CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Aldermen Minutes
Monday, November 4, 2013

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

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (October 21, 2013)

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

OUTSIDE THE RAIL

There was no information presented from outside the rail.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Disposition of 37 Pine St.

Mayor Louras noted that the City was the rightful owner of 37 Pine Street and layed out plans for options with the property and asked for a motion to refer the issue to the appropriate committee. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Notte) to refer the issue to the General Committee. Kam Johnston noted the lack of public notice and input from the public on such issues and wanted the Board to be aware of this. **Motion passed.**

Mayor Louras then asked the Board to refer the issue of employee/employer non-union pension contributions to the appropriate committee. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Siliski) to refer the issue to the Finance Committee. Kam Johnston noted surpluses could be used to help with the shortfall in the pension. **Motion passed.**

Mayor Louras then presented the Board with his FY 15 Budget. The Mayor briefly explained through a summary spreadsheet all related issues with the budget. Mayor Louras noted that of the $700,000 increase in the FY 15 budget, most, if not all was related to hard cost in personnel.

Untable Mayoral appointments from 10-21-2013

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, DePoy) to untable the Mayoral appointments. **Motion passed.** A motion was made to circulate the ballot box for Cindi Wight as Superintendent of Recreation (Davis, Larson) Motion **passed.** The Clerk gathered all votes and presented them to the City Attorney. The President then asked for a motion to circulate the box for Stephanie Peters. This request was so moved and seconded, (Davis, Wallstrom). **Motion passed.** The Clerk gathered and counted the votes for Ms. Peters. The President then asked for a motion to circulate for signatures for Mike McClallen to the DRB. This request was so moved and seconded (Notte, Wallstrom). **Motion passed.** City Attorney Romeo was asked to tabulate the results of the McClallen vote. The President asked for a moment to tabulate the results and read the results into the minutes.

Cindi Wight, Rec Superintendent	10 YES	1 NO
Mike McClallen, DRB Representative	10 YES	1 NO
Stephanie Peters, RRA Representative	5 YES	6 NO

All appointments were confirmed.

REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS

Brennan Duffy: Executive Director RRA, Request for Referral to Committee

President Allaire briefly reviewed the request of Brennan Duffy. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Larson) to refer the issue to the Community and Economic Development Committee. **Motion passed.**

Barbara Spaulding: RRA; Grant Agreement Resolution

President Allaire noted the request from Barbara Allen to circulate a grant resolution for Board signatures. 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 circulate the grant resolution for signatures. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Dave Wallstrom; Chair, Recreation Committee

Alderman Wallstrom read his committee report on updates from the recreation department. The report contained various updates and future plans for all aspects of the recreation department. The committee felt that the updates from the recreation department were worthwhile to keep in committee and will continue to keep the Board up to date on all recreation activities. The report was for information only.

Chris Siliski; Chair, Finance Committee

Alderman Siliski read his committee report on the 3% late homestead declaration fee and the Zamias Fund. Alderman Siliski noted that Treasurer Wilton had previously requested certain action from the Board in regards to late homestead filings and felt that process was fine and would follow the Treasurer's recommendation. Alderman Siliski also noted the Board could operate as it did with tax abatements, forming a committee and reporting back to the full Board and voting on the committee's recommendation.

The committee then proceeded to review the recommendations from Treasurer Wilton on two (2) homestead request for abatement. The first from Robert and Lorraine Spencer. The committee agreed with the Treasurer's recommendation to deny the request based on the State Statue requirements and Alderman Siliski so moved. The motion was seconded by Alderman Notte. **Motion passed to deny.**

The next request was from Tyler Somers and Ashley McVeigh. The committee agreed with the Treasurer's recommendation to deny the request based on the State statue requirements. Alderman Siliski so moved. The motion was seconded by Alderman Notte. **Motion passed to deny.**

Alderman Siliski noted that this ended the first issue sent to committee and moved on to discuss the Zamias Fund. Alderman Siliski noted several strategic purposes for the fund that he created and discussed with the committee. Over the next 30+ minutes the committee discussed their views on what should be done or how Zamias Funds should be used or not used. There were no formal motions on the issue and the report was for information only and remains open in committee.

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES

There were no reports from any Select Committees.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

Alderman Wallstrom noted that the RCSWD had received an unqualified Audit.

President Allaire reported on the Regional Transportation Council noting that the council was getting back into the grind of things and just recently met to discuss election of their Board officers. President Allaire noted his interest in the chair position.

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 for the Board of Control Commissioners.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
Alderman Cassarino spoke on an issue of public safety that had been reported by Gordon Dritschilo and gave his view of the 1% RME Tax evolution and its use.

MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, NEW BUSINESS
Alderman Siliski noted that by accounting standards Randall Northrup was obligated to discuss the status of the current audit and the scope of work of this year's audit compared to previous years. A motion was made and seconded (Siliski, Davis) to refer the stated items to the Finance Committee. **Motion passed.**

President Allaire brought the issue of the action taken by the Board from three months ago on a forensic audit of the recreation department. The President noted that since the Finance Committee was meeting to discuss the present audit, the President did not want the Board to bypass the action it had previously taken as it seemed there had been no resolution. Alderman Siliski noted that his committee meeting will not be to discuss a forensic audit or not to have a forensic audit on recreation, but to deal with the current audit of the City.

Alderman Davis asked about the need of a motion, referring the FY 15 budget to the appropriate committees. President Allaire recessed for five minutes to discuss this issue with the City Attorney. Upon reconvening, the President noted that a motion was needed referring the individual budgets to the appropriate committees based on a list generated by the President and City Clerk and to be distributed to the appropriate department head. This request was so moved and seconded (Davis, Notte). **Motion passed.**

At 8:17 PM a motion was made and seconded (Davis, Cassarino) to adjourn. **Motion passed.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Henry A. Heck
Rutland City Clerk