

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

Members present; President Notte, Aldermen Allaire, Humphrey, Robertson, Etori, Tommola, Donahue, Larson, Gides, DePoy and Davis. Also present, Attorney Romeo and City Clerk Heck.

7:00 PM BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING

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

Prior to the start of the meeting, President Notte asked the Board for a moment of silence for the passing of Wilber DuBray a long time member of the Rutland City Fire Department. President Notte read a prepared statement about Mr. DuBray and his contributions to the City over his life.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (January 17th, 25th, 31st, 2017)

A motion was made and seconded (Allaire, Larson) to approve the minutes of all the previous meetings listed. **Motion passed.**

OUTSIDE THE RAIL

Elisa Hedlum of Jackson Avenue spoke about a new book, We Are One Rutland and gave a brief overview on how it came to be and the release of the book.

Dave Dress and Lindsey Fisher gave a brief update on the proposed dog parks. Mr. Dress noted a much improved business plan and shared all happenings to date. Mr. Dress noted fundraising events and gave the Board a handout on financial costs associated with the development of both parks. Mr. Dress and Ms. Fisher also noted a request asking the City to contribute \$10,000 to help with the associated cost. The Board and guest spent several minutes discussing specific paving requirements at the RRMC location. Ms. Fisher then noted a request to increase dog fees/licensing within the City to help with the maintenance of the parks. A motion was made and seconded (Humphrey, Larson) to refer the issue and requests to the Finance Committee. There was brief debate. **Motion passed.**

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

There were no communications from the Mayor.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

Attorney Romeo requested two executive sessions. President Notte asked the Board to add the requests to the agenda, the first dealing with professional legal services and the seconded being labor relations agreement discussions. The request was so moved and seconded (Allaire, Larson), **Motion passed.**

REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS

Commissioner Wennberg; Consecutive Water System Operational Control Agreement

President Notte introduced the request. Commissioner Wennberg was present to answer any questions. A motion was made and seconded (Larson, Davis) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening.

Motion passed. A motion was made and seconded (Larson, Davis) authorizing the Mayor to sign the Hickory Street housing development Consecutive Water System Operational Control Agreement. **Motion passed.**

Treasurer Wilton; Funding Options, Purchase of Water Garage-62 Pierpoint Ave

President Notte introduced the request. Treasurer Wilton noted a prior motion was unclear on the funding mechanism for the purchase of 62 Pierpoint Avenue. Treasurer Wilton's desire was to have all of the financing for the purchase of 62 Pierpoint Avenue to come from the Water Fund and explained there was more than enough cash in that fund. A motion was made and seconded (Allaire, Robertson) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Allaire, Robertson) clarifying a previous motion that all the money necessary for the purchase of 62 Pierpoint Avenue \$75,000 come from the Water Fund. **Motion passed.**

Superintendent Wight; White's Pool & RFP Request, Web-Site Renovation

Superintendent Wight asked the Board to approve a new contract proposal of \$10,000 for the re-engineering of White's Pool from Weston & Sampson engineers, Inc. There was debate and concern from the Board on the request. A motion was made and seconded (DePoy, Davis) to refer the request to the Recreation Committee. There was brief debate. **Motion passed.**

Superintendent Wight then sought permission to seek an RFP for web-site renovation. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, DePoy) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Davis, DePoy) approving the RFP for web-site renovation (Graph Designer). There was brief debate. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Alderman Humphrey; Charter & Ordinance, Red Light Avoidance

Alderman Humphrey noted that this request was part of an earlier report from January 25, 2017. Alderman Gides was absent at that meeting and asked Alderman Humphrey to hold off until he was present before reporting out. Alderman Humphrey then explained the proposed ordinance change presented by Alderman Gides and moved to add to Title 27, Chapter 3, Subchapter 9, avoiding intersection or traffic control device §4946. Alderman Davis seconded. There was brief debate. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES

Alderman Ettori; Marketing Committee Report

Alderman Ettori read out his committee report noting several issues within the committee that were discussed, including the city website, Killington Valley Initiative Group and the Regional Marketing Initiative. All of the information provided by Alderman Ettori was for information only.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

There were no representative reports.

