

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Aldermen Minutes
Monday, September 18, 2017

Members present; President Davis, Aldermen Ryan, Etti, Tommola, Mattis, Cook, Larson, DePoy and Donahue. Also present, Mayor Allaire, Attorney Bloomer and Deputy Clerk Kapusta. Absent: Notte.

7:00 PM BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING

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

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (September 5, 2017)

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

Alderman Etti asked for a correction changing Northwest neighborhood to Southwest neighborhood under miscellaneous motions, resolutions, and new business. A motion was made and seconded (Etti, Tommola) accepting the change. **Motion passed.**

Alderman Larson asked for a grammatical correction under miscellaneous motions, resolutions, and new business.

OUTSIDE THE RAIL

Commissioner Wennberg gave some updates on projects in the city. Killington Avenue between Butterfly Avenue and Ronaldo Court is closed today and will be closed for about three weeks. A new culvert will be installed over the next three weeks.

There are two locations on West Street; one at the top of the hill near Main Street, the other down near Merchants Row. A location on Washington Street right outside City Hall and another location where there will be a number of excavations going on for the next couple of days. Insertion valves are being installed on 1879 and 1893 water mains which can be installed without turning the water off. The cost is about \$75,000 for those four locations and will give the city control of downtown water mains.

The project to upgrade Meadow Street will be delayed until 2018. The city will pay for and do an estimated \$50,000 of paving work on South Main Street this fall to get about half a mile of the highway ready for the winter. A "shim" will cover the road to keep it usable for winter. The road was looked at by Commissioner Wennberg and other city officials who agreed that the road needed some work to make it through the winter. South Main Street is a state road, but the state has not given a satisfactory response that they would take prompt action to fix the road.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

None.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

First three Red Pine timber sales. So moved (DePoy, Etti). **Motion Passed.**

REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS

Brennan Duffy; Director RRA, Request BOA Approve BIAP Grant

A motion was made to suspend the rules and take the issue up tonight. (DePoy, Mattis) **Motion Passed.**

The RRA board has reviewed an application for BIAP funding from Juice Amour. Applicant Katie Churchill is opening a retail store on 29 Center Street. The new business will be an organic juice and smoothie bar and will employ two full time employees initially, with potential for additional part time workers in the future. Juice Amour has signed a multi-year lease at the location and is currently in the final stages of fit-up. The new store is planning to open for business in early October. Applicant is requesting a \$5,000 grant from the BIAP program to help offset some of the initial fit-up and equipment costs. The RRA recommends to the BOA the approval of the \$5,000 BIAP Grant. So moved (Mattis, DePoy). **Motion Passed.**

Superintendent Wight; Request to Sell City Property

A motion was made to suspend the rules and take the issue up tonight. (Larson, DePoy) **Motion Passed.** The Recreation and Parks Department would like permission to sell three vehicles. The money from the sale of the vehicles is placed back into the Equipment Replacement Fund. Local salvage yards will be called for quotes and also over a two week period of time sealed bids from the public. The items will also be posted on Craig's list. So moved (Larson, Etti). **Motion Passed.**

Superintendent Wight also took a moment to thank the citizens of Rutland for allowing her to serve them these past few years.

Zoning Administrator Kelly; Request to Roll-Over Vacation Time.

A motion was made to suspend the rules and take the issue up tonight. (Mattis, Ryan) **Motion Passed.** Zoning Administrator Kelly requested to roll-over 23.75 hours of vacation time that she was unable to take because summer is a busy time in the Building and Zoning Department. After a brief discussion a motion was made to reinstate 23.75 hours of vacation to be used by the next anniversary date. So moved (Mattis, DePoy) **Motion Passed.**

Zoning Administrator Kelly; City Owned Property "Decision Tree" Discussion

The Decision Tree adopted by BOA July 17, 2017 initially had 3 options. After further review it was determined that it would be better to combine Option #2 and Option #3. The request is to amend the decision tree to reflect this change. A motion was made to suspend the rules and take the issue up tonight. (Ettori, Ryan) **Motion Passed.** A motion to accept the change, so moved (Ettori, Mattis). **Motion Passed.**

Matt Bloomer; City Attorney, Request Executive session

Moved to the end of the meeting.

Barbara Spaulding; RRA, Rutland Creek Path Segments 4 & 5

A motion was made to receive and file the notice of public meeting for an update on Segments 4 & 5 of the Rutland Creek Path. (Larson, DePoy) **Motion Passed.**

Commissioner Wennberg First three Red Pine Timber Sales

The BOA previously authorized the Department to solicit bids for the harvest and sale of Red Pine from the first three stands in the City forest – Compartment 3, Beaver meadow and City Camp. There were seven bidders. Catamount Forest Products, Inc., located in Groton, VT, was the high bidder for all three stands, and all bid amounts exceeded the minimum bid required by the Department. A motion was made to suspend the rules and take the issue up tonight. (Larson, Ettori) **Motion Passed.** A motion was made to accept the following bids by Catamount Forest Products, Inc.:

