CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Aldermen Minutes
Monday, December 19, 2011

Member present; President Allaire, Aldermen Larson, Kiernan, Notte, Romeo, Siliski, Robinson, Sargeant, Wallstrom, DePoy, and Davis, City Attorney Costello and City Clerk Heck.

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

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Monday, December 5, 2011)
A motion was made and seconded (Romeo, Davis) to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. **Motion passed.**

OUTSIDE THE RAIL
Kathleen and Wayne Kervetski asked the Board to place a resolution on the March 2013 ballot. This question would urge the Vt. Congressional Delegation and the United States Congress to recognize that money is not political speech and corporations are not persons under the United States Constitution. Alderman Robinson explained the process the Board set to have items placed on a ballot.

Lt. Kevin Geno of the Rutland City Police Department came before the Board asking them to reconsider the question of finding funds for two Police cruisers cut in the 2013 budget. Lt. Geno stated serious concerns about safety to the public and his officers if the PD was unable to continue with replacing two police cars every three years.

He asked the Board to reconsider the question and asked the Board to do so that evening and place the funds for those cars back in the budget.

Debate from the Board started with Alderman Sargeant who asked for a rules suspension to reconsider the question. The rules suspension was seconded by Alderman DePoy. President Allaire confirmed the motion and stated a rules suspension motion was non- debatable. Unsure of the vote he again stated a 2/3 vote (8 in support) to pass the motion and asked for a show of hands. He confirmed 6 Yes and 4 No. Motion to reconsider failed. **Motion failed.**

Debate continued with concerns about the lack of support at the budget meeting from the Police Department.

A motion was made and seconded (Larson, Notte) to refer the issue to the Public Safety Committee at the earliest convenience. **Motion passed.**

As Police Officers and representatives were leaving chambers Captain Scott Tucker spoke outside the rail and stated that for the record during the Budget committee process that he, Lt. Geno and Chief Bossi spoke on the importance of not having funds cut for the purchase of new cruisers.

They stated their concerns for safety and lack of vehicles. He asked the Board to reconsider the motion to refer the issue to committee stating it would just delay the process. He stated do not cut those cars, they are needed to protect the City and their officers. There were no actions from the Board and President Allaire moved on to communications from the mayor.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR
Mayor Louras asked the Board for an executive session to discuss real-estate purchase options. President Allaire stated seeing no objections the Board would take up the Mayors request at the end of the meeting.

REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS
Evan Pilachowski; City Engineer, Fluoride Grant Award
A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Romeo) to suspend the rules and take the issue up. **Motion passed.**
A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Robinson) to authorize the DPW Commissioner to sign the award letter. Debate. The Board asked Engineer Pilachowski to briefly explain the grant and the benefits to the City. Evan stated that the $5,000 grant would help fund the testing of fluoride and equipment cost. **Motion passed.**

Barry Keefe; City Assessor, 2011 Common Level of Appraisal
A motion was made and seconded (Robinson, Romeo) to receive and place on file. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES
William Notte; Chair, Public Works Committee, DPW Bond Request
Chair Notte read his report, there was no motion from committee and he was looking for guidance from President Allaire. Chair Notte stated that the exact wording for the bond was not finalized and wanted to table the issue to give City Attorney Costello time to finalize the bond request. There was brief debate with Alderman Sargeant wanting the public to know that the $2,000,000 bond would in effect help pay for up to seven bridge reconstructions as part of the City match towards $10,000,000 worth of work. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES
None to Report

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES
There was a brief update from Alderman Siliski from the Rutland Regional Planning Commission. He briefly stated issues discussed, and stated that the final report on the traffic study of rerouting traffic on Wales and Evelyn was available via the Partnership website. Alderman Romeo requested the minutes of Planning Commission meeting be included in the Boards packets.

PETITIONS, LETTERS, MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATION
Hope Rogers; CVPS Pole and Wire Request
A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Larson) to suspend the rules and take action on the issue. **Motion passed.**
A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Robinson) to approve the request following the seven standard conditions as well as notifying the Fire Department. **Motion passed.**

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Robinson) to move into the Board of Control Commissioners. **Motion passed.**

BOARD OF CONTROL COMMISSIONERS
First Class Liquor Request; LM & DM LLC, DBA, The Center Street Saloon
A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Romeo) to circulate the license for signatures. There was brief debate with the Clerk clarifying the gathering of information on the applications. **Motion passed.**

Entertainment Permit Request LM & DM LLC, DBA, The Center Street Saloon.
A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Notte) to authorize the Clerk to sign the entertainment request. No debate. **Motion passed.**

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Notte) to come out of the Board of Control Commissioners. **Motion passed.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A motion was made seconded (Sargeant, Robinson) to untable the issue of Water and Sewer Rates from the previous meeting held on December 15th. **Motion passed.**

Commissioner Shelvey presented information on how rates were calculated and gave various options to the Board with associated increases. Debate. Aldermen Sargeant spoke on available revenues and set expenses already spoken for. There was discussion on the increase to meter fees. The Board did discuss paying for a vehicle from the surplus in these funds.

A motion was made and seconded (Romeo, Notte) to approve water rates under scenario (A). Debate. Alderman Sargeant questioned the motion; He wanted to know if it needed to be broken down into three separate rates as outlined in scenario (A). **Motion passed.**

A motion was made and seconded (Sargeant, Romeo) to approve the Sewer Treatment Rate of 3.871. **Motion passed.**

A motion was made and seconded (Sargeant, Notte) to approve the Sewer Maintenance Rate of 0.935. **Motion passed.**

Alderman Sargeant stated that for the rate payers at home the total water and sewer rate increase was 1.50% from 2012.

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Robinson) to purchase a truck for the Water Distribution Department with funds to come from the Water Fund in the amount of $35,000.

Alderman Romeo made a motion to table the truck issue until he could get more information on available funds. Alderman Kiernan seconded the motion. **Motion failed.**

A motion to refer the truck purchase to DPW Committee was made and seconded (Davis, Sargeant). **Motion passed.**

Alderman Davis spoke briefly on her concern of road conditions during the last snow storm and asked to refer the issue to the DPW Committee. Alderman Robinson seconded. **Motion passed.**

MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made and seconded (Romeo, Robinson) to refer the issue of elected officials and department head salaries to the Charter and Ordinance Committee. **Motion passed.**

President Allaire updated the Board on parking issues specific to the Amtrak station. President Allaire stated that there will be placards available for riders of Amtrak to place in their vehicles.

At 8:30PM a motion was made and seconded (Robinson, Larson) to enter into executive session to discuss the negotiations or securing of real estate options. **Motion passed.**

At 8:55 PM a motion to come out of executive session was made and seconded (Robinson, Romeo). **Motion passed.**

A motion was made and seconded (Robinson, Davis) to refer the issue of real estate options to the General Committee. **Motion passed.**

Alderman Sargeant asked the City Attorney if he could obtain an independent title opinion on the property discussed in executive session. Attorney Costello stated that he could.

A 8:59 PM a motion was made and seconded (Robinson, Davis) to adjourn. **Motion passed.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Henry A. Heck
Rutland City Clerk