Peters noted a \$10 per hour increase in the contract for ice time. There was a debate as to which direction Superintendent Peters wanted to proceed, per a referral or authorizing the Mayor to Sign. Superintendent Peters noted a time element and so a motion was made and seconded (Gillam, Clifford) suspending the rules and taking action on the request that evening. **Motion passed.** President Davis then stated a motion would be to authorize the mayor to sign the RAHA ice rental contract per review (by City Attorney) of the contract. **Motion passed.**

Attorney Bloomers added request, Executive Session regarding negotiation of a contract

President Davis asked per past practice for a motion to move the request to the end of the agenda. The request was so moved and seconded (Whitcomb, Gillam). **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Alderwoman Humphrey; Community & Economic Development

Alderwoman Humphrey was absent, so Alderman Whitcomb read the report. Alderman Whitcomb noted the committee met on Tuesday, October 9, 2018 to discuss a new RRA contract. Mayor Allaire along with RRA director Brennan Duffy were present to review the new proposed contract. It was noted that the new contract was very similar except for a 4% annual increase over the next 5 years. There was some debate as to the 4% increase. Mayor Allaire noted that the RRA will run with a negative budget amount and stated that increase is needed to keep their budget in the black. Mayor Allaire also noted that there is a three year look back to make sure everything is in line. Alderman Whitcomb noted a motion out of committee recommending to the full board, authorizing the Mayor to sign the RRA contract as provided with additional language to section 1.b) 2)"Including ongoing collaboration with the Downtown Rutland Partnership" and he so moved. Debate followed with Alderman Etori specifically expressing his concerns on the housing part of the language. After several minutes of discussion, President Davis called the motion. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES

Alderman Etori; Marketing Committee

Alderman Etori read his committee report from October 10, 2018. The Marketing Committee met to discuss the state of the College of St. Joseph (CSJ). Jennifer Scott, President of the college was present to provide information and answer all questions presented. Both parties discussed the importance each other provided and needed to be successful. President Scott also invited the city to help CSJ by writing a letter to the regional accrediting body NECHE describing the importance of CSJ to the community of Rutland. Alderman Etori had a copy of that letter for the board and moved to authorize the Mayor and Board President sign it. Alderman Gillam noted a motion to suspend was need first. Alderman DePoy seconded that motion. **Motion passed.** Alderman Etori then stated his motion authorizing the Mayor and Board President to sign the letter. Alderwoman Ryan seconded. There was brief discussion with President Davis noting bullet points from that letter. President Scott addressed the Board and thanked everyone for their support. President Scott noted the financial setback and presented a plan that would allow the college to be sustainable. Upon President Scott addressing the Board, President Davis called for the vote. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

There were no representative 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 requests 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

Alderwoman Ryan noted she and Alderman Whitcomb were present at the Police Commission meeting where three (3) new police officers were sworn in.

With no other business before the Board, President Davis sought language from Attorney Bloomer to enter executive session.

Attorney Bloomer sought a motion to find that premature general public knowledge regarding the negotiation of a contract would clearly place the City at a substantial disadvantage because the discussion will divulge the Mayor and Board's stance on the items to be negotiated and will include confidential attorney-client communications made for the purpose of providing professional legal services to the City. Alderman Notte so moved and Alderman Whitcomb seconded. **Motion passed.**

Attorney Bloomer then asked for a motion to enter into executive session including the City Attorney, Mayor and Fire Chief Larsen, to discuss the negotiation of a contract as allowed under Title 1, Section 313. Alderman Notte so moved and Alderwoman Mattis seconded. **Motion passed.**

The Board, Mayor, Attorney and Fire Chief entered executive session at 8:00 PM.

At 8:17 PM a motion was made and seconded (Notte, Mattis) to come out of executive session. **Motion passed.**

Attorney Bloomer sought language authorizing the Mayor to sign the employment separation agreement [as presented] to be held in escrow pending approval by the Department of Labor of a separate workers compensation settlement with PACIF. Alderwoman Ryan so moved and Alderman DePoy seconded. There was no debate. **Motion passed.**

At 8:18 a motion was made and seconded (DePoy, Ryan) to adjourn. **Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,

Henry A Heck
Rutland City Clerk