Compartment 3 with a bid price of \$34,293.00

Beaver Meadow with a bid price of \$35,055.00

City Camp with a bid price of \$38,156.00

For a total bid award of \$107,504.00. (Larson, Ettori) **Motion Passed.**

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Alderman Tommola; General Committee

Alderman Tommola read his committee report for the first agenda item and stated a 2-1 motion was passed to bring Alderman Mattis' motion to the Board for its full consideration. The motion was made for the BOA to request the City Attorney to create an amendment to the Rules and Order of Business of the BOA to prohibit all shadow communications as defined by the State of Vermont in 1 VSA Section 313, including electronic communications, during all sessions of the Board. So moved (Tommola, Mattis). **Motion Passed.**

Alderman Tommola read his committee report for the second agenda item, Coin Drops. A motion was made to accept Coin Drops up until October 14th of each year. (Tommola, DePoy) **Motion Passed.**

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES

There were no select committee reports to come before the Board.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

Alderman Mattis reported that the Planning Commission met September 13, 2017 and have been working on a proposed sign ordinance. The purpose of revising the 1996 ordinance, with the latest amendments added in 2014, is to control existing and proposed signs, for relaying information and creating a more attractive business environment, while promoting public safety and welfare. Alderman Mattis would like to move that the issue of the proposed sign ordinance be brought to the Community and Economic Development Committee so that the Planning Commission can make their presentations. (Mattis, Ettori) **Motion Passed.**

Joe Tilden, Representative to Marble Valley Regional Transit Center provided the following statistics for riders of the Bus:

July fixed routes within the city was 21,589 and outside the city was 8,915. August fixed routes within the city was 24,743 and outside the city was 10,503. These statistics do not include the para-transit bus.

Ken Putnam will become the new executive director of the transit center in December.

The biggest event that the transit center will be facing is the World Cup over Thanksgiving weekend. Killington is anticipating 65,000 to 70,000 people that weekend. There will be 20 buses in service that weekend.

PETITIONS, LETTERS, MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATION

SEP Request; 2nd Annual Kenya Run for HEAL, October 15, 2017 from 1-3PM

President Davis introduced the request. A motion to suspend the rules and take the issue up tonight. (Larson, DePoy) **Motion Passed.** Alderman Mattis moved to approve the 2nd Annual Kenya Run for HEAL, October 15, 2017 from 1-3PM. (Mattis, Ryan) **Motion Passed.**

SEP Request; Rutland Halloween Parade, October 28, 2017

President Davis introduced the request. A motion was made to suspend the rules and take the issue up tonight. (DePoy, Larson) **Motion Passed.** Alderman DePoy moved to approve the Rutland Halloween Parade, October 28, 2017. (DePoy, Larson) **Motion Passed.**

BOARD OF CONTROL COMMISSIONERS

There were no request for the Board of control commissioners.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was none.

MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, NEW BUSINESS

It has come to Alderman Donahue's attention over the past few weeks that there are programs in the City of Rutland that people don't know about. For instance the City's tax stabilization program. Brennan Duffy states that people can go to the City Website and download the information, but if people don't know it exists, how are they going to know to go to the website. Alderman Donahue made a motion to send this to the Marketing Committee to help get the word out. (Donahue, DePoy) **Motion Passed.**

Alderman Mattis directed her comment to Attorney Bloomer regarding the upcoming Human Resources meeting. At the meeting the employee handbook will be addressed and she would like to see that the issue of vacation carry-over be brought up.

Alderman Larson spoke with Chief Lovett about a month and a half ago about the police ford interceptors, cruisers that have had carbon monoxide problems nationwide. Then he spoke with Chief Kilcullen about what the city could do in terms of keeping our officers safe from passing out from the carbon monoxide fumes in the police interceptor ford explorers. The police department has been installing the carbon monoxide detectors to protect their officers.

EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUEST

Attorney Bloomer; 2 part motion:

1. Motion to find that premature general public knowledge regarding the negotiation of a fire contract would clearly place the City at a substantial disadvantage because the discussion will divulge the City stance on the items to be negotiated.

So moved (Ettori, Ryan). **Motion Passed.**

2. Motion to enter into executive session (with the inclusion of the Mayor Fire Chief and City Attorney) to discuss the negotiation of a fire contract as allowed under Title 1, Section 313 (a)(1)(A).

So moved (Ettori, Ryan). **Motion Passed.**

At 8:17 PM the Board moved into Executive Session.

At 8:27 PM a motion was made and seconded (Mattis, Larson) to come out of executive session. **Motion Passed.**

Motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Fire Protection Contract with Mendon as presented. (Ettori, Ryan) **Motion Passed.**

Motion to meet with the State delegation prior to January to discuss city issues and concerns. (DePoy, Ettori) **Motion Passed.**

At 8:37 PM a motion was made and seconded (DePoy, Mattis) to Adjourn. **Motion Passed.**

Respectfully submitted,
Tracy L. Kapusta
Rutland City Deputy Clerk