

**CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT**  
**Board of Aldermen Minutes**  
**Monday, August 3, 2015**

Members present; President Notte, Aldermen Allaire, Humphrey, Skates, 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 (July 20, 2015)**

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

**OUTSIDE THE RAIL**

Ira Pepper of West Rutland, the Executive Director of the Kids Wonder Feet Museum gave the Board an update on the statues of the museum. Ms. Pepper was very pleased with the visits and memberships to date, noting that they have far exceeded their goals. Ms. Pepper spoke of the Zamias Fund and the partnership developed within the City and looks forward to the continued development of the Kids Wonder Feet Museum.

Mayor Louras spoke on a request he would like the Board to take up later in their meeting. The issue dealt with model social media management. Mayor Louras wants to start the discussion on setting a social media policy within City government.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR**

***Untable Mayoral Appointment; Michael Jones, Fire Chief***

President Notte introduced the issue. A motion was made and seconded, (Allaire, Siliski) to untable the Mayoral Appointment of Michael Jones. **Motion passed.** Alderman Davis moved to circulate the ballot box. Motion was seconded by Alderman DePoy. Clerk Heck gathered the ballots and gave them to the City Attorney. President Notte read the results, Nine (9) YES, Two (2) NO. **Motion passed.** Michael Jones addressed the Board.

**ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA**

There were no Additions or deletions to the agenda.

**REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS**

***Barbara Spaulding; RRA Request to set Public Hearing, VCDP Planning Grant***

President Notte introduced the request. Barbara Spaulding from the RRA reviewed the request and associated criteria. Mrs. Spaulding then requested a Public Hearing be set for Tuesday, September 8, 2015 at 6:45 PM. A motion was made and seconded (Allaire, Davis) to set the public hearing for Tuesday, September 8, 2015 at 6:45PM. **Motion passed.** Brennan Duffy the Executive Director of the RRA spoke on the application process and how he saw the process progressing.

***Michael Coppinger; DRLFC, Request BOA Approve Funding Request***

Mr. Coppinger was not present when this issue came up and the Board decided to move on in the agenda and to come back later in the agenda.

***Chief Covell; Request to Award RFP for Crime Analysis Services***

President Notte introduced the request. Chief Covell reviewed the request and sought the Board's approval. 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, Larson) to award the

RFP to Crime Research Group in the amount of \$19,545.00. There was brief debate on the financing. Chief Covell stated that the funds would come from the Special Services Line. **Motion passed.**

***Michael Coppinger; DRLFC, Request BOA Approve Funding Request***

President Notte introduced the request. Mr. Coppinger provided the Board with an overview of the request and sought their approval on the request. A motion was made and seconded (DePoy, Donahue) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** Alderman Larson abstained from voting on the issue, noting a family conflict. A motion was made and seconded (DePoy, Allaire) to award the \$30,000 in the Revolving Loan Fund as outlined by Mr. Coppinger. Mr. Coppinger updated the Board on the financing to date with the RLF. **Motion passed.**

***Superintendent Wight; Baxter St. Update***

Superintendent Wight update the Board on a function held on Baxter Street. It was noted that 65 -67 Baxter would become a park once the homes were removed. It was noted that the next meeting on this issue will be held on August 23<sup>rd</sup> with concepts for a park.

***Attorney Romeo; "Request for Executive Session to provide professional legal services"***

Per the Boards past practice, the request was moved to the end of the meeting.

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

***Dave Allaire; Chair, Charter & Ordinance***

Alderman Allaire read his committee report from July 21<sup>st</sup>. The committee met to discuss the referral of a review of ordinance 4221-4225 dealing with fireworks. The committee heard from the City Attorney on his review of the current ordinance. The committee spent a good deal of discussion on the issue. The committee could not agree on a solution and sought to leave the issue in committee. It was noted that the issue would be furthered discussed in the Public Safety Committee. Alderman Allaire's report was for information only.

**REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES**

There were no select committee reports.

**REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES**

There were no representative reports.

**PETITIONS, LETTERS, MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATION**

***S.E.P. Request; Wonderpaws Festival, Sept. 26, 2015 10 – 1PM***

President Notte introduced the request. Alderman Etori recused himself from voting on this request. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Larson) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Larson) approving the request for the Wonder Paws Festival permit to be held September 26, Saturday, from 10 – 1PM. **Motion passed.**

***S.E.P. Request; Feast of the Assumption Parish Picnic, Aug. 16, 2015 12 – 3PM***

President Notte introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, DePoy) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. Motion passed. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, DePoy) approving the request of the Feast of the Assumption, held August 16<sup>th</sup>, from noon - 3PM. Attorney Romeo updated the Board on a slight change to the route, noting it would not leave Convent Ave. **Motion passed.**

***Hot Dog Campaign; Concerned Citizens for the Wellbeing of Animals***

President Notte read the request presented to the Board. Alderman Allaire sympathized with the request but stated a referral of the request should go to the Police Commission as they could better handle the request. Alderman Davis seconded the referral. There was brief debate. **Motion passed.**

## **BOARD OF TAX ABATEMENT**

There were no requests to come before the Board of Tax Abatement.

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

## **BOARD OF CONTROL COMMISSIONERS**

### ***Outside Consumption Request; American Legion Post #31***

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

### ***Outside Consumption Request; Center St. Saloon***

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

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

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business to come before the Board.

## **MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, NEW BUSINESS**

Alderman Humphrey updated the Board on an event held Sunday. The First Family Funday event was held and was a huge success. Alderman Humphrey also noted a bike riding event to learn how to use the bike paths within the City.

Alderman Davis moved to refer the Mayor's request of the Social Media Policy to the General Committee. Alderman DePoy seconded the referral. **Motion passed.**

At 7:45 PM a motion was made and seconded (Allaire, Davis) where premature of public general knowledge of confidential client, Attorney communication may place the City at risk. **Motion passed.**

A seconded motion was made to go into executive session for client attorney communication for providing legal services. **Motion passed.**

At 7:52 PM a motion to come out of executive session was made and seconded (Allaire, DePoy).  
**Motion passed.**

President Notte noted a motion for the Board to waive any potential conflict with the firm of Kenlan, Schwiebert, Facey & Goss, representing General Electric, before the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation and to have Attorney Romeo write a letter to that effect. The request was so moved and seconded (Siliski, Davis). **Motion passed.**

At 7:53 PM A motion was made and seconded (Allaire, Siliski) to adjourn. **Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Henry A. Heck

Rutland City Clerk