

Date	Committee	Time	Location	Links
9/7	ADA Committee Meeting	10:00 AM	Memorial Room and Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
9/7	Recreation Advisory Board	5:30 PM	Senior Center	Agenda
9/7	Development Review Board	7:00 PM	City Council Chambers and Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
9/8	Social and Economic Justice Advisory Committee	8:30 AM	City Council Chambers and Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
9/8	Homelessness Task Force	11:30 AM	City Council Chambers and Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
9/8	City Council Meeting	6:30 PM	City Council Chambers and Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link

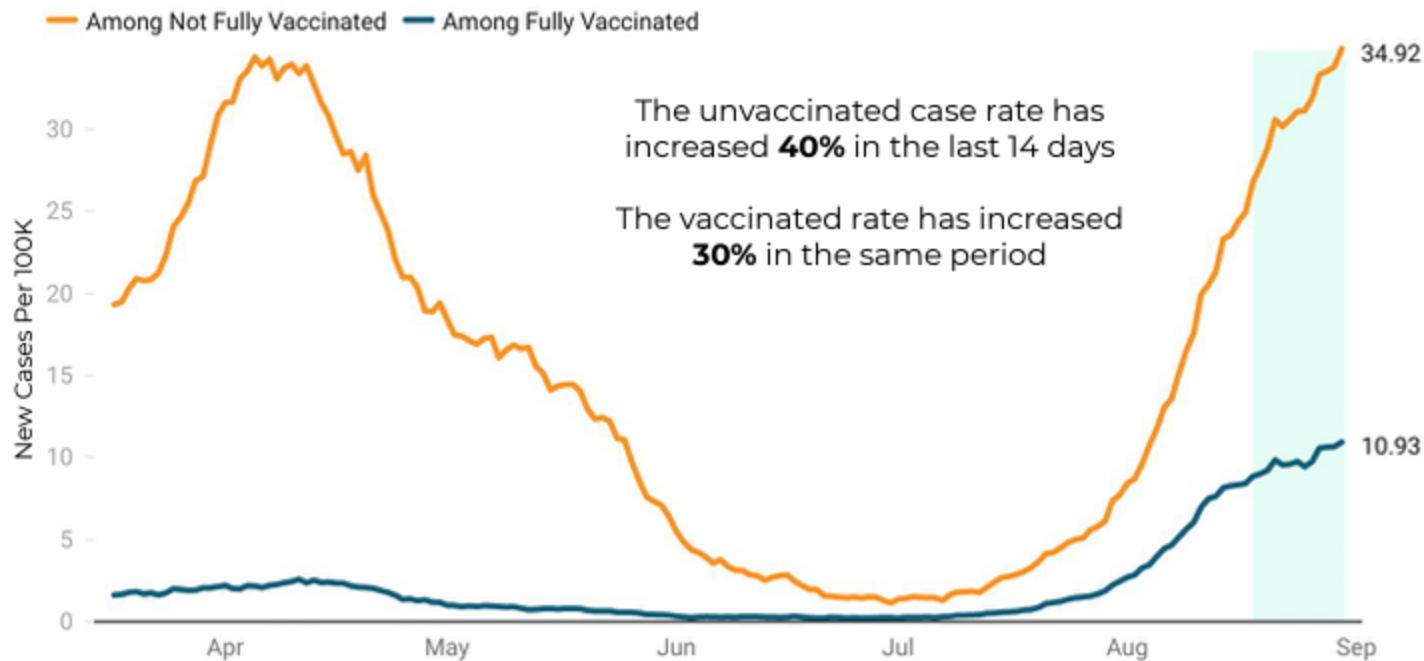


Public Health and Safety

COVID-19 Updates

This week, the Governor and his team [shared data from August 31st](#), which continues to show that Vermont's COVID-19 cases are rapidly rising. They report that the COVID-19 case rate in the unvaccinated has increased **40%** in the last 14 days, and the rate of cases in the vaccinated has increased **30%** in the same time period. See chart below:

Vermont COVID-19 Cases Per 100k (14 Day Average)



Source: Vermont Dept. of Health and CDC—August 30, 2021

The CDC has also designated Washington County as a “high-level” area of transmission of COVID-19, determination of “high-levels” of transmission can be found [here](#).

All of this information shows how important it is to get your vaccinations to protect yourself and others! Find an appointment [here](#).

City of Montpelier Mask Policy Updates: As a reminder, the City Council has implemented a mask wearing requirement for all visitors to City facilities, regardless of a person’s vaccination status.

Review Continues for the Draft City Encampment Response Policy

Former Councilmember Dan Richardson had made suggested edits to the Draft- City Encampment Response Policy, which was shared with City Council at their August 25th Council Meeting. This draft can be found [here](#). Council will be continuing their conversation on this policy at their September 22nd meeting, after the Parks and Cemetery Commissions have had further time to weigh in and suggest any edits as needed.

