

Mon., Mar. 9th	Planning Commission Meeting	7:00 PM	City Council Chambers, City Hall
Tues., Mar. 10th	Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Committee	11:00 AM	City Manager's Conference Room
Tues., Mar. 10th	Transportation Infrastructure Committee	6:00 PM	City Council Chambers, City Hall
Wed., Mar. 11th	Social & Economic Justice Advisory Committee	10: 00 AM	City Manager's Conference Room
Wed., Mar. 11th	Homelessness Task Force	11:30 AM	City Council Chambers, City Hall
Wed., Mar. 11th	City Council Meeting	6:30 PM	City Council Chambers, City Hall

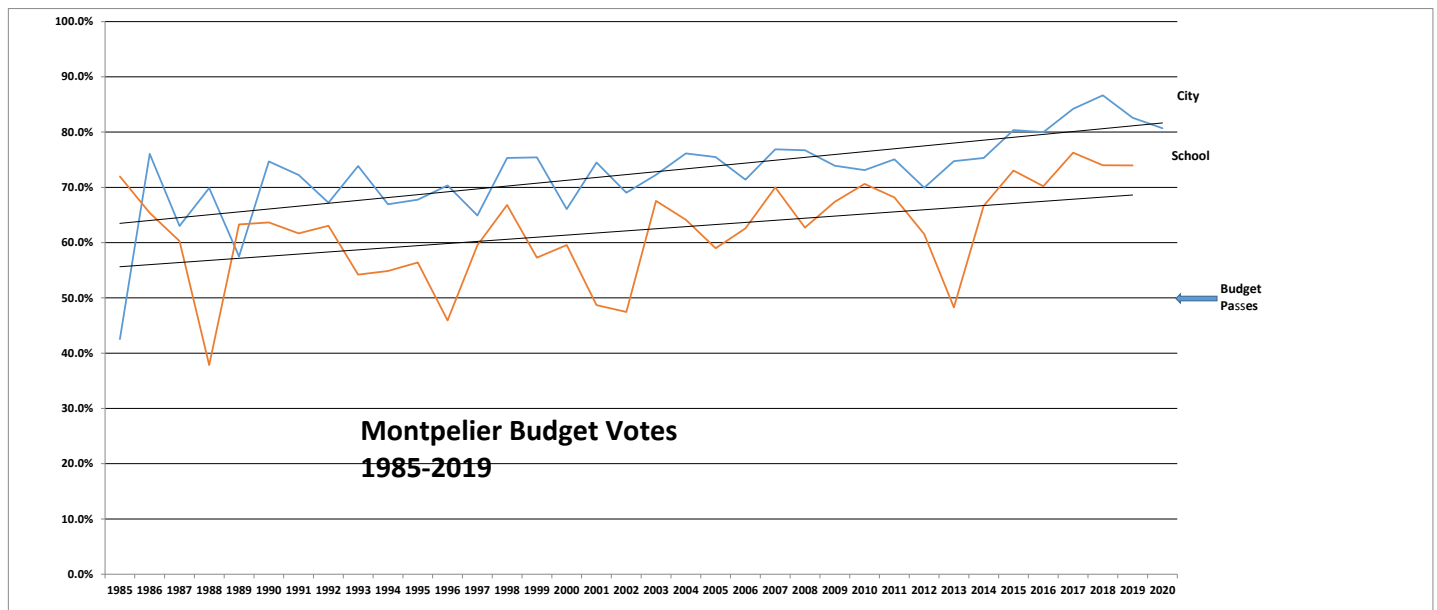


Responsive and Responsible Government

City Meeting Election

Thanks to all residents for the very high voter turnout. Thanks, too, to all who ran for office – we can't run our local government without you. Congratulations and welcome to new Council Member Jay Ericson.

