

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Aldermen Minutes
Monday, August 6, 2018

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

7:00 PM BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING

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

Clerk Heck opened the meeting and noted that President Davis was on vacation and the first order of business would be to elect an interim president. Clerk Heck sought a nomination.

Alderman Notte nominated Alderman DePoy, there were no other nominations. A motion was made and seconded (Gillam, Etori) to close the nominations. **Motion passed.**

Clerk Heck then called for the vote nominating Alderman DePoy as interim president. **Motion passed.**

Alderman DePoy took the chair as interim president and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (July 16, 2018)

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

OUTSIDE THE RAIL

Nicole McPhee, a Probate Judge candidate, introduced herself and gave a brief introduction on her candidacy and what a probate judge does.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Mayor Allaire spoke on two items, with the first being the grand opening of the Center Street Market Place. Mayor Allaire noted that the grand opening would be Tuesday and Senator Leahy and Congressman Welch would be present. Mayor Allaire also spoke briefly on the new business development in the city. Mayor Allaire noted that the two Main Street properties and the hotel downtown were exciting and he supported all and looked forward to their development.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions or deletions requested.

REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS

DPW Commissioner Wennberg; Request for Referral, Emerald Ash Borer Infestation

Commissioner Wennberg was present to brief the Board on his request for referral. Commissioner Wennberg noted the vast destruction caused by the emerald ash borer infestation and felt the need for the discussion on the 355 trees within the city's protection. A motion was made and seconded (Gillam, Clifford) to refer the request to the Public Works Committee. **Motion passed.**

Chief Kilcullen; Request to Sell City Owned Property

Chief Kilcullen was present and introduced his request for selling city owned property, namely a 2009 Ford Crown Victoria. Chief Kilcullen noted that the vehicle was not inspectable and could only be worth maybe \$200. A motion was made and seconded (Gillam, Ryan) suspending the rules and taking the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Clifford, Ryan) approving the request to sell a 2009 Ford Crown Victoria with all monies received to go to the Police Department Vehicle Fund account #33662000-392.000. There was brief debate. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Alderman Mattis; Charter & Ordinance Committee

Alderwoman Mattis read her committee report from Wednesday, July 25, 2018. The Charter & Ordinance Committee met to discuss Public Health Nuisances, specifically, goats and fowl. Alderwoman Mattis noted an earlier report on fowl, chickens specifically and stated that the committee was back looking at a potential amendment to the City Ordinances. Alderwoman Mattis noted at that April meeting the issue was well vetted. Attorney Bloomer suggested a more detailed ordinance could be less vague and more enforceable. Other Alderman noted without enforcement no amendments would matter. The question of how often does this issue garner complaints. Alderwoman Mattis will reach out to the Animal Control Officer and the Health Inspector and get back to the committee with those answers. The issue is to remain in committee and this report was for information only.

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES

There were no select committee reports.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

There were no reports of representatives.

PETITIONS, LETTERS, MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATION

SEP Request; RRMC VT Great 2, 4, 6, 8K, Saturday, Sept. 15, 2018, from 6 AM – 6PM

Interim President DePoy introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Clifford, Gillam) suspending the rules and taking the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Clifford, Notte) approving the request. Alderman Whitcomb recused himself as he is employed by RRMC. **Motion passed.**

SEP Request; Rutland County Out of the Darkness Walk, 10-20-2018, from 8 AM – 1 PM

Interim President DePoy introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Gillam, Whitcomb) suspending the rules and taking the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Gillam, Whitcomb) approving the request. **Motion passed.**

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

BOARD OF CONTROL COMMISSIONERS

Outside Consumption Request; American Legion, August 25, 2018, 3PM to Midnight

Interim-President DePoy introduced the request, noting a motion to approve would be in order. Alderwomen Mattis and Ryan so moved and seconded. Clerk Heck asked President DePoy if the makers would authorize him to sign the requests. The maker and seconder agreed. **Motion passed.**

Outside Consumption Request; American Legion, Permanent Use New Smoking Area

Interim-President DePoy introduced the request. There was an unneeded motion to suspend that passed. A motion was made and seconded (Clifford, Notte) approving the request for a permanent use outside consumption request for a new smoking area. There was brief debate on the location of that new smoking area. **Motion passed.**

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Interim-President DePoy noted a lady outside the rail who wished to speak. Patricia Crowl Garcia wanted to speak on the new business developments and voiced her concerns with the Royal Hearthside Restaurant location and the Rutland Herald building on Wales Street. Ms. Garcia shared her concerns and visions for those properties. Interim-President DePoy thanked her for her insight and noted when the next DRP Committee was meeting to discuss those properties. With no other unfinished business to come from the Board, Interim-President DePoy moved on in the agenda.

MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Etori noted a request from President Davis on a referral request to Finance Committee. Alderman Etori noted during the tax rate setting the issue of non-property tax revenue was discussed and he moved to refer that issue to the Finance Committee. Alderman Notte seconded. **Motion passed.**

Alderman Tommola asked to refer the new corporate development in the City to the Community and Economic Development Committee. Alderman Etori seconded for debate. Alderman Notte noted an earlier email from Alderman Tommola on this issue and stated that this motion was vague compared to that and started to express his concerns when he was questioned by the President that this may not be the issue that Alderman Tommola wanted to discuss and if so was this the time for that conversation. Alderman Notte stated it was the place and time and continued on with his concerns about the referral.

There was a good deal of debate, with rebuttal from Alderman Tommola on his concerns on how the City was going to afford ways to creatively pay for infrastructure projects without it coming from the backs of the tax payers. This issue was discussed by the Board for several minutes before Alderman Tommola withdrew his motion, Alderman Etori the seconder agreed. With more than eight members of the board and the Mayor commenting on the issue, no other motion was made and the Board decided that the issue can be discussed at an earlier referral of non-property tax revenues to the Finance Committee.

Alderwomen Ryan noted that tomorrow evening was National Night Out and invited all to the gathering at Giorgetti Park.

Attorney Bloomer asked for a referral to the HR Committee the issues of various personal policies needing the boards review. This request was so moved and seconded (Notte, Etori). **Motion passed.**

At 7:58 PM a motion was made and seconded (Clifford, Mattis) to adjourn. **Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,

Henry A Heck
Rutland City Clerk