

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Aldermen Minutes
Monday, February 1, 2016

Members present; President Notte, Aldermen Allaire, Humphrey, Etori, Siliski, Donahue, Larson, Bloomer, DePoy and Davis. Also present, Mayor Louras, Attorney Romeo and City Clerk Heck.

President Notte called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (January 19, 2016)

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

OUTSIDE THE RAIL

Dr. Michael Dick, a local dentist, spoke on health issues and his experience with fluoride in the City water. Dr. Dick supports placing fluoride in the City water.

Joanne Calvey of Bomoseen Vt. spoke on and supported the use of fluoride in the City water.

Christina Sweet spoke in favor of fluoride being added to the water.

Tom Donahue and Lyle Jepsen briefed the Board on the direction REDC was taking and sought input from county boards and planning commission members.

Mike Messier read a passage from his deed in regards to the use of Combination Pond, specifically recreational activities entitled to land owners.

Kam Johnston spoke on several issues from the legalization of marijuana and his non-support of the pool bond.

Kathleen Krevetski spoke on the winter farmers market location and their commitment to develop a commercial kitchen and her continued commitment to rid fluoride use from the city water supply.

Jack Crowther also spoke against fluoride in the city water.

Dan White spoke on a speeding car issue and his lack of getting information from the Sheriff's Department on why the sheriff he spoke with just drove off.

Mike Messier spoke on lithium ion batteries.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Veto Action

Mayor Louras spoke on his obligation within the Charter to present his rationale on vetoing the ballot question about combination pond being placed on the March 1, 2016 ballot. Mayor Louras reviewed each of the five (5) detailed reasons for vetoing the BOA approved placement of a ballot question on the March ballot. Mike Messier spoke after the Mayor about his rights and his neighbors right to keep Combination Pond. Kam Johnston and Dan White both presented opinions on the issue. Alderman Allaire noted his attempt with the City Clerk to gather information about options with regards to the Mayor's veto. Alderman Allaire noted the Board could vote to overturn the veto, but the time had passed to place the question on the March ballot. There was no action from the Board.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

President Notte noted a request by Clerk Heck; Outside Consumption; The Saloon and a request to add a representative report from Alderman Allaire, Transportation Council. President Notte asked for a motion to add the two requests. The motion was so moved and seconded (Davis, DePoy). **Motion passed.** President Notte asked if there were any other additions. Alderman Bloomer asked to add website contract as the contract had not been signed and the time to do so had expired. President Notte asked for a motion to add the request. The motion was so moved and seconded (Davis, Allaire). **Motion passed.**

REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS

Barbara Spaulding; RRA Downtown Transportation Fund Resolution

President Notte introduced a request from Barbara Spaulding. A motion was made and seconded (Allaire, DePoy) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Allaire, DePoy) to approve the DTF Grant application to install light fixtures in the Center Street Marketplace and to circulate the resolution for signatures. **Motion passed.**

Commissioner Wennberg; Authorization to Contract for Electrical Services – WWTP

Alderman DePoy spoke on the issue and asked for the contract to be approved as requested. Alderman DePoy then moved to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. Alderman Davis seconded. **Motion passed.** Alderman DePoy then moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract and to allow the plant manager to call any of the three approved electricians, McGee Mechanical Services, Ed Poljacik or Benson Electric Inc. Alderman Davis seconded. **Motion passed.**

Treasurer Wilton; Treasurer's Report, Period 6

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Allaire) to receive and file the period 6 Treasurer's Report. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Sharon Davis; Chair, Community & Economic Development, REDC Update

Alderman Davis read her report on her committee's informational meeting with REDC. The report contained insight into how REDC's new path and county focus will impact the region. REDC stated their vision and clear roles they will take. REDC is looking forward to meeting with all select boards and planning commissions to further assist with regional job development. Alderman Davis noted her report was for information only.

Christopher Siliski; Chair, Finance Committee

Alderman Siliski read his report from January 25, 2016 on parking garage accounting and how to pay for garage doors at the transit center. The report contained accounting information to date on how the transit center was operating. The report also noted a concern with the cost of electricity at the center and discussed options to reduce that cost. The committee also discussed how to pay for garage doors that most of the board approved, but could not agree on how to finance.

