

Date	Committee	Time	Location	Links
8/9	Police Review Committee	5:00 PM	City Manager's Conference Room and Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
8/9	Cemetery Commission	12:00 PM	Cemetery Garage and Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
8/10	Community Fund Board	12:00 PM	City Manager's Conference Room and Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
8/10	Historic Preservation	7:00 PM	Memorial Room and Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
8/10	Planning Policy Subcommittee of MEAC	7:00 PM	City Council Chambers and Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link



Public Health and Safety

COVID-19 Updates

This week, the Governor and his team [shared data](#) that shows that even though Vermont's vaccination rate is very high and improving, case numbers have been rising. It remains so important to get your shots! Find an appointment [here](#).

Dr. Levine shared that the State is not at this time changing any overall mask guidelines, but he stated that:

"Wearing a mask is always an option- you may want to wear one indoors depending on your personal situation- if you have a weakened immune system or are around someone who does, if you have children who can't be vaccinated, if you're traveling, or if you just feel more comfortable doing so".

Schools and Masks:

State officials have asked all students and school staff members to plan to wear a mask in the first several weeks of school. Montpelier Roxbury Public Schools stated that “MRPS administrators are awaiting written guidance and will be in touch with the MRPS community as soon as we know more about what this means for the 2021-2022 school year”.



Environmental Stewardship

Montpelier Parks & Outdoor Recreation Survey

Montpelier Alive and the City of Montpelier Community Services Department are seeking feedback from residents that will help guide the development of parks and outdoor recreation in Montpelier for the next decade. They have released an online survey as part of a project to enhance recreational access and equity and harness outdoor recreation to boost economic development in Montpelier. The survey is available online at www.montpelieralive.org/survey.

The survey is open to anyone, regardless of town of residence, and takes about ten minutes to complete. This survey is focused on how people use Montpelier's Parks and Outdoor Recreation Facilities. Anyone who completes this survey can enter to win one of 20 \$25 gift certificates to Montpelier businesses.

The survey is part of a collaboration between Montpelier Parks and Montpelier Alive to develop higher quality outdoor recreation facilities that both serve residents and attract visitors to town. The project is made possible by a grant from Ten Minute Walk and the Trust for Public Land.



Responsive and Responsible Government

ARPA Funding New

We received excellent news this week that county funding for Vermont will be re-allocated to municipalities. We have not received details of the final amounts but suspect it will be close to our original funding estimates. Once we know the formal amounts we will return to the Council for consideration of use. Due to the projected length of the 8/18 meeting, I am moving discussion of the \$50,000 “on hold” until 8/25.

Collective Bargaining Update

We made very significant progress with both the Fire/EMS and DPW unions this past week. The Fire contract is in final draft and review stage. It should be ready to come to Council on either 8/18 or 8/25. DPW negotiations are down to a couple of final issues. It is possible that they could be ready for 8/25 as well. Police Supervisor and Patrol negotiations have gone well. Due to schedules, though, we won't be meeting again

until 8/24 so any potential Council ratification will be in September at the earliest.

We are beginning a review of compensation for all nonunion employees as well.

Upcoming Council Meetings New

We will all enjoy the break until August 18th. Please note, though, that the meetings on both the 18th and 25th will be very full with some substantive issues. You may want to plan for slightly longer than usual sessions. We are still holding September 8th for Strategic Planning only.



More Housing

Homelessness New

DCF Commissioner Sean Brown will attend the next City Council meeting to discuss the State's plans and strategies regarding homelessness. It's possible that this conversation will be tied in with the encampment policy but will occur regardless of whether the policy is ready to be brought forward again on that date.



Inclusive, Equitable and Engaged Community

Encampment Policy Update

Conversation continues about the proposed encampment response policy which can be found on the city's website here. City Council, Parks Commissioners, and the Homelessness Task Force will be continuing to offer opportunities for public engagement and feedback at their next meetings.

City Hall Lobby Library

The City is creating a more welcoming lobby for people waiting for buses or appointments, and have now installed a community bookshelf! Folks are welcome to borrow or take a book or two, and if you have spare books you are willing to donate- there is still space left on the shelves!

