

Date	Committee	Time	Location	Links
10/2	Design Review Committee	5:30 PM	Zoom Only	Agenda and Zoom Link
10/2	Development Review Board	7:00 PM	Zoom Only	Agenda and Zoom Link
10/3	Housing Committee	6:00 PM	Zoom Only	Agenda and Zoom Link
10/3	Transportation Infrastructure Committee	7:00 PM	Zoom Only	Agenda and Zoom Link
10/4	Homelessness Task Force	11:30 AM	Zoom Only	Agenda and Zoom Link
10/4	Complete Streets Committee	5:30 PM	Zoom Only	Agenda and Zoom Link

Improve Public Health and Safety

City Hall update

The Finance Department has been relocated to City Hall and the Police Station.

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.

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.

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.../>

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.

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.****

Substantially Damaged Buildings Update: Update on Substantially Damaged buildings. The Planning Department sent out Substantial Damage Determination Letters by mail last week (September 19th). In the end, we had 8 such properties on the list. There were four residential properties- 127 Elm, 189 State, 195 State, and 197 State. Two vacant properties which were 387 Barre Street and the "old Humane Society building" on the island in the middle of the North Branch on Elm Street. We also have two commercial properties at 146 State Street and the Casella administration building on East Montpelier Road. All of these can be changed by providing better information than the data we used to make determinations. Anyone with questions can contact Mike Miller at mmiller@montpelier-vt.org.

As a reminder, Substantial Damage (SD) is a legal term in floodplain rules and means a building

suffered more than 50% damage to the building's value. Buildings on the State or Federal historic register are exempt (which is why many properties in Montpelier are not SD). Being SD means a property owner must bring their house into full compliance with flood codes which generally means either elevating or demolishing the building. Being SD also makes someone eligible for an additional \$30k in FEMA funds to elevate the building so some folks who want to save their building may actually want the determination to help cover those costs. Unfortunately, it costs about \$200k to elevate a home and put a new foundation under it.

Regarding money to help elevate homes, we are going to be waiting for the legislature to start in January. Many damaged property owners have been working to get legislators to tour properties. This has been a big help in getting support from our legislative delegation. Unfortunately, our goal of getting this year's money reallocated has not happened (so we could spend it this fall). The City has also been having meetings with the administration (the governor's office) and they are speaking very positively as well at trying to save housing units from demolition. We feel good about the progress, but we have a long way to go to get new funding approved to help.

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 (*TENTATIVE*)

10/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zoning Public Hearing • Confluence Park • Strategic Plan Wrap Up • Budget Mitigation Plan 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 	1/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

? = 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)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stormwater Utility – delayed due to DPW staffing 	

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](#) and our new Volunteers pages: [@MontpelierVolunteers](#) on Facebook and Instagram. You can also follow our Community Services Departments pages: [@MontpelierSeniorActivityCenter](#), [@MontpelierRec](#), and [@MontpelierParks](#).

Montpelier Senior Activity Center (MSAC)

- **Read the October Newsletter and Fall Program Guide here:** <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/304/Newsletter>
- **MSAC Informational Forum** was held on Friday, September 22nd to discuss the recent changes to the Senior Center. The event recording is now available on the website!
- **Next FEAST congregate lunch is Thursday, October 5th at noon inside MSAC. Menu: corn chowder, brown butter cornbread, salad, and fresh fruit.**
- **OLLI Lecture Series returning to MSAC this Fall!** The OLLI lecture series begins on Wednesday, October 4th with Author and Historian Garrett Graff for *The US Government's Hunt for UFO*. Go to learn.uvm.edu/olli/centralvt and register online, or pick up a brochure in our office for other registration options.
- **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.
- **Thank You to Our Community Partners and Neighbors for Participating in our Visioning Dinner on Friday.** FEAST hosted a visioning dinner on Friday, Sept. 29th to help our program envision how to rebuild after the farm was washed away by the floodwaters.

- **Seeking Some Fun?** Join our wide variety of drop-in groups, most open to all ages. Hankering for music? Poetry? Drumming? Dancing? Community service? Games? Coffee & Conversation? Book discussions? Meals? Drag Bingo? We've got it all!

Montpelier Recreation News

- **OPEN GYM REOPENS TO THE PUBLIC** Wednesday, October 11th.
- **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!**
 - **TICKETS ON SALE NOW:** https://alltogethernowvt.org/enchanted_forest

- The 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. Wear your costumes!
- **No tickets are sold at the event—only online.** Ticket prices are \$7 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!