

Date	Committee	Time	Location	Links
9/20	Public Art Commission	5:00 PM	City Manager's Conference Room And Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
9/20	Design Review Committee Meeting	5:30 PM	City Council Chambers and Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
9/20	Development Review Board	7:00 PM	City Council Chambers or Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
9/21	Parks Commission	6:00 PM	City Manager's Conference Room or Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
9/22	Social & Economic Justice Advisory Committee	8:30 AM	City Manager's Conference Room or Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
9/22	City Council Meeting	6:30 PM	City Council Chambers or Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
9/23	Police Review Committee	4:30 PM	City Manager's Conference Room or Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link



Public Health and Safety

COVID-19 Response- Updated

The State has updated their [weekly COVID-19 Data report](#), which continues to show that Vermont's COVID-19 cases are rising.

They report that the COVID-19 case rate in the unvaccinated population has increased 7% in the last 7 days, while the case rate in people who are vaccinated has decreased 2% in the same time-period.

The report states that you are almost 4x more likely to be seriously ill and hospitalized if you are unvaccinated if you get sick with COVID-19 than someone who is fully vaccinated. On average, 71% of all recent hospitalizations among the unvaccinated, and on average, **79% of all recent critical care stays among the unvaccinated.** Their report also shows that Washington County is still in the top-two Vermont Counties with the most active COVID-19 cases. There has also been an upswing in COVID-19 cases in the ages of 0-11years old. It is imperative you get your vaccinations to protect yourself and others! Find an appointment [here](#). The State is hosting a [series of walk-in vaccination clinics that will be open at schools and other sites across Vermont](#) this week for anyone age 12 or older. Just walk-in or visit healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine to make an appointment.

School COVID-19 Updates:

The Agency of Education announced an extension to the length of the universal masking requirement in schools to October 4. [An updated advisory memo is available on the Agency of Education's COVID resources page.](#)

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.

Police Review Committee Draft Report

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.



Environmental Stewardship

Net Zero Action Plan Final Report

The Net Zero 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

Review Continues for the Draft City Encampment Response Policy

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

Collective Bargaining - update

The DPW union ratified the proposed contract on Tuesday the 14th. As such, that contract will be on the September 22nd consent agenda.

We have reached tentative agreement with both the Police and Police Supervisors Union. We expect a ratification vote before next Wednesday. As such, the contract will be on the September 22nd consent agenda.

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

Strategic Planning Process Continues: Updated

The Council met this Wednesday, September 8th, to discuss their broad ideas for the FY22-23 City Council Strategic Plan. They discussed their overall vision and mission for the future of the City. They also went into depth discussing their shared Goals for the Strategic Plan, and outlined potential strategies for achieving the goals.

The City's Leadership Team met September 15th, 2021 and has brainstormed their own Department Strategies that will help accomplish Council's identified Goals. Staff is now working on collecting all of this information to present to Council for them to prioritize their top Goals and Strategies.

City Council will add Strategic Planning as a discussion item to upcoming Council agendas to finalize the draft and foster community input and conversation. The next scheduled conversation is at the upcoming September 22nd, 2021 Council meeting

General Business Responses– Updates

9/1

- 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 power-washed Tuesday and moved after 9/29.



Inclusive, Equitable and Engaged Community

Community Services Department- Updates/New

Community Services Department Shared Items / Collaborations

Volunteers needed for Senior Center, Parks, and Recreation

Current volunteer needs include: 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.

Indoor and Outdoor Space Rentals available with Senior Center, FEAST Kitchen, Parks and Recreation

Trying to resume pandemic-paused group meet-up or schedule a one-time special event or meeting? We have affordable indoor and outdoor spaces in many shapes and locations, some with audio-visual available. We also rent out our fully licensed commercial kitchen when not in use for FEAST senior meals production. To learn more or request space at Community Services Department facilities, visit <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/337/Facility-Rentals> or call 225-8699. Masking required indoors in all city facilities by all people at this time, regardless of vaccine status.

