



**Thursday, September 18, 2025, 5:00 PM, Bushor Conference Room 1st Floor, City Hall
OR REMOTELY via ZOOM**

When: Sep 18, 2025 05:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Topic: Ordinance Committee Meeting

Join from PC, Mac, iPad, or Android:

<https://zoom.us/j/99085021723?pwd=MieawpyYxwy1ZkVEqf1VwaHqPbfNMq.1>

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+1 507 473 4847 US

+1 564 217 2000 US

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Webinar ID: 990 8502 1723

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1. Agenda

1.1. Motion to amend/adopt agenda

2. Adopt Draft Minutes

Subject	2.1. Adopt Draft Minutes from 9/5
Meeting	September 18, 2025 - Ordinance Committee Meeting - Thursday, September 18, 2025, 5:00 PM, Bushor Conference Room 1st Floor, City Hall OR REMOTELY via ZOOM
Category	2. Adopt Draft Minutes
Department	Council and Board

Type

Recommended Action

3. Public Forum

Subject	3.1. Verbal Comments
Meeting	September 18, 2025 - Ordinance Committee Meeting - Thursday, September 18, 2025, 5:00 PM, Bushor Conference Room 1st Floor, City Hall OR REMOTELY via ZOOM
Category	3. Public Forum
Department	Council and Board
Type	

4. Violation Reporting Incentives Ordinance Discussion

Subject	4.1. Violation Reporting Incentives Ordinance Discussion
Meeting	September 18, 2025 - Ordinance Committee Meeting - Thursday, September 18, 2025, 5:00 PM, Bushor Conference Room 1st Floor, City Hall OR REMOTELY via ZOOM
Category	4. Violation Reporting Incentives Ordinance Discussion
Department	Council and Board
Type	
Recommended Action	

5. Fuel Purchase Ordinance Discussion

Subject	5.1. Fuel Purchase Ordinance Discussion
Meeting	September 18, 2025 - Ordinance Committee Meeting - Thursday, September 18, 2025, 5:00 PM, Bushor Conference Room 1st Floor, City Hall OR REMOTELY via ZOOM
Category	5. Fuel Purchase Ordinance Discussion
Department	Council and Board
Type	
Recommended Action	

6. Private Parking Lot Terms and Rates Ordinance Discussion

Subject	6.1. Private Parking Lot Terms and Rates Ordinance Discussion
Meeting	September 18, 2025 - Ordinance Committee Meeting - Thursday, September 18, 2025, 5:00 PM, Bushor Conference Room 1st Floor, City Hall OR REMOTELY via ZOOM
Category	6. Private Parking Lot Terms and Rates Ordinance Discussion
Department	Council and Board
Type	
Recommended Action	

7. Any Other Committee Business

Subject	7.1. Any Other Committee Business
Meeting	September 18, 2025 - Ordinance Committee Meeting - Thursday, September 18, 2025, 5:00 PM, Bushor Conference Room 1st Floor, City Hall OR REMOTELY via ZOOM
Category	7. Any Other Committee Business
Department	Council and Board
Type	
Recommended Action	

8. Adjournment

Subject	8.1. Motion to adjourn
Meeting	September 18, 2025 - Ordinance Committee Meeting - Thursday, September 18, 2025, 5:00 PM, Bushor Conference Room 1st Floor, City Hall OR REMOTELY via ZOOM
Category	8. Adjournment
Department	Council and Board
Type	
Recommended Action	

Ordinance Committee
Friday, September 5, 2025
Bushor Conference Room Conference Room
or Remote via Zoom. Burlington, Vermont
DRAFT MINUTES

Members Present: Councilor Bergman (Chair), Councilor Barlow, Councilor Carpenter

Staff Present: Kim Sturtevant (Assistant City Attorney)

Public Present: Michael M.

Meeting called to order at 3:01 PM.

1. Adopt the Agenda

1.1 Adopt the Agenda

Motion to Adopt Agenda.

Motion by Councilor Barlow, Seconded by Councilor Carpenter.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: Unanimous

2. Adopt Draft Minutes

2.1 Adopt Draft Minutes from August 21

Motion to adopt the draft