A motion was made and seconded approving the purchase of the Transit Center overhead doors with an amount not to exceed \$47,000 to be taken as a grant from Zamias. The motion was seconded by Alderman Donahue. There was a fair amount of debate. A motion was made and seconded (Siliski, Allaire) to amend the original motion by approving \$47,000 with \$22,000 in a fund transfer from the Parking Meter Fund and the balance from Zamias. **The Motion to amend passed.**

President Notte noted that the original motion was back on the floor as amended and asked if there was any further debate. Alderman Larson called the question. Alderman Donahue stated "yea" The president noted the question had been called. **Motion passed.** Alderman Davis noted, calling the question passed. President Notte then called the original motion as amended. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES

Dave Allaire; Chair, Pension Deficit Committee

Alderman Allaire read his committee report on the continued discussion on the pension deficit. Alderman Allaire recapped prior discussion and sought input from the actuary. The committee sought more information and moved to continue the conversation and information gathering. The report was for information only.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

Alderman Allaire gave a very brief update from the Transportation Council and noted that their guest speaker from the UVM Transportation Research Center spoke on electric car in Vermont.

PETITIONS, LETTERS, MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATION

S.E.P. Request; Shiver Me Shamrocks, 5K Road Race, March 12, 2016 1 – 3PM

President Notte read the request. A motion was made and seconded (Allaire, Larson) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Allaire, Davis) approving the S. E. P. Request for Shiver Me Shamrocks 5K road race, March 12, 1-3 PM. **Motion passed.**

Michel J. Messier "Mike"; City Waters(hed) / Moon Brook Riparian Buffer Restoration focused Ordinance Review

Mr. Messier spoke on the Moon Brook and watershed riparian buffer. Mr. Messier made his case to review the ordinances dealing with riparian buffer restoration. Eric Berganal also spoke about riparian buffer at one of his properties on Meadow Street during the Irene flooding incident. A motion was made and seconded (Allaire, Davis) to refer the request to the Charter and Ordinance Committee. There was brief debate. **Motion passed.**

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

BOARD OF CONTROL COMMISSIONERS

SER Enterprises; Outside Consumption Request, Center Street, February 12, 2015 4-10PM

President Notte introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, DePoy) to authorize the Clerk to sign. **Motion passed.**

President Notte then noted the earlier request for an outside consumption request for The Saloon. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Allaire) to authorize the Clerk to sign. **Motion passed.**

Clerk Heck; Request for approving First & Second Class Liquor Licenses

President Notte introduced the request and noted supporting document supplied by the police. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Allaire) authorizing the Clerk to sign the renewals. There was brief debate. Alderman Davis noting the objection by Alderman Larson of approving Uncle Sam license moved to amend her motion authorizing the Clerk to sign all but Uncle Sam's license. Alderman Allaire seconded. There was brief debate. **Motion passed.** A motion was made to refer the issue of Uncle Sam's to the City Clerk to further gather information and present it back to the Board. Alderman DePoy seconded. **Motion passed.**

Outside Consumption (Liquor) Request & Entertainment Permit Request

President Notte introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Allaire) authorizing the Clerk to sign all the outside consumption renewals except Uncle Sam's. There was some debate as to how the board would proceed with authorizing both outside consumption and entertainment renewals. It was decided to approve each independently. **Motion passed.** Alderman Davis moved to refer the issue of Uncle Sam's outside consumption request to the City Clerk to gather information and present it back to the Board. Alderman Allaire seconded. **Motion passed.**

President Notte introduced the request to renew entertainment permits. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Allaire) authorizing the Clerk to sign all except Uncle Sam's. **Motion passed.** Alderman Davis moved to refer the issue of Uncle Sam's request to the City Clerk to gather information and present it back to the Board. Alderman DePoy seconded. **Motion passed.**

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

President Notte noted the earlier request by Alderman Bloomer adding to the agenda the issue of updated contract extension with Collaboration 133 on developing the City's website. Alderman Bloomer read the new motion, authorizing the Mayor to sign a contract by February 15, 2016 with Collaboration 133 with up to \$6,750 to re-develop the city website with regular input from one or more Aldermen members as determined by the BOA President. Alderman Larson seconded. There was brief debate. **Motion passed.**

MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Siliski- Referral to Committee - Endowment Fund

Alderman Siliski reviewed his request to refer the issue of the Giorgetti Fund to the Recreation Committee. Alderman Siliski suggested having a professional better utilize the \$1.3 million dollars that are maybe making 1% interest on its return and he so moved. Alderman Donahue seconded. There was a great deal of debate. **Motion passed.**

Alderman Allaire brought the issue of crossing Main St. at the corner of West St. and sought to send the issue to the Traffic Safety Committee. Alderman Davis seconded. **Motion passed.**

At 9:15 PM a motion was made and seconded (Davis, Larson) to adjourn. **Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,



Henry A. Heck
Rutland City Clerk