



## **CITY OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT**

### **CITY COUNCIL TRANSPORTATION, ENERGY & UTILITIES COMMITTEE**

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**Councilor Mark Barlow, Chair**, *North District*  
**Councilor Gene Bergman**, *Ward 2*  
**Councilor Evan Litwin**, *Ward 7*  
**Councilor Marek Broderick**, *Ward 8*

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#### **Transportation, Energy and Utilities Committee of the City Council**

**Tuesday December 17, 2024 – 4:00PM**

**--DRAFT MINUTES--**

**Councilors absent: Councilor Litwin until 5:05 pm**

**Chair Barlow** calls meeting to order at 4:02 PM

#### **1. Agenda**

**Councilor Bergman** moves to adopt the agenda.

**Councilor Broderick** seconds.

**All in favor, passes unanimously.**

#### **2. Minutes of 11/19/24**

**Councilor Bergman** moves to adopt the minutes as presented.

**Councilor Broderick** seconds.

**All in favor. Unanimous approval.**

#### **3. Public Forum**

**Rick Sharp –** Runs Burlington Segway's with wife Ruth which is locally owned and based in Burlington. Very concerned about complaints about Bird Bikes. Feels City should not continue contract next year but if we do he is asking that we protect his summer business by keeping Bird bikes off from the Waterfront, and College St. and make it part of the agreement.

#### **04. Deliberative Agenda**

##### **• 4.1 Bird Bikeshare Contract Work Session**

**DPW Director Chapin Spencer** summarized that in conversation with other regional partners and CATMA there is interest in continuing the existing bike share event. Staff will support conversations to our direction.

Councilors asked questions about how contract dates, and when decision would be needed.

**City Attorney Ramakrishnan –** First MOTION by Councilor Bergman, SECOND by Councilor Broderick, to find that premature general public knowledge of contract negotiations and discussions with legal counsel would clearly place the City at a substantial disadvantage because the City risks disclosing confidential information about negotiating strategies and confidential attorney-client communications in public.

Second MOTION by Councilor Bergman, SECOND by Councilor Broderick, that based on the finding of substantial disadvantage, the Committee enter into executive session to discuss contract negotiations involving the CAMA regional Bird BikeShare program under the provisions of 1 V.S.A. 313(a)(1)(A) and (F), to include the Committee, the Public Works Director, DPW Engineer Julia Ursaki, DPW Public Information Manager Robert Goulding, and legal counsel.

### **All in Favor – Unanimous**

Above parties went into Executive Session.

- **4.2 Water Resources Affordability Discussion**

**Division Director Megan Moir** – Updated staff on information that was discussed at City Council meeting. People support the need and outcome of having working wastewater treatment plants. People are concerned about number being too big and being voted down. The City is always doing infrastructure upgrades.

**City Attorney Ramakrishnan** - Asked if there was any merit having the item that goes to the voter stagger so that the City has authority in 2027 to sell so much now and so much then?

**Councilors** stated bonding should say for phase 1 in order to make sense to public and be consistent. Confused about potential plan to stagger bond. Worried about future council's decisions. Not just Water bond, also education, municipal revenue increase but being able to deliver on what was told to the voters last town meeting. If you can demonstrate the need and articulate Burlington voters are very generous with infrastructure spending.

### **4.3 GMT Special Assessment & College St Shuttle Fare Policy Review**

**Clayton Clark** from GMT – spoke about the variety of options of physical year 26 assessment and if Burlington continues to pay the fare for route 11 – Free College St Shuttle and what happens if the special assessment passes. Needs all municipalities to vote affirmative. CCRPC on board and wants to help with assessment reform so no consultant needed which will reduce costs.

**Councilors** asked that GMT work with staff to put a tax increase on the numbers provided. San Remo Drive Route is it a net loss? If we subsidize route then Howard Center should become a partner to offer micro transit on request. What type of conversations are you having with them? College St Shuttle shouldn't be free.

### **5. Director's Report**

None

### **6. Councilor Items**

None

### **7. Next Meeting**

January 28, 2025 at 645 Pine St at 5:30 pm

### **8. Adjournment**

Chair Barlow adjourns meeting at 5:33 pm.