

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Aldermen Minutes
Monday, May 6, 2019

Members present; President Davis, Aldermen Reveal, Humphrey, Ryan, Etori, Tommola, Mattis, Gillam, Clifford, DePoy and Whitcomb. Also present; Mayor Allaire, Attorney Bloomer and City Clerk Heck.

7:00 PM BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING

President Davis called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (April 15, 2019)

A motion was made and seconded (Mattis, Whitcomb) approving the minutes of the previous meeting.

Motion passed.

OUTSIDE THE RAIL

Dave Coppock of Rutland spoke from the organization 350VT on the focus of 350VT and how their subgroup in Rutland County works. Mr. Thomas presented a book to Commissioner Wennberg in hopes that some suggestions with environmental issues may be passed on.

Susan Schreibman and Paul Gallo gave an update on the Rutland Creek Path. Ms. Schreibman spoke on the finished segments and the remaining segments. Ms. Schreibman noted the plan was to re-arrange the segments and explained the process. Mr. Gallo spoke on the funding sources, including grants and in-kind work.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Untable Mayoral Appointment-Bob Pelletier

President Davis introduced the request and sought a motion to untable the appointment. The request was so moved and seconded (Clifford, Ryan). **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Clifford, Whitcomb) to circulate the ballot box. President Davis noted the motion to circulate and also asked the Clerk to tabulate the results as Attorney Bloomer was absent. **Motion passed.**

Clerk Heck collected the votes and presented the results to President Davis.

Mayor Allaire finished his communications report with updates on the recent South Main Street fire and displacement of nine people, and the passenger service contract at the airport.

President Davis read the results of the Building Inspector appointment, noting Bob Pelletier was approved 11 YES and 0 NO.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

Mayor Allaire asked to add a referral to public safety on the issue of the purchase of a new tower ladder truck. That request to add was so moved and seconded (DePoy, Ryan). **Motion passed.**

DPW request; Engineering Services Agreement. President Davis noted the request and asked for a motion to add the item to the agenda. That request was so moved and seconded. (Ryan, Mattis). **Motion passed.**

REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS

Attorney Bloomer, Airbnb Voluntary Collection Agreement

President [NDavis](#) introduced the item. Alderman [Etori](#) noted the request and moved to refer it to Finance [Committee](#) for discussion. Alderman Gillam seconded. **Motion passed.**

Brennan Duffy, RRA Director; Request for Referral

Brennan Duffy was present to introduce his request for referral. Mr. Duffy noted the ongoing work for the development of a downtown hotel. Mr. Duffy updated the Board on the recent developments and sought a referral to the Community & Economic Development Committee. Alderwoman Humphrey moved to refer this issue to the Community & Economic Development Committee. Alderman DePoy seconded. **Motion passed.**

Barbara Spaulding, RRA, Support for Grant Resolution

Brennan Duffy was present to present the request from Barbara Spaulding. Mr. Duffy noted the earlier grant request failed and Ms. Spaulding was looking to apply to the Northern Borders Regional Commission. Mr. Duffy noted a resolution of support and authorization for the Mayor to sign the documents. A motion was made and seconded (Mattis, Whitcomb) suspending the rules and taking action on the request. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Mattis, Whitcomb) to circulate the resolution of support for signatures and authorize the Mayor to sign. **Motion passed.**

Commissioner Wennberg; Loan Application Approval and Circulate for Signatures-

Commissioner Wennberg was present to introduce his request. Commissioner Wennberg was looking for the Board to approve and circulate the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Step II (Final Design) funding applications for the Force Main and Digester improvement projects, as approved by the voters at the March election. Alderman Clifford noted his abstention from voting. A motion was made and seconded (Whitcomb, DePoy) suspending the rules and taking action that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Whitcomb, DePoy) to approve and circulate the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Step II (Final Design) funding applications for the Force Main and Digester improvement projects. **Motion passed.**

Added Agenda Items

Engineering Services Agreement

Commissioner Wennberg introduced the request seeking the Board approve the request authorizing the Mayor to execute the Engineering Services Agreement with Otter Creek for the final design work of the Northwest Neighborhood Sewer Separation project, Phase 1A. A motion was made and seconded (Mattis, Gillam) suspending the rules and taking action on the request that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Mattis, DePoy) authorizing the Mayor to execute the Engineering Services Agreement with Otter Creek Engineering for the final design services of the Northwest Neighborhood Sewer Separation project, Phase 1A, in the amount of \$33,200. **Motion passed.** Alderman Clifford abstained.

