

## Upcoming Meetings

Monday, June 10	Planning Commission	5:30 PM	Memorial Room
	Recreation Advisory Board	5:30 PM	Barre Street Recreation Ctr.
Tuesday, June 11	Historic Preservation	6:30 PM	City Manager's Conference Room
<b>Wednesday, June 12</b>	<b>City Council</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>City Council Chambers</b>
Thursday, June 13	Conservation Commission	7:00 PM	City Council Chambers



## Community Prosperity

### Conferences

Our community successfully hosted two large conferences this week. The annual Vermont Downtown Conference was held on Wednesday. This brought local officials from around the state to Montpelier to discuss ways to revitalize downtowns and village centers. There was a lot of interest and excitement expressed about the City's various projects like the transit center, new housing, shared use path, hotel and parking garage. This event culminated with a street party on Langdon Street in the evening.

Thursday and Friday brought the New England creative communities conference to town. This group looks at the arts and how they integrate into civic life and economic development. Normally held in larger cities, the group felt that Montpelier displayed a commitment to the arts which was worth visiting. Arts Fest was held in conjunction with the conference. There certainly were a lot of people in town visiting our businesses.

Congratulations to Montpelier Alive for working to bring these conferences here and for coordinating all the related community events. They did an especially good job with the weather!

A wonderful video was produced by Montpelier Alive and the Montpelier Development Corporation in conjunction with these events and was shown at the beginning of each conference. It can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DLnzjegHYJ4>



## Responsive and Responsible Government

### Water/Sewer Bill Payments Due Monday, June 17th

Your water/sewer bill shows payments are due on June 15<sup>th</sup>. However, since June 15<sup>th</sup> is a Saturday the

payment due date is extended to Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup>. Payments may be made via mail, in person in the City Clerk's office, [online using Official Payments at this link](#), or by using the drop box to the left of the rear entrance to City Hall. Please be sure to make your payment by the due date to avoid penalties. You may also enroll in automatic payments by submitting a completed enrollment form which [you can access by clicking this link](#). Reasons to consider enrolling in automatic payments:

- Payments are automatically withdrawn from the account you designate on the actual due date, no need to pay days in advance or risk a payment being late or lost in the mail.
- Electronic payments are more secure. Checks contain your financial institution's routing number and your account number, information that is susceptible to fraudulent transactions and misuse.
- Electronic payments significantly reduce processing time. Checks and cash must be manually processed by staff and take a considerable amount of time to enter, especially during high volume payment periods.

### **Personnel Plan**

Staff has formed a committee representing a wide range of city employees. We have committed to weekly meetings to review and recommend updates to the personnel policy. The target is to have an initial draft for leadership team review in August and a final draft for Council review and approval in October.

### **Water Treatment Facility:**

Our Water Filtration Facility held public tours as part of Water Quality Day on Thursday, May 30<sup>th</sup> with 3 different tours throughout the day and a total of about 30 city residents attending. Water Treatment Facility Operators received a letter of appreciation from ANR Secretary Julie Moore for an excellent tour and commended the city's well-kept facility.

### **Looking for Volunteers**

The Montpelier Parks Department is seeking a few volunteers to help us at our first Parkapalooza summer concert, on June 15<sup>th</sup> at Hubbard Park. We're seeking volunteers to help us sell tickets, lead a community capture the flag game, and present local crafters and artists in our 'skill share' tent. Please contact Becky at [rjohnston@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:rjohnston@montpelier-vt.org), or call 802-225-8694.

Volunteers are needed to assist the Montpelier Senior Activity Center at 'Junebug', our celebration of summer! We are looking for people to help us create a fun and relaxed atmosphere for community members of all ages to come and enjoy this 'block party' style event on Saturday, June 29<sup>th</sup> at the Montpelier Recreation Fields! Please contact Becky at [rjohnston@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:rjohnston@montpelier-vt.org), or by calling 802-225-8694.

