

**Minutes of the Montpelier City Council Meeting
December 17, 2014
City Council Chambers**

In attendance: Councilors Tom Golonka (Chair), Justin Turcotte, Dona Bate, Anne Watson, Jessica Edgerly Walsh and Thierry Guerlain. Mayor John Hollar was absent. City Manager William Fraser was in attendance. City Clerk John Odum served as Secretary of the meeting.

Council President Tom Golonka called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

14-300. Councilor Guerlain moved approval of the agenda. Councilor Edgerly Walsh seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

14-302. Councilor Watson asked consent agenda item b be tabled for discussion. Councilor Bate moved the consent agenda as amended, with Councilor Guerlain seconding. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent agenda item b) - to formally adopt the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and complete/sign the Certificate of Adoption - was taken off the table for consideration. Fire Chief Bob Gowans came forward to answer Council questions. A brief discussion followed.

Councilor Watson moved approval of consent agenda item b). Councilor Guerlain seconded the motion. Further discussion followed. The motion carried unanimously at 6:37.

14-303. The Council engaged in a further discussion regarding the printing and distribution of the City's Annual Report. Rather than mail them to each city household (as has been done in the past), Councilor Bate moved the city print 1500 copies of the Annual Report to be made available at sites around the city and, provide to provide a pdf file on the website. Councilor Watson seconded. Further discussion followed, and the motion carried unanimously at 6:50. The Council indicated its desire that an announcement of the change be included with January's water bills.

14-304. The City Manager offered a presentation on the proposed FY16 budget.

Recreation Department Director Arne McMullen was joined by Recreation Advisory Board members Buzz Surwillo, Karlynn Koenemann, and Recreation Department staffer Jenny Bartlett to discuss the Recreation Department budget. Mr. Surwillo expressed some frustrations. A lengthy discussion followed, particularly focused on the Mountaineers.

The Chair called for a brief recess at 8:18 PM. The Council reconvened at 8:26. The discussion on the city budget resumed. Police Chief Tony Facos responded to Council questions.

- 14-306. Councilor Watson reported on Energy Committee work and accolades. Councilor Edgerly Walsh had questions about decision making in stormwater policy. Councilor Bate asked that the public stay patient with changes in the winter parking policies. Councilor Guerlain thanked the city staff on their budget work. Councilor Turcotte wished Councilor Guerlain a happy birthday and reminded the public of the holiday free parking. He also thanked the City Manager for his work.
- 14-308. The City Clerk reported that his office would be open to the public by appointment only on Friday, December 26.
- 14-309. City Manager Fraser echoed Councilor Bate's comments on the winter parking policy. He also noted that Hallsmith v Montpelier was being heard in court next morning
- 14-310. Councilor Watson moved the Council find that the City would be placed at a "significant disadvantage" to have the discussion of the next three agenda items (update on VT
14-311. College of Fine Arts vs. City, update on Police Union negotiations, District Heat) in public.
14-312. Councilor Guerlain seconded and the motion carried unanimously at 9:22.

Councilor Watson made a motion to enter executive session (as per Title I, VSA §313, Executive Sessions, (a) (1)) to discuss the final three agenda items. Councilor Bate seconded and the motion carried unanimously at 9:22.

Councilor Guerlain moved the Council return to open session, Councilor Edgerly Walsh seconded. Motion carried unanimously at 10:07.

Councilor Bate moved for adjournment, and was seconded by Councilor Guerlain. The motion passed unanimously at 10:08 PM.