


**CITY OF MONTPELIER
CAPITAL CITY OF VERMONT**

City Manager's Weekly Report – 04/27/2018

UPCOMING MEETINGS...

Tuesday, May 1	Transportation Infrastructure Committee, 6:00 P.M., City Manager's Conference Room
Tuesday, May 1	Community Hearing – Non-Citizen Voting, 7:00 P.M., Council Chambers
Thursday, May 3	Site Visit, 5:30 P.M., Water Resource Recovery Facility, Dog River Road
Thursday, May 3	Tree Board, 5:30 P.M., Memorial Room

ATTACHMENTS...

-  Construction Update for the week of April 27th

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT...

Capitol Plaza Project

This project will appear before the Development Review Board again on May 7th to address an issue involving two retaining walls.

TIF

Following the TIF Draft Plan presentation at Wednesday's meeting, Council members' comments, suggestions and questions are welcome through Monday. They should be sent via e-mail to shainley@whiteandburke.com, or to Sue Allen. A copy of the updated draft plan and map can be found on the opening page of the City's website (lower left of the page, "TIF Montpelier"). The Council will be asked to approve the final plan at an upcoming meeting, most likely on May 9.

One Taylor/Mowatt

Real estate closing is expected on or around May 15. That will allow certification of all right of way for the entire One Taylor project. Stay tuned for an upcoming groundbreaking ceremony, and construction is expected to begin this summer.

Charter Changes

Charter changes were approved by the Ways and Means Committee, but a final floor vote is likely not too far in the future.

WRRF Tour

The tour of the Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF) is on Thursday, May 3rd at 6:00 PM at the plant on Dog River Road

Next Meeting

The May 9th meeting could be a worthy follow up to Wednesday's marathon. Votes on TIF and a

briefing and discussion about the WRRF are both very consequential. Additionally, the Planning & Development Department will be presenting, which will include a recommendation for proceeding with the Master Plan. You may also be receiving a recommendation for a complete streets plan. You'll also hold the second hearing on the Connor Tax Stabilization application.

Strategic Planning

All set for May 21 and May 22. Both council sessions will be set for 5 PM start time, food will be provided.

EC Fiber

I have informed the EC Fiber Board chair of our decision not to appoint a board member and our plan to withdraw from the district. We are looking into the proper process for formal withdrawal.

Legal

Motions for Summary Judgement together with statements of undisputed material facts were submitted by appellant Conservation Law Foundation (CLF) and by the Attorney General's office on behalf of the VT Agency of Natural Resources relative to the appeal of the renewal of nine waste water treatment plant discharge permits including Montpelier's Water Resource Recovery Facility. The City's attorney filed a motion for summary judgement in support of the AG's filing. City represented by Joseph McLean, Esq., Stitzel, Page & Fletcher, P.C.

City of Montpelier Help Wanted

View the latest job opportunities at <https://vt-montpelier.civicplus.com/Jobs.aspx>

WEEKLY REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS ...

Public Works

The streets division has been working on Berlin and River Streets picking up the accumulation of sand from road edges; the sweeper followed. Sidewalk bulb-outs (curb extensions) and other hard to reach places have been cleaned out by hand with more spring cleaning left to do. Work has begun on catch basin repair and cleaning. Flower barrels were put out downtown and new flower hangers are being mounted on the downtown street light poles. The film festival banners were taken down for the light poles and benches and bike racks will be deployed soon. Some of our employees are cross training on various pieces of equipment to further our overall diversification goals. The Berlin section of Dog River Road was graded to support use as a Northfield St project detour route and we are grading our other gravel roads as well. A new hydrant will be installed at the garage to replace the inoperative hydrant which is necessary for our street sweeper and then sweeping will be able to resume.

Finance

Water bills will be going out shortly. You should receive them next week.

The 2nd installment of the 2017-2018 property taxes are due on Tuesday, May 15, 2018. Payments may be made in person at the City Clerk's office Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., by mail, or 24 hours a day by utilizing the drop box at the rear entrance to City Hall. [You may also pay online using Official Payments by clicking this link.](#) An administrative fee is charged by the vendor for online payments. In addition, the city offers convenient and free automatic payment processing. By signing up, you never have to worry about missing a payment. The payment is withdrawn from your bank account electronically on the actual due date. This service is available for

property tax payments, water/sewer bills or both. [If you would like to enroll, please click this link and complete the authorization form.](#) You can drop off the completed enrollment form at the City Clerk's office or mail to:

City of Montpelier
Attn: Treasurer
39 Main Street
Montpelier, VT 05602

Community Services

Green Up Day and Arbor Day activities

There will be four or five green up day park and bike path related activities occurring next Saturday people can plug into. An arbor day conference is happening in Montpelier this coming Thursday, and Friday is arbor day which will include some local tree planting and tree care activities.

