

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Aldermen Minutes
Monday, June 2, 2014

Members present; President Allaire, Alderman Humphrey, Notte, Donahue, Siliski, Brodowski, Larson Wallstrom, and Davis. Also present, Attorney Romeo and City Clerk Heck. Absent Aldermen Kiernan & DePoy.

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

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (May 19th, 2014)

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

OUTSIDE THE RAIL

Susan Schribeman noted a ribbon cutting on Friday for the second segment of the Creek Path and invited everyone to the event.

Mike Moran of 118 Park Ave. updated the Board on current activities associated with sector #1 in the City. Mr. Moran noted a 50% decrease in criminal activities and an increase in people using their streets again. Mr. Moran spoke briefly on the LED lighting project and a need to continue with that project.

Kam Johnston offered the Board a resolution on the support of public meeting laws. Alderman Davis noted the Boards support and all available avenues for the public to get or gather public information.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

There were no communications from the Mayor.

REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS

RRA; Barbara Spaulding; VTrans Bicycle & Pedestrian Program; Request to set a public meeting

President Allaire read the request from Ms. Spaulding and asked for a motion to set a date for a public hearing for the VTrans Bicycle & Pedestrian Program for June 16th at 6:30 PM. This request was so moved and seconded (Davis, Larson). **Motion passed.**

Attorney Romeo; GMP, Engineering Building

Attorney Romeo briefed the Board on a request from Green Mountain Power. President Allaire noted a referral would be in order and thought that Community & Economic Development would be appropriate and asked the Board for their opinion. Alderman Wallstrom so moved the President's recommendation and with a second from Alderman Larson the **Motion passed.**

Michael Coppinger; Downtown Partnership, Request for Revolving Loan Fund

The issue was removed from the agenda per Michael Coppinger request and will be addressed at a later time.

Attorney Romeo; Request for Executive Session, Contracts

President Allaire noted a change in the request from Attorney Romeo and asked what his pleasure was on the issue. Attorney Romeo noted a referral of the issue of the sale of city land be referred to the appropriate committee. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Notte) to refer the issue to the General Committee. **Motion passed.**

Attorney Romeo; Request for Two Executive Sessions; Both for Civil Actions

Per the Board's past practice, the President asked to move both request to the end of the meeting. There was no debate.

Commissioner Wennberg & Treasurer Wilton; Memo re: Stormwater Treatment Facility (Southern Blvd)

President Allaire read the request and sought the Boards pleasure. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Notte) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** Commissioner Wennberg asked the Board to approve a separate account to fund The Rutland Natural Resources Conservation District. The Commissioner explained the project for Southern Blvd and that 100% of the associated cost was being picked up by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. The President noted a request for the Board authorizing the Treasurer to establish a temporary account to be used to pay the contractor, with payment to be reimbursed to RNRCD upon receipt of reimbursement by the State. This request was so moved and seconded (Davis, Notte) **Motion passed.**

Treasurer Wilton; Request for Fully Depreciated Assets Write-off

Treasurer Wilton reviewed her request of writing off depreciated assets and sought a referral. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Larson) to refer the request to the Finance Committee. **Motion passed.**

Treasurer Wendy Wilton; April 2014 Treasurer's Report (sent via email)

Treasurer Wilton briefly reviewed her report noting it was not a quarterly report but was about 80% of the year end information. There were no questions or comments and the Treasurer noted that she could give the Board a better read next month as to how the yearend report would look.

Treasurer Wilton; Request to Set Tax Rate Date & Time

Treasurer Wilton noted it was time to set the tax rate for FY 2015 and asked the Board to set the date of July 15th to set the rate. The President noted the dates of the next couple meetings. After some debate it was determined the Board could adjourn to a time certain at the end of their scheduled meeting on July 7th to set the rates.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Charter & Ordinance; Alderman Notte: Dana Re-zoning

Alderman Notte read his committee report from May 28th on a request from Joseph Giancola to re-zone the Dana School building. His report detailed the significant issue at hand. Discussion included those from Mr. Giancola, residents from the neighborhood and several Board of Aldermen members as well as committee members. Alderman Notte noted that the issue was to remain in committee as further discussion was needed before any motion could be made to the full Board. Alderman Notte also noted that his report was for information only.

Community & Economic Dev.; Alderman Davis: Proposed Parking Rates @ Transit Center

Alderman Davis read her report from May 22nd on the issue of proposed parking rates. Alderman Davis read the new rates (See Attached). A motion was then made and seconded (Davis, Notte) approving the new parking rates. There was brief debate from Alderman Larson, specific to the Downtown Partnership request of having members included in the Chamber Member rates. Alderman Donahue would like the free parking to last for a least an hour and Alderman Brodowski wanted there to be a good advertising campaign for the public on the new rates.

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES

There were no select committee reports.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

President Allaire gave a brief transportation council report on their meeting at the airport.

PETITIONS, LETTERS, MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATION

Special Olympics VT: Rutland Eagles; Special Events Permit Coin Drop (7/19/2014 10am-2pm)

President Allaire read the request for a special events permit. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Wallstrom) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Notte) to approve the request for Special Olympics – VT, Rutland Eagles Coin Drop for July 12th with rain date of July 19th from 10 – 2 PM on Merchants Row (Across from Knights). There was brief debate before an amendment was made to allow the event to be held on either or date. **Motion passed.**

BOARD OF CONTROL COMMISSIONERS

There were no items to come before the Board.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to come before the Board.

MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Wallstrom brought the issue of the Capital Improvement Plan, noting that he is still working on that plan and wanted to refer the issue back to the General Committee so he may update the new members on the intent of the plan. This motion was seconded by Alderman Notte. Alderman Davis wanted to discuss the issue of funding the plan. There was brief debate on the specifics of the request. **Motion passed.**

Alderman Donahue spoke of an OT abuse issue at the fire station. Alderman Donahue made a motion to refer the issue, to the HR Committee, the task of reviewing the non-union fire department means of compensation. Motion was seconded by Alderman Siliski. Debate. There was a good deal of debate on the committee selected. **Motion failed.**

President Allaire noted that the annual report was available on the city web site.

President Allaire noted a Board of Highway Commissioners special meeting tomorrow on the Woodstock Ave. issues.

Alderman Larson paid respect to animal control officer Tim Jones and the job that he has been doing.

At 7:58 PM a motion was made and seconded (Siliski, Davis) to move into executive session to discuss a contract where premature of general knowledge could place the city at a substantial disadvantage. **Motion passed.**

At 8:20 PM a motion was made and seconded (Wallstrom, Notte) to come out of executive session. **Motion passed.**

At 8:21 PM a motion was made and seconded (Larson, Notte) to move back into executive session to discuss a civil action where premature or general knowledge could place the City at a substantial disadvantage. **Motion passed.**

At 8:27 PM a motion was made to come out of executive session. A motion was then made to adjourn. Both motion were made and seconded by (Davis, Notte). **Motions Passed.**

Henry A. Heck

Rutland City Clerk