Planning Commission Meeting Canceled 8.9.21

Due to vacations, the next Planning Commission meeting, originally scheduled for August 9, has been cancelled. The next regular Planning Commission meeting will resume on August 23 at 5:30PM. Their usual schedule is to meet the second and fourth Mondays of the month at 5:30PM. The Planning Commission continues to meet remotely with an in person option in City Council for anyone who wants to take advantage of that option. The Zoom link for meetings can be found on the Planning Commission agendas on the City website calendar.

Community Services Department

American Red Cross Blood Drive | Saturday, 8/7, 9am-2pm | at Montpelier Senior Activity Center, 58 Barre Street.

Your donations are needed! Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Montpelier to schedule an appointment, or just show up on Saturday!

FEAST Farm Camp

August 9—13 | 9 am—1 pm | The Community Services Department invites kids ages 7-10 to join us in growing food for our neighbors. Together we will immerse ourselves in the daily cycles of farming for a one-week session. During the week, we will plant, harvest, and taste our way through the farm. We'll also explore the surrounding ecosystem, and discover the biodiversity that helps support the food we eat. To learn more about the FEAST Farm, click [here](#). To find Camp Registration Form, click [here](#).

Youth Soccer Registration starts Monday, August 9

Stop by the office to sign-up between 8-4, call 802-225-8699 or email nmaurice@montpelier-vt.org with questions. We expect to have more info on the website and the registration forms posted in advance at <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/939/Registration-Forms>. Cash, checks and credit card options. Available 2:30-5:30pm throughout the school year.

Capital Kids Afterschool Childcare Program Registration is underway – service starts August 26!

To learn more about our affordable, state-licensed program with subsidies and available 2:30-5:30pm throughout the school year, visit <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/1186/After-School-Childcare>, call the office at 802-225-8699 or email nmaurice@montpelier-vt.org with questions.

Montpelier City Pool is still open for two more weeks!

Daily Pool pass prices, schedules, FAQs and closure announcements can be found on the [Pool webpage](#) or by reaching out to the Recreation Department at 802-225-8699 or email nmaurice@montpelier-vt.org.

MSAC at Home: First Year Recap

Over this past year, a gradual but steady roll-out of new services has been underway at Montpelier Senior Activity Center, part of a program we are calling “MSAC at Home.” Based on the national “Village Model,” this program aims to provide services that empower older adults to successfully age in place. Beginning with outdoor, home-based seasonal chores in the fall, adding check-in Wellness Calls and technology support in the winter, expanding to indoor task assistance in the spring, and adding home evaluations to address falls risk in the summer, these offerings represent the start of what we hope are valuable new offerings to the community. As the AmeriCorps term for Aging in Place Coordinator Andrew Gribbin comes to a close next week, let’s recap what the start of this exciting new program has accomplished. To date, 30 separate request for home-based assistance (both indoor and outdoor) have been responded to,

resulting in 40 total tasks being completed. Over 60 separate technology requests have been responded to, and twice monthly Zoom trainings have been offered since December. A quarter of MSAC's 2020 membership has been contacted for check-in Wellness Calls, resulting in over 50 follow-up actions being taken and over a dozen referrals to more regular contact through the Central Vermont Council on Aging's Friendly Caller program. All services have been offered by donation to MSAC, ensuring access to all regardless of ability to pay. While much has been done, there is much more to do, and we hope this inaugural year represents the first chapter of many for MSAC at Home. To learn more about MSAC at Home or to become involved in this program, please visit our website at <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/msac-at-home> or contact msac-ameri corps@montpelier-vt.org or 262-6287 (both of which will be monitored during the transition to our new AmeriCorps member, though we appreciate your understanding of any temporary slowdown in responsiveness).

August 20th: Field of Dreams Baseball Card Collection Show and Tell

Every Friday at FEAST Curbside Picnics inside at Montpelier Senior Activity Center, we invite members to bring something to show or a story to share, around 12:45pm. We're excited to announce that on Friday, 8/20, we will all have the opportunity to see an incredible collection of autographed baseball cards, lovingly collected and curated by Tim White. To enjoy the baseball celebration, FEAST will be offering fresh popcorn to go with the day's menu of beef enchiladas and summer vegetables. Join us, and re-live the field of dreams...call 262-6288 to reserve a meal!

