

**CITY OF MONTPELIER
CAPITAL CITY OF VERMONT**

City Manager's Weekly Report – 09/22/2017

UPCOMING MEETINGS...

Wednesday, September 27 City Council Meeting, 6:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers

Thursday, September 28 Community Fund Board Meeting, 12:00 P.M. in the Memorial Room

FOR YOUR CALENDARS...

Monday, October 2 Design Review Committee Meeting, 5:30 P.M. in the City Council Chambers

Monday, October 2 Development Review Board Meeting, 7:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers

Tuesday, October 3 Montpelier Transportation Infrastructure Committee Meeting, 6:00 P.M. in the Memorial Room

ATTACHMENTS...

-  **Mayor Letter to Montpelier**
-  <https://www.timesargus.com/articles/police-trio-celebrate-30-years/>
-  <https://smartasset.com/mortgage/best-state-capitals-2017-edition>
-  <http://www.travelandleisure.com/trip-ideas/city-vacations/most-european-cities-in-america>

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT...

One Taylor Street

At our invitation, FTA is making a site visit on September 26th to review the progress being made. We are planning a potential ground breaking ceremony for early December.

Mowatt discussions continue in depth. We have provided some deadline dates.

Master Plan & Zoning

Continuing on September 27th. The Planning Commission will be holding a public hearing on the Master Plan on October 23rd.

Soccer Jerseys

The story of the Montpelier soccer jerseys continues. We're working out details with our French counterparts and the local schools. I've attached the letter from Mayor Hollar to the Montpelier Mayor.

TIF

Next step is compiling a list of any potential projects, which will be narrowed down going forward. We will keep you updated.

Berlin Pond

No update.

Parking/Transportation Alternatives

The Subcommittee (Councilors Bate and Watson) will present a proposal for moving forward at the October 11th meeting.

Econo Lodge

Awaiting building permit application for demolition.

Collective Bargaining

Finishing up final details with Police.

State Street Farmer's Market Update

The Montpelier Farmer's Market will take place on State Street on September 23.

CIP, Projects

Work on drainage to address basement mold issues has begun. CIP Committee met and voted to approve a list of capital complex projects; hold \$30,000 for Rec Center needs; for Sept. 27 meeting, asking Council to approve RFP to determine community interest in recreational programs to be funded from Community Services fund balance.

Other

It's a great week for Montpelier and lists!

Smart Assets ranking of The Best State Capitals to Live In – 2017 Edition. Montpelier ranks No. 1. “In order to rank the best state capitals, we compared them across five livability factors. We looked at average disposable income, unemployment rate, the rate of dining and entertainment establishments and property and violent crime rates.

And Montpelier made Travel and Leisure's list of The Most European Cities Across the U.S., along with Boston, Washington D.C., and San Francisco.

Meeting Dates

This is advance notice that we may want to move a couple of meeting dates. The October 25 meeting falls during the annual ICMA conference. I will definitely not be here and Sue may not be here. We could move that meeting up to October 18 or back to November 1.

Similarly, the November 22 meeting falls on the night before Thanksgiving. We could move that up to November 15 or back to November 29,

WEEKLY REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS ...

Public Works

Harrison Ave Project:

The water & sewer division crew will make the cut & cap terminations on the old water main now that the new main is active and all services are connected. Work will also resume on the new sewer main at the Loomis St end of the project. As the sewer work progresses, work on the road preparation for paving will follow the pipe crew.

Northfield St:

The new water main is wrapping up with final testing and disinfection being undertaken on the last section in Phase One near the Derby Drive end of the street. The contractor has begun installing the new curbing & sidewalks at the north end of the project (Berlin Street). As the project is nearing the end of work for the season, DPW staff has requested to meet next week with the VTrans & the Pike Industries representatives to begin coordination planning for the paving work to be done in October.

Towne Hill Road:

Good progress is being made on preparation for the sidewalk extension with the completion of the box cut for the road realignment, new gravel has been added and rough finish grades have been established. Incidental work including a new water service was completed to allow for the future elimination of some old galvanized water service lines. Work planned for next week includes the installation of a new catch basin and culvert and replacement of a culvert at the Woodcrest Road intersection.

Miscellaneous:

DPW will be sending two employees to a "Clean Streets" training seminar for the phosphorus reduction study that we agreed to support which is being conducted by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Montpelier is one of nine communities selected to participate in the DEC's collaboration with the US Geological Survey project consisting of data acquisition of street sweeping materials including total volume, sampling and correlation with the type and location of the streets including tree cover and other factors.

Annual fall projects will begin next week and continue over the next month which includes street patching and minor paving projects, roadside ditching and drainage system inspections & cleaning, etc.