Parkapalooza Free Concert Series at Hubbard Park is Coming!

Montpelier Parks is introducing "Parkapalooza!", a free concert series in Hubbard Park this summer. The series will feature great music at the new stage near the Old Shelter, as well as fun outdoor activities like our giant slip 'n slide. The series will be held from 3-6pm on the 3rd Sunday of each month June-September, with the exception of July where it will be part of the 24 hour BioBlitz Festival (www.BioBlitzMontpelier.org). See the Montpelier Parks website (www.Montpelier-VT.org/Parks) or facebook page (www.facebook.com/MontpelierParks) for more information.

BioBlitz seeks Volunteers

The Parks Department is co-hosting the second ever Montpelier BioBlitz this summer, July 21-22nd. During this event, biologists from across the country will come to Montpelier to catalogue all living species in the area in an effort to support conservation and stewardship. We are currently looking for volunteers for a number of exciting opportunities. For more information, see our 'Get Connected' page on the Green Mountain United Way Website: https://gmunitedway.galaxydigital.com/agency/detail/?agency_id=83071.

Pool Pass Discount Day

Wednesday, May 9, 8am-6pm | Community Services Department Office, 58 Barre Street at MSAC
Join us for our annual pool pass discount day! 2018 Summer Pool passes purchased this day will be 10% off!

Touch a Truck seeking Owners of Special Vehicles! | Sunday, May 20, 11am-2:30pm

If you have or know of a unique, fun, classic, or special vehicle and would like to share it with the community, please consider coming to Touch-A-Truck! The Recreation Department is currently looking for fun vehicles to showcase during this annual event at Montpelier High School. For more information, or to volunteer your car, please email or call Rebecca at rjohnston@montpelier-vt.org or (802)225-8694.

US Senator Sanders' Outreach Staff at Senior Center | Tuesday, May 1, 12:15-1pm

Jessica Early will give a brief overview of the constituent services that Senator Sanders' office can provide to seniors, share resources and answer questions. Coincides with FEAST Together in the Community Room on first floor of Montpelier Senior Activity Center. Free. Reservations for lunch: call 262-6288 (60+ no charge; \$5 suggested donation; under 60 yo, \$7).

Detox Your Home: Free Workshop with Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District
May 3, Thurs, 1:30-3pm

Some of the cleaning products and self-care products people use every day are toxic to our environment and ourselves. How do we know that what we are using is safe without having a degree in chemistry? Charlotte Low of Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District will talk about ingredients to watch out for, easy ways to identify safer products to purchase, how to keep costs reasonable and answer your questions. We'll look at safer labels and recipes for safer cleaners that you can make affordably and use around your home. Before we're finished, participants will receive some body care products and cleaning product samples with safer ingredients and practical resources to learn more and make more informed choices.

MSAC is also participating in a grant-funded project this year to reduce toxic products in our facility, including staff training, evaluation of currently used products and provision of some alternatives. More details to come!

Documentary Film Series: The Story of the Jews | 5 Sundays, May 6-June 10, 5-7pm (skip May 27)

- Following high attendance at our film series about Israel and Palestine this February-March and a well-attended OSHER presentation about Islam in April, we present another opportunity for lifelong learning, awareness-raising and respectful community discussion. Montpelier residents Jamie Granfield Carroll and Joseph Carroll host this series and share light refreshments representing different Jewish culinary traditions each date. Each episode is 55 min., followed by informal audience reflection and discussion for those who wish to stay. All events are free and open to the public. All are welcome. Donations to MSAC are appreciated. No advance registration is required. Co-sponsoring and hosting this series does not imply endorsement of any particular position on the part of MSAC staff, the MSAC Program Committee or the City of Montpelier.
- Series Summary (shortened from PBS website): Author, documentary-maker and Emmy-Award winner Simon Schama hosts this five-part documentary series for PBS. It follows him as he travels the globe, exploring the imprint Jewish culture has made on the world. The series is a personal journey for Schama who has been immersed in Jewish history since his postwar childhood; a meditation on its dramatic trajectory, and a macro-history of the Jewish people's mark on the world. It draws on centuries of diverse primary sources, and Schama talks about the turning points of the recent history with living witnesses. More information about the series is available at <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/story-jews/>
- Episode 1: The Beginning: Simon Schama embarks on his journey through Jewish history. This episode will be screened at Montpelier Senior Activity Center on May 6 at 5pm.

