

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Aldermen Minutes
Monday, February 3, 2020

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

7:00 PM BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING

President Davis called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (January 21, 2020)

A motion was made and seconded (Mattis, Etori) approving the minutes of the previous meeting. Alderman Etori asked to add reporting procedures under his referral on the re-write of handling harassment issues.

Motion passed.

OUTSIDE THE RAIL

Glen Reed, a member of the NAACP spoke about the upcoming anti-bias training and noted his training has helped a lot and he commended the Board for taking action.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Mayor Allaire made a quick announcement about the community viewing of a short film titled The Face of Recovery. Mayor Allaire noted the viewing would take place at 6PM, this Friday, at the High School.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

DPW Commissioner Wennberg presented a request to add an item for a new grant application. The request was so moved and seconded (Mattis, Gillam). **Motion passed.**

REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS

Brennan Duffy, RRA Director; Update-Downtown Strategic Plan Initiative

President Davis introduced the request and noted that Director Duffy was absent and Alderwoman Humphrey would be addressing the request. Alderwoman Humphrey noted the Downtown Strategic Plan initiative and the upcoming community workshop to gather ideas and comments. Alderwoman Humphrey noted the date and time of the workshop and stated that the report was for information only.

DPW Commissioner Wennberg; Recommendation for on-going Customer Information System Utility Billing Services

Commissioner Wennberg was present to introduce the request. Commissioner Wennberg noted there were two requests, with the first he was asking for Board action that evening and noted the second request could be referred if the Board desired. Commissioner Wennberg noted his first request was to extend the MOU between the City of Rutland and Advanced Utility Systems, Inc. under the current terms and conditions. A motion was made and seconded (Clifford, Gillam) suspending the rules and taking action on the request that evening. **Motion passed.**

A motion was made and seconded authorizing the Mayor to sign the MOU between the City of Rutland and Advanced Utility Systems, Inc. under the current terms and conditions. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Clifford, Mattis) to refer to the Public Works Committee the one year contract with Munibilling as approved by the City Attorney for software subscription services. **Motion passed.**

President Davis then noted the addition to the agenda made earlier in the meeting. Commissioner Wennberg introduced the item added and outlined the 100% grant funding from the State. Commissioner Wennberg was looking for a referral to committee to discuss this new grant application. A motion was made and seconded (Clifford, Mattis) to refer the request to the Public Works Committee. **Motion passed.**

Treasurer Markowski;

Referral of Audit Services RFP to the Finance Committee

Treasurer Markowski was present to introduce her request and noted that she was in receipt of three year contracts for audit services and sought a referral to the Finance Committee. A motion was made and seconded (Ettori, Gillam) to refer the Audit Services RFP to the Finance Committee. **Motion passed.**

Loan Agreement for BOA signatures – RF1-258-1-.0 – Long Term Control Plan –Combined Sewer Overflows

Treasurer Markowski noted that this request was associated with the previous item discussed by Commissioner Wennberg and asked the Board to sign the loan agreement. A motion was made and seconded (Ettori, Gillam) suspending the rules and taking action on the request. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Ettori, Mattis) to circulate the loan agreement for signature. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

There were no standing committee reports.

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES

There were no select committee reports.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

Alderman Gillam noted a report from the Solid Waste District and the City receiving a \$50,000 check.

PETITIONS, LETTERS, MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATION

Joseph Giancola; Solar Array, Preferred-Site Designation Request

Joseph Giancola was present to introduce his request for a preferred –site designation for his solar array. Mr. Giancola briefed the Board on the project and his request from the Board to designate his 177 River Street sight as "Preferred Sight". President Davis briefly reviewed the options available to the Board. A motion was sought to refer the request. There was debate for a minute as to which committee. A motion was made and seconded (Mattis, Humphrey) to refer the request to the Community and Economic Development Committee. Alderwoman Humphrey stated a work conflict and abstained from voting. **Motion passed.**

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

BOARD OF CONTROL COMMISSIONERS

Chipotle Mexican Grill, First Class Liquor Request

President Davis introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Gillam, Mattis) to circulate the application for signatures. Alderman Reveal recused himself from voting as he holds a liquor license. **Motion passed.**

Chipotle Mexican Grill, Outside Consumption Request

President Davis introduced this request. A motion was made and seconded (Gillam, Mattis) to authorize the Clerk to sign. **Motion passed.**

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Alderman Ettori asked about an update on the Fire Department.

President Davis noted the request at the last meeting from Alderwoman Humphrey about the Transit Center (Bus Warming Station) and sought a report from Alderwoman Humphrey who contacted the Board representative Joe Tilden.

MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Etori asked for more detail from the administration on that topic (Closing of Warming Station). Alderwoman Humphrey provided details on Alderman Etori's request.

President Davis noted the request for an executive session and sought language from Attorney Bloomer.

Attorney Bloomer sought a motion finding premature general public knowledge regarding the City Attorney's analysis of a legal matter, would clearly place the City at a substantial disadvantage because the discussion will include confidential attorney-client communications made for the purpose of providing professional legal services to the City. That language was so moved and seconded, (Mattis, Reveal). **Motion passed.**

Attorney Bloomer then sought language to enter into executive session to discuss the City Attorney's analysis of a legal matter, as allowed under Title 1, Section 313(a)(1)(F) and to include the Mayor. That language was so moved and seconded, (Mattis, Etori). **Motion passed.**

At 7:40 PM the Board moved into executive session.

At 7:50 PM a motion was made and seconded (Etori, Clifford) to come out of executive session. **Motion passed.**

President Davis brought up the issue of abandon shopping carts and noted that it seemed that it was becoming more of an issue. A motion was made and seconded (Mattis, Gillam) to refer the issue to the Charter & Ordinance Committee and to have Attorney Bloomer review. **Motion passed.**

At 8:03 PM a motion was made and seconded (Clifford, Etori) to adjourn. **Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,

Henry A Heck
Rutland City Clerk