

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Aldermen Minutes
Monday, May 4, 2015

Members present; Board President Notte, Alderman Allaire, Humphrey, Skates, Etori, Siliski, Donahue, Larson, Bloomer, and Davis. Also present, Mayor Louras, Attorney Romeo and City Clerk Heck. Alderman DePoy arrived at 8:05 PM.

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

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (April 20 , 2015)

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

OUTSIDE THE RAIL

Terry Franzoni from the Wonder Feet Museum thanked everyone for attending their grand opening and wanted to share the annual pig roast was happening on Tuesday, May 5, 2015 and she thanked all of the merchants participating.

Pamela O'Connor of CCV spoke of an art event to be held at the college on Friday, May 8, 2015 and invited everyone to attend.

John Ryan a resident of the Bardwell House spoke on the continued issue of crossing safety outside of the Bardwell House. Alderman Larson noted Chief Covell's concern and stated the City was looking at the issue.

Mayor Louras spoke on the R.I.S.E. group attending the meeting. The students introduced themselves and Tim Wigmore informed the Board about the 30th anniversary of Hanimaki City and the City of Rutland. Mr. Wigmore noted the special anniversary and noted the City's plans happening on Columbus Day weekend.

A gentleman by the name of John also of the Bardwell House spoke on the same crossing concerns. Alderman Larson restated what Chief Covell was working to rectify the situation. Commissioner Wennberg then spoke of the recent Traffic Safety meeting and their plans to help resolve the safety concerns.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Untable Mayoral Appointment; Fire Chief

Board President Notte noted the issue at hand and sought the Boards direction. Alderman Allaire stated that several members of the Board were concerned about the nomination and sought to have a discussion in executive session. The President noted the request and stated that the request could be added under the additions and deletions portion of the agenda. The Mayor stated that he had nothing else for the Board. The Board President then moved on with the agenda.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

The President noted the request from Alderman Allaire. Alderman Allaire stated a motion to add the aforementioned item to the agenda regarding the nomination of a fire chief but to also move that request to the end of the meeting for a possible executive session. The motion was seconded by Alderman Davis. There was brief debate as the Mayor noted several people who were attending to support the nomination of James Miles and asked if they should wait to be included in the discussion. Alderman Davis thought the executive session would be similar to the last, which was the Board and the Mayor. Alderman Etori sought information on how the people present would get to speak. Board President Notte noted that they could speak after the untabling and before the executive session. Seeing no other debate the motion was called. **Motion passed.**

Board President Notte noted that the next item on the agenda was under Reports and Letter from Department Heads and Officials. The President did note one item under unfinished business and decided to move that issue up in the agenda.

Untable Coin Drop, Vt. Volunteer Services for Animals Sept.5, 2015, 10-2PM

Board President Notte stated that the Board would need to untable the issue before taking any action. The request was so moved and seconded (Allaire, Davis). **Motion passed.** Rosita Desjardin spoke for the Vermont Volunteer Services for Animals and spoke on the history of this group and how they serve the City. There was a good deal of discussion between this group and the Board. President Notte restated the untabled request and sought the Boards action. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Larson) to approve the request. There was no debate. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS

Barbara Spaulding; Grant Agreement #DTF-2015-03, Authorize the Mayor to Sign

Board President Notte read the request and sought the Boards action. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Etori) to authorize the Mayor to sign the grant agreement offered by the Downtown Transportation Fund for the Pedestrian Gateway Improvement Project. There was no debate. **Motion passed.**

Treasurer Wilton; Bond Anticipation Note

Treasurer Wilton introduced the request for the Bond Anticipation Note. The Treasurer sought the Boards authorization for her to sign as well as to circulate for Board signatures. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Allaire) to suspend the rules and take the issue up. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Allaire) to circulate the Bond Anticipation Note. The President also asked for authorization for the Treasurer's signature. Alderman Davis moved to authorize the Treasurer to sign. There was no debate. **Motion passed.**

Nate Stansberry; Associate City Engineer, MS4 Minimum Measure Agreements

Board President Notte introduced the request and sought information from Commissioner Wennberg, who explained the referral request to the Board. A motion was made and seconded (Allaire, Siliski) to refer the request to the DPW Committee. There was no debate **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Gary Donahue; Chair, General Committee

Alderman Donahue read his committee report and noted the committee met to discuss a new computerized payroll/timekeeping system. A motion out of committee was to authorize the Mayor to go out for an RFP for a Timekeeping/Payroll System, and Alderman Donahue so moved. Alderman Davis seconded. There was no debate. **Motion passed.**

Chris Siliski; Chair, Finance Committee

Alderman Siliski read his committee report from April 27th. The report noted the committee met to discuss the Qtr. 3 Treasurer Report. The Transit Center was a great deal of the discussion. Alderman Siliski noted that there was no action requested and the committee will continue to hold Quarterly report meetings. His report was for information only.

