

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Aldermen Minutes
Monday, March 21, 2011

Members Present: Aldermen Allaire, Notte, Larson, Robinson, Davis and newly elected members Barrett, DePoy, Kiernan, Romeo, Sargeant, and Wallstrom. City Attorney Costello and City Clerk Heck.

City Clerk Henry Heck called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

The first order of business was the swearing of the new Aldermen. Mayor Louras swore in all elected members.

City Clerk Heck then opened nominations for Board President. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Larson) to nominate David Allaire. Alderman Davis made a motion to close the nominations. The motion was seconded (Larson). David Allaire was unanimously voted Board President.

Newly elected President David Allaire took his seat and thanked everyone for their support. He outlined his plans for the next year and looks forward to a productive year.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (March 7, 2011)

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

OUTSIDE THE RAIL

Laurie Nichols from 121 Park Street presented the Board with a signed petition in regards to noise complaints coming from the industrial park located next to her home. She stated that it seems that the Rutland Herald had opened a distribution center for their newspapers. Jessica Dennison the manager of the park was present and stated she is very willing to work on the issue. A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Davis) to refer the issue to Public Safety Committee. **Motion passed.**

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Resolution; Essential Air Service Subsidy

Mayor Louras had several issues to present to the Board. The first was a Resolution he asked the Board to sign. He stated that it would be sent to our delegation in Washington showing the Boards support for continuing with the Essential Air Service Subsidy. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Robinson) to suspend the rules. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Barrett) to circulate the resolution for signatures. **Motion passed.**

The second issue the Mayor presented was a list of appointments he asked the Board to table for the next two weeks. These reappointments included Andrew Costello, Henry

Heck, Jim Simonds, Robert Schlachter (Emergency Management Director), EJay Bishop, and Alan Shelvey. The request was so moved and seconded (Robinson, Romeo). **Motion passed.**

The third issue was a request for an RFP for the Giorgetti Project. The Mayor stated the request was for the issue of inviting design engineer and architectural proposals. A motion was made and seconded (DePoy, Davis) to refer the RFP to the Recreation Committee. **Motion passed.**

The fourth issue the Mayor brought to the Board was the issue of helping our sister city in Japan. Former Mayor Wennberg proposed the idea of a special account opened specifically for this event known as the Hanimaki Relief Fund. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Notte) to suspend the rules. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded Davis, Barrett) to establish the Hanimaki Relief Fund. After brief debate the **motion passed.**

Mayor Louras asked the Board to look at using the \$2500 the City sets aside for the RISE program to be referred to committee to discuss donating it for disaster relief. A motion was made and seconded (Robinson, Romeo) to refer the issue to Finance Committee. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS

Barbara Allen; RRA, Municipal Planning Grant Request

Barbara Allen addressed the Board stating that her new office is now located upstairs in City Hall and she welcomed the new Board members. She also asked the Board to sign a resolution supporting a Municipal Planning Grant to conduct a housing needs assessment for Rutland City. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Barrett) to suspend the rules. **Motion passed.** A motion was then made and seconded (Davis, Barrett) to circulate the resolution of a Municipal Planning Grant for signatures and to name the Board Chair (David Allaire) as alternative member. After brief questions, the **Motion passed.**

Barry Keefe; City Assessor, Request to extend Vacation Time

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Notte) to suspend the rules. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Robinson) to approve the request to carry over 10 vacation days. **Motion passed.** Alderman Davis also asked the Assessor to update the Board on the progress of the tax appeals that went before the State. The motion was seconded by Alderman Barrett and the **motion passed.**

Treasurer Wilton; FY 2010, Audit Report with Randall Northrup

Treasurer Wilton welcomed the new Board members and introduced Randall Northrup the City's Auditor. Randall stated that this was his third year as the City Auditor and he has seen great strides in the City's accounting practices. He stated that the City still had areas to work on in regards to Grants. He also noted deficiencies and weaknesses in internal controls.

Treasurer Wilton spoke briefly on the Grant issue Randall spoke about and stated that her office has devised a report to help increase the efficiency of reporting on Grants and advised the Board of the importance of responding with details of Grants to the Treasurer's Office. After further review of the Audit from Treasurer Wilton, a motion

was made and seconded (Davis, Robinson) to refer the issue of Internal Controls to the Finance Committee. **Motion passed.**

Treasurer Wilton; Treasurer's Report, February 2011

Treasurer Wilton gave an overview of the report stating the City is 67% through the current year. She noted several areas of cash accounts. She also noted some concerns with delinquencies in Utilities, specifically water and sewer.

Treasurer Wilton; Mobile Home Tax Sale, Post Redemption Abatement

Treasurer Wilton wanted the Board to be aware of an abatement of over \$2,800 to the City from the sale of a mobile home at tax sale last year that the Board had already approved.

Treasurer Wilton; RME Tax & Enforcement, Farmers Market

Treasurer Wilton brought the issue of RME Tax at the Farmer's Market to the attention of the Board as she stated that there were members who were not paying their RME Tax. She stated a fairness issue as other food preparers had to pay RME Tax. A motion was made and seconded (Robinson, Sargeant) to refer the issue of collecting RME Tax from the Farmer's Market to Charter and Ordinance Committee. Debate. There was a good deal of discussions to the issue pertaining to the Farmer's Market, or the ordinance in general. Following the debate, an amendment to the motion was made and seconded (Romeo, Notte). The amendment was for a general review of the ordinance. Again, there was a great deal of discussion on the issue. Alderman Romeo called the question. It was seconded by Alderman Notte. **Motion passed on calling the question.** President Allaire requested a 5 or 10 minute recess.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

None to Report

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES

None to Report

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

Alderman Larson; Representatives Report, School Department

Alderman Larson read his report about his tour and evaluation of the Stafford Technical Center. His report detailed the renovations underway at the time and the new curriculums being offered. Alderman Larson came away with a positive outlook of the facility.

