

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Aldermen Minutes
Tuesday, February 18, 2014

Members Present; President Allaire, Aldermen Kiernan, Humphrey, Notte, Donahue, Siliski, Larson, Wallstrom, DePoy, and Davis. Also present, Mayor Louras, Attorney Romeo, and City Clerk Heck. Alderman Cassarino was absent.

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

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (February 3, 2014)

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

OUTSIDE THE RAIL

Jeff Wennberg, Commissioner of Public Works, made a quick announcement for a meeting to answer any questions on the bond question to be voted on at the March 4th Election.

Marge Johnston of Pine St. wanted the Board to know of a meeting presented by Neighborhood Works regarding the North West section of Rutland. Ms. Johnston presented all of the details, so anyone could attend.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Mayor Louras presented the Board with several items. The first dealt with Mayoral appointments. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Larson) to table the appointments of Patricia Menduni to the RRA, and Susan Schribeman to the City Planning Commission. **Motion passed.**

The second item dealt with the Regulation of Taxis and Vehicles for Hire. The Mayor noted a concern from two separate "taxi" operators as well as the Chief of Police requesting a re-enacting of a previous ordinance and to set greater controls of operators in the interest of both public safety and public good. A motion was made and seconded (Larson, Davis) to refer the issue to the Charter and Ordinance Committee. **Motion passed.**

The third request dealt with the Center Street Market Place and the continued involvement of the project. The Mayor was looking for a referral unless the Board wanted to take the issue up that evening. The Mayor was looking for an amendment to the bike path contract to include the Center Street Market Place project. Alderman Siliski moved to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. That request was seconded by Alderman Wallstrom. **Motion Failed.** A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Larson) to refer the issue to the Community and Economic Development Committee. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS

Superintendent Wight; Request for RFP, Godnick Kitchen Renovation

Superintendent Wight noted that they were ready to move forward with the kitchen renovation at the Godnick Center and sought the approval of the Board to request an RFP. 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 approve the request for an RFP for the Godnick Kitchen Renovation. **Motion passed.**

Brennan Duffy; Executive Director RRA; Tax Stabilization Request, Graphic Edge/Keith's II

President Allaire read the heading, Alderman Notte moved to refer the request to the Community and Economic Development Committee, Alderman Larson seconded. There was no debate within the rail. Kam Johnston from outside the rail did speak on the issue and questioned the request. **Motion passed.**

Evan Pilachowski, RFP Request, Scoping Study Killington Ave

President Allaire introduced the request from Engineer Pilachowski. A motion was made and seconded (Notte, DePoy) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Notte, DePoy) to enter into an agreement with Broadreach Planning & Design for engineering services related to a scoping study for a sidewalk on Killington Ave. There was a fair amount of debate from several Aldermen. Questioned ranged from what a scoping study was to alternatives on locations of sidewalks. **Motion passed.**

Evan Pilachowski, Road & Bridge Standards Annual Certification of Compliance

There was brief discussion to the next request as the President noted that the Board took this request up at the last meeting. Engineer Pilachowski agreed that the Board approved this request, but he noted that he had used an outdated form and sought the Boards approval again on the correct document. A motion was made and seconded (Larson, DePoy) to circulate the certification for signatures. **Motion passed.**

Barbara Allen; RRA, Request to Schedule Public Hearing on March 17th

The President noted the request from Barbara Allen of the RRA. The President noted that the RRA was preparing to apply for \$1,000,000 in VCDP funds to rehabilitate blighted property in the Northwest Neighborhood and needed to set a public hearing as part of the application. The President noted the request was to hold a Public Hearing on March 17th and asked the Board to set that date and a time of 6:00 PM. There was brief debate as to a rules suspension first, a motion was made and seconded (Notte, Wallstrom) to suspend the rules. **Motion passed.** The request of the President's was so moved and seconded (Siliski, Davis) to set the date of March 17th at 6PM. **Motion passed.**

Evan Pilachowski; Northwest Sewer Separation – Phase III Service

Engineer Pilachowski requested that the Board authorize to amend the contract with Otter Creek Engineering for the Northwest Neighborhood Sewer Separation Project to include Phase III Services. This would include assistance with bidding, contract administration, project resident services and other related services including concrete testing, compaction testing, and record drawing preparation. Evan noted that Otter Creek had been awarded Phase I & II of the project already. A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Davis) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Davis) to authorize the Department of Public Works to amend the contract with Otter Creek Engineering for the Northwest Neighborhood Sewer Separation Project to include Phase III Services. This would include assistance with bidding, contract administration, project resident services and other related services including concrete testing, compaction testing, and record drawing preparation. There was brief debate. **Motion passed.**

Commissioner Wennberg; Request Authorizing Mayor to Sign new Alpine Pipeline Agreement

Commissioner Wennberg reviewed his request authorizing the mayor to sign the new Alpine Pipeline Agreement. The Commissioner noted several improvements to the revised contract and sought action or a referral to the appropriate committee. There was brief debate prior to a motion being made and seconded (Notte, Davis) to refer the issue to the Intermunicipal Committee. **Motion passed.**

Charles Romeo; City Attorney, Request for Executive Session, To Discuss Civil Action

As in past practice the President asked to move the request to the end of the meeting, there was no objection.

Alderman DePoy left at 7:39 PM.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Sharon Davis; Chair, Community Development Committee, West St. Sidewalk

Alderman Davis read her report noting that her committee met to discuss a request for matching funds in the amount of \$22,500 for the Downtown Transportation Funds 50% match. Alderman Davis reviewed the actual project the funds would help pay for. The motion out of committee was to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$22,500 for the West Street Sidewalk Project from the Zamias Fund. This motion was seconded by Alderman Notte. Debate was lengthy with mixed reactions from the Board. **Motion passed.**

Alderman Wallstrom left at 7:51 PM.