Police Review Committee Draft Report [new](#)

The Montpelier Police Review Committee (PRC) seeks feedback on their draft report to the City Council. The deadline to submit feedback is September 18, 2021. [Submit public comments online here](#) or via drop boxes at the City Clerk’s Office or Kellogg Hubbard Library. Mail comments to Montpelier City Hall, 39 Main Street, Montpelier, VT 05602.

[Access the report online here](#) or review paper copies at the City Clerk's Office and at Kellogg Hubbard Library.

Background: On October 28, 2020, the Montpelier City Council appointed members to the PRC and charged them with:

1. Reviewing the historic functions of Montpelier Police Department (MPD);
2. Reviewing modern policing trends and practices, such as those embodied in the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing and other reference materials;
3. Meeting with community stakeholders for feedback on the role and function of the MPD;
4. Reviewing existing historic law enforcement data for trends, significant issues, and other observations or conclusions that are relevant to current and future planning and funding of the MPD;
5. Reviewing and analyzing the functions of the MPD, its existing policies, and helping create the department's current strategic plan; and
6. Compiling the information into a report to be delivered to the City Council, including recommendations for the PRC's future charge and function.

Montpelier Police Review Committee members include Alyssa Schuren (Chair), Justin Drechsler, Jen Duggan, Daniel Towle, Abbey Jermyn, Michael Sherman, and City Councilors Lauren Hierl and Jack McCullough.

CVPSA Telecommunications Report new

The Central Vermont Public Safety Authority (CVPSA) commissioned a study by Televate, LLC of Vienna, Virginia to assess and evaluate the current emergency telecommunications infrastructure in Central Vermont. They were also charged with providing recommendations for improvements to this infrastructure. This report was issued in August and is being reviewed by staff of CVPSA members Barre City, Capital Fire Mutual Aid System (CFMAS) and Montpelier. A presentation by Televate and CVPSA to a joint meeting of Barre and Montpelier City Councils and CFMAS executive committee is anticipated for mid-October so that recommendations can be considered during the budget process.



Environmental Stewardship

Net Zero Action Plan Final Report

The City of Montpelier has set an ambitious goal to eliminate fossil fuels from City owned buildings, operations, and vehicle/transportation fleet by the year 2030. This action plan examines the current energy uses and energy sources, forecasts a business-as-usual scenario, and explores the optimal pathway to reach the goal, by using efficiency, renewable energy, and electrification solutions.

This action plan was developed for the City of Montpelier in close collaboration with several City departments, the School District, and the Montpelier Energy Advisory Committee (MEAC). The purpose of the action plan is to lay out a realistic pathway to

achieving the goal of net zero energy by the year 2030 without being overly prescriptive. This action plan provides helpful information that can be used to develop the necessary strategies to dramatically reduce and eventually eliminate fossil fuel use. The final report can be found [here](#).



Responsive and Responsible Government

New Council Member Appointed on September 1, 2021 Council Meeting - updated

At the special City Council meeting on Wednesday, September 1st the City Council appointed [Jennifer Morton](#) to fill the District 3 Council Seat. Council Member Morton's appointment takes effect immediately and she will serve until the municipal elections on March 1, 2022. The remaining year of this term will be filled by election on that date. We welcome her to the Council and to City Government.

Review Continues for the Draft City Encampment Response Policy, - updated

Edits discussed at the August 27th meeting are being circulated among the Parks Commission, Cemetery Commission and staff for review and comment. We anticipate this item being on the September 22nd agenda.

Strategic Planning

The September 8th council meeting is set aside for beginning work on the new plan. We will start with a brief presentation about strategic planning and then Assistant City Manager Niedermayer will lead us through the process.

ARPA Funding

We now know our final funding numbers:

Direct City funding \$385,879.06 this year and the same next year. City Total \$771,758.12

Re-directed County funding \$715,962.32 this year and the same next year. County total \$1,431,924.64

Combined total \$1,101,841.38 each year for two years. Grand total of \$2,203,682.76

As a reminder from earlier this year, these this is the general direction outlined by Council and Staff.

- 1) **Replace lost public sector revenue, using this funding to provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the pandemic.** Revenue replacement funds will be used for Projects and equipment which were deferred as a result of the FY20 and FY21 budget mitigation plans. This is about \$1.5 Million.

