**CITY OF VERGENNES, VERMONT REGULAR MEETING of the CITY COUNCIL**

**Tuesday, January 10, 2023**

**COUNCIL MEMBER & STAFF**

Mayor Mathew Chabot, Alderman Dickie Austin, Alderman Mel Hawley, Alderwoman Jill Murray-Killon, Alderwoman Zoe Kaslow (ZOOM), Alderwoman Sue Rakowski (ZOOM), Alderman Ian Huizenga,

City Manager Ron Redmond, City Clerk Penny Austin (ZOOM), City Treasurer Angie Bolduc (ZOOM),

**VISITORS**

Shannon Haggett, Planning Commission

**Call to Order**: 5:30 PM

**Amendments to Agenda**: Alderman Hawley made a motion, second by Mayor Chabot to add discussion of the sewer pipe on the Cornerstone Portage Project being built by the Otter Creek Bridge. This will be f.

**Visitors** – None

**Approval of Minutes (12/13/22)**. Motion by Alderman Austin, second by Alderwoman Murray-Killon , to approve the minutes as written. Vote: 6-0 Approved unanimously.

**Approval of Warrant FY 23** (1/10/23). Motion by Alderman Austin, second by Alderwoman Murray-Killon. Vote 6-0, Approved unanimously.

**Business:**

**a. Presentation of Research of ARPA Spending in Certain Addison County Municipalities. Jessica C. Teets, Professor, Political Science Department and Faculty Director, Social Entrepreneurship Program, Middlebury College.\*\*\***

Alderman Hawley thought we should go to the voters to approve setting up a reserve fund for the “ARPA” dollars so an Article on the Warning for the March election.

**b.** **Presentation of information provided by Addison Northwest School District Board re: school district tax rates and common level of appraisal (CLA).\*\*\* Alderwoman Rakowski.**

CLA is below 85% which would mean a reappraisal is needed. We have a town-wide one slated to be done starting in 2024 and finishing in 2025. Alderman Hawley asked if we were doing an appeal. Alyth Hescock, our Assessment Consultant is doing the appeal.

**c. Public Hearing proposed amendments of the City of Vergennes Zoning and Subdivision Regulations, unanimously approved by the Planning Commission on November 7, 2022.\*\*\***

The amendments were discussed. Alderman Hawley did not feel we should approve the changes. Alderman Austin was not opposed to the changes and Alderwoman Kaslow felt we needed increased housing which these changes could provide. Alderman Austin made a motion to accept with Alderman Huizenga seconding. Vote: 5-2 with Alderman Hawley and Alderwoman Murray-Killon opposed.

**d. Discussion of City of Vergennes Winter Parking Ban. Chapter 2 Motor Vehicle and Traffic Ordinances, Section 9 Stopped or Unattended Vehicles (Winter Parking Ban) \*\*\***

There was a discussion on what we could do to change the Winter Parking Ban so we would not have to pay our police officers overtime to stay and ticket the cars that were left on the street after 2am.

**e. Approval of Vermont Agency of Transportation’s Certificate of Highway Mileage, Year Ending February 10, 2023.\***

Alderman Hawley stated that we needed to add Phase 2 of Commodore Drive to our Mileage numbers. This will be done and brought back to the Council at the next meeting.

**f. Discussion of the sewer pipe on the Cornerstone Portage Project being built by the Otter Creek Bridge.**

**City Manager Report**.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Alderman Austin, second by Ian. Vote: 7-0. Adjourned at 7:45.