

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Aldermen Minutes
Monday, May 20, 2013

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

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

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (May 6, 2013)

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

OUTSIDE THE RAIL

Lori Bishop brought several issues to the Board including crosswalks and there fading condition.

Kam Johnston offered to have his appeal viewed by anyone who wished to do so. He also noted how lots or contiguous property divided by a road are referenced. He spoke on proper BCA proceedings and noted his intent to challenge the BCA on their procedures used during the appeal process.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Mayoral Appointment to the Health Board

The President was informed that the Mayor was still waiting on a response from a potential candidate. No action was taken.

Untable Mayoral Appointments

A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Wallstrom) to untable Mayor Louras' Health Board appointments. **Motion passed.** There was brief debate as to whether the vote needed to be taken. With the possibility of the Health Boards' outcome in doubt, and a meeting taking place on that issue in the next couple of days, a motion was made and seconded (Davis, Notte) to circulate the ballot box for Thomas Opshal. **Motion passed.** Clerk Heck collected the ballots and had Attorney Romeo tabulate the results. President Allaire then asked for a motion to circulate the ballot box for Bethany Stack the second appointment to the Health Board. This request was so moved and seconded (Davis, Notte). Clerk Heck again collected and distributed to Attorney Romeo the Bethany Stack votes.

President Allaire then move on to Reports and Letters.

REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS

Jeff Wennberg; DPW Commissioner, Town Highway Structure Program – FY 2014

A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Larson) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Notte, DePoy) authorizing the Mayor to sign the agreement with the Vermont Town Highways Structures Program. There was brief debate on the cost of the project. **Motion passed.**

Jeff Wennberg; DPW Commissioner, Employment Contract Renewal, Lewis Hotaling

A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Wallstrom) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Notte, DePoy) authorizing DPW to employ Lewis Hotaling with terms of his contract changed to run from July 1, 2013 thru June 30, 2014. There was brief debate. **Motion passed.**

At this part of the meeting president Allaire read the results of the voting for Health Board appointments. Thomas Opshal, 4 YES, 6 NO. Bethany Stack, 4 YES, 6 NO. The President stated that it would take 7 no votes to not confirm the appointments. So both parties were confirmed.

Evan Pilachowski; City Engineer, SIWRF Grant

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, DePoy) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Notte) to circulate the grant applications for signatures. **Motion passed.**

Evan Pilachowski; City Engineer, Flood Damage Mitigation Incentives

A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Davis) to refer the issue to the Public Works Committee. **Motion passed.**

Evan Pilachowski; City Engineer, Award for Digester Cover Inspection and Repairs

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Notte) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A request authorizing the City to enter into an agreement with Westin & Sampson to complete the digester design and inspection was so moved and seconded (Davis, Notte). **Motion passed.**

Commissioner Wennberg gave the Board a brief update on the newest findings of disinfection by products, noting the findings were very positive and that Chloramines were at this time not necessary.

Wendy Wilton; Treasurer, Treasurer's Report for April

A motion was made and seconded (Wallstrom, Davis) to receive and place on file the treasurer's report. **Motion passed.**

Wendy Wilton; Treasurer, Letter to the Rutland Agricultural Society

A motion was made and seconded (Wallstrom, Davis) to receive and place on file the letter to the Rutland Agricultural Society. **Motion passed.**

Barbara Allen; RRA, Streetlights VI Grant.....For Information Only

A motion was made and seconded (Larson, Davis) to receive and place on file. **Motion passed.**

Mark Meszarros; RFD, Utility Relocation Agreement

This item was a late request and did not make the original agenda. Mr. Meszarros noted that the RFD was required to contract with the State in regards to the replacement of the Ripley Bridge and the fact that the College of St. Joseph fire alarm wires ran across that bridge and need to be relocated. The City owns those lines and is entitled to compensation for their replacement. 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) authorizing the Mayor to sign the agreement. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Sharon Davis; Chair, Community and Economic Dev, Paramount Theater

Alderman Davis read her report on a shared venue with the Metropolitan Opera Live in HD proposal. The Paramount came before the Board requesting funds from the Zamias Fund Account. They proposed a tremendous opportunity with the Met to bring live shows to the Paramount Theater. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Notte) to fund \$75,564 from the Zamias Fund to the Paramount Theater. **Motion passed.**

William Notte; Chair, Charter and Ordinance Committee, Vacant Property Ordinance

Alderman Notte read his report on a new vacant property ordinance. He noted that his committee was still working on final details and any questions that may arise between then and their next meeting will be reviewed. His report was for information only.

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES

There were no reports

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

There were no reports

PETITIONS, LETTERS, MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATION

Abatement request; Lizabeth Antonoff, 115 Maple Street

President Allaire asked for the Board to approve the committee of Aldermen Wallstrom as Chair, Davis and DePoy to hear the abatement request of Lizabeth Antonoff on 115 Maple Street and to report back to the full Board on Monday, June 17th at 6:45PM. The request was so moved and seconded (Davis, Notte). **Motion passed.**

BOARD OF CONTROL COMMISSIONERS

There were no items for the Board of Control Commissioners.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, NEW BUSINESS

Christopher Siliski; City Alderman, Leveraged Investment Initiative

Alderman Siliski read a brief description of his request. He then asked for a referral to the Finance Committee to further discuss his idea of allocating up to \$50,000 from the Zamias Fund for a downtown orientated, economic development infrastructure project at the corner of West, Wales and Church St. This referral was seconded by Alderman DePoy. **Motion passed.**

President Allaire then asked the Board to confirm his appointments to the Housing Board. President Allaire noted prior minutes from 2007 requesting the development of this Board, with the Board President nominating the Housing Board members. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Notte) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** The president then made a request to vote on the names presented on a 8 1/2 X 11 Sheet of paper containing the nominated individuals. This request was so moved and seconded (Notte, Davis). **Motion passed.** Clerk Heck gathered the ballots and presented them to Attorney Romeo for confirmation. President Allaire announced the results with Alderman Siliski (10-0) and Cassarino (9-1) and Terry Morton (10-0) William Gilliam (9-1) and Scott Tanner (9-1) all being confirmed. President Allaire then noted an alternative in case someone was absent and asked the Board to confirm Melinda Humphrey as Housing Board Alternate. This request was so moved and seconded (Davis, DePoy). **Motion passed.**

President Allaire then updated the Board on the parking garage situation, noting that two firms had been invited to come to Rutland to interview for the position of running the Multi -model transit garage.

At 8:13 PM a motion was made and seconded (Davis, Notte) to adjourn. **Motion passed.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Henry A. Heck
Rutland City Clerk