

Date	Committee	Time	Location	Links
9/25	Planning Commission Meeting	5:30 PM	Zoom Only	Agenda and Zoom Link
9/27	Homelessness Task Force	11:30 PM	Zoom Only	Agenda and Zoom Link
9/27	City Council Meeting	6:30 PM	Montpelier High School and Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link

Improve Public Health and Safety

City Hall update

We are relocating the Finance Department over the next couple of days.

Two members of the finance staff will return to their former locations in the Clerk's area. The Finance Director will return to her old office space. The remainder of the Finance staff will move into the Community Room in the Police station. The Police Station is accessible so Finance can accommodate anyone unable to go into City Hall right now. Otherwise, all payments will resume being made at the Clerk's office. This will not necessarily be the final destination of these staff members once we complete the building evaluation.

While we don't want to move offices more than necessary, we are making this move for the following reasons:

- Security for payments is much better at City Hall (with the vault) and the Police Station (for obvious reasons).
- Staff received many complaints from residents about having to go to 58 Barre Street and the lack of parking there for that purpose. City Hall is a much more familiar place for people to make payments.
- Full staffing in the Clerk's area allows for better customer service.
- This move will free up one of the activity rooms at MSAC which has been a concern of the senior community.

Planning & Development, Montpelier Alive, Justice Center, Communications and Asst. City Manager will remain at 58 Barre St for now but we continue to look for alternatives for each of them. There will be some minor disruption to Finance operations but we expect to have the move fully completed by next Wednesday.

Access to the building is limited to the front doors only. If you need assistance with ADA accessibility, please call 802-223-9500 and a City Staff member will come outside and assist you with your transaction.

Effective Wednesday, September 27th, anyone looking to make a payment who needs ADA accessibility can come to the Community Room at the Montpelier Police Department for assistance.

The City is issuing an RFP for a building analysis to determine the most cost effective means of reopening the full space. This will include options for flood proofing and/or flood damage mitigation as well as new opportunities to use space differently.

Country Club Road Building

As mentioned at the Council meeting, this building has a significant amount of mold in it, likely a result of the very wet weather and being closed with no activity. The City is actively mitigating this issue and the site will be ready for the Shelter in November. Once the mold is removed, the building will be available for use for city programs and activities and/or short-term rentals.

Flood Damage New

The City has developed a list for FEMA which details damages, initial cost estimates, and status of the project. The total is \$10,840,000. The inventory list is can be found here: [Report](#)

Permit Fees New

The question was raised whether FEMA reimbursed property owners for permit fees. FEMA provides a lump sum payment to property owners based on damage estimates. Permit fees are not itemized.

Provide Responsible and Engaged Government

Post-Flood Communications Improvements

We've learned a lot from the challenges we've faced as a community in the wake of the flood. Here's how we're working to improve the way we communicate and share information with our residents: <https://montpelierbridge.org/.../post-flood.../>

Senior Center new

Today I met with members of the Senior Center about issues on their minds such as use of space, the vacancy in what was the Director's position, the city's assessment process, and senior center finances. There were a lot of ideas offered and comments made. I hope that it provided them with some information and perspective and I know that it left our staff with a lot to think about and address.

Where Can I Get More Updates from the City? The City of Montpelier is expanding the ways we share information and keep our community informed. You can now sign up for general updates from the City of Montpelier using the "Notify Me" feature on the City's website.

How to sign up: Go to <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/> and click on the "Notify Me" tile in the popular links, fill in the subscription box with your email, then check the box next to the "City of Montpelier" list name. You'll receive an email with a link asking you to confirm your subscription. Once your email is confirmed, you'll start receiving updates.

City Council Strategic Planning After flood related delays, the Council will hold the annual strategic planning workshop on October 18th. Paul Costello will be the facilitator. The Council will identify priority policy goals and key initiatives to accomplish those goals.

Recovery and Resiliency Commission update

The steering committee met this week and made preliminary recommendations for the composition of this Commission. A press release will be issued by this weekend.

Pending Legal

Moody vs. City of Montpelier. Insurance case filed regarding a pothole. Costs handled by VLCT PACIF, City represented by Attorney Brian Monaghan

Create More Housing

FEMA Housing update:

We met with State officials today about options and needs for this site. We may need to come back to the Council next week for an update.