Parkapalooza Summer Concert Series continues at Hubbard Park!

The City of Montpelier's Community Services Department invites all to Parkapalooza, Hubbard Park's Free Summer Concert Series. This family-friendly, outdoor concert series is held at the Tuning Forks Stage in Hubbard Park and features live music from talented local and regional bands. The events are held **every Thursday from 5:30-7:30 pm for four more weeks**, with music beginning at 6pm. The musical lineup includes:

- ◆ 8/12: High Summer
- ◆ 8/19: Patti Casey and the Wicked Fine Players
- ◆ TO be rescheduled: Barika & Sabouyouma (cancelled 7/8 & 7/29 due to weather)

Each event also features the Park's 100' long slip 'n slide (weather permitting), and plenty of space to roam and play outside in Hubbard Park. Parking is inside Hubbard Park, accessible via Winter St., Spring St., or Corse St. in Montpelier. Concert-goers are encouraged to walk or carpool when possible. The events are offered free to the community, but donations will be accepted at various locations! This year's Parkapalooza is BYO everything, so bring whatever food and drink you need to keep yourself satisfied and consider these as "carry-in, carry-out" Park events.

Parkapalooza sponsorship is by the following local businesses: **Presenting Sponsors:** Caledonia Spirits Distillery, Community National Bank, Hunger Mountain Co-op, Isham-Berwick Insurance, Vermont State Employees Credit Union. **Supporting Sponsors:** AroMed, Central Vermont Chamber of Commerce, Montpelier Construction, Noyle Johnson Group, Onion River Outdoors, Sarducci's Restaurant, Union Mutual Insurance and Vermont Compost.

Montpelier City Pool Information

Daily Pool pass prices, schedules, FAQs and closure announcements can be found on the [Pool webpage](#) or by reaching out to the Recreation Department at 802-225-8699 or email nmaurice@montpelier-vt.org.

MSAC is Hiring: Apply now for a September start Americorps position: Aging in Place Coordinator

The position improves quality of life for area older adults by (1) participating in development for the newly established MSAC at Home program, based on the “Village” models successful in other communities around the state and country (2) assisting MSAC’s thriving FEAST Senior Meals Program, and (3) assisting seniors in accessing technology through development of MSAC’s new tech-device lending library. You can find all the details and application instructions at: <http://bit.ly/36FBTzm>. Please spread the word about this great position offering professional development, a stipend, rental subsidy, and the chance to serve the community in vital ways!

FEAST Senior Meals Program of MSAC:

Eat Inside with Us!

All are welcome to pick up a Curbside meal on Tuesdays and Fridays to eat inside with us. Not only do we have the opportunity to eat inside together again, but there are wonderful volunteers supporting us, including the youth serving at the FEAST Farm through the Montpelier Youth Conservation Corps, as well as favorite volunteers from times past: Jeanne Felmly, Cathy White, Tina Muncy, Laura Morse, Finbar and more! Simply pickup your meal outside or inside between 12 and 12:30, and come sit down with us. Volunteers will be on hand to offer you water and collect your silverware. Enjoy your meal AND each other’s company again! If you are new to the program, you will be asked to fill out a short nutritional survey. You can see our monthly menu on our website [here](#). Suggested donations are \$5-\$10, and the fee is \$7-10 if you’re under age 60. Please call to make your reservation: 262-6288 or email us at: feast@montpelier-vt.org. Reservations are not required to get meals.

Volunteer for FEAST

As we ramp back up to serving meals inside and delivering daily hot meals, we are going to need a lot more help again. If you or someone you know is interested in helping us bring nutritious, delicious meals to seniors who need them, please let us know by calling or emailing us: 802-262-6288, feast@montpelier-vt.org. We are seeking the following:

- Meals on Wheels Drivers
- FEAST Curbside Picnic Volunteers
- FEAST Special Events Volunteers
- FEAST Farm Support

Meals on Wheels is available to Montpelier and Berlin residents over 60 who need it. Our fabulous volunteers deliver a bulk pack of locally prepared frozen meals once a week, and we work to offer pandemic-safe social engagement and nutrition education too. There is no charge for meals, but donations are gladly accepted. If you or someone you know would benefit from receiving our delicious

and nutritious meals on wheels, just call us at the FEAST office: 262-6288 or email us at: feast@montpelier-vt.org.