PETITIONS, LETTERS, MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATION

SEP Request; VSMC 35th Annual Road Race, May 6, 2017 8AM – Noon

President Notte introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Allaire, Robertson) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Allaire, Davis) approving the special events permit request for VSMA 35th annual road race on May 6, 2017 from 8AM to noon. **Motion passed.**

SEP Request; 2017 MS Rutland Walk, May 13, 2017 9AM –Noon

President Notte introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Gides) to suspend the rules and take the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Davis, DePoy) approving the special events permit request for 2017 MS Rutland Walk, May 13, 2017, from 9AM to noon. **Motion passed.**

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

BOARD OF CONTROL COMMISSIONERS

Clerk Heck's Request to approve all 1st & 2nd Class Liquor Licenses

The request was introduced by President Notte. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Ettori) to authorize the City Clerk to sign. There was brief debate. **Motion passed.**

Clerk Heck's Request to approve all Outside Consumption Licenses

The request was introduced by President Notte. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Ettori) to authorize the City Clerk to sign. There was no debate. **Motion passed.**

Clerk Heck's Request to approve all Entertainment Licenses

The request was introduced by President Notte. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Ettori) to authorize the City Clerk to sign. There was no debate. **Motion passed.**

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Alderman Humphrey asked how the newly adopted red light avoidance ordinance would take effect. Attorney Romeo outlined how the process worked.

Alderman Tommola asked about the letter sent to the Department of State. Specifically, Alderman Tommola asked if we have received a copy of the application as requested in that letter. Attorney Romeo stated he has seen nothing from the request. Alderman Tommola made a motion requesting the City Attorney draft another letter to the head of the Bureau of Population Refugee & Migration and to have said letter cc'ed to Secretary Tillerson the letter is to be sent by the end of the week with a copy to the Board requesting again, a full copy of the USCRI application to the Department of State as well as an explanation to how Rutland's capacity was determined and why we haven't received a response to our previous request. Alderman Allaire seconded. Debate followed. Alderman Larson questioned the drafting of a letter by the City Attorney without approval by the Board. Alderman Tommola agreed with Alderman Larson's concern and moved to have the drafted letter reviewed by the Board before being sent out. The seconder also moved the additional request. President Notte called for a vote. Based on the response to the vote the President was unclear of the result and asked for a show of hands. Six (6) yes and four (4) no. **Motion passed.**

Alderman Davis confirmed with the City Clerk the actual budget number for the General Fund Budget that was placed on the ballot for March.

MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, NEW BUSINESS

There were no items to come before the Board under this section.

President Notte then noted two executive session requests by Attorney Romeo and sought a motion, which finds that premature general public knowledge of confidential attorney-client communications made for the purpose of providing professional legal services would clearly place City at a disadvantage. This request was so moved and seconded (Larson, Davis). **Motion passed.**

President Notte then sought a motion to go into executive session for the purpose of confidential attorney-client communications made for the purpose of providing professional legal services. President Notte also requested the presence of Assessor Keefe and Treasurer Wilton. This request was so moved and seconded (Larson, Davis). **Motion passed.**

At 7:55 PM President Notte asked to clear the room.

At 8:05 PM the Board moved into executive session.

At 8:42 PM a motion was made and seconded (Davis, DePoy) to come out of executive session. **Motion passed.**

At 8:44 PM a motion was made and seconded (Allaire, Larson) to move into executive session to discuss labor relations. **Motion passed.**

At 8:53 PM a motion was made and seconded (Allaire, Ettori) to come out of executive session. **Motion passed.**

A motion was made and seconded (Ettori, Robertson) to adjourn. **Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,

Henry A. Heck
Rutland City Clerk