

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Aldermen Minutes
Monday, March 20, 2017

Members present: Aldermen Notte, Davis, Humphrey, Ettori, Ryan, Mattis, Tommola, Donahue, Cook and DePoy. Also present, Mayor Allaire and City Clerk Heck.

City Clerk Heck called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Clerk Heck explained the process of swearing in the newly elected Aldermen, then electing a Board of Aldermen President.

Clerk Heck swore in all newly elected Aldermen.

Clerk Heck then opened the floor for BOA President nominations. A motion was made and seconded (DePoy, Donahue) to nominate Alderman Sharon Davis as BOA President. There were no other nominations. Clerk Heck asked for a motion to close the nominations. Alderman DePoy so moved and Alderman Ettori seconded. Clerk Heck called for a vote on the closing of the nominations, **Motion passed.** Clerk Heck then called for the vote of electing Sharon Davis as BOA President. **Motion passed.** Alderman Davis took her seat as the President of the Board of Aldermen.

President Davis gave a brief introduction and thank you to the previous president, William Notte and then proceeded with the agenda.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (March 6, 2017)

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

OUTSIDE THE RAIL

Mayor Allaire spoke very briefly requesting to add RFP for outside legal services to the additions and deletions portions of the agenda. The request was so moved and seconded (DePoy, Notte) **Motion passed.** No one else spoke from outside the rail.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Mayoral Appointments; To be emailed or Placed on Desk

Mayor Allaire expressed his gratitude and excitement following his election as Mayor. Mayor Allaire also noted his request on the agenda of his Mayoral appointments and noted all of those listed on his memo. Mayor Allaire noted his two vacant appointments specifically Matt Bloomer for City Attorney and Ed Larson to complete Mayor Allaire's term on the BOA. Mayor Allaire then asked for the appointments to be tabled as per the City Charter. The request was so moved and seconded (DePoy, Notte). **Motion passed.**

Mayor Allaire then spoke of his addition to the agenda and asked the Board to suspend the rules and take his request up that evening. Clerk Heck distributed the Mayor's request. A motion was made and seconded (DePoy, Ettori) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was then made and seconded (DePoy, Notte) authorizing the Mayor to seek RFP's for outside legal help from attorney's or firms for the City of Rutland. There was brief debate. **Motion passed.**

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

Mayor Allaire's request to add an RFP item to the agenda was taken up under Communications from the Mayor.

REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS

Barbara Spaulding; RRA, Zoning Bylaws Revision

President Davis introduced the request. Barbara Spaulding then outlined the request for the Municipal Planning Grant to pay for a consultant to assist in revising the City's Zoning Bylaws. Ms. Spaulding also asked that the BOA approve the committees request to hire Orion Planning & Design (OPD) and asked the Board respectfully to award the contract to (OPD) and authorize the Mayor to sign the contract.

A motion was made and seconded (Notte, DePoy) to suspend the rules and take the request up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Ettori) awarding the contract to Orion Planning & Design and to authorize the Mayor to execute the contract. **Motion passed.**

Assessor Keefe; Requests Potential Executive Session to Consider Appraisal Contract

President Davis asked for a motion to move the request to the end of the meeting as in past practice. A motion was made and seconded (Ettori, Notte) to move the request to the end of the agenda. **Motion passed.**

Assessor Keefe; Request to Carryover Vacation Time

President Davis introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Notte, DePoy) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Notte, DePoy) to approve the carryover of 192.50 hours of vacation time for Assessor Keefe. **Motion passed.**

Treasurer Report; As of 2-28-2017

Treasurer Wilton updated the Board on the current fiscal condition of the City. Treasurer Wilton noted several highlights and briefly reviewed those lines. Treasurer Wilton also noted that tax delinquencies were at a four (4) year low. Treasurer Wilton noted a meeting she will hold on Monday, March 27 at 5:30 PM in the conference room to discuss how to review city financials. President Davis then asked for a motion to receive and file the Treasurer's Report. The request was so moved and seconded (DePoy, Notte). **Motion passed.**

James Rotondo; City Engineer, Water Allocation Request

President Davis introduced the request, noting she had spoken with Engineer Rotondo earlier in the day and stated that there were no concerns with this request. A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Etori) to suspend the rules and take the request up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Notte, DePoy) approving the requested Water Allocation of 639 gallons per day to Kate Moser and Lindsey Savage. There was no debate. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

There were no Standing Committee reports.