Mayor Request for Referral

Mayor Allaire introduced the request for referral the issue of a new ladder truck. Chief Larsen noted a recent inspection and failed testing of the ladders integrity. A motion was made and seconded (DePoy, Whitcomb) to refer the request to the Public Safety Committee. There was brief debate. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Alderman Etori; Finance Committee

Alderman Etori read his committee report from April 29, 2019, to discuss the FY 19 audit review. The committee heard from Fred Duplessis of Sullivan, Powers & Co. The report noted the findings and clean audit for the City, which stands in full compliance with Government Auditing Standards. Alderman Etori's report noted highlights and there was no action requested.

Alderman DePoy; Recreation Committee

Alderman DePoy read his committee report from April 30, 2019 noting his committee met to discuss proposed fees for city parks. The committee was presented with a list of associated fees and details relating to those fees at each park. Alderman DePoy noted a motion out of committee to approve the fees as presented by Kim (Superintendent) Peters titled "Facility Rental & Usage Policies" and he so moved. Alderwoman Mattis seconded. There was brief debate. **Motion passed.**

Alderman Whitcomb; Public Safety

Alderman Whitcomb read his committee report from April 18, 2019. The Safety Committee met to discuss fire department initiatives and improvements. The committee met for almost two hours where Chief Larsen walked through a past, present and future look at the fire department. Chief Larsen used a PowerPoint presentation during his report to highlight accomplishments within the department. Alderman Whitcomb's report was very detailed and informative. There was no action requested and the report was for information only.

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES

There were no report of select committees.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

There were no Representative reports.

PETITIONS, LETTERS, MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATION

SEP Request, Memorial Service West ST Cemetery, 5-27-2019, 10 – 2PM

President Davis introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Gillam, Clifford) suspending the rules and taking action on the request. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Mattis, Whitcomb) approving the special events request for the Memorial Day Service on May 27, 2017 from 10 Am to 2 PM. Tony Romeo spoke on the event and invited all to come. **Motion passed.**

SEP Request, Coin Drop, K of C, May 18, 2019 10-2PM

President Davis introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Mattis, DePoy) suspending the rules and taking action on the request. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Mattis, Whitcomb) approving the special events request for the K of C, for a coin drop on May 18, 2019. Alderman Gillam abstained as he is a member of the K of C. **Motion passed.**

SEP Request, Crowley Brothers Road Race, June 9, 2019 5:30 AM – 12:30 PM

President Davis introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Mattis, Whitcomb) suspending the rules and taking action on the request. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Mattis, Whitcomb) approving the special events request for the Crowley Brothers Road Race, Sunday, June 9, 2019 from 5:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Alderman Gillam Abstained. Clerk Heck noted the absence of insurance and the motion was amended to note proof of insurance was needed prior to the approval. **Motion passed.**

BOARD OF CONTROL COMMISSIONERS

There were no items 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

Alderman Etori noted Neighbors Day was to be held again this year in June and sought a referral to the Community & Economic Development Committee to discuss ways to improve neighbor relations. Alderwoman Ryan seconded. **Motion passed.**

Alderwoman Humphrey noted that there was a request from a Board member for the City Attorney to research a "legal" matter. This request, unfamiliar with Attorney Bloomer's normal practice of law, caused him to spend \$3500 for outside council. Alderwoman Humphrey wants to refer the issue of outside council spending to the General Committee for further discussion. Alderwoman Ryan seconded. **Motion passed.**

With no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

The Board adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Henry A Heck
Rutland City Clerk