2) The remaining \$700,000 can legally be used for:

- Support of public health expenditures, by funding COVID 19 mitigation efforts, medical expenses, behavioral healthcare, and certain public health and safety staff;
- Address negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency, including economic harms to workers, households, small businesses, impacted industries, and the public sector;
- Provide premium pay for essential workers, offering additional support to those who have borne and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical sectors;
- Invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure, making necessary investments to improve access to clean drinking water, support vital wastewater and stormwater infrastructure and expand access to Broad Band Internet

3) **Monitor for State Funding and/or additional Federal Infrastructure funding for water/sewer/stormwater infrastructure.** Potentially assign a portion of the remaining \$700,000 for water/sewer projects unless other funds are available.

4) **Conduct a public process**, possibly including city committees, for suggestions for uses of funds consistent with the guidelines listed above.

Pending Questions:

- 1) Should high priority projects, particularly public bathrooms, housing initiatives, public safety telecommunications, emergency shelters, or others substitute for previously approved projects?
- 2) How should the two types of funding be divided over the two years?
- 3) Which projects should be approved quickly in order to be completed this year?

Council has appropriated \$330,000 of this money for backlogged infrastructure and has set \$50,000 aside for housing related items. Decisions about the remaining \$721,841 in 2021 funding will be made after the Strategic Planning work is completed. Decisions about the \$1,101,841 in 2022 funds will be made during the budget process.

Collective Bargaining - update

The DPW contract is in tentative agreement subject to final vote by union members. This will almost certainly be on the September 22nd agenda.

Police Supervisor and Patrol negotiations continue to go well. We have meetings set for September 13th and September 20th (if needed). We may have an agreement ready for the September 22nd agenda/

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

General Business – updated

Issues raised under General Business and follow up.

8/25

- DPW staff “discouragement”. Followed up with DPW employees and found no indication of any systemic discouragement or sagging morale.
- GMT Schedule A document. This document was located and forwarded to the requesting individual

9/1

- Homelessness Task Force disbandment – repeated from 8/25. This was a statement of opinion which requires no further staff work.
- Following up steps needed for opening bathrooms at Transit Center for longer periods time. Will likely require city money.
- DPW is checking the bike path to determine need for crack sealing.
- Guertin Park structure will be powerwashed when it is moved to its new location.
- Parks Commission does not have control of Guertin Park or Confluence Park. Despite their names they are not actually part of the park system. Guertin Park is a resting structure similar to benches on sidewalks. Confluence Park does not yet exist, it is merely an open lawn space.
- We are checking on potential loose wiring and/or non functioning ADA systems at the Transit Center?
- Still will be more intentional and expansive about explaining items on the agenda?
- Staff has already planned a debrief about boil water notice communications?



Inclusive, Equitable and Engaged Community

Community Services Department

Youth Programs this Fall with Montpelier Recreation:

Tennis Clinics (ages 6-9, 10-13) continue for six more weeks

Montpelier Recreation’s popular youth tennis clinics return during afterschool hours this Fall! Find more information and registration forms by visiting our website at <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/1110/Montpelier-Youth-Sports> or calling 225-8699.

Youth Soccer starting soon; Sign-up now!

Late fees apply now, but there are still spaces. Find more information and registration forms by visiting our website at <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/1110/Montpelier-Youth-Sports> or calling 225-8699. We’re also seeking coaches for K-1-2. Contac Arne McMullen with questions.

Capital Kids Afterschool Childcare Program is underway!

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.

Hiring: Afterschool Childcare Substitute Staff

Contact Arne McMullen, Recreation Director, for more information and to apply. Email amcmullen@montpelier-vt.org or call 225-8699.

Volunteers needed for Senior Center, Parks, Recreation

Current volunteer needs include: youth soccer coaches, people with carpentry, wall-patching and painting skills, Savoy DVD archive monitors, people willing to help with Fall outdoor chores and vegetable harvesting, technology tutors, meals on wheels drivers and kitchen assistance.

Senior Activity Center's September 2021 *Active Times* Newsletter is Hot off the Press!

We are happy to announce our September newsletter -- 12 pages plus calendar insert-- is ready for your reading pleasure! Inside you'll find a lovely welcome message and invitation from MSAC's new Director, Sarah Lipton, a reflective message and invitation from MSAC's outgoing Director, Janna Clar, end of service year stories about Americorps member Andrew Gribbin, updates from the FEAST Kitchen and MSAC at Home, details about Fall classes, Community announcements about Taste of Montpelier Food Festival and MyRide, resources for preventing falls, and more. Visit <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/304/Newsletter> to read this stunning rich newsletter in full or stop by to grab a hard copy.