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES

Alderman DePoy; Chair, Special Liquor

Alderman DePoy read his report from his committee meeting held on March 15. The committee met to discuss the request for licensing a bar at 24 Merchants Row. The location of the request has drawn a higher than normal response from the Rutland City Police Department (RCPD) over the past several years. Cassondra Lafaso the applicant spoke on how she would change that culture and only wanted a chance to prove that she could. The motion out of committee was to deny all requests for licensing of the Nite Lite bar located at 24 Merchants Row and Alderman DePoy so moved his committees' motion to the full Board. Alderman Tommola recused himself from the vote or debate do to his connection with the building owner. There was brief debate before a point of order was called, specifically asking if the Board needed to be in the Board of Control Commissioners. There was brief debate.

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

BOARD OF CONTROL COMMISSIONERS

Request 1st Class Liquor, Outside Consumption and Entertainment Permit Nite Lite Club, 24 Merchants Row

President Davis introduced the request again and asked Alderman DePoy to repeat his motion. Alderman DePoy stated that the motion out of committee was to deny the 1st class liquor request and the permits for outside consumption and entertainment for Nite Lite at 24 Merchants Row. There was a fair amount of debate. Alderman Tommola reiterated that he was recusing himself on the issue. **Motion passed.**

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

President Davis then moved to continue on with the agenda as the Board moved out of its normal order.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

There were no Representative reports.

PETITIONS, LETTERS, MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATION

SEP Request VFW Post 648 Loyalty Day Parade, 5-7-2017, 2 PM – 4:30 PM

President Davis introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Tommola) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Mattis) approving the special events permit request of the VFW 648 for their loyalty day parade on May 7, 2017 from 2-4:30 PM. **Motion passed.**

SEP Request; Coin Drop City Cat Allies, 8-26-2017, 10 AM – 2PM

President Davis introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Notte, Etori) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Notte, DePoy) approving the special events permit request for a coin drop benefiting, City Cat Allies on August 26, 2017 from 10AM - 2PM at the usual location on Merchants Row. **Motion passed.**

SEP Request; Coin Drop, Meals on Wheels, 5-6-2017, 10 AM – 2PM

President Davis introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Notte, DePoy) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Notte, DePoy) approving the special events permit request for a coin drop benefiting, Meals on Wheels, on May 6, 2017 from 10AM - 2PM at the usual location on Merchants Row. **Motion passed.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to come before the Board.

MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Etori asked to have the roof project for the train at the winter farmers location be re-referred to Community and Economic Development Committee as no action had been taken in the last couple winters. **Motion passed.**

President Davis noted there was no other business to come before the board and noted the request for an executive session and sought two motion to move into such. President Davis sought a motion where finding that premature general public knowledge regarding a potential contract with an appraisal company would clearly place the city at a substantial disadvantage. This motion was so moved and seconded (Etori, Notte). **Motion passed.**

President Davis then sought a motion that we enter into executive session to discuss the potential award of an appraisal contract as allowed under the provisions of Title 1, section 313(a)(1)(A) of the Vermont Statutes. This request was so moved and seconded (Etori, Notte). **Motion passed.**

At 7:45 PM the Board moved into executive session.

At 8:00 PM a motion was made and seconded (Donahue, DePoy) to come out of executive session. **Motion passed.**

A motion was made and seconded (Notte, DePoy) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.**

A motion was made and seconded (Notte, DePoy) to award the appraisal contract to Michael Keller in the amount of \$4,000.00 for the appraisal of the Dana building with the funds to come from the Assessor's Budget, (Equalization & Education Lines). **Motion passed.**

At 8:05 PM a motion was so moved and seconded to adjourn, (Ryan, Mattis). **Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,

Henry A. Heck
Rutland City Clerk