### **July 3<sup>rd</sup> – Independence Day Parade**

We are looking for volunteers to help out throughout the afternoon and evening of July 3<sup>rd</sup> to help vendors, performers, and parade participants set up, clean up, and/or assist Montpelier Alive staff throughout the event. If you are interested in volunteering, e-mail [volunteer@montpelieralive.org](mailto:volunteer@montpelieralive.org), or call 856-776-9425.



Environmental Stewardship

### **Stump Dump**

On Sunday, June 2, DPW staff was made aware that a 55 gallon drum of hazardous material was found to

be leaking at the stump dump on Elm Street. It was determined that the company hired by the City to handle waste oil from a municipal project failed to follow the temporary storage protocol as required, which is believed to have directly contributed to the release. The company accepted responsibility for cleanup, which was completed promptly and overseen by the City and state DEC hazardous spill response personnel.

We are actively working with DEC to ensure our permitting and disposal practices at the stump dump are environmentally up to date. In addition, we are updating the security lock at the gate to prevent people from illegally accessing the site and dumping unapproved waste. As a reminder, all materials must be presented at the Public Works Garage on Dog River Rd. for inspection before the permit to dispose at the stump dump is issued. For more information, please visit <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/967/Garbage-and-Recycling>

### **Stormwater Awareness**

Students from MSMS asked Friends of the Winooski River and River Keepers to assist on a storm drain stenciling as a project around the City. On Wednesday a few drains were stenciled and another group will go out at a later time. The students are engaged in a storm water awareness class. The stenciling advises the public that the catch basins found on the street empty directly into the river so no hazardous materials or other wastes should be dumped into them.

### **Parks**

Parks & Tree staff got training on the preventive treatment of ash trees this week. Following that, downtown ash trees received the treatment. Some other selected ash trees will get treated in the near future.

Two park staff went to the Vermont Parks and Recreation maintenance workshop this week.

The NCCC crew made it out to help do trail work on National Trails day on Saturday, restoring some key sections of the North Branch River Park. This week the crew has helped remove hundreds of invasive honeysuckle, barberry and multi-flora rose plants, giving crucial momentum to this very important effort. We are currently work on the Class 1 wetland area, that park users and Nature Center visitors enjoy, breathing new life into this important habitat.



## More Housing

### **Housing Units**

While preparing the growth center update, the city calculated that we have issued permits for 114 new housing units over the last five years.



## Sustainable Infrastructure

### **DPW Projects**

Debris: One thing marked off our to-do list from early May was some hand cleaning of debris in the downtown area that was left over from the winter. The street sweeper isn't able to get into the nooks and crannies along the curb line so we always have to clean it up by hand.

Pavement Markings: The contractor hired to mark 40 of our crosswalks and long lines on the high traffic streets has been delayed due to the weather. Dry pavement is imperative and this work is done at night so conditions must be appropriate. The deadline for completion was today, June 7th but they were granted an extension because of circumstances beyond their control. We now expect them in town this coming week. Our own pavement markings have also been delayed for similar reasons and because of other priority work. We expect to catch up soon with better weather in the forecast concentrating first on Barre St, upper Main & Towne Hill Rd crosswalks first.

Water/sewer: The water/sewer division replaced a water service along Towne Hill Road, near the intersection of Greenock Ave on Thursday. This line was found to have several small leaks during replacement. Additionally, there is currently a water leak at the intersection of Main St. and Barre St. This repair has been rescheduled to Monday or Tuesday of next week. There is also a planned water valve repair on Clarendon Avenue and two fire hydrants that need to be replaced (George Street or Spring Hollow). Other miscellaneous work includes continued cleaning sewer mains and storm water catch basins with vacator throughout the next several weeks.

#### **Shared Use Path Project (Granite St – Gallison Hill Road):**

Street reclaiming and cold plane work is now complete. New base pavement will be placed on Gallison Hill Road on Saturday (6/8) during the day and on Barre Street on Monday (6/10) and Tuesday (6/11) during the day.

