

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Aldermen Minutes
Monday, November 21, 2022

Members present; President Doenges, Aldermen DePoy, Franco, Savage, Gillam, Barbagallo and Davis. Also present, Mayor Allaire and City Clerk Heck. Alderwoman Tadio arrived at 7:02 PM. Aldermen Whitcomb and Talbott were absent. Attorney Bloomer was absent.

7:00 PM BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING

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

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (November 7, 2022)

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

Motion passed.

OUTSIDE THE RAIL

No one spoke from outside the rail.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Mayor Allaire; Mayoral Appointments, RRA, BOA

Mayor Allaire is pleased to put forth the names of Chris Ettori and Hillary Ward to fill the vacancies on the Rutland Redevelopment Authority Board and asked the Board to make a motion to table the nominations. A motion was made and seconded (Gillam, Davis) to table the nominations. **Motion passed.**

Mayor Allaire is pleased to put forth the name of Larry Cupoli for consideration to fill a vacancy on the Rutland City Board of Aldermen and asked the Board to table the nomination. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Gillam) to table the nomination. **Motion passed.**

Mayor Allaire stated that several weeks ago there was a water main break on Granger Street and Thomas Kessop suffered extreme damage to his basement with several feet of water, ruining his furnace, electrical box and other belongings he had stored. Two weeks ago Mr. Kessop spoke at the BOA meeting and expressed his frustrations with the situation and lack of help from the City. His insurance company will not cover his damages and losses. The City insurance company will also not cover the damages as there was no negligence on the City's part. Mayor Allaire is proposing that the City create a water damage fund. Mayor Allaire handed out a draft proposal on how the fund would work. For instance in situations such as Mr. Kessop's, which is very rare, a homeowner can apply for help after exhausting all other means of support. A motion was made and seconded (Gillam, DePoy) to refer to the Public Works Committee. **Motion passed.**

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

President Doenges asked to remove the Parking Committee report to the next meeting as the City Attorney is needed for a final review of language. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, DePoy) for the request. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS

Barbara Spaulding BIAP Grant Forgiveness Request

A BIAP forgivable loan was awarded to Jacmac, Inc. (Taso on Center) in 2019 and it has reached the end of the three (3) year loan term. The RRA Board reviewed the borrower's final report on November 8 and

determined that Jacmac, Inc. has met the obligations required in the BIAP Grant Agreement and qualifies to have the loan forgiven by the City.

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, DePoy) to suspend the rules. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Davis, DePoy) to forgive the loan at this time and authorize the Mayor to notify the borrower and Treasurer that the loan has been forgiven as of November 21, 2022. **Motion passed.**

Barbara Spaulding; BIAP Grant Request

The RRA Board has reviewed and approved an application for BIAP funding from Jay Sabataso for a retail market at 26 Center Street. The retail market will feature Italian imports, Vermont products, gift baskets and grab and go style meals with hot food daily during the lunch hour. Anticipated investment is approximately \$47,000 and at least four (4) new jobs will be created. Applicant is requesting a \$5,000 grant from the BIAP program. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Gillam) to suspend the rules. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Davis, DePoy) to approve the \$5,000 BIAP grant for Jay Sabataso for a retail market at 26 Center Street. **Motion passed.**

Planning & Zoning Administrator Strniste; eCode360 Item

Planning and Zoning Administrator Strniste brought forth the eCode360 platform which is a nationwide hosting website for municipalities to upload and maintain their ordinances and/or charter. When fully implemented, the site will allow both residents and staff to easily search the City's ordinance's and code, which will produce results that are more manageable and comprehensible. Not only will the eCode360 platform provide a better product to the public, the site will also integrate with the City's new GovPilot software.

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Gillam) to suspend the rules. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Gillam) to authorize the Mayor, on behalf of the City, to enter into the Authorization and Agreement with General Code, LLC., in substantially the form presented, for the conversion of the City laws to the eCode360 platform, with such conversion to be paid for from surplus in the FY23 Attorney budget and ongoing services to be paid annually from the Clerk's budget, beginning in FY 24. **Motion passed.**

Attorney Bloomer; Addendum to Tech Group Managed Care Services Agreement

President Doenges read the request as Attorney Bloomer was absent. The City and Tech Group have determined that it makes sense to have Tech Group administer (and pay the bill for) the Google Workspace Business Starter email licenses that the City has had in place for the last few years.

A motion was made and seconded (Tadio, Davis) to suspend the rules. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Tadio, Davis) to authorize the Mayor, on behalf of the City, to enter into the tech Group Managed Care Services Agreement Addendum with the Tech Group, LLC, in the form presented and for an amount not to exceed \$89,280.00 annually. **Motion passed.**

Treasurer Markowski; Treasurer's Report for Period Ending October 31, 2022

Treasurer Markowski submitted the October 2022 Treasurer's report. This was for information only.

Treasurer Markowski; Pension Update

Treasurer Markowski presented some updates on the City Pension. The actuary from Newport Group was at the last Pension meeting in October. The City has a \$19.8 million unfunded accrued liability and the School has \$6.8 million. The City should be contributing \$2 million to the plan, but the City has not been able to provide what was recommended, however the City has a plan to deal with the unfunded liability. For FY23 the City has budgeted \$1.4 million to the pension. The committee has also met, twice this year, with the investment manager for the plan. This was for information only.

Chief KilCullen; RFP for PD HVAC System Controls

Chief KilCullen stated that the station is having a heat pump installed on the 29th for the dispatch center and the second part is for the temperature controls for the building that need to be upgraded. Anticipated cost is now more accurate and Chief KilCullen is looking for permission to send out an RFP. A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Gillam) to suspend the rules. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Gillam) to authorize the Police Chief to obtain an RFP. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

President Doenges; Parking Committee

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES

There were no select committees reports.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

There were no reports of representatives.

PETITIONS, LETTERS, MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATION

Jack Crowther; Charter Change Language Request

Jack Crowther provided an alternative possibility for a charter change. It is more straightforward in mentioning fluoride specifically. A motion was made by Alderman DePoy to table until the next BOA meeting. There was no second and the motion failed.

BOARD OF CONTROL COMMISSIONERS

There was nothing to come before the Board of Control Commissioners.

BOARD OF CANNABIS COMMISSIONERS

There was nothing to come before the Board of Cannabis Commissioners.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to come before the Board.

MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, NEW BUSINESS

Alderman DePoy wanted to make the City and BOA aware that the Vermont Coach's Association has made their Allstate football team and there are several players from the Rutland High School team mentioned.

Motion was made and seconded (Davis, Gillam) to adjourn at 7:46 PM. **Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,
Tracy L. Kapusta
Deputy City Clerk