

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Aldermen Minutes
Monday, November 6, 2017

Members present; President Davis, Aldermen Notte, Humphrey, Ryan, Etori, Tommola, Mattis, Cook, Larson, DePoy and Donahue. Also present, Mayor Allaire, Attorney Bloomer and Deputy City Clerk Kapusta.

7:00 PM BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING

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

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (October 16, 2017)

A motion was made and seconded (Larson, Etori) approving the minutes of the previous meeting. **Motion passed.**

OUTSIDE THE RAIL

Russ Marsan, who is with the Cairo Shriners, stated they will be hosting the 2018 Northeast Shrine Association. Thirteen temples/clubs are being invited to Rutland in March. There will be about six executive board members from each temple/club, totaling about eighty individuals. They will be here to explore Rutland, make their way around to see the different sites for opportunities. They will then bring these ideas back to their clubs where everyone will then come back in September. Expecting about 800-1000 people. Cairo Shriners will also be hosting a large parade that will be happening on Saturday, May 15, 2018. This parade will be similar to the Loyalty Day parade held in Rutland. President Davis advised Russ to obtain a special events permit from the City Clerk's Office. A motion was made and seconded (Etori, Ryan) to refer the issue of the Shriners coming in March and September to the Community and Economic Development Committee. **Motion passed.**

Wendy Wilton, Treasurer made an announcement that there will be an event next week, Thursday November 16, 2017 at 7:00 PM at the Rutland Area Christian School to honor Kevin Mullin for his service to the legislature for the last 18 years.

Local Cub Scouts from Aero Flight Den Pack 120, were in attendance. William, who is in his 4th year as a Cub Scout, wanted to thank the Aldermen for allowing their den to attend this meeting to help them learn about the government, so they can complete their mission called Building a Better World. The Cub Scouts are learning about government and what it is used for. William also gave a special Thank You to Wendy Wilton for helping the Den get prepared before the BOA meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Un-Table Mayoral Appointment of Kim Peters as Recreation Superintendent

A motion was made and seconded (DePoy, Ettori) to un-table the Mayoral appointment of Kim Peters as Recreation Superintendent. **Motion passed.**

Aldermen Notte moved to circulate the ballot box in regards to the nomination of Kim Peters as Recreation Superintendent, seconded DePoy. **Motion passed.**

By a vote of 11-0, Kim Peters has been appointed as the Recreation Superintendent. Kim Peters spoke briefly thanking the BOA.

FY 2019 Budget

Mayor Allaire asked President Davis to distribute the proposed municipal budget to the BOA. Mayor Allaire continued speaking that this has been a year of transition for city government, with a new Mayor, new attorney, new Human Resources Director and at least two new department heads, one that has just been approved and one about to come on board in the near future, a Fire Chief. The budget represents approximately a 4.5% increase from FY 2018.

Aldermen Notte made a motion to send the appropriate portions of the proposed budget to the General, Public Works, Public Safety, Recreation and finance committees, seconded (DePoy). **Motion passed.**

Mayor Allaire stated that Route 7 paving will begin tomorrow and last 2 days.

Mayor Allaire informed the BOA that Wendy Wilton, City Treasurer, has been appointed as the VT Director of the Farm Service Agency. This is very important for our state as agriculture is still an economic driver in VT. He thanked Wendy for her years of service and wished her well.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS

Attorney Bloomer; Request for Executive Session, Discussion Labor Relations and Contracts

This request was moved to the end of the agenda per the board's normal practice.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Ed Larson; Chair, Public Works Committee

Department of Public Works has been looking into the possible outsourcing of utility billing. Bob Flaherty of FATHOM, a company that provides such services to municipalities through telemetry and web based monitoring and billing for water and sewer usage, was invited to the committee meeting. No formal action was taken at the committee meeting, however nothing would prevent the BOA from authorizing an RFP relative to the changes in order to determine if other firms could do the billings,

installations, monitoring etc. more economically. At this time the matter remains in the Committee of Public Works.

Chris Etori; Chair, Marketing Committee

The committee met to discuss opportunities for marketing our property tax stabilization initiatives. The program was enacted in August 2015. A program already existed, and has been utilized, for commercial and industrial property taxes.

Brennan Duffy, RRA was asked what is currently being done to market the program. The information is on the RRA website for people to find and that it will also accompany the information for all city-owned properties that are being sold. Brennan volunteered to the following to help market the program:

- Share the information with department heads so that they are fully aware and can also share with their staff
- Share with our partners in NeighborWorks as they help people find and renovate properties
- Share the information on #RealRutland, the regional marketing tool to recruit new people to live, work, and play in Rutland

The Chair further suggested that Brennan should hold individual trainings with folks in city hall on the front lines.

This report was for information only.

James Cruise; Chair, Fire Chief Search Committee

President Davis read the report on behalf of James Cruise, who was not in attendance. This report was for information only.

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES

None

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

None

PETITIONS, LETTERS, MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATION

None

BOARD OF CONTROL COMMISSIONERS

President Davis introduced the request and noted a motion (Notte, Etori) authorizing the BOA to go into the Board of Control Commissioners. **Motion passed.** Alderman Notte made a motion to authorize the Clerk to sign the second class liquor license application for Walgreens Eastern Co., Inc. for its new location on 7 West Street in Rutland City. That request was so moved and seconded (Etori). **Motion passed.**

A motion was made and seconded (DePoy, Ryan) 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

With nothing further coming before the Board, President Davis noted two requests for executive sessions and sought the motion from Attorney Bloomer.

Executive Session:

- 1) Motion to find that premature general public knowledge regarding the negotiation of a labor relations agreement with employees would clearly place the City at a substantial disadvantage because the discussion will divulge the Board's position on the items that are subject of negotiation. This request was so moved and seconded (Notte, DePoy). **Motion passed.**

- 2) Motion to enter into executive session (with the inclusion of the City Attorney, the Mayor, the Interim Fire Chief and Charles Romeo, Esq.) to discuss the negotiation of a labor relations agreement with employees as allowed under Title 1 Section 313 (a)(1)(B). This request was so moved and seconded (Ryan, Notte). **Motion passed.**

At 7:34 PM the Board, Mayor, Charles Romeo, Esq., Interim Fire Chief Lovett and City Attorney moved into executive session.

At 8:16 PM a motion was made and seconded (Larsen, Ryan) to come out of executive session. **Motion passed.**

Attorney Bloomer requested a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the collective bargaining agreement with local 2323 IAFF, as presented. A motion was made and seconded to take the issue up tonight. (DePoy, Etori) **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded to authorize the Mayor to sign the collective bargaining agreement as presented. (DePoy, Etori) **Motion passed.**

A motion was made and seconded at 8:19 PM to adjourn (Larson, Ryan). **Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted

Tracy L. Kapusta
Rutland City Clerk