Montpelier Parks & Trees Division items

Mark your calendars for Enchanted Forest on Friday – Saturday, 10/29 and 10/30!

Save the dates for this year's Enchanted Forest, an annual tradition of the Parks & Trees Department. We'll have more information to share in the coming weeks!

Montpelier Youth Conservation Corps Fall Semester with City Parks & Trees Team

We're very excited to have 4 MHS Solons on board for the fall semester of the Montpelier Youth Conservation Corps. These folks will be joining the Parks crew for part of 2 days a week to do conservation work around town. This fall you might find them harvesting produce at the FEAST Farm, fixing bridges in the North Branch Park, pulling invasive species along the Winooski, or carving pumpkins for Enchanted Forest, amongst other things. We appreciate their dedication to our community!

Parks Crew needs help on the FEAST Farm!

Even though summer is slowing down, veggies growing at Feast Farm are not! Please [join us for volunteer work days](#), every Wednesday morning (9am-12pm) until the season is over. We will be working on harvesting produce for the FEAST Senior Meals Program, the Montpelier Food Pantry, as well as the Montpelier-Roxbury School "Backpack Program." We'll also be preparing for winter by planting cover crops. We have tasks for folks of all ages and abilities!

Please sign up for a time slot [HERE](#). No need to stay for the whole time, but it's helpful for us to know how many people will be joining. Directions to the farm are on the spreadsheet. Feel free to email Jacqueline at jhuettenmoser@montpelier-vt.org with questions.

Parkapalooza Summer Concert Series continues at Hubbard Park for one more event!

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:

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

Montpelier Recreation Division items

Ski & Skate Sale Undecided

We hope to have an announcement very soon about whether this annual event will happen or not this year after a pause for the pandemic in 2020. We know that if it happens, it will be at a new location and perhaps with other changes as well. Stay tuned for an update in the next edition of this report and on our website!

Tae Kwon Do Classes for Youth & Adults!

Beginners who want to learn the art of Tae Kwon Do are welcome and encouraged to join these instructional classes offered twice a week for ten weeks with instructor Matthew Girouard. Classes are Mondays & Thursdays, 9/9-12/20 (skip 10/11, 11/25), 5:30-6:30pm at Montpelier Recreation Gym, 55 Barre Street. Fee: \$84 for residents, \$126 for non-residents. Sign up by visiting the Montpelier Recreation website or calling 225-8699. Online registration: Event code 2526A.

Youth Programs this Fall with Montpelier Recreation:

Tennis Clinics (ages 6-9, 10-13) continue 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.

Capital Kids Afterschool Childcare Program still has space for kids from all towns!

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 Senior Activity Center Division items

Transition with Senior Center Americorps member: Welcome, Maddie Sholar!

Please join us in welcoming Madeline ("Maddie") Sholar as the next VHCB Americorps, Aging in Place Coordinator for MSAC! Maddie started her year of service on September 8, and Andrew Gribbin, last year's member, generously volunteered several extra weeks of time beyond his call of duty to support MSAC before Maddie's start and also helped with her early orientation to MSAC on Monday, September 13. The team is thrilled to welcome her on board, she's already hit the ground running, and we'll share more about Maddie in the October *Active Times*!

Got smartphone or iPad Questions? Technology Tutor Available at MSAC!

Next sessions: Friday afternoons, September 17, October 1, 3:30-4:30

Local high school student, Russell Clar, is available for twenty-minute appointments at Montpelier Senior Activity Center to assist seniors with smartphone set-up, settings adjustments, email questions, Google Docs, photo-editing, or bring other questions/needs and he'll do his best to help! Depending on interest, Russell may continue to offer this service on an occasional or regular basis during after-school hours. To reserve a slot or get your name on a future list, call the MSAC main office at 223-2518 or email msac@montpelier-vt.org.

38 weekly Adult and Youth Fall Classes with Montpelier Senior Activity Center: Register Now!

