

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Aldermen Minutes
Monday, February 3, 2014

Members present; President Allaire, Aldermen Kiernan, Humphrey, Donahue, Siliski, Cassarino, Larson and Wallstrom. Also present, Attorney Romeo and Clerk Heck. Aldermen Davis, DePoy, and Notte were absent.

At 7:00 PM President Allaire called the meeting to order.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (January 21, 2014)

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

OUTSIDE THE RAIL

Mike Messier came before the Board on the Moon Brook impairment issue, specifically the RFP to determine the primary cause of impairment. Mr. Messier asked for a request of stay to be drafted by the City Attorney. There was discussion between the Board and Commissioner Wennberg. A motion was made and seconded (Wallstrom, Siliski) to refer the request by Mr. Messier along with the other Moon Brook issue already in committee to the Public Works Committee. **Motion passed.**

Recreation Superintendent Cindi Wight addressed the Board in regards to a very successful Winter Fest held at Giorgetti Park on Saturday. Superintendent Wight thanked long time sponsors and acknowledged new recent sponsors.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

There were no communications from the Mayor.

REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS

Wendy Wilton; Treasurer; Treasurer's Report, as of December 31, 2013 FY 14 Period 6

Treasurer Wilton reviewed the financial position of the City as of December 31, 2013. The Treasurer reviewed cash balances and noted delinquencies were slow and tedious to claim. The Treasurer reviewed Pool Cash Accounts, Balance Sheets and Tax Sales. Her report was for information only.

Memo regarding Uncollectible Allowance-Parking Meter Fund

Treasurer Wilton noted a recent article in the Rutland Herald on her asking the Board to forgive \$242,000 in parking violations as being false. The Treasurer did note that she would ask the Board to forgive \$60,000 in uncollected fines and to request a referral to the Finance Committee to discuss this issue. The Treasurer also asked the Board to look at the length of time a ticket needs to be unpaid before it can be written off. A motion was made and seconded (Larson, Siliski) to refer the discussed issues to the Finance Committee. **Motion passed.**

Evan Pilachowski; City Engineer, Post Issuance Compliance Procedures

There was a brief explanation from the President and Engineer Pilachowski as to the specifics of the request. Both noted the request was to formally assign a compliance officer for State Revolving Fund projects and loans. Treasurer Wilton would be that officer and supported the adoption of the resolution by the Board. A motion was made and seconded (Wallstrom, Larson) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Wallstrom, Siliski) to adopt the aforementioned resolution concerning post issuance compliance procedures for State Revolving Fund projects and loans appointing Treasurer Wilton as compliance officer. **Motion passed.**

Phosphorus Removal Scoping Study RFP Recommendation

President Allaire noted the request to authorize DPW to sign a contract with Aldrich & Elliot on their proposal submitted for an RFP on a Wastewater Treatment Phosphorus Removal Scoping Study. A motion was made and seconded (Larson, Wallstrom) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Wallstrom, Larson) authorizing the Department of Public Works to sign a contract with Aldrich & Elliot consistent with their proposal submitted in response to an RFP for a Wastewater Treatment Phosphorus Removal Scoping Study. There was brief debate. **Motion passed.**

Road & Bridge Standards Annual Certification of Compliance

President Allaire explained the request from Engineer Pilachowski authorizing the signing of the annual certification of compliance for road and bridges. A motion was made and seconded (Larson, Wallstrom) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Larson, Wallstrom) approving the request and to circulate the road & bridge standards annual certification of compliance form for signatures. **Motion passed.**

Jeff Wennberg; Commissioner DPW; Contracted Tree Service RFP Recommendation

Commissioner Wennberg revisited the request and answered all questions from the Board. A motion was made and seconded (Donahue, Larson) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** President Allaire read the request, authorizing the Department of Public Works to sign a contract with Vaillancourt Tree & Landscape Service consistent with their proposal submitted in response to an RFP for tree services. This request was so moved and seconded (Siliski, Wallstrom). **Motion passed.**

Request for Executive Session, Negotiation of & Securing Real Estate Purchase Option

President Allaire asked to move the request to the end of the meeting, there were no objections.

Side note, President Allaire spoke of the executive session request prior to the Timber Sale request which was out of order as outlined in the agenda.