PETITIONS, LETTERS, MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATION

Special Events Permit Request, Meals on Wheels, Coin Drop, May 14th

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Barrett) to suspend the rules. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Barrett) to approve the request of the Meals on Wheels Coin Drop. **Motion passed.**

CVPS; Easement with Pole and Wire Request

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Barrett) to suspend the rules. **Motion passed.**

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Barrett) to approve the request with the seven standard conditions. **Motion passed.**

License Request; Rutland County Farmers Market & Vt. Farmers Market

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Barrett) to suspend the rules. **Motion passed.**

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Barrett) to set the downtown market season in Depot Park with fees of \$500 consistent with last year and times of Saturdays 9-2 and Tuesdays 3-6. No debate. **Motion passed.**

Vermont Telephone Co. Request to place fiber optics cable

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Larson) to suspend the rules. **Motion passed.**

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Barrett) to approve the request with the seven standard conditions. **Motion passed.**

Abatement Request; Michael and Ann Marie Clifford 76 Engrem Ave

President Allaire asked for the committee of Aldermen Larson, Barrett, and Notte with Alderman Barrett as chair to hear the abatement and to report back to the full Board on April 4th at 6:45 PM. There was brief discussion as to the request of the abatement.

Motion passed.

Special Events Permit Request, Masonic Temple, Fee Waiver Request

A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Davis) to suspend the rules. **Motion passed.**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the request and waive the fee (Notte, Davis). **Motion passed.**

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

President Allaire asked the Board to hear the request of Roots the Restaurant for an outside table request and outside consumption request. Alderman Robinson moved to authorize the Clerk to sign those request. After a brief discussion from the Board and Donald Billings, owner of the Restaurant, the **motion passed.**

BOARD OF CONTROL COMMISSIONERS

2011-2012 Liquor License Renewal Request

A motion was made and seconded (Robinson, Davis) for the Clerk to signoff on the liquor renewal request. There are 11 (eleven) request staring with Bob's Shell and ending with West St. Mobil. **Motion passed.**

Liquor License Renewal Request	
BUSINESS NAME D/B/A	BUSINESS LOCATION
Bob's Shell	93 Woodstock Avenue
Killington Avenue Market & Deli	22 Killington Avenue
Midway Diner & Restaurant	120 South Main Street

Liquor License Renewal Request	
BUSINESS NAME D/B/A	BUSINESS LOCATION
Midway Mobil	118 South Main Street
Office Bar & Grill	197 West Street
Park Mobil	5 North Main Street
Roots the Restaurant	51 Wales St
Sal's Italian Restaurant	148 West St.
Tenney Brook Market	217 North Main Street
Two Sheas	34 Wales St.
West Street Mobil	446 West St.

2011-2012 Tobacco License Renewal Request

A motion was made and seconded (Robinson, Barrett) for the Clerk to signoff on the Tobacco renewal requests. There are 7 (seven) request staring with Bob's Shell and ending with West St. Mobil. **Motion passed.**

Tobacco License Renewal Request	
BUSINESS NAME D/B/A	BUSINESS LOCATION
Bob's Shell	93 Woodstock Avenue
Emporium Tobacco & Gift Shop	9 Evelyn Street
Midway Mobil	118 South Main Street
Park Mobil	5 North Main Street
Tenney Brook Market	217 North Main Street
Two Sheas	34 Wales St.
West Street Mobil	446 West St.

2011-2012 Outside Consumption Request

A motion was made and seconded (Robinson, Barrett) for the Clerk to signoff on Two Shea's renewal request at 34 Wales St. and Office Bar & Grill renewal request at 197 West St. **Motion passed.**

2011-2012 Entertainment License Request

A motion was made and seconded (Robinson, Barrett) to approve the Entertainment request of the Office Bar & Grill. **Motion passed.**

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None to Report

MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Sargeant; Giorgetti Advisory Committee

Alderman Sargeant reviewed his proposal about organizing a Giorgetti Advisory Committee. He stated that his past corporate experience dealt a lot with capital projects and he wanted to make sure that the people of the City had an opportunity to have their questions, concerns and desires represented.

A motion was made and seconded to suspend the rules and deal with the issue that evening (Sargeant, Robinson). **Motion passed.**

A motion was made and seconded (Sargeant, DePoy) to appoint a special committee tilted the Giorgetti Advisory Committee. This committee will be responsible for 4 (four) duties.

- 1) Provide a forum for residents input into the project.
- 2) Provide a sounding board for the project team.
- 3) Provide a communications link between the project team and the BOA.
- 4) Report out a lesson learned document no longer than 3 (three) months after the ribbon has been cut.

Also the committee will have 7 (seven) members chosen by the BOA President at his discretion, with 2 (two) of those members being sitting Aldermen, and the other 5 (five) chosen at random from the general public. After brief discussion the **motion passed.**

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Larson) to refer this issue of how municipalities look at revenue via taxes to the Community and Economic Development Committee. Alderman Davis stated that a UVM student had contacted her about a thesis that she needed to write and was asking for help. Alderman Davis stated that the issue would need to remain in committee for the year. **Motion passed.**

President Allaire stated that General Committee was meeting on the 22nd and he needed to inform the Board who was actually on the Committee. He stated that Alderman Robinson would continue to be chair and also appointed Aldermen Notte, Romeo, Barrett, and Wallstrom.

At 9:33 PM a motion was made and seconded (Wallstrom, Davis) to adjourn. **Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,

Henry A. Heck
Rutland City Clerk