Sharon Davis, Chair, Community Development Committee, Water Utilization Issue

Alderman Davis read her report detailing the potential of encouraging high water use businesses into the City and to offer reduced rates to help offset initial cost. Alderman Davis noted the process was to be managed by the RRA & DPW staff. There was no action taken and her report was to remain in committee and was for information only.

Jon Kiernan; Chair, General Committee

Alderman Kiernan read his General Committee report on an addendum to the management agreement between the City and Laz Parking on a litter vac. The report contained information on a larger sweeper needed for cleaning of the parking garage. The report listed the financial information and implications to the City at the end of their three year term with Laz or if extended the five (5) year lease on the sweeper. There was a recommendation from committee to authorize the Mayor to sign the addendum to the management agreement as written and Alderman Kiernan so moved. This motion was seconded by Alderman Notte. Attorney Romeo clarified options to the City at the end of their three year management contract with Laz as to who would be responsible for the remaining two years on the lease and an option at the end of year five (5), to purchase the sweeper for a \$1.00 (dollar). **Motion passed.**

Chris Siliski; Chair, Finance Committee

Alderman Siliski read his committee report on the Treasurer's request to deposit checks and cash ASAP. The committee noted the request and in keeping with the City's Internal Control Policies recommended that the full Board approve a policy mandating all fees, checks, cash ect. be turned into the Treasurer's Office within one week of receipt. There was one noted exception for the Recreation Department in regards to non-cash uniform and equipment deposits. This motion was so moved and seconded (Siliski, Notte). **Motion passed.**

William Notte; Co- Chair, Public Works Committee

Alderman Notte read his committee report on the issue of replacing single space parking meters with new technology meters. The committee heard from Cale America who demonstrated the new meters and answered numerous questions from the committee and fellow aldermen present. Alderman Notte noted that this meeting was for information purposes only and the first of many in regards to this issue. No action was taken and this report was for information only.

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES

There were no Select Committee Reports.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

There were no Representative Reports.

PETITIONS, LETTERS, MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATION

Michael Coppinger; Downtown Revolving Loan Fund Request

President Allaire highlighted the letter sent by Michael Coppinger from the Downtown Revolving Loan Fund Committee to amend a previous Board approved loan. The letter noted the previous scope of work changed as a result of the leasing of the main floor. The physical terms and conditions of the contract remained the same. A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Davis) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Davis)

to amend the Downtown Revolving Loan with 41 Center Street to include the loan of \$30,000, term 10 year at 2% interest with monthly payments. There would be a second mortgage on 41 Center St. The project would need to be complete within one year of closing the loan. All City and State permits would need to be in place before the release of funds, including approval of the City Architectural Review Committee. **Motion passed.**

S.E.P. Request, Cairo Shriner, Racing for a Stronger Tomorrow, May 4th, Noon – 1PM

President Allaire read the request from the Shriners. A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Davis) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Davis) to approve the S.E.P. request for a Cairo Shriners Race for a Stronger Tomorrow, 5K Walk/Run on May 4th from noon to 1PM. **Motion passed.**

S.E.P. Request, Walk to End Alzheimer's September 13th, 8 AM – Noon

President Allaire read the request for a S.E.P. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Notte) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Notte) to approve the S.E.P. request for a Walk to End Alzheimer's on September 13th from 8 AM to Noon in Main St. Park. There was a request to gather the Fire Chief and Recreation Superintendents signature and also on condition of proof of insurance. ***To the BOA, when I contacted the petitioner I was told that the permit was incomplete and should have not gone to the Board, it was placed in my BOA folder by accident. FYI.***

S.E.P. Request, RAVE Care Show, July 12&13, 9 AM – 4 PM

President Allaire read the request for the RAVE Car Show. A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Davis) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** The President asked for a motion to approve, it was so moved by Alderman Notte. President Allaire asked if there was a second, Alderman Davis seconded. Clerk Heck addressed the Board on the lack of incomplete applications and sought the Boards' advice on the issue. After addressing the Board, the President asked for a vote. **Motion passed.**

GMP; Pole & Wire Request, Stafford Hill Solar Farm Project

President Allaire read the request from GMP. A motion was made and seconded (Donahue, Siliski) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** The President stated a motion to approve with the seven (7) standard conditions would be in order. That request was so moved and seconded (Davis, Notte) Debate, Alderman Humphrey recused herself from the vote (She works for GMP). There were several questions on the request. The President noted that the issue could be researched more and if there was any further concern it could be addressed at the next BOA meeting. **Motion passed.**

BOARD OF CONTROL COMMISSIONERS

There was no business to come before the Board of Control Commissioners.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to come before the Board.

MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, NEW BUSINESS

There were no miscellaneous motions, resolutions or new business to come before the Board.

The President noted that there was a request for an executive session to discuss a Civil Action where premature or general knowledge could place the City at a substantial disadvantage and asked for a motion to do so.

At 8:22 PM the motion was so moved and seconded (Larson, Notte). **Motion passed.**

The President asked for a five (5) minute recess to clear the room.

At 8:30 PM the Board of Aldermen entered into executive session.

At 9:07 PM a motion was made and seconded (Davis, Larson) to come out of executive session.
Motion passed.

Alderman Notte made a motion to approve as settled with recent mediation and as recommended by the Vermont leagues. This motion was seconded by Alderman Davis. President Allaire noted a motion had been made and seconded. He asked if there was any debate. Seeing none he called for a vote.
Motion passed.

The President then noted a motion to adjourn would be in order. That request was so moved and seconded (Davis, Notte). **Motion passed.**

The Board adjourned at 9:08 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Henry A. Heck
Rutland City Clerk