**Construction Traffic Advisory:** The Barre Street (and Granite Street) paving project will require the use of traffic control flaggers to manage one direction traffic flow conditions in the work zone. These planned paving projects are wrapped into the shared use path contract with Gallison Hill Road included to develop on road bike lanes and Barre Street being handled as a supplemental contract funded by the city and a VTrans Class 2 roadway grant. Motorists are advised to expect delays and to seek alternate routes during work times.

Other activities planned in the coming weeks include: ledge removal behind retaining wall #8 will also continue next week and work on the bio retention ponds. For erosion prevention & sediment control work, the contractor will also be working on permanent and temporary stabilization methods in accordance with the stormwater permit.

#### **1 Taylor Street/Recreation Path:**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> floor will be drywalled next week and mechanical, electrical and plumbing will be roughed in on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor. Reinforcing steel for the pedestrian bridge deck is currently being placed. The buried railroad crossing utility conduits between 1 Taylor Street and 100 State Street will be completed this week and site work will commence around the building next week.

#### **Cummings Street Bridge Project:**

The demolition of the old bridge is complete and the contractor is now demolishing the old concrete abutments. During excavation, the contractor encountered old steel fuel tank which was found to contain sand that was probably intentionally filled when use was discontinued. Samples were taken to see if any

product remains inside the tank and it has not yet been determined whether there is soil contamination outside of it. This will be evaluated when the tank is removed next week.

**WRRF:**

Work continues to ramp up on the Organics to Energy facility upgrade. It is anticipated that installation of underground piping will begin next week.

**FY20 Street Paving:**

Stonecutters Way project will be bid in the next few weeks for either a mill and fill, or a cold in place recycling project. Staff anticipates requesting approval to do this work at night which seems to be the only time available that will not conflict with access for the restaurant, bank, numerous offices and the Hunger Mountain Co-Op.

DPW is currently developing bid documents for other streets in the paving program this season including Dwinell, Dewey, Greenfield, Jordan and Redstone. Clarendon Ave reconstruction paving will be after utility completion.

**Miscellaneous:**

Clarendon Ave Reconstruction Project: Bids have been opened and the apparent low bidder for the project is Herbert Excavation. DPW is still conducting bid analysis on the bid tabulations. DPW anticipates work to begin in mid-June, contractor will be providing a detailed schedule once contact is awarded. The project scope consists of new water, sewer, storm, and roadway improvements.

Elm Street Sidewalk Projects: Due to a lapse in State Prequalification for both of the bidders on the project, so they cannot be accepted and the state recommended they be rejected. As a result, the project will be re-bid.

FY20 Concrete Sidewalks: Project is now out to bid. Contract to be awarded in June with construction to occur later in the summer. Sidewalk reconstruction is planned for the following locations: Intersection of Elm and Spring (repair from water leak), Hubbard Street between Wilder and Barre St, and selected sections on Main Street between Jay and Loomis (both sides of street). The final extent of work will depend on bids received vs available budget.



**Public Health and Safety**

**5 Home Farm Way**

The building was successfully boarded up and secured this week by City staff.

**Berlin Pond**

Berlin Pond has been re-posted by the treatment plant staff and we are anticipating the shoreline to be re-posted by next week.

The Berlin Pond access area constructed by the Fish & Wildlife now includes an informational sign kiosk which was found to contain incorrect and misleading information. We were made aware of this on June 6th and expressed our concerns to Louis Porter, F&W Commissioner and to Tim Raymond, Section Chief,

Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division. A reply has not been received. The concern regards signs that may give the mistaken impression that combustion engines are permitted on the pond and that trailer mounted boats can be launched from the access area.



## Thoughtfully Planned Built Environment

### **Parking Garage/Hotel**

We are working with our attorney to fulfill another public records request filed by the appellants' lawyer. In addition, we are completing a discovery request filed by Alan Goldman's attorney in the Act 250 jurisdictional opinion matter.

The validation resolution is on next week's agenda. Attorney Paul Giuliani will be present to advise the Council and respond to the recent letter from the appellant's attorney.