Police Department

Attached is the Times Argus article from Friday highlighting three 30-year veterans of the force: Chief Tony Facos, Capt. Neil Martel and Det. Steve Nolan.

Montpelier Senior Activity Center

Seeking Volunteers for Upcoming Events

The Community Services Department is offering several great events in October. On Saturday, October 14, Montpelier Parks will host Enchanted Forest, a family-friendly evening of enchantment and wonder in Hubbard Park. On Saturday, October 21, Montpelier Rec will host the Ski and Skate Sale at Montpelier High School. This is a must for anyone interested in buying or selling winter equipment. Finally, on Saturday, October 28, Montpelier Rec will host its annual Halloween Party. There are many volunteer opportunities for you! If you can volunteer for any of these events, please contact Becky Johnston at rjohnston@montpelier-vt.org or 802-225-8694.

Introducing Becky Johnston, AmeriCorps VISTA

Becky Johnston recently began supporting the Community Services Department in her new role as Resource Development AmeriCorps VISTA. In this position, Becky will help the Senior Activity Center, Recreation, and Parks/Trees divisions to recruit and manage volunteers more effectively and to diversify funding streams. Becky will be with our team through August 2018. If you would like to learn more about volunteering with the Community Services Department, contact Becky at rjohnston@montpelier-vt.org or 802-225-8694.

Parks: Enchanted Forest

The “Enchanted Forest” is Montpelier’s night time community celebration of Autumn. Located in historic Hubbard Park, hay wagon rides bring groups of people deep into the park where they are led by guides through candle-lit paths to stages of storytelling, music, fire, and enchantment. It is also the one time of the year park goers get to see Hubbard Park’s 50-foot tower illuminated by fire! Proceeds benefit the Montpelier Parks! Advance tickets are available at the City Clerk’s office. Day-of tickets are available at the New Shelter in the park. Tickets: \$5 children/\$10 adults/\$25 (advance: \$4 children/\$8 adults/\$20 families)

Montpelier Senior Activity Center: Green Mount Cemetery History Tours

Join long-time Cemetery Director and Montpelier native Patrick Healy for a foliage season tour of Green Mount Cemetery on Thursday, October 5, 1-2pm (by van) & 2:15-4:15pm (by foot). See prominent memorials and learn about some of the people buried there, how the cemetery was created, and modern challenges and changes to the cemetery. Ask all the questions you’ve been dying to ask! In addition to traveling the meandering roads of our beautiful historic cemetery, you will have a tour of the chapel and vault. Limited space on van; pre-register at the Montpelier Senior Activity Center, 58 Barre Street. Free and open to the public.

TOPICS FOR UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS...

September 27

Zoning
Budget Process
Water/sewer rates
Planning Commission appointments
Economic Development Goal
Recreation Center RFP?
Safe Needle Disposal/Opiate Update
Dog Ordinance, 2nd reading
Voting Representative – VLCT Town Fair

October 11

Zoning
Parklet Ordinance 1st Reading
Five Year Budget projection
Local Options Tax discussion
Wayfinding Signs Presentation
Central VT Public Safety Authority update
ADA Committee update
Downtown Improvement District budget
Parking/Team bridges

Manager Check-in

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| October 25 (or 18, or Nov 1) | Zoning
Parklet Ordinance 2nd Reading
TIF Update
Quality of Life Goal
Aging in Place
Fees
Asset Management |
| November 8 | Crosswalk Safety
Warming and Cooling Shelters
Accessibility |
| November 15 (or 29) | Apartment Rental Fee/Inspection |



William Fraser
City Manager



America's Small Town Capital

Mayor John Hollar

City Council Members:

Dona Bate
Ashley Hill
Rosie Krueger
Jean Olson
Justin Turcotte
Anne Watson

William Fraser
City Manager

Sue Allen
Assistant City Manager

Mr. Philippe SAUREL
Mayor of Montpellier
1 Place Georges Freche
Montpellier Cedex 2

Dear Mayor Saurel,

I am writing to express the great appreciation of our City for Montpellier's generous offer to donate the jerseys from your football team to our schools' soccer teams. We are a capital city of about 8,000 residents, and I believe I've heard from almost all of them about how much your gesture means.

We are aware of the popularity and skill of your Ligue 1 team, and now we in Montpellier are HSC's No. 1 fans. Our soccer players will be truly proud to wear the HSC jerseys and follow the team's success at the Stade de la Mosson.

At a time when the international news can be discouraging to follow, I thank you for allowing our City to join Montpellier in bridging an ocean, reminding us that what we share is much deeper than any divisions. Thank you for letting us write this great story together.

Sincerely,

John Hollar
Mayor of Montpellier