Improve Community Prosperity

****The Community Services Department weekly newsletter can be found at the end of the this report, beginning after strategic plan items.****

Build and Maintain Sustainable Infrastructure

****The Department of Public Works weekly newsletter can be found on the City's Department of Public Works webpage.****

Potential Odor Notification

The Montpelier Wastewater Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF) will be cleaning the thickened waste activated sludge (TWAS) tank on Tuesday (9/26) and Wednesday (9/27). This work is necessary because of the excessive amount of sand and silt that has accumulated in this tank since the July flood. Please let this email serve as a Potential Odor Notification for the Montpelier WRRF on the days listed above. Thank you for your understanding while we work to keep our water safe and clean.

Employment and Personnel Announcements

NOTE – the City is currently in a hiring freeze due to financial circumstances

Municipal Job Openings

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

Mental Health Clinician: Montpelier Police, Barre City Police and Washington County Mental Health are still looking for a police mental health clinician to work with our agencies. If you have any interest either call Chief Nordenson at 802-223-3445 or apply directly at

: <https://wcmhs.applytojob.com/apply/rZGj0OPhbn/Police-Mental-Health-Clinician>

Reminders

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 Meeting:
- Click here for Live Stream:

Thank you,



William Fraser, City Manager

Council Meeting Agenda Schedule and Strategic Planning Items on following pages

Upcoming Agenda Items (<i>TENTATIVE</i>)			
9/27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year End financials • Winter & Budget Schedule • Outside Agency Policy • 2023 Strategic Plan wrap up • Staff Appreciation • Confluence Park • Interim Zoning • Permit Fee Waiver extension • Communications Update 	10/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be determined whether a meeting will be held • Revised FY24 Budget?
10/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2024 Strategic Planning 	10/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Plan Draft • Budget Preview • City Hall update • CCR Use Policy • CCR Rec Planning
11/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	11/15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
12/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FY25 Budget 	12/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FY25 Budget

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

11/15 and 12/20 dates are possible conflicts with School Board

Topics from the FY22-23 City Council Strategic Plan for Future Council Agendas:

Month	Tentative Topic(s)
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- Stormwater Utility – delayed due to DPW staffing

Community Services Department Report, Week in Review: September 18th – 22nd

Community Services Department Updates

- **The volunteer hub is now a remote operation** Due to a lower volume of requests, **the physical volunteer hub at Barre & Main Streets has now closed.** If you need help or wish to volunteer, please find all hub information on their website: www.montpelierhub.com.
 - If you'd like to stay informed on all volunteer and hub activities, subscribe to our email list found on **the City of Montpelier's Resource Log**, which has all resources related to flooding event in Downtown Montpelier: <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=467>
- **For more updates and resources**, follow the City of Montpelier's Facebook page: [@MontpelierVT](https://www.facebook.com/MontpelierVT) and our new Volunteers pages: [@MontpelierVolunteers](https://www.facebook.com/MontpelierVolunteers) on Facebook and Instagram. You can also follow our Community Services Departments pages: [@MontpelierSeniorActivityCenter](https://www.instagram.com/MontpelierSeniorActivityCenter), [@MontpelierRec](https://www.instagram.com/MontpelierRec), and [@MontpelierParks](https://www.instagram.com/MontpelierParks).

Montpelier Senior Activity Center (MSAC)

- Read the September Newsletter and Fall Program Guide here: <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/304/Newsletter>
- **A MSAC Informational Forum** was held on Friday, September 22nd to discuss the recent changes to the Senior Center. City Manager Bill Fraser gave a briefing from the City Leadership team and offered insight into the challenges is continuing to face in the aftermath of the July flood.
 - **A recording of the event will be available on the MSAC website soon!**
- **Next FEAST congregate lunch is Thursday, October 5th at noon inside MSAC. Menu to be announced soon.**
- **OLLI Lecture Series returning to MSAC this Fall!** The OLLI lecture series begins on Wednesday, September 27th with Information Specialist Christine Melicharek from CVCOA for ***The Many Variations of Medicare***. Go to learn.uvm.edu/olli/centralvt and register online, or pick up a brochure in our office for other registration options.