Adult and Youth Fall Classes with MSAC: Registration begins September 7

Fall class registration begins Tuesday, September 7; 35 classes begin in-person and online the week of September 27. See newsletter, <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/751/Classes>, stop by or call for details! Featured classes include Film Appreciation with Rick Winston, Opera Appreciation with Erik Nielsen, Pastels with Jeneane Lunn, Great Decisions Current Events, Moving for Parkinson's & Other Neuro-Movement Challenges, and a new Slow Jam Drop-in group for Music-making. You'll also find a dozen yoga classes in various levels, five series of our popular Bone Builders, Qigong, Tai Chi, Painting, Drawing, Digital Photography, Writing, Poetry workshop, Pilates, Somatic Movement, Anti-Inflammatory Nutrition Workshop and more!

Parkapalooza Summer Concert Series continues at Hubbard Park for two more events!

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 **Thursdays from 5:30-7:30 pm**, with music beginning at 6pm. The remaining musical lineup includes:

- ◆ 9/9: Sabouyouma (rescheduled from July rain cancellation)
- ◆ 9/23: Barika (rescheduled from July rain cancellation)

Enchanted Forest Date RE-Set

Mark your calendars for October 29-30 (not October 22-23 as reported last week!) for this year's Enchanted Forest, an annual tradition of the Parks & Trees Department.

We're Hiring! FEAST Senior Meals: Kitchen Manager/Chef

The City of Montpelier's FEAST Senior Meals Program at MSAC seeks dynamic applicants for a Kitchen Manager / Chef (**application deadline: 9/10**). MSAC operates as a destination for Central VT's aging population to socialize, take a variety of classes, and to access nutrition, wellness opportunities and more, both in-person and remotely. To learn more about FEAST, visit: www.montpelier-vt.org/feast. FEAST is in the process of an exciting re-design to roll out this Fall!

The **Kitchen Manager/Chef** is responsible for production of 16,500 meals annually in accordance with nutritional requirements; food purchasing; maintenance of an excellent, licensed, commercial kitchen; and supervision of diverse kitchen interns and volunteers. This manager is an important member of the Community Services Department Team.

Wage is competitive, and the position is for 30 hours per week daytime hours. Excellent and comprehensive benefits package. Female and minority candidates are encouraged to apply. Please submit a cover letter, resume, and list of three professional references electronically to Sarah Lipton, new Director of MSAC: slipton@montpelier-vt.org. More information about MSAC is on our website at www.montpelier-vt.org/msac. Job description available by request. Position open until filled.

FEAST Senior Meals Program of MSAC:

FEAST Curbside Pick-up Meals

All seniors are welcome to pick up a Curbside meal on Tuesdays and Fridays. Simply pickup your meal outside between 12 and 12:30. 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.

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.

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



Sustainable Infrastructure

No updates for this week.



Thoughtfully Planned Built Environment

Guertin Park, 12-16 Main Street Long Term Use

Movement of this structure is going through the local permitting process. Conversation about the longer term uses of this property will be held later this fall.



Employment and Personnel Announcements

Staff Retirement new

Our longest serving full time employee, Assessor's Assistant Jane Aldrighetti, is retiring after 41 years! The good news is that she is not going away. After today, she'll be out for the mandatory 30 days for pension purposes and will return in October on a part time basis for 3 days per week. Frankly Jane's job knowledge and experience allow her to do more in 3 days than a new person could do in 5. She is a rock solid top performer and we're fortunate that she'll continue to be with us. It's important to recognize her change of status and thank her for her many, many, contributions so far.

Return of an old Friend new

Senior Accounting Manager Heather Graves will be leaving for maternity leave within the next month. Fortunately for us, former Finance Director Todd Provencher has agreed to fill in on a 30 hour per week basis into January. He knows our accounting systems and operations and is already jumping right in. He'll get us through the audit and will provide support for the budget process. All of us are very happy about this.

Municipal Job Openings update:

Visit the City website for more information: <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/Jobs.aspx>

- **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. Three offers have

been made and are in the background checking portion of the process. We're optimistic that we'll soon have more officers.

- **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](#). **An offer has been made and we're hopeful that we'll have someone on board.**
- **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](#). **We have hired one full time and one part time dispatcher. There is still one more vacant position.**
- **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. Call 225-8699, 9am-4pm to inquire.



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*)

9/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic Planning Session for 2021-2022 	9/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Camping Policy DRB appointments Adopt Strategic Plan? ARPA Fund Use? Local Hazardous Mitigation Plan Approval <i>DPW Union contract consent?</i> <i>Police Union contracts consent?</i>
10/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st quarter financials Legislative Agenda FY23 Budget Process Police Committee Report 	10/19-20 TBA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential joint meeting with Barre City to receive CVPSA Televate report
10/27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holiday Season meeting calendar DID presentation Economic Development? 12-16 Main Street Update? 	11/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rec Center Update?
11/17		12/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present Budget

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

PENDING ITEMS

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