TOPICS FOR UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS...

May 3	Site Visit 6:00 PM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Resource Recovery Facility 	May 9	Complete Streets Plan TIF vote Planning & Community Development Department Presentation Planning Commission Update Water Resource Recovery Facility
May 21-22	Strategic Planning Retreat	May 23	Community Services Presentation Tree Board Update Conservation Commission Update Downsizers Central VT Public Safety Authority
June 13	Scribner Street hearing & site visit Environmental, Social, Governance Investment Policy Department Presentations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire • Cemetery • Community Justice Center? 	June 27	
July 11			

WHAT TO EXPECT IN THE FUTURE...

May	Green Up Day Montpelier Mayfest Art Walk	June	
July	Setting tax and water/sewer rates Board of Civil Authority meets July 3 rd Celebration	August	
September	Mid-year City Manager check-in Art Walk	November	Set budget guidelines
December	Budget Art Walk	January	Budget Ballot
February	City Manager review Welcome Legislators Reception	March	Orientation



William Fraser
 City Manager

**Construction Update
Montpelier Transportation Projects**

Project Location: State Street, Main Street, and VT 12 – Elm Street - Work to include milling, paving, manhole and drainage structure adjustments and extensive sidewalk improvements. VT 12-Northfield Street - new water, sewer, storm water improvements, sidewalks and a stabilized road base.

Week of April 30, 2018

Northfield Street – Construction Area: Derby Drive to Freedom Drive

TRAFFIC DETOUR: The detour route below will continue to be in effect from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM, M-F, for Northfield Street traffic between Derby Drive and Freedom Drive.

- All southbound (towards Northfield) thru traffic will use Memorial Drive to Dog River Road to Northfield Street
- Northbound (towards downtown) passenger vehicles will be allowed to travel through the construction zone
- Northbound (towards downtown) truck thru traffic will be directed to use Dog River Road to Memorial Drive. Local delivery trucks will be allowed through the project.
- A detour map can be found at <https://frpenterprises.com/montpelier-08-10-17.html> Click on “MAP”
- Message boards and detour signs will be in place to direct traffic.
- Sidewalks will remain open for pedestrians and bicyclists may ride with traffic in the northbound direction or walk their bikes along the sidewalk, in either direction, until they reach the end of the construction zone.

Please note: Northfield Street between Memorial Drive and Derby Drive will be open to two-way traffic.

There are several construction activities scheduled for this week as follows:

Early next week, crews will set up of bypass pumping system and begin sewer main work at the northern Colonial Drive intersection. TRAFFIC MUST USE DETOUR - NO EXCEPTIONS.

Water service connections will continue. Notices will be delivered to impacted residents.

Roadway concrete removal will continue up to Independence Green, weather permitting.

By Thursday, if the sewer main line can be tested and approved, service connections may start.

*All work is weather permitting.

Northfield Street – Phase I Section (Memorial Drive to Derby Drive)

Crews may begin work on restoration, topsoil, seed and mulch throughout the phase 1 area, weather permitting.

***Driveway Access:** Construction activities may block driveway entrances for short periods of time as the operations move through the construction area. If crews are working across your driveway entrance and you need to enter or exit, please communicate your needs to an available crew member.

Downtown/Elm Street - 2018

Pike will resume work on the downtown/Elm Street project in early May.

Updates will be posted on www.roadworkupdates.com, Montpelier’s Front Porch Forum, the City of Montpelier’s website, Facebook page and Twitter Feed, Montpelier Alive’s Facebook page and Makeover Montpelier’s Facebook page. Information will also be included in the VT Agency of Transportation’s “On the Road” report in the Times Argus.

Contact Francine Perkins, project outreach coordinator, at (802) 479-6994 with questions or comments.