### **Growth Center Designation**

The Department of Planning & Community Development submitted the City's 10 year review application for its growth center designation. The Growth Center is part of the state designation programs that includes the Designated Downtown, Village Centers and New Town Centers. Montpelier has both a Designated Downtown and a Growth Center. The purpose of the Growth Center is for municipalities to encourage more than 50 percent of its future residential and commercial growth inside of an area that is close to the downtown. In exchange the state makes additional grants available to municipalities and provides incentives to developers like exemptions from Act 250 review. Montpelier has so far been very successful over the last five years with 79% of the new housing units being built in the growth center and 75% of the new enterprises being in the growth center. The state Downtown Development Board will review the application at its regular meeting in September with a decision shortly after.



## Inclusive, Equitable and Engaged Community

### **Community Justice**

This letter (link provided below) appeared in the Waterbury Record newspaper regarding a resident's experience with Restorative Justice.

[https://www.stowetoday.com/waterbury\\_record/opinion/letters\\_to\\_the\\_editor/restorative-justice-understanding-the-impact/article\\_ab7408ce-8304-11e9-954b-5b5e3fb52f23.html?utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=email&utm\\_campaign=user-share](https://www.stowetoday.com/waterbury_record/opinion/letters_to_the_editor/restorative-justice-understanding-the-impact/article_ab7408ce-8304-11e9-954b-5b5e3fb52f23.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share)

### **FEAST Drivers**

The FEAST Senior Meals program is seeking volunteer FEAST at Home delivery drivers for the summer months. FEAST at Home drivers typically volunteer between 10:30 am and 12:30pm on a weekday of their choice. During this time, they deliver roughly ten meals to families around Montpelier or Berlin. If you're interested in applying for this role, please contact Becky at [rjohnston@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:rjohnston@montpelier-vt.org).



