

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Aldermen Minutes
Monday, August 1, 2022

Members present; President Doenges, Aldermen Etori, Franco, Savage, Talbott, Tadio, Whitcomb, Gillam, DePoy and Davis. Also present; Mayor Allaire, Attorney Bloomer and City Clerk Heck. Alderwoman Savage was absent.

7:00 PM BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING

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

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (July 18 & 19, 2022)

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

OUTSIDE THE RAIL

Tim Ballard; Right-of-Way Complaint

Tim Ballard Clark St., Rutland spoke about seeing more and more trash cans left in right-of-ways. Mr. Ballard spoke with his neighbors about his concerns to no avail. Mr. Ballard noted the recent large increase in bear activity and also noted increase in skunk and raccoon activity. There was debate with the Board, no action was taken.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Mayor Allaire noted several items for the Board and started with asking the Board to remove from the table his nomination of AJ Shaw for the RRA Board. This request was so moved and seconded (Davis, Whitcomb). **Motion passed.** President Doenges asked the clerk to collect the votes. Mayor Allaire continued, noting that his nomination for the vacant seat on the BOA withdrew. Mayor Allaire then presented the name of Joe Barbagallo and asked the Board to table this nomination. That request was so moved and seconded, (Gillam, DePoy). **Motion passed.** Mayor Allaire finished his communications noting the extremely successful turnout for the Ethan Allen Train extension to Burlington.

President Doenges then noted the vote of 9 YES and 0 NO for the appointment of AJ Shaw to the RRA Board. Mr. Shaw addressed the Board and thanked all who supported him for this nomination.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

President Doenges noted a technical issue with the agenda and sought to add all items listed on the agenda and read all items listed. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, DePoy) to add all items read into the agenda. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS

Superintendent Peters; Justin Thomas Memorial Park Renovation Project and permission to apply for Recreation Grant

Superintendent Peters opened the request and allowed the Thomas family to update the Board on their request. Roy Thomas noted the history of the park and how it came to be upon the death of their son Justin. Mr. Thomas noted the original park is now 25 years old and has been used to the point of being worn-out and presented a request to fund-raise for updating the park. Mr. Thomas noted that his family has donated \$25,000 to the fund to start that process.

Superintendent Peters then spoke about the project noting the \$25,000 is a huge start to the project and expects that the community will come together and raise the rest. Superintendent Peters noted a grant request and sought permission to apply for the \$25,000 grant with a \$25,000 match to come from the City. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Gillam) suspending the rules and taking

action on the request. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Gillam) to move the motion/request as stated. **Motion passed.**

Tyler Dahlin, Director of Parks & Facilities; Request Approval of RFP, Pine Hill Park

President Doenges introduced the request. Tyler Dahlin spoke about the last item noting how excited he is to work on this project with the Thomas family. Director Dahlin then sought approval of an RFP that was approved at the Board of Finance level, for work within Pine Hill Park and reviewed that scope of work. Director Dahlin then sought a motion approving the request with KSA Built LLC in the amount of \$58,311.00, Jay Rosenbaum. A motion was made and seconded (Talbot, Tadio) suspending the rules and taking action on the request. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Talbot, Tadio) approving the request of Director Dahlin. **Motion passed.**

Commissioner Rotondo; Referral Request, Forest St. Paving Project

President Doenges introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Etori) referring the item requested to the Public Works Committee. There were several members from the Forest St neighborhood who spoke about the project and shared their concerns about the project and the potential for parking issues. **Motion passed.**

Commissioner Rotondo; Referral Request, Possible Route 4/7 Lane Reconfiguration

President Doenges introduced the request, noting a referral was requested. A motion was made and seconded (Talbot, Gillam) to refer the request to the Public Works Committee. Mayor Allaire spoke briefly on the request. **Motion passed.**

Ted Gillen, Assistant Engineer; Water Allocation Request Approval, Post Rd, Rutland Town

President Doenges introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Gillam) suspending the rules and taking action on the request. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Talbot) approving the water request allocation of 2,700 gallons per day, for six three bedroom residences located on Post Rd., to the Town of Rutland.

***Attorney Bloomer; Executive session request from Bill Dydo regarding tax-saled properties
Attorney Bloomer; Executive session regarding labor relations agreement***

President Doenges noted both requests and sought to move them to the end of the agenda per their past practice.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

There were no standing committee reports.

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES

Alderman Franco; IT Committee

Alderman Franco read his committee report from July 28, 2022 where his committee met to discuss and review five (5) bids received for software services for the City. Alderman Franco noted an overview presented by Zoning Administrator (ZA) Strniste who recognized a need of additional modules other than just permitting software. ZA Strniste noted one specific software, GovPilot as the one stop shop for current and future software needs. Alderman Franco noted a motion out of committee to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with GovPilot and he so moved. Alderman Talbot seconded. Debate. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

There were no representative reports.

PETITIONS, LETTERS, MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATION

S.E.P. Request; 176 Vt State Fair Parade, August 20th 3-4PM

President Doenges introduced the request. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Gillam) suspending the rules and taking action on the request. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and

seconded (Davis, Tadio) approving the 176 Vt State Fair Parade August 20th from 3-4PM. **Motion passed.**

BOARD OF CONTROL COMMISSIONERS

There were no items for the Board of Control Commissioners.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to come before the Board.

MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, NEW BUSINESS

There were no miscellaneous motions, resolutions or new business to come before the Board.

President Doenges then sought language from Attorney Bloomer to enter into executive session.

Attorney Bloomer noted a motion finding premature general public knowledge regarding probable litigation, to which the City would be a party, would clearly place the City at a substantial disadvantage because the discussion will divulge the City's strategy in such probable litigation and will include confidential attorney-client communications made for the purpose of providing professional legal services to the City. This language was so moved and seconded (Talbot, Whitcomb). **Motion passed.**

Attorney Bloomer then noted language to enter into executive session (with the inclusion of the Clerk, City Attorney, Treasurer and Mayor) to discuss probable litigation, as allowed under Title 1, Section 313(a)(1)(E) and Title 1, Section 313(a)(1)(F). This language was so moved and seconded (Talbot, DePoy), **Motion passed.**

At 7:55 PM the Board moved into executive session.

At 7:58 PM the Board came out of executive session, no action was requested.

Attorney Bloomer presented language for his next executive sessions request.

Attorney Bloomer presented language, noting a motion to find that premature general public knowledge regarding the negotiation of a labor relations agreement would clearly place the City at a substantial disadvantage because the discussion will divulge the Board's position on the agreement provisions to be negotiated. This language was so moved and seconded (Talbot, Davis), **Motion passed.**

Attorney Bloomer then stated language to enter into executive session (with the inclusion of the Mayor, Treasurer, Clerk and City Attorney) to discuss the labor relations agreement as allowed under Title 1, Section 313(a)(1)(B). **Motion passed.**

At 8:01 PM the Board moved into executive session.

At 8:35 PM a motion was made and seconded (DePoy, Talbot) to come out of executive session. **Motion passed.**

The Board immediately moved to adjourn. **Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,

Henry A Heck
Rutland City Clerk