

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
645 PINE STREET
BURLINGTON, VERMONT 05401
COMMISSION MEETING APRIL 17, 2024

DRAFT MINUTES

For video of the meeting, please visit Town Meeting TV's YouTube Channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k0r9VW6DgXY&t=978s>

Commissioners Present: Commissioner Barr, Commissioner Damiani (Vice Chair), Commissioner Fox, Commissioner Hogan, Commissioner Munteanu; Commissioner O'Neill-Vivanco (Chair), Commissioner Sears via zoom.

ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner O'Neill-Vivanco called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

ITEM 2 – AGENDA

Commissioner Barr made a motion to accept the agenda

Commissioner Damiani seconded

Unanimous approval

ITEM 3 – PUBLIC FORUM

Jack Trans of Ward 5 is in support of CCRPC. Mr. Trans stated the support connection from Main Street to downtown Burlington is huge. Need a protected bike lane along bike path there have a good number of pedestrians and cycling being struck by vehicles need to take safety into consideration.

Colin _____ resident of Ward 7 stated he has been alarmed by the number of drivers hitting pedestrians and cyclists. He went on to explain his ideas for the BT Vision from a few years ago stating that none of the items in the report have been worked on. Safety is the number one concern.

Sharon Bushor shared thoughts on the Residential Parking perming and would like to evaluate the transition from permit on the car to the electronic version. Makes it difficult to tell if someone does have a Resident Only Parking Permit. I live in a section of town where there are residents, UVM as well at the UVMMC so there is no place for people to park. Mrs. Bushor does not feel like there is a whole lot of enforcement of the residential parking permits in her area.

Jason Stuffle a resident of Colchester Avenue stated that the Old East End Neighborhood bought a radar speed signs for Grove Street which we received a grant from and help from AARP for this radar machine. I observed the traffic when radar unit was installed and the traffic did not slow down even though the machine is a top brand and told drivers they were going too fast.

Evan Gould of Ward 5 stated CCRPC needs to look at Main Street scoping study and revisit the walk/bike plan for the City of Burlington.

ITEM 4 – CONSENT AGENDA

- 4.1 Approval of Draft Minutes 3-20-24
- 4.2 Main Street Motorcycle Parking

Commissioner Munteanu made a motion to approve the agenda with the removal of
Commissioner Barr seconded
Unanimous approval

ITEM 5 – CCRPC F'25 UPWP

City Engineer Philip Peterson, who was on line via zoom, gave a brief synopsis of the UPWP proposal under the FY 2025 budget. We are seeking the Commissions support of the proposed projects as indicated in the report. Funding through the program is mostly through the US Department of Transportation.

Commissioner Damiani asked how the projects were decided on for this and stated that these projects have to happen. City Engineer Peterson stated that we took a position, we needed to figure who is responsible for what should we get the go ahead. This information will be put out sooner in the future.

Director Spencer stated the scoping studies are underway.

Commissioner Hogan asked about a clarification of the action requested. City Engineer Peterson stated that the public comment has been solicited we need government body to approve.

Commissioner Munteanu is supportive of this but it unclear of start dates and end dates. Can we expect to see a report and opportunity for public feedback. City Engineer Peterson stated that we can provide dates at this point.

Commissioner Sears stated that we need another scoping study for Main Street.

Director Spencer stated we have a conceptual design and once completed we will move forward.

Commissioner O'Neill-Vivanco stated it would be helpful to getting this information beforehand. City Engineer Peterson stated this is a regional connection – South Burlington and Burlington are working on this together. Commissioner O'Neill-Vivanco asked where is Burlington's commitment.

Commissioner Barr made a motion to approval
Commissioner Damiani seconded
Commissioner Fox abstained
Unanimous approval of all other Commissioners

ITEM 6 – APPENDIX C CLEAN-UP

City Engineer Peterson stated that for the regulations we have been working with the Attorney's office and they have been great. We have presented everything to you in this packet for final approval.

Commissioner Fox asked about the phrasing of a regulation over a loading zone and a park on either side of driveway at University Place. City Engineer Peterson stated it is a no parking area, we are removing and towing cars when vendors show up to serve food.

Commissioner Barr made a motion to approve this comprehensive document
Commissioner Munteanu seconded
Unanimous approval

ITEM 7 – PERMIT OPTION FOR COURTHOUSE PLAZA GARAGE

Assistant Director Esperti stated that we are trying to implement permits to utilize the garage a little more, the cost of the permits being the same as the parking garages owned by the city.

Commissioner Fox stated the spaces were acquired for Main Street project so this makes sense. Assistant Director Esperti stated that some people are parking on the side streets where it's available.

Commissioner Damiani asked how many spaces in the Courthouse Plaza are available to us and Assistant Director Esperti stated there were 86 spaces available.

Commissioner Hogan asked if the entire garage was for public use and was informed that the City has one level which we have access to.

Commissioner Barr made a motion to approve staff's recommendations
Commissioner Damiani seconded
Unanimous approval

ITEM 8 – RESIDENTIAL PARKING PERMITS

Mark Bilodeau is the Parking Manager of the Parking division and stated we are in the process of overhauling the residential parking. The changes we are looking at is to increase the yearly fee. The current free issues are included in the fee but at a reduced rate. The homeowner can pay for two years. We are looking to review from street to a zone areas.

Commissioner O'Neill-Vivanco stated the zone parking might be piloted in neighborhoods. A homeowner can purchase four digital tags and hang tags? Mr. Bilodeau stated the homeowner can purchase all four – use 2 on a regular basis and have two for guests. Assistant Director Esperti stated that the homeowner can buy two digital tags and come in at a later time to pick up two hang tags if needed. MR. Bilodeau stated that we have never sold four permits to a homeowner. Commissioner Barr is in support of this program.

Commissioner Munteanu asked if there was a period to start the implementation of the new fees. Assistant Director Esperti stated that they are looking for a May vote and if it is approved we hope to start in mid to late June.

Evan Gould of the public stated that \$20 is too low for a price for RPP but we do need to look at areas. Need to be aware that taxes are going up.

Connor Smith stated twenty dollars is low should be a little higher.

ITEM 9 – DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Director Spencer stated the eclipse present went well. The connector was 80% full for vehicle parking and the parking revenue for the eclipse event was approximately \$27000.00 in garages.

Rock Point bridge replacement is underway and should be completed by the end of the year.

Construction season has begun and is in full swing

TEUC we will be discussing if the city loop will continue to be fare free. College Street is fare free.

There is an updated FY’24 goals and objectives

ITEM 10 – COMMISSIONER ITEMS

Commissioner Hogan stated the service line check. There is a lot in que on bigger projects but a low cost for barriers to help with slowing down traffic

Commissioner applications are due May 15th.

Commissioner Damiani stated clean sweep is coming up. A huge thank you for work on the eclipse.

Commissioner O’Neill-Vivanco stated that the eclipse was well done, lot of people spoke about the website. Thank you for filling holes on Summit Street. Asked about the bridge going over 127, in need of repair even though not used that much.

Commissioner Barr suggested for quick build projects get a group to help. Chase Street and Colchester Avenue the paint is worn down and cars are speeding we need more than paint to slow down the traffic.

Commissioner Fox stated the eclipse was well organized.

Commissioner Sears asked how priorities were set there needs to be a broader conversation and let the commissioners know.

ITEM 11 – ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Barr a made to adjourn

Commissioner Munteanu seconded

Unanimous approval

Meeting concluded at 8:28 p.m.