Matt Bloomer; Chair, HR Committee

Alderman Bloomer read his committee report from April 28th. The report noted the committee met on the continued issue of a re-write of the Non-Union Handbook with this discussion focusing on benefits. The main focus of the discussion revolved around medical coverages. The committee agreed to their next meeting and no action was sought.

Melinda Humphrey; Chair, Recreation Committee

Alderman Humphrey read her committee report from April 23rd. Her committee had two issues to discuss. Pool Planning Professional Services Needed, and Dog Park Update. Alderman Humphrey noted that there were two consensus, with the Recreation Department focusing on an outdoor facility at the White's location and the RRA focusing on an indoor aquatic facility and rec center in a downtown location. No action was sought and the report was for information only. The next issue of a dog park located at Pine Hill Park was discussed. There was no action sought on this issue and this report was for information only.

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES

There were no reports from Select Committees.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

Dave Allaire; Transportation Council

Alderman Allaire, the representative to the Transportation Council gave a brief report on the continued Route 7 update project. His report was for information only.

PETITIONS, LETTERS, MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATION

S.E.P. Request; Walk MS of Rutland, Sat. May 16th 9AM – 3PM

Board President Notte introduced the Special Events Permit Request. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Allaire) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.**

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Allaire) approving the Walk MS of Rutland 2015 for Saturday, May 16th from 9AM – 3PM. **Motion passed.**

S.E.P. Request; Mother's Day 5K Run Walk & Stroller Run, Sat. May 9th 8-11:30AM

Board President Notte introduced the Special Events Permit Request. 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, Donahue) approving the Mother's Day 5K Run, Walk, & Stroller Run, for Saturday, May 9th from 8 – 11:30 AM. **Motion passed.**

S.E.P. Request; Memorial Day Service, Monday, May 25, 10-Noon, West St. Cemetery

Board President Notte introduced the Special Events Permit Request. 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, Donahue) approving the Special Events Permit for the Memorial Day Service, Monday, May 25th, from 10 AM – Noon at the West St. Cemetery. **Motion passed.**

S.E.P. Request; Cystic Fibrosis, Great Strides Rutland Walk-a-thon, Sat. May 16th 7AM-2PM

Board President Notte introduced the Special Events Permit Request. A motion was made and seconded (Ettori, Davis) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Ettori, Davis) approving the Great Strides Rutland Walk for Cystic Fibrosis on May 16th, from 7AM – 2PM, in Pine Hill Park. **Motion passed.**

Alderman DePoy arrives, 8:05 PM

S.E.P. Request; BROCS 50th Birthday Bash, May 27th 4:30-7PM

Board President Notte introduced the Special Events Permit Request. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Allaire) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Allaire) approving BROCS 50th Birthday Bash, May 27th from 4:30 – 7PM at the Union St. parking lot. **Motion passed.**

BOARD OF TAX ABATEMENT

No request came before the Board of Tax Abatement.

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

BOARD OF CONTROL COMMISSIONERS

First Class Liquor Request; Steve Sawyer, Brix Wine Bar

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Donahue) to circulate the First Class Application for signatures. There was brief debate from Alderman Larson that was clarified by Attorney Romeo. **Motion passed.**

Outside Consumption Request; Brix Wine Bar

Board President Notte introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Allaire) authorizing the Clerk to sign, pending the receipt of a use of sidewalk application. **Motion passed.**

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Alderman Allaire reintroduced the issue of a shelter for the rail car that was donated to the City a couple years ago. The Alderman stated the issue needs to be revisited and sought a motion to refer it to the Community & Economic Development Committee. Alderman Davis seconded, **motion passed.**

MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Larson; Referral to Public Works, Improvements along Cottage St and Justice Square

Alderman Larson noted that the request was actually from Michael Coppinger from the Downtown Partnership. Mr. Coppinger was looking to discuss with the Board options to improve the area along Cottage St. and Justice Square. Alderman Larson left the request with associated details on the Aldermen's desk and sought to refer the issue to the Public Works Committee as requested by Mr. Coppinger. This request was seconded by Alderman Donahue. Alderman Bloomer recused himself from voting relating a potential conflict of interest. **Motion passed.**

Board President Notte then noted the Mayoral appointment that needed to be untabled, before moving into executive session. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Allaire) to untable the Mayoral appointment for Fire Chief. **Motion passed.**

At 8:19 PM a motion was so moved and seconded (Davis, DePoy) to enter into executive session for the consideration of the appointment or employment of a public officer or employee. **Motion passed.**

At 8:50 PM a motion was made and seconded (Davis, Donahue) to come out of executive session. **Motion passed.**

A motion was then made and seconded (Davis, Allaire) to circulate the ballot box. **Motion passed.**

Clerk Heck gathered all votes and presented them to Attorney Romeo to tabulate.

Board President Notte read the result. The Mayoral appointment of James Miles as fire chief, 6 (six) YES and 5 (five) NO. The appointment is confirmed.

AT 8:55 PM a motion was made and seconded (Davis, Etori) to adjourn. **Motion passed.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Henry A. Heck
Rutland City Clerk