The City budget received 80.7% yes votes. This is the 6th straight year of 80+% support. The School budget got a 74% approval, marking the 5th straight year of 70+ % support. Here is a chart showing budget vote percentages since 1985





Inclusive, Equitable and Engaged Community

Community Transit Week

The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission is pleased to announce Community Transit Week, a collaboration of Central Vermont transit providers and advocates that will take place Saturday May 2nd—Friday May 8th. Their goal is to spread awareness of public transit options across the region, and help connect potential riders to routes that serve their needs. The week will feature:

- An Opening Day Celebration on Saturday, May 2nd at the Montpelier Transit Center will focus on accessibility, including a stationary demo bus providing an opportunity to try many GMT accessibility features like wheel-chair lifts and bike racks; Transit partners and advocates will also be tabling there with more information and transit opportunities.
- A Free Ride Day on Monday, May 4th when all GMT rides in the Central Vermont Region will be free of charge
- A week-long On-Board Raffle for bus riders who can enter their name for a drawing of free bus passes and other prizes
- An Elected Officials Ride the Bus Day, where constituents will have an opportunity to connect to their legislators and municipal officials on the bus
- A Ride-the-Bus Photo Competition where you upload your picture to the Community Transit Week Instagram and/or Facebook page
- Plus many other events

Please feel free to contact Grace Vinson (vinson@cvregion.com) at the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission with any questions, comments or concerns.

National Life Group Community Cupboard

National Life Group will be installing a walk-up freestanding food pantry - called a Community Cupboard- in front of the Senior Center the week of March 16th. This Community Cupboard will be stocked and maintained by National Life staff, but the nonperishable food and weather-dependent supplies (hats, gloves, etc.) inside it will be available for anyone. This is a pilot project for them, and if this is successful- they hope to add more locations around the City. We are excited to partner with National Life on something as impactful as community hunger!

MSAC Thanks Supporting Town Residents for Town Meeting Support

Montpelier Senior Activity Center is grateful for the support of voters in our six supporting towns who approved funding requests totaling \$40,000 for MSAC's operations in FY21: Berlin, Calais, East Montpelier, Middlesex, Moretown and Worcester. Residents of these six towns make up 25% of annual participation at MSAC, and those age 50+ qualify as "Supporting Town Members," paying lower annual dues than residents of other towns and having earlier class registration privileges. We are also grateful to the many residents of those towns who assisted between September and March with the petition-signature gathering process, with Front Porch Forum letter-writing, and with giving testimony during Town Meeting.

Staged Reading Workshop Performance: Love, Loss, and What I Wore

Saturday, March 7 | 1:00 pm, doors open at 12:45 pm | City Hall Arts Center | Free and open to the public.

The play performance class at Montpelier Senior Activity Center is proud to present a staged reading of "Love, Loss and What I Wore" at Lost Nation Theater's lobby in City Hall. The play, by Nora and Delia Ephron (famous for such works as "Sleepless in Seattle" and "When Harry Met Sally"), is a poignant, funny and timeless collection of monologues and ensemble elements. It was written to be performed on a bare stage with scripts in hand, so you'll be seeing the play as it was meant to be done. Please join the class and their instructor, Joanne Greenberg, for this free

event, which will include refreshments after the play. The theater is wheelchair accessible.

Senior Centers on the Agenda for Older Vermonters Caucus March 12

MSAC Director Janna Clar and several members of the MSAC Advisory Council will participate in a multi-center presentation to the Caucus in Room 47 on Thursday, March 12 at noon-1pm. This is part of efforts to increase recognition of the vital and growing roles played by senior centers in VT's communities. We continue our efforts with the Vermont Association of Senior Centers and Meal Providers to advocate for older Vermonters. All are welcome, we will participate again on April 23 focused on senior nutrition, and the Caucus's future topics on other upcoming Thursdays can be found here: <https://www.vermont4a.org/2020-legislation>.

Tickets for "Feast for FEAST" fundraiser now on sale!

Tickets for the Friday, March 27 "Feast for FEAST" fundraiser are now on sale in the front office and will be available for purchase at upcoming Feast Together meals. Tickets are \$10/person or \$25/family with all proceeds going to MSAC's FEAST Senior Nutrition Programming. Only 100 tickets will be sold, so don't delay in purchasing yours.



