

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Aldermen Minutes
Monday, May 18, 2015

Board members present; President Notte, Aldermen Allaire, Humphrey, Skates, Ettori, Siliski, Donahue, Larson, Bloomer, and Davis. Also present, Mayor Louras, Attorney Romeo, and City Clerk Heck. Alderman DePoy was absent.

President Notte called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (May 4, 2015)

A motion was made and seconded (Allaire, Skates) to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. **Motion passed.**

OUTSIDE THE RAIL

Clay Gilbert was present to speak on an issue later in the agenda. President Notte explained the Boards procedures on speaking outside the rail.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Mayoral Appointments

Mayor Louras asked the Board to table his list of appointments and to expect another list soon. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Allaire) to table the nominations. **Motions passed.** Alderman Bloomer then moved to have the process of the Mayor's appointments sent to the Charter and Ordinance Committee. This motion was seconded by Alderman Davis. **Motion passed.**

Transfer Sick Time

Mayor Louras then asked the Board to approve a request for the transfer of sick time for Tyson Barlow. The Mayor noted the past practice of such request and sought to have the Board suspend the rules and approve the transfer of 312 hours. A motion was made and seconded (Larson, Davis) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Larson, Davis) approving the transfer of the 312 hours. **Motion passed.**

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

Alderman Allaire wanted to add a short report of the MVRTD as he was the representative. Alderman Allaire so moved his request. It was seconded by Alderman Bloomer. **Motion passed.**

Board President Notte then noted the request from Clay Gilbert on his request for a Special Events Permit for Rutland Recovery Celebration and asked the Board to take the issue up now.

S.E.P. Request; Rutland Recovery Celebration, July 11, 2015, NOON – 6PM

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Larson) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Larson) approving the request for Rutland Recovery Celebration, for July 11, 2015 from noon to 6PM for a block party recovery celebration on Granger St. between 1st St. and South St. Mr. Gilbert spoke on the event and invited all to attend. **Motion passed.**

President Notte moved back to the agenda schedule.

REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS

Treasurer Wilton; April Treasurer's Report

Treasurer reviewed her April report and stated she expected that budgeted Revenue and Expense were on target for year end. The Treasurer noted that the Sewer Fund was still cash negative. The Treasurer noted a potential Finance Committee referral on how to set the tax rate and wanted to wait until the May's Treasurer Report was presented before any tax rate discussion. Her report was for information only and welcomed any questions or comments.

James Rotondo; City Engineer, Request to Appoint Authorized Representative for NWNSSP

City Engineer Rotondo introduced his request as a housekeeping request to satisfy the State guidelines and to ask the Board to add him as the City "Authorized Representative" for the NWNSSP as Evan Pilachowski was listed and had since left the City. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Larson) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Larson) to circulate for signatures for the appointment of the authorized representative, naming James A. Rotondo, P.E. City Engineer. **Motion passed.**

Barbara Spaulding; RRA, Downtown Capitol Plan & Budget Approval

Mrs. Spaulding asked in light of the earlier public hearing and of the comments made and received that the Board approve the Downtown Capital Plan and Budget as presented. A motion was made and seconded (Allaire, Davis) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Allaire, Davis) approving the Downtown Capital Plan & Budget as presented. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Tom DePoy; Chair Public Works Committee

Alderman DePoy was absent and the President moved on to the next committee report.

Chris Siliski; Chair, Finance Committee

Alderman Siliski read his committee report from May 7th and noted his committee reviewed the 2014 FY Audit. The report detailed seven (7) "bullet points" from the high praise the auditor bestowed for the last seven (7) years of accomplishments to Pension & Sewer Fund concerns. Alderman Siliski's report was for information only.

David Allaire; Chair, Charter & Ordinance Committee

Alderman Allaire read his committee report from May 11, 2015. The committee met to discuss the issue of a possible smoking ban at multi-family apartment units. Mr. William Jalbert presented the request and sought relief from landlords not enforcing their regulations for non-smoking units. The committee was split on their desired action and decided on a multiple approach of reaching out to the Vt. Rental Property Owners Association and to also look at presenting new ordinance language that would coincide with State Statue and be enforceable. The issue is to remain in committee. No action was sought and the report was for information only.

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES

Matt Bloomer; Chair, HR Committee

Alderman Bloomer read his committee report from May 13, 2015. The report was a continuation of the previous meetings and specifically the benefits section of the handbook. Jody Breault, HR Manager distributed copies of her proposal on various insurances, retirement benefits and assistance programs available to employees. Prior to the meeting ending the issue of exempt and non-exempt employees was discussed. That topic is not part of the handbook and will be looked at as soon as Ms. Breault has all department heads job descriptions. The report was for information only and will be continued on June 8th.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

Alderman Allaire had a brief report from the MVRTD on their proposed 2016 FY budget. There was a brief discussion with the lease at the Transit Center as well. The report was for information only.

PETITIONS, LETTERS, MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATION

S.E.P. Request; Down Right Special Buddy Walk, October 3, 2015 8AM – 3PM

Board President Notte read the request and sought the Boards action. A motion was made and seconded (Allaire, Larson) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Allaire, Larson) approving the request for Down Right Special Buddy Walk on October 3, 2015 from 8 AM to 3 PM in Main St. Park. **Motion passed.**

S.E.P. Request; 30th Annual Crowley Brothers Road Race, Sunday, 6-14-2015, 5AM – NOON

Board President Notte read the request and sought the Boards action. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Larson) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Larson) approving the request "as stated by the chair". **Motion passed.**

Use of Sidewalks Request; Brix Wine Bar, 118 Merchants Row

There was brief discussion on a rules suspension as the issue was discussed at the last meeting when an outside (Alcohol) consumption permit was approved. The City Attorney stated a rules suspension was in order. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Larson) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Donahue) authorizing the Clerk to sign. The Clerk advised an amendment was needed to include a proof of insurance. Alderman Davis so moved and Alderman Donahue seconded. **Motion passed.**

BOARD OF TAX ABATEMENT

There were no tax abatements to come before the Board.

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Donahue) to move into the Board of Control Commissioners. **Motion passed.**

BOARD OF CONTROL COMMISSIONERS

Outside Consumption Request; Vermont Tap House, Authorize Clerk to Sign

Board President Notte read the request. Alderman Davis so moved and Alderman Allaire seconded. The President stated that the motion was to authorize the Clerk to sign the outside consumption request for VT. Tap House. **Motion passed.**

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Allaire) to move out of the Board of Control Commissioners. **Motion passed.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Board President Notte spoke very briefly on the Public Works Committee report on the agenda and noted the absence of Alderman DePoy and the lack of minutes that another committee member could have presented. President Notte stated that the report would be reported out at the next BOA meeting.

Alderman Larson spoke on parking meter issues from 2010 that still have not been restored, specifically Church St. by Longfellow School. Alderman Davis noted that there was an even bigger picture with parking that needs discussion. A motion was made and seconded (Larson, Davis) to refer the Church St parking meters issue to the Public Works Committee. **Motion passed.**

MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, NEW BUSINESS

There were no issues to come before the Miscellaneous Motions, Resolutions or New Business portion of the agenda.

At 7:46 PM a motion was made and seconded (Davis, Allaire) to adjourn. **Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,

Henry A. Heck
Rutland City Clerk