

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Aldermen Minutes
Tuesday, September 4, 2018

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

7:00 PM BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING

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

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (August 20, 2018)

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

OUTSIDE THE RAIL

Chris Siliski spoke on the Vermont Farmers Food Center fund raiser, Harvest Festival 2018 and invited all to attend.

Mayor Allaire welcomed a group of German exchange students. One of the local chaperons spoke on the exchange and noted that the Rutland group had visited Germany earlier this summer.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Mayor Allaire had no items for 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

Brennan Duffy; RRA Director, Consultant Recommendation, West St. Ped & Gateway Improvement

Brennan Duffy was present to introduce his request. Mr. Duffy noted there were five (5) responses for the engineering services and design portion of the project. Mr. Duffy noted that the engineers and he reviewed and checked references on all of the applicants. That committee wished to recommend VHB as the engineering company for the design phase. A motion was made and seconded (Ettori, Clifford) suspending the rules and taking the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Ettori, Whitcomb) approving the recommendation of VHB for the engineering study of the West Street Pedestrian Gateway Project. There was some debate on the cost and timeline of the project. **Motion passed.**

Brennan Duffy; RRA Director, WWRI Reduction (Water & Wastewater Rate Reduction Incentive)

Brennan Duffy introduced the request noting the RRA Board received an application for this incentive. After reviewing the application the RRA Board moved to approve the request from Root's the Restaurant and sought the BOA approval of the request. Mr. Duffy noted the standard terms of the incentive. A motion was made and seconded (Mattis, Ettori) suspending the rules and taking the request up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Mattis, Whitcomb) approving the Water & Wastewater Rate Reduction Incentive for the standard offer for Root's the Restaurant. There was brief debate. **Motion passed.**

Barbara Spaulding; RRA, Final Hearing Request for VCDP, Hickory St. Phase III

President Davis noted the request and stated a motion to set a public hearing for October 1, 2018 at 6:45 PM. The request was so moved and seconded, (Ettori, DePoy). **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Alderman Notte; Public Safety, Dunklee Pond

Alderman Notte was not present so Alderman DePoy read the report. Alderman DePoy noted that the committee met on August 27, 2018 at 5:30 PM. The committee as well as Rutland City Public Safety personnel and State officials discussed the Dunklee Pond Dam and its need to be removed. Alderman DePoy noted both State and City concerns. ***A motion from the committee was to recognize that Dunklee Pond Dam and abutment walls are a public safety hazard and encourage the mayor to work with City Departments and State organizations and to plan for the removal of the dam and funding sources for all stages of the project.*** There was a good deal of debate from inside the rail as well as outside, with State officials speaking on the issue. Mayor Allaire noted his concern with possible public safety downstream with flooding. Silt from the pond is a major concern and associated cost with the project. After 15 minutes of discussion, **Motion passed.**

Alderwoman Mattis; Charter & Ordinance, Off Street Parking

Alderwoman Mattis read her committee report from August 23, 2018. It was noted that the committee had met once before on this issue and a brief summary was presented. The prior meeting discussion dealt with the Chief and his authority already to deal with off street parking. The committee spoke on citywide bans and erecting signage. It was noted that signage may not resolve all issues and Attorney Bloomer crafted language in preparation of this meeting. There was no motion made coming out of committee.

Upon the completion of her report, Alderwoman Mattis wished to make a motion and moved to suspend the rules. Alderwoman Ryan seconded. **Motion passed.** Alderwoman Mattis then ***moved to amend the parking ordinance, section 5045, to restrict parking of junk cars, storage vehicles..ect., using the language provided by Attorney Bloomer in his memorandum.***

Alderman Gillam seconded for debate. There was lengthy debate of approximately 20 minutes with most Aldermen, Police Chief and others speaking on the issue. President Davis noted prior to the vote that in order for the motion to pass this evening it must be a unanimous vote. Otherwise the Board will take it up at its next meeting where a majority vote would be needed. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Alderman Etori; Finance Committee

Alderman Etori read his committee report from August 28, 2018, with two (2) LAZ issues being discussed. The first issue was the proposed FY 19 budget for operating the parking garage. The new budget was sought to breakeven this year with the State taking over the significant electrical cost. The committee and LAZ representatives discussed ways to bring more non-passholders into the deck. The motion out of committee was to approve the LAZ FY 19 budget and Alderman Etori so moved. Alderwoman Ryan seconded. **Motion passed.**

Alderman Etori then read out the issue of LAZ management agreement, noting the language presented by Attorney Bloomer and his suggestions for changing the length of the contract to five (5) years and modifying the LAZ incentive bonus structure. The motion out of committee was to approve the LAZ Management Agreement as presented and authorize the Mayor to sign and he so moved. Alderman Whitcomb seconded. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES

Alderwoman Ryan; HR Committee

Alderwoman Ryan noted the HR Committee met to discuss the non-union personnel policy. The committee moved right into executive session and when exited there were no motion or further discussion. The topic is to remain in committee for future discussion.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

There were no reports of representatives.

PETITIONS, LETTERS, MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATION

SEP Request; 2018 Walk to End Alzheimer's, Main St Park, Sept 8, 2018, 9AM – NOON

President Davis introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Gillam, Whitcomb) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Gillam, Clifford) approving the Special Events Permit. **Motion passed.**

SEP Request; Wonderfeet & Wonderpaws Benefit, Sept 8, 2018, 11AM – 2PM

President Davis introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Gillam, Whitcomb) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Gillam, Clifford) approving the Special Events Permit. Alderman Etori recused himself as he sits on the Wonderfeet Board. **Motion passed.**

SEP Request; Routes to Resilience, Educational Walk/Bike, Sept 8, 2018 8:30 – 1PM

President Davis introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Gillam, Whitcomb) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Gillam, Whitcomb) approving the Special Events Permit. Candy Jones spoke briefly on this event and welcomed all to join in a unique walk/ride event. **Motion passed.**

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

BOARD OF CONTROL COMMISSIONERS

Root's Restaurant; Request to Move Liquor License

President Davis introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Etori, DePoy) to approve the request. There was brief debate. **Motion passed.**

A motion was made and seconded, (Etori, Ryan) to come 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 Whitcomb noted a complaint from a citizen on no signage at the intersection of Morse Place and Madison Street and sought a motion to refer the issue to Traffic Committee. Alderman Etori seconded. There was brief debate. **Motion passed.**

At 8:20 PM a motion was made and seconded (Whitcomb, DePoy) to adjourn. **Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,

Henry A Heck
Rutland City Clerk