Board of Aldermen Minutes
City of Rutland
Monday, April 6, 2026

Members present: President Allaire, Aldermen Davis, Cupoli, McClure, Franzoni, Adams, Clifford, Gillam, and Tadio. Also, present Mayor Donahue, Treasurer Markowski, and City Clerk Kapusta. Absent: Alderman Talbott

7:00 PM BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING

President Allaire called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and started with the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

ADDITIONS, DELETIONS OR OTHER MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

President Allaire asked if there were any additions, deletions or other modifications to the agenda. Alderwoman Tadio added a referral to the Recreation Committee under new business. President Allaire added a request to confirm his choice for representatives to the Regional Planning Commission and TAC. President Allaire stated that the nominations of Pat Brougham and Peg Flory for Chair and Vice Chair does not need to be tabled just voted on. President Allaire moved up the un-tabling of Barry Beauchamp to the top under Communications from the Mayor. So moved by Alderwoman Davis and seconded by Alderman Adams. Motion passed.

AMENDMENT AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S) (March 16, 2026)

A motion was made and seconded (Cupoli, Adams) approving the minutes of the previous meeting. President Allaire asked if there were any changes. There were no changes or modifications. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Zachary Pratt, 97 North Street Extension asked about the budgeting of fuel, oil, gas, and propane for the FY 2027 budget and why it decreased especially with the price currently. Alderman Gillam responded that the budget referenced starts July 1, 2026, and the budget is prepared in December to present to the taxpayers in March. The energy crisis did not happen back in December, but there is a contingency fund that can be used if needed. So, there is a safeguard in the system. The prices are put out to bid and that is what the City is locked into.

Mr. Pratt suggested that the Board consider doing a survey of the voters to find out why people aren't voting.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Mayor Donahue asked that the Board to un-table the nomination of Barry Beauchamp for Alderman. A motion was made and seconded (Gillam, Clifford) to un-table the nomination of Barry Beauchamp for Alderman. Motion passed. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Gillam) to circulate the ballot box. Motion passed. The ballot box was given to Treasurer Markowski to tally the votes.

President Allaire announced the results, there were 9 yes votes and zero no votes. Barry Beauchamp was confirmed and Mayor Donahue swore him in and he took his seat.

Mayor Donahue requested the nomination of Dick Courcelle for the Rutland Redevelopment Authority Board be tabled until the next Board meeting. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Clifford) to table the nomination until the next Board meeting on April 20th. Motion passed.

Mayor Donahue requested the nomination of Matt Whitcomb for the Police Commission. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Gillam) to table the nomination until the next Board meeting on April 20th. Motion passed.

Mayor Donahue made a request to approve the appointment of Pat Brougham for Chair of the Police Commission and Peg Flory as Vice Chair. A motion was made and seconded (Gillam, Cupoli) to suspend the rules. Motion passed. A motion was made and seconded (Gillam, Tadio) to approve the appointments of Pat Brougham for Chair and Peg Flory Vice Chair of the Police Commission. Motion passed.

Mayor Donahue asked to refer the JCI Contract to the Finance Committee. A motion was made and seconded (Gillam, Davis) to refer the JCI Contract to the Finance Committee. Motion passed.

CONSIDERATAION OF SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT REQUESTS

VFW Post #648, Loyalty Day Parade, Sunday, May 3, 2026; from 12PM-4PM

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Franzoni) to suspend the rules. Motion passed. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Cupoli) to approve the Loyalty Day Parade on Sunday, May 3, 2026, from 12PM to 4PM. Motion passed.

Jen Calvey: Rutland County Pride Festival 2026, Saturday, June 20, 2026, from 10AM-5PM

A motion was made and seconded (Tadio, McClure) to suspend the rules. Motion passed. A motion was made and seconded (Tadio, McClure) to approve the Rutland County Pride Festival 2026 on Saturday, June 20, 2026, from 10AM to 5PM. Motion passed.

REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS

Barbara Spaulding, RRA: Amended Resolution for MPG Grant

The RRA is working with the Municipal Planning Grant Program on behalf of the City to amend the MPG resolution for the Rutland City Capital Improvement Plan grant #07110-MP-2024-07. The amendment will allow the RRA to prepare and submit the final requisition and closeout report for the grant by adding the current Mayor and Board Chair to the resolution.

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Gillam) to suspend the rules. Motion passed. A motion was made and seconded (Gillam, Franzoni) to circulate the amended resolution for signature. Motion passed.

Barbara Spaulding, RRA: Subordination Agreement for 120 Maple St., Rutland Housing Initiative I

The City received a VCDP grant for Rutland Housing Initiative I, LLC to renovate 120 Maple Street which resulted in a mortgage on the property. A portion of the debt is being refinanced, and the City is being asked to sign a subordination agreement.

A motion was made and seconded (Tadio, Davis) to suspend the rules. Motion passed. A motion was made and seconded (Tadio, Gillam) to authorize the Mayor, on behalf of the City, to sign the Subordination Agreement regarding a mortgage deed from Rutland Housing Initiative I, LLC dated February 9, 2024, in substantially the form presented at this meeting. Motion passed.

Sean Adkins, RRA: LIFT Grant application from Jay Sabataso for 24 ½ Center Street

The RRA Board reviewed the LIFT application from Jay Sabataso for renovations at 24 ½ Center Street in Rutland. The renovations include replacement energy efficient windows and installation of fire safety doors.

A motion was made and seconded (Adams, Gillam) to suspend the rules. Motion passed. A motion was made and seconded (Tadio, Adams) approving a LIFT Grant to Jay Sabataso/Sabataso Real Estate LLC for up to $10,000 of the total eligible expenses associated with the renovation at 24 ½ Center Street. Motion passed.

Treasurer Markowski: Summary of the June 30, 2025, audit report from Sullivan, Powers & Company or the City and the RRA

Treasurer Markowski provided a summary of the FY25 Audit. The auditor’s opinion is unqualified, also referred to as a clean opinion. The management letter identified that there were no material weaknesses and the recommendations in the letter are being reviewed by the Treasurer’s Office. The audit communication letter is to communicate to the Board the scope of the audit, procedures performed, significant findings and other information.

This information is for information only and Treasurer Markowski will coordinate with the Auditors for a presentation to the BOA and RRA Board.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES
There were no Reports of Standing Committees.

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES
There were no Reports of Select Committees.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES
Otter Creek Communications Union District: Withdrawal or Appointment
President Allaire asked for a motion to vote on withdrawing from the Otter Creek CUD. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Franzoni) to suspend the rules. Motion passed. There was a brief discussion. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Gillam) to withdraw from the Otter Creek CUD. Motion passed.

PETITIONS, LETTERS, MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATION
There were no Petitions, Letters, or Miscellaneous Communication.

BOARD OF CONTROL COMMISSIONERS
There were no items for the Board of Control Commissioners.

BOARD OF CANNABIS COMMISSIONERS
There were no items for the Board of Cannabis Commissioners.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
There was no Unfinished Business.

MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, NEW BUSINESS
President Allaire asked for a vote to confirm him as the representative to the Regional Planning Commission and TAC. A motion was made and seconded (Adams, Davis) to suspend the rules. Motion passed. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Clifford) to authorize the Chair of the Board to be the representative to the Regional Planning commission and TAC. Motion passed.

Alderwoman Tadio made a motion to refer to the Recreation Committee general updates and the JCI project at Giorgetti. Seconded by Alderwoman Davis. Motion passed.

Alderwoman Davis made a motion to refer to Charter & Ordinance the Mayor’s succession plan. Seconded by Alderman Clifford. Motion passed.

At 7:38 PM a motion was made and seconded (Clifford, McClure) to adjourn. Motion passed.

Respectively submitted by,

Tracy L. Kapusta
City Clerk