- **Sprouting Change: A FEAST Senior Meals Fundraiser**

- ***Can you be a champion for local food and nutrition?***
- After the July 2023 flood, FEAST Senior Meals is looking to support us and sprout change from now until September floodwaters devastated our farm, which provided vital our Meals on Wheels program. We're asking you to food and nutrition through this small dollar donation drive.
- By going to our website, www.montpelier-vt.org/FEAST, donate \$15, which is the average cost of a meal for client,



our community to 30th. The produce for support local

you can then ask a

friend to do the same. Together, we can regrow our local food system and sustain our operations during this critical time of year for our older adult neighbors in Central Vermont.

- **FEAST Farmstand on Wednesdays through December 27th!** Although we lost almost all our annual crops at the FEAST Farm, the FEAST Farmstand will be returning in September with donated produce and other goodies to sell.
 - **The FEAST Farmstand now offers free and for purchase goods at MSAC!** Wednesdays from 8-11 am from now until December 27th. See our website for more information: www.montpelier-vt.org/FEAST.
- **Seeking Some Fun?** Join our wide variety of drop-in groups, most open to all ages. Hanking for music? Poetry? Drumming? Dancing? Community service? Games? Coffee & Conversation? Book discussions? Meals? Drag Bingo? We've got it all!

Montpelier Recreation News

- **Program Registration** – You can deliver registration forms either:
 - In person at the Recreation Center
 - By mailing forms and payment to 58 Barre Street, or
 - Using [our online registration platform](#) (**ONLY IF YOU HAVE A USER ACCOUNT ALREADY! Please call 802-225-8699 for setup assistance**)

Extra registration forms and a locked drop box are in the side vestibule of 58 Barre Street (the Senior Activity Center) for after-hours use.

- **Capital Kids Afterschool Program suspended until January** Due to low staffing, the Capital Kids Afterschool Program will be suspended for the fall semester.
- **2022-23 Pickleball Open Gym**
 - The Montpelier Recreation Center offers two indoor courts. There is a 12-player maximum per session. Open gym is for adults (18+). Please bring your own paddles. The Recreation Department will supply balls to play on open gym days. All levels are welcome. See below for days and times.
 - Find us on playerlineup.com. Search: “Montpelier Rec Center PB”
 - **Open Gym Schedule (based on skill level)**
 - **Beginner:** Mondays → 1:30 – 3:00 pm | Wednesdays → 9 – 10:30 am
 - **Beginner/Intermediate:** Thursdays → 1:30 – 3 pm
 - **Intermediate:** Mondays → 9 – 10:30 am | Wednesdays → 1:30 – 3 pm | Thursdays → 1:30 – 3 pm
 - **Intermediate/Advanced:** Fridays → 9 – 10:30 am
 - **Advanced:** Tuesdays → 9 – 11 am
 - **Open Gym Fees:**
 - **Walk-Ins:** Montpelier Residents: \$4; Non-Montpelier Residents: \$6
 - **Punch Cards (22 visits, pickleball only):** Montpelier Residents: \$45; Non-Montpelier Residents: \$60

- **2023 Summer Noontime Basketball**

- 2023 Summer Noontime Basketball takes place in the Recreation Department gym at 55 Barre Street on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 11:45am – 1:15pm.

Montpelier Parks

- **Enchanted Forest returns to Hubbard Park on October 20th and 21st!**
 - Enchanted Forest will return to Hubbard Park on October 20th and 21st. It is a guided walk in Hubbard Park from the New Shelter to the Stone Tower and back again. Along with the jack-o-lantern lit trail, visitors will find the forest filled with art, music, song, and magic. At the Tower, visitors will spread out on the hillside to watch a performance and return along the path to the New Shelter. Each tour will take about one hour. All visitors are requested to respect social distancing and to stay with your group. Masks are optional, but costumes are encouraged!
 - Tickets will soon go on sale, so please follow our social media channels: [@MontpelierParks](#) on Facebook and [@Montpelier Parks](#) on Instagram for the latest updates. **No tickets are sold at the event—only online.** Prices are \$6 per child, \$15 per adult, or \$35 for a family of four.
 - This event is co-created by AllTogetherNow! and Montpelier Parks & Trees Department. For general questions, please email us at info@alltogethernowvt.org. For accessibility questions contact Leila at lfaulstich@montpelier-vt.org. This event is weather dependent. We have on occasion had to cancel tour times on account of hard rain or lightning. In the event of a cancellation, we do not offer refunds on the tickets. Celebrate the season, and join us for Enchanted Forest this October!