Timber Sale – Request for Bids

The President noted a request to go out to bid for the sale of timber within the City Forest. A motion was made and seconded (Larson, Siliski) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Larson, Siliski) authorizing the Commissioner of Public Works to seek bids for the timber sale as outlined in the memo. **Motion passed.**

Brennan Duffy; Executive Director, RRA; DTF Funding Request

President Allaire introduced Brennan Duffy and Michael Coppinger in regards to a funding request for a proposed sidewalk project. Mr. Duffy and Mr. Coppinger spoke in support of the proposed request to utilize funds as a match for a Downtown Transportation Grant Fund. The parties explained the process and sought to get BOA approval for funds for this sidewalk and lighting project. A motion was made and seconded (Cassarino, Larson) to refer the issue to the Community and Economic Development Committee. There was a fair amount of debate. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Jon Kiernan; Chair, General Committee

Alderman Kiernan read his committee report, noting members and Cemetery Commissioner, Tom Giffin. The committee met to discuss ways the City can improve their support for its cemeteries. Alderman Kiernan noted the committee's strong support of Mr. Giffin. The report also included the accomplishments and frustrations of Mr. Giffin. There was no action taken and the issue is to remain in committee for further discussion.

Dave Wallstrom; Chair, Recreation Committee

Alderman Wallstrom read his committee report detailing several issues, of which one was to move forward in getting Giorgetti rink in compliance and up to code. The Committee reviewed the scope of work as presented by the Mayor, & Superintendent. A motion was made and seconded (Wallstrom, Donahue) authorizing the Mayor & Recreation Department to go out for an RFP for scope of work on structural and code compliance improvements as outlined in the attached Giorgetti scope of work document with associated cost included. There was brief debate, **Motion passed.** Alderman Wallstrom concluded his report with updates on the Courcelle Brothers Building roof completion, new healthy snack options, as well as increased leash enforcement at Pine Hill Park.

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES

There were no Select Committee Reports.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

President Allaire gave a very brief update on the Regional Transportation Council and the election of their officers. The President also noted some rail issues within the region.

PETITIONS, LETTERS, MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATION

Chad Ebbighausen; Abatement request, 341/2 Summer Street

Bob Kirbach; Abatement request; 277 West St. Parcel ID #16044

The President noted several abatement requests and asked the Board to approve the committee of Aldermen Donahue as Chair, Siliski and Cassarino to hear both the request of Ebbighausen, 341/2 Summer St and Kirbach, 277 West St and to report back on March 17, 2014 at 6:30 PM. The request was so moved. There was brief debate. **Motion passed.**

Marge Johnston; Abatement Request; 103 Maple St. 2006-2007 Grandlist

The President then asked the Board to approve the committee of Aldermen Wallstrom as Chair, Larson and DePoy, to hear a request from Marge Johnston and to report back to the full Board on March 17, 2014 at 6:45 PM. This request was so moved and seconded (Siliski, Cassarino). **Motion passed.**

S.E.P. Request; Heritage Family Credit Union, Shiver Me Shamrocks Fun Run

President Allaire read the request and noted a rules suspension was in order if the Board was to take any action. A motion was made and seconded (Wallstrom, Larson) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Larson, Cassarino) to approve the permit upon receipt of proof of insurance. **Motion passed.**

S.E.P. Request; Vt. Sports Medicine Center; 22 Annual Road Race

President Allaire read the request. A motion was made and seconded (Larson, Wallstrom) to suspend the rules. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Larson, Humphrey) to approve the request. **Motion passed.**

GMP Pole & Wire Request

President Allaire noted the request and stated a rules suspension was in order. It was so moved and seconded (Donahue, Larson). **Motion passed.** The President then noted an approval with the seven (7) standard conditions would be in order. That request was so moved and seconded (Wallstrom, Kiernan). Alderman Humphrey recused herself as she is employed by GMP. **Motion passed.**

BOARD OF CONTROL COMMISSIONERS

There were no issues to come before the Board of Control Commissioners.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to come before the Board.

MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, NEW BUSINESS

The President did note an executive session request if there were no miscellaneous motions, resolutions or new business. Seeing none, the President asked for a motion to enter executive session to discuss the negotiation and securing of real estate purchase options. This request was so moved and seconded (Larson, Siliski). **Motion passed.**

At 8:25 PM the Board moved into executive session.

At 8:52 PM a motion was made and seconded (Wallstrom, Cassarino) to come out of executive session. **Motion passed.**

At 8:53 PM the Board moved to adjourn, (Wallstrom, Cassarino). **Motion passed.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Henry A. Heck
Rutland City Clerk