Sustainable Infrastructure

Public Restrooms update

The Council has appointed a special committee to look at this issue and make recommendations. Assistant City Manager Cameron Niedermayer will be the staff for this committee.



Thoughtfully Planned Built Environment

Guertin Park, 12-16 Main Street Long Term Use Update

As discussed at the last Council meeting, the Guertin Park structure will be moved to 12-16 Main Street as soon as feasible, currently planned for the week of August 9th. Other Art installations will be placed in this area as well.

Conversation about the longer term uses of this property will be held later this fall.



Employment and Personnel Announcements

Montpelier Senior Activity Center Director Hiring

After receiving eight qualified applications, the hiring committee had narrowed down the selection and interviewed two finalists. Both finalists have returned to interview with the Montpelier Senior Activity Center Advisory Council and the City's Leadership Team. More information on this hiring process will be shared soon!

Municipal Job Openings:

- **Police Department- Patrol Officers:** The Patrol Officer is responsible for the efficient performance of required duties in conformance with the laws and the Department's rules, regulations and policies. Duties shall consist of, but are not necessarily limited to, a number of general police responsibilities necessary to the stability and safety of the community. For applications and more information, click [here](#) or email recruiting@montpelier-vt.org.
- **Staff Accountant:** The professional in this position will be responsible for accounts payable and receivable functions, construction project accounting, grant management as well as submission of state and federal fund reimbursement requests for more information click [here](#).

- **Emergency Services Dispatcher/Clerk:** This full-time career position involves the appropriate call handling of both emergency and non-emergency requests for police, fire, and emergency medical services, and determining the nature and urgency of those calls. For more information click [here](#).
- **Seasonal Park/Recreation Maintenance Staff.** Mowing, driving tractors, maintaining sports fields, keeping parks and facilities clean. This is a busy, hands-on physical job that requires some heavy lifting and being on your feet for long periods of time. Visit <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/869/Employment> for more information about the positions available and how to apply. Or call 225-8699, 9am-4pm to inquire.
- **PAID lifeguard, seasonal maintenance and other positions** are available – preferred deadline for applications is ASAP to help us prepare for our early July opening. Learn more at the Rec website employment page: <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/869/Employment>



Reminders

Social Worker Available to Residents

The Montpelier Police Department, the Barre City Police Department and Washington County Mental Health have partnered in providing an onsite social worker to help residents in crisis or needing an extra hand during the pandemic. Susan Lemere has been a friendly and effective presence in town for the last several month, but COVID has slowed our outreach efforts down. If you would like to speak to Susan please contact her through email at: susan.lemere@wcmhs.org or contact MPD and we can assist with connecting you to Susan.

ORCA MEDIA

ORCA Media supports the City of Montpelier by live streaming videos to local TV and on YouTube. Recently, Comcast changed the government channel to 1085.

- Click here to see City Council Meetings: <https://www.orcamedia.net/series/montpelier-city-council>
- Click here for Live Stream: <https://www.orcamedia.net/series/live-stream-events>

Thank you,

William Fraser, City Manager

Upcoming Agenda Items (*TENTATIVE*)

8/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homelessness (possibly encampment policy) • VEIC Net Zero Report • Social Economic Justice Committee Report • Traffic Calming (MTIC) • District Heat Rates - consent 	8/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police Committee Report • Stormwater Utility discussion • Stormwater Master Plan • Pavement Condition Index (PCI) Update • ARPA Funds • 4th Quarter Strategic Plan Update • Local Hazardous Mitigation Plan
9/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Planning Session 	9/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislative Agenda • Adopt Strategic Plan • Economic Development? • 12-16 Main Street Update? • Rec Center Update
10/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st quarter financials • FY23 Budget Process 	10/27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holiday Season meeting calendar

? = Date is tentative, may shift to a different date

PENDING ITEMS

CVPSA Report

Park Land Purchase

MAPA for Zoning – joint meeting with Planning Commission and DRB

Conduit Policy

Housing Task Force Report follow up

WRRF Dryer Update

City Master Plan