Sustainable Infrastructure

DPW Street & Water/Sewer Divisions:

This week our Street Division completed a range of different tasks ranging from maintaining safe travel on streets and sidewalks resulting weather impacts to equipment training. Our crew completed the follow task list:

- Repaired step at back door to City Hall;
- Removed snow on streets around College Street with the loader;
- Repaired mailboxes "injured" during snow removal;
- Relocated kiosk to 12 Main Street & completed soil removal from 12 Main Street;
- Cold patched potholes throughout the city;
- Located valves and manholes for mapping;
- Undertook sign repairs throughout the city.

Next week our Street Division will work with our asphalt recycler and make hotmix for filling potholes; check underdrains and storm drains on Cummings Street; continue sign repairs; assist the city's Water/Sewer Division with cleaning lines (as long as weather permits); and have a sight visit to Highland Avenue with our Water/Sewer Division to make decisions on new storm line.

Our Water/Sewer Division completed the following task list this week:

- Smoke testing, Vactor work, and syphons, for all the lines on Highland Avenue;
- Equipment training;
- Addressed resident questions about sewer issues;
- Water meter repairs and readings;
- Fusion pipe parts inventory;
- Project planning and data collection;
- Dig safes; and
- Sewer pump station maintenance.

Next week our Water/Sewer Division will complete pipe line locating, cleaning and camera work on Cummings Street & Highland Avenue, continue cleaning the brick archway on Loomis /Saint Paul Streets, hydrant checks, project preparations, water meter repairs and readings as well as sewer pump station maintenance.

Hazardous Waste Facility:

At the March 5th meeting of the Central VT Solid Waste Management District, Board Supervisors were briefed by General Manager Cathleen Gent on progress for finalizing a \$500,000 grant document with the Agency of Natural Resources for siting and construction of a Hazardous Waste Collection Facility. At a prior meeting, the CVSWMD Board committed \$594,400 to the project from District funds (an amount that is higher than the required match of 40%). Staff is now outlining the process necessary for implementation and will be developing a build-to-suit RFQ, and preparing for visits with District member communities to explain the project.

Solid Waste District Plans Requirement:

The District is also preparing a new Solid Waste Implementation Plan (SWIP) for years 2021-2025. The final version needs to be adopted by November 19, 2020. A draft document will be reviewed by the Program Oversight Committee (POC) next month and the full Board anticipates discussion in April or May. Two public hearings will be scheduled.



Public Health and Safety

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Response Update

The City has been working with the State's Department of Health and Emergency Management Department to closely monitor the emerging Coronavirus (COVID-19) health crisis. In health emergencies of this magnitude, the State departments and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) are the primary agencies accountable for response.

City staff met on March 5, to formally begin planning for the City's internal response to COVID-19. The City's Leadership team discussed how to mitigate impact to core vital services, protect staff and residents in their interactions with City services, and how to best support City employees through expanding access to sick-leave. Depending on the severity of this unfolding health crisis, the City may need to re-prioritize services and could consider cancelling big public events, prioritizing the roads being plowed, or other services. Staff will continue to meet weekly for the foreseeable future, to ensure City plans are current and thorough.

In addition, we know that the public can receive competing information from sources regarding COVID-19, which can lead to increased worry. We recommend getting any news information directly from the State:

www.healthvermont.gov/covid19. The situation is ever changing, and we will be providing you with regular updates on the City's response.

The CDC has prepared some simple steps you can take to protect yourself:

- a. Surfaces and objects that you interact with need to be wiped with disinfectant regularly.
- b. Ensure you are washing your hands thoroughly and regularly! Washing kills the virus on your hands and prevents the spread of COVID-19. Also, Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- c. Make sure you are practicing good respiratory hygiene- cough/sneeze into disposable tissue, or your elbow- and wash your hands afterwards.
- d. If you develop a cough or low-grade fever (99°F or more) you need to stay at home and recover

The Montpelier City website does have a page available regarding the City's response: <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/1155/Coronavirus-Response>



William Fraser
City Manager

Upcoming Agenda Items (TENTATIVE)

3/11	Organizational Meeting Downtown Master Plan Set Schedule for Strategic Planning Committee appointments Possible Sabin's Pasture update	3/25	Ordinances TKS Property Tax Stabilization Policy – tentative Personnel Plan – tentative Ordinances
4/8	Ordinances W/S Budget, Rates Parking Fees Parking Garage Update	4/22	DRB Appointments