

Minutes of the Montpelier City Council Meeting
November 18 2020, 6:30pm
Videoconference

In attendance: Mayor Anne Watson (Chair), Councilors Dona Bate, Conor Casey, Lauren Hierl, Dan Richardson, Jay Ericson, and Jack McCullough. City Clerk John Odum acted as secretary.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

- 2020-344. The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.
- 2020-345. Elizabeth Parker announced a survey on the GMTA routes and updated on the My Ride Community Advisory Group. Stephen Whitaker on public restroom needs and the progress of the Homelessness Task Force. Alex Chernomazov spoke on the new parking rules.
- 2020-346. Sue Minter of Capstone Community Action spoke as an opening to the discussion of appointing a Montpelier member to the Capstone Community Action Board of Directors. Gabriel Lajeunesse, Abby White addresses the Council on their interest in the appointment. Councilor McCullough moved the Council, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313, go into executive session to discuss the appointment of a public official. Councilor Casey seconded and the motion carried unanimously at 6:56.

At 7:09, Councilor Richardson moved to return from executive session. Councilor Bate seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilor moved to ask Capstone to consider appointing Abby White to the position and consider Gabriel Lajeunesse as an alternate. Councilor McCullough seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

- 2020-349. Washington County Senators Ann Cummings, Anthony Pollina, and Andrew Perchlik, along with State Representative Mary Hooper, participated in the discussion of the City's legislative presence and agenda. Alex Chernomazov, Stephen Whitaker, and the City Clerk participated in discussion. No formal action taken.
- 2020-348. Alternative Transportation Infrastructure Reserve – Parking Fund Appropriation. After discussion, Councilor Councilor Bate moved to approve changing methodology funding transportation infrastructure projects from a flat dollar amount to 5% with a \$45,000 cap. Councilor McCullough seconded. Dayton Crites, Constantinos Stivaros, and Elizabeth Parker participated in discussion. Motion carried unanimously.
- 2020-347. Councilor Richardson moved approval of the Consent Agenda and was seconded by Councilor Bate. The motion carried unanimously.

The Mayor called a recess at 8:30. The meeting reconvened at 8:40.

- 2020-350. The Council received a COVID 19 update. No formal action taken. Stephen Whitaker participated.
- 2020-351. Infrastructure discussion. Donna Barlow Casey, Zach Blodgett, and Kurt Motyka presented. Stephen Whitaker and Constantinos Stivaros participated in discussion. No formal action taken.
- 2020-352. A discussion on Guertin Park was held. Stephen Whitaker, Morgan Brown, and Page Guertin participated.
- 2020-355. Councilor Bate reported on the Central Vermont Public Safety Authority and the recent blood drive. Councilor Casey offered a Happy Thanksgiving. Councilor Ericson echoed Councilor Casey's thoughts on Thanksgiving safety, noted the new downtown Montpelier sign, and thanked the local school staff and teachers. Councilor Richardson noted the passing of Meri Nielsen and encouraged spending on downtown businesses. Councilor Hierl reported on the Police Review Committee. She also noted concerns about the homeless shelter.
- 2020-356. The City Clerk reported on absences in the office and the coming Town Meeting election. A broader discussion followed that included the City Manager.
- 2020-357. The City Manager discussed the CIP Committee and electronic signature services.

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 10:25.