38 classes begin in-person and online the week of September 27. See newsletter, <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/751/Classes>, stop by 58 Barre Street or call 223-2518 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!

FEAST Veggie Fiesta: You are invited to volunteer in the Kitchen!

Montpelier's FEAST Farm has grown above and beyond...and the Montpelier Senior Activity Center (MSAC) is seeking volunteers to help us process the beautiful produce so we can use it this fall and winter to incorporate into our FEAST Senior Meals. Join us for 1.5+ hours, and enjoy kitchen camaraderie and a special Mediterranean lunch prepared for you by our lead kitchen volunteer, a chef from Tunisia! Volunteer Fiestas will take place in the beautiful MSAC Kitchen (58 Barre St, Montpelier) on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9:30 – 12:30pm. If you are interested, please RSVP with your available date(s) by clicking on our [signup sheet here](#). Alternately, email feast@montpelier-vt.org or call 262-6288 to learn about volunteering in other ways with FEAST now or later this Fall.

Elders Together Drop-in Group | Monday, September 20 | 1-2:30pm | In-person

Contact Mary Alice Bisbee at 223-8140 for details; seeking new facilitator for October and beyond.

Slow Jam Drop-in Group for Music-making, with experienced musicians | at MSAC Community Room | Biweekly Thursdays, starts 9/30 | 6:00- 8:00pm| Open to public | Age 14+ | Suggested donation: \$5 per session

MSAC will offer a “Slow Jam” on an every other Thursday basis starting on Thursday, 9/30, 6-8pm. The purpose of the Slow Jam format is to get the players familiar with the jam protocols associated with traditional and Celtic music as well as build confidence to participate in other jams. The session will start with a short instruction followed by playing familiar tunes at a slower than normal tempo and focus on playing by ear once the key of the song is announced. All acoustic instruments are welcome (no amplification please). Local musicians experienced in the jamming will lead the group. All ages and levels of playing are welcome to participate. These sessions are meant for beginning and intermediate level players with some basic familiarity with their instruments and will not include in-depth instrument instruction. These sessions focus on fun and learning. There is a suggested donation of \$5 for each session that you attend to help support MSAC and the local musician leaders. No one is turned away for inability to contribute. Registration is encouraged but not necessary. <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/DocumentCenter/View/6634/Fall-2021-MSAC-Class-Reg-Form?bidId=>

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 Gazebo Relocation: New

The City's zoning permits for relocating the Guertin Park structure were approved September 14th, 2021. Allowing for the appeal period, this puts us moving it on or after September 29th. DPW will be working on determining capacity and work schedules to confirm a moving date.

The Parks team is planning on power washing the gazebo early next week, and the City has informed its Peer Support Outreach Worker. The City will also put up a sign in the gazebo notifying folks of the cleaning schedule. This will give people time to move any personal belongings out of the way while it's being cleaned.



Employment and Personnel Announcements

Municipal Job Openings- Updates:

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 necessarily necessary to the stability and safety of the community. For applications and more information, click [here](#) or email recruiting@montpelier-vt.org. **We have two more open officer positions.**

- **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](#). **There is one vacant position.**



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*)

9/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camping Policy Continued • DRB appointments • Continue Strategic Plan • Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Approval • Park Land Purchase (executive session) • DPW Union contract consent • Police Union contracts consent • CFMAS contract – consent • Financial Statements – consent • Quirky Pet announcement – general business 	10/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police Committee Report • Homelessness Task Force • 1st quarter financials • FY23 Budget Process • ARPA Fund Use • Legislative Agenda • Strategic Plan
10/20 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 • Strategic Plan? • Economic Development? • 12-16 Main Street Update?
11/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rec Center Update? 	11/17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WRRF Dryer Update
12/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present Budget 	12/15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget Review

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

PENDING ITEMS

Conduit Policy

Housing Task Force Report follow up

City Master Plan