

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Aldermen Minutes
Monday, November 17, 2014

Members Present; President Allaire, Aldermen Kiernan, Humphrey, Notte, Donahue, Siliski, Brodowski, Larson, Bloomer, DePoy and Davis. Also present, Mayor Louras, Attorney Romeo and City Clerk Heck.

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

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (November 3 , 2014)

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

OUTSIDE THE RAIL

Richard Brown of 145 S. Main St. spoke on the property /school tax. Mr. Brown noted that he could no longer afford the taxes in Rutland City any further and asked the Board to look at depth at the new proposed budget.

Mike Moran of 118 Park Avenue spoke on construction issues on Park Avenue and related crime within that neighborhood. Mr. Moran sought a request for more lighting in the neighborhood.

Chris Ettori, 44 Engram Ave. of the Wonder Feet Kids Museum introduced Mira Pepper as their hired director and asked for the public to come meet with Mira and to learn the direction the Museum was heading with Mira as the director. Mr. Ettori asked for the Board to refer the issue into committee for more in-depth discussion and input from the Board and public. A motion was made and seconded (Brodowski, Larson) to refer the proposed request to the Community and Economic Development Committee. **Motion passed.**

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Budget Preparation Requests of the Board

Mayor Louras re-presented the Board with the FY 2016 Budget with the requested information. Mayor Louras spent a lengthy period of time explaining and reviewing the requested information. There was no debate and the Board thanked him for the information provided.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

Alderman Larson sought to add two items to the agenda and asked the Board to hear a request from residents on Mayfield Rd. on road repairs, and a request to repair a portion of the sidewalk on West St. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Siliski) to add those two requests to the agenda. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS

Planning Commission; 167 St. Johns Street

President Allaire introduced the issue and sought to set a public hearing as the next step in the zoning request. Two residents of St. Johns Street were present to show their non-support of the request. President Allaire explained the process and sought to set a hearing for December 15, 2014 at 6:30 PM. This request was so moved and seconded (Larson, Notte). **Motion passed.**

President Allaire/Police Commission; Police Chief Search Committee Appointment

President Allaire reviewed the process associated with the request and noted just within the last couple years how the Board dealt with the last Police Chief search. A motion was made and seconded (Larson, Davis) to suspend the rules and take the request up that evening. **Motion passed.** President Allaire then asked the Board to confirm the name of Art Crowley as his appointment to the Police Chief Search Committee. The request was so moved and seconded (Davis, Notte). **Motion passed.**

Treasurer Wilton introduced the next several issues she had placed on the agenda.

Treasurer Wilton; Request for abatement of Taxes; Gladys (Sindee) Williams; 191 Curtis Avenue

Treasurer Wilton sought to gain the Boards' permission to have a mobile home removed from a park within the City. The Treasurer sought an abatement of taxes to allow this property to be released from tax burden. President Allaire asked for several minutes to confer with the City Clerk on the abatement Committee assignment and asked the Treasurer to continue with her next item.

Treasurer Wilton; Approve to authorize Clerk to Attest Loan Documents for Sewer System Imp.(NNSSP)

Treasurer Wilton sought the Boards' permission to sign off on the NNSSP. 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) authorizing the Treasurer, Mayor and City Clerk to sign the NNSSP documents. **Motion passed.**

Treasurer Wilton; Approve for Mayor, Treasurer & Clerk to sign Documents for Routes 4&7 financing

Treasurer Wilton introduced the request and sought authorization to sign the document. A motion was made and seconded (Donahue, Davis) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** President Allaire then noted a motion authorizing the Mayor, Treasurer and Clerk to sign the Routes 4 & 7 financing documents would be in order. The request was so moved and seconded (Davis, Siliski). **Motion passed.**

Treasurer Wilton; Approve for Mayor, Treasurer & Clerk to sign documents for Line of Credit (BAN)

Treasurer Wilton was asking the Board to extend the City's line of Credit. The need was to make sure the City had enough cash flow for related projects and daily City expenses. Treasurer Wilton noted it was for a very short period of time and if it needed to be extended she would come back to the Board and request further authorization. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Donahue) to suspend the rules and take the request up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Donahue) authorizing the Mayor, Treasurer, and Clerk to sign the documents for the line of credit. **Motion passed.**

Treasurer Wilton; Treasurer's Report for October 2014

Treasurer Wilton reviewed her Treasurer's report for October. The Treasurer spent some time explaining the Sewer Fund correction and noted that the City was in a much better financial situation in regards to that fund then it was a year ago. The Treasurer was very happy with the City's financial standing for the October 2014 report.

President Allaire then noted the abatement request and asked for the committee of Aldermen DePoy, Davis and Allaire with Allaire as Chair, to meet on December 1st at 6:45PM. The request was so moved and seconded (Davis, Larson). **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Community & Economic Development; Alderman Davis; Wales Street Parking Lot Residential Parking Request

Alderman Davis read her report on a request for additional residential parking on Wales Street. Alderman Davis explained the reasons for the request and moved to approve two (2) additional parking spaces in the Wales Street lot for residential parking. Alderman Davis also moved to authorize the DPW Commissioner to issue a work order for signage for spots designated to the DRP. These requests were seconded by Alderman Larson. Motions passed.

Public Safety; Alderman Larson (added on 11/14/2014)

Alderman Larson read his report on the re-discussion of Fire Officers Overtime piggy backing the regular fire fighters union contract. The report noted various discussions dating back into the 1970's on the same issue. There was no action taken on this specific issue as the Chair wanted to research specific changes to the overtime status. The issue is to remain in committee.

The committee also discussed the equitable distribution of OT to fire officers. The report noted various OT issues and coverage as acting chief when the chief was gone. Alderman Larson noted a new officer structure brought up during the discussion and sought to further discuss this request at a later meeting. The committee did approve an earlier request of April 21, 2014 mandating the City Treasurer provide quarterly Fire Officers Overtime. The Board sought to rescind this request and to have the Chief Engineer be the person to provide the Fire Officer OT information. Alderman Larson so moved his committee's request, Alderman Davis seconded. **Motion passed.** Alderman Larson then moved to send the issue of review of officer command structure to the Public Safety Committee. This motion was seconded by Alderman Davis. There was brief debate. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES

Human Resources; President Allaire

President Allaire read his committee report on the re-write of the City Personnel Hand Book. The President noted the work to date completed by the committee and also noted a meeting in the near future to continue with the re-write. The President noted no action was requested and the issue will remain in committee.

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 items to come before the Board of Control Commissioners.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Alderman Davis brought up the requests from Alderman Larson at the beginning of the meeting. The President noted the request and asked for a motion to refer both to the Public Works Committee. Alderman Davis so moved the request and Alderman Notte seconded. There was brief debate on the requests with Alderman DePoy asking for a sight visit to see what the neighbors were talking about. President Allaire noted a brief visit with a second meeting to actually discuss the requests could take place. **Motion passed.**

MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Brodowski asked for a referral of the issues discussed by Mike Moran during the outside the rail portion of the meeting. A motion was made and seconded (Brodowski, Davis) to refer the lighting and safety issues discussed to the Public safety Committee. **Motion passed.**

At 8:40 PM a motion was made and seconded (Davis, Notte) to adjourn. **Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,

Henry A. Heck
Rutland City Clerk