William Fraser  
City Manager

## Upcoming Agenda Items (TENTATIVE)

<p><b>6/12</b></p>	<p>Berlin St. Speed Limit, 1<sup>st</sup> Public Hearing <b>DPW</b>            MTIC Alternative Transportation Fund Budget            Ch. 2 Ordinance Amendments, 2<sup>nd</sup> PH <b>ATCM</b>            Ch. 3 Ordinance Amendments, 1<sup>st</sup> PH <b>ATCM</b>            Ch. 1 Ordinance Fines, 1<sup>st</sup> PH, <b>ATCM</b>            Conservation Commission updated <b>MCC</b>            Strategic Outcomes work plan <b>CM</b>            Winter Operations Debrief <b>DPW</b>            Validation resolution <b>CM</b></p>	<p><b>6/26</b></p>	<p>Berlin St. Speed Limit, 2<sup>nd</sup> Public Hearing            FEAST Contract <b>MSAC</b>            Ch. 1 Ordinance Fines, 1<sup>st</sup> PH, <b>ATCM</b>            Ch. 3 Ordinance Amendments, 2<sup>nd</sup> PH <b>ATCM</b>            Ch. 5 Ordinance Amendments, 1<sup>st</sup> PH <b>ATCM</b>            Zoning <b>Planning</b>            DID Report &amp; 2020 Budget Request <b>MontP Alive</b>            Strategic Planning consultant <b>CM</b></p>
<p><b>7/10</b></p>	<p>ADA Plan Adoption <b>DPW/ADA Committee</b>            Ch. 1 Ordinance Fines, 1<sup>st</sup> PH, <b>ATCM</b>            Ch. 5 Ordinance Amendments, 2<sup>nd</sup> PH <b>ATCM</b>            Ch. 7 Ordinance Amendments, 1<sup>st</sup> PH <b>ATCM</b>            Set Tax Rate <b>Finances</b>            Tax Stabilization Policy <b>CM</b>            Strategic Plan update <b>CM</b>            French Block PH <b>Downstreet</b>            5 Home Farm Way - <b>CM</b></p>	<p><b>8/14</b></p>	<p>Energy Efficiency and Disclosure Policy <b>MEAC</b>            Ch. 7 Ordinance Amendments, 2<sup>nd</sup> PH <b>ATCM</b>            Ch. 8 Ordinance Amendments, 1<sup>st</sup> PH <b>ATCM</b>            Transportation Alternatives- tentative <b>CM</b></p>
<p><b>8/28</b></p>	<p>Living Wage/Responsible Employer Ordinance            Ch. 8 Ordinance Amendments, 2<sup>nd</sup> PH <b>ATCM</b>            Ch. 9 Ordinance Amendments, 1<sup>st</sup> PH <b>ATCM</b>            Substance Abuse update <b>PD</b></p>	<p><b>9/11</b></p>	<p>Confluence Park/Waterfront            Ch. 9 Ordinance Amendments, 2<sup>nd</sup> PH <b>ATCM</b>            Ch. 10 Ordinance Amendments, 1<sup>st</sup> PH <b>ATCM</b>            Event Fees –tentative <b>CM</b></p>
<p><b>9/25</b></p>	<p>Economic Development Strategic Plan <b>P&amp;CD</b>            Grant for Net Zero plan <b>P&amp;CD</b>            Revolving Loan Fund <b>CD</b>            Ch. 10 Ordinance Amendments, 2<sup>nd</sup> PH <b>ATCM</b>            Ch. 11 Ordinance Amendments, 1<sup>st</sup> PH <b>ATCM</b>            Strategic Plan update <b>CM</b></p>	<p><b>10/9</b></p>	<p>CSO Financials <b>DPW/Finance</b>            Complete Streets Committee update            Ch. 11 Ordinance Amendments, 2<sup>nd</sup> PH <b>ATCM</b>            Ch. 13 Ordinance Amendments, 1<sup>st</sup> PH <b>ATCM</b></p>
<p><b>10/23</b></p>	<p>Ch. 13 Ordinance Amendments, 2<sup>nd</sup> PH <b>ATCM</b>            Ch. 16 Ordinance Amendments, 1<sup>st</sup> PH <b>ATCM</b>            Personnel Plan <b>CM/HR</b></p>	<p><b>11/13</b></p>	<p>Ch. 16 Ordinance Amendments, 2<sup>nd</sup> PH <b>ATCM</b>            Ch. 17 Ordinance Amendments, 1<sup>st</sup> PH <b>ATCM</b>            Recreation Building <b>ACM</b>            IRC Codes <b>Planning</b></p>
<p><b>11/20</b></p>	<p>Ch. 17 Ordinance Amendments, 2<sup>nd</sup> PH <b>ATCM</b>            Ch. 19 Ordinance Amendments, 1<sup>st</sup> PH <b>ATCM</b></p>	<p><b>12/11</b></p>	<p>Budget            Ch. 19 Ordinance Amendments, 2<sup>nd</sup> PH <b>ATCM</b></p>

	Ch. 20 Ordinance Amendments, 1 <sup>st</sup> PH <b>ATCM</b> WiFi feasibility <b>Finance/Tech</b> Strategic Plan update <b>CM</b>		Ch. 20 Ordinance Amendments, 2 <sup>nd</sup> PH <b>ATCM</b>
<b>12/18</b>	Sabin's Pasture <b>CM</b>	<b>1/8</b>	Hazard Mitigation Plan update

### Upcoming Reports (TENTATIVE)

<b>June</b>	Alternative fuels for Vehicles	<b>Aug.</b>	Energy efficiency and Disclosure policy Roof drain connection Transition of PD fleet to HEV
<b>Oct.</b>	Police Department Social Worker	<b>Nov.</b>	WiFi feasibility
<b>Jan.</b>	Rental properties survey	<b>?</b>	Downtown Master Plan Process for adding new projects/funding

### Budget

ADA projects  
 Combined Sewer Overflow projects  
 Downtown Master Plan Implementation  
 Emergency Management Operations  
 Fuel  
 Parking Garage Operations  
 Housing Trust Fund  
 Infrastructure  
 Downtown LED light conversion  
 Personnel Plan matters  
 Police Dept. Social Worker  
 Recreation Center  
 Confluence Park/Riverfront efforts  
 Sabin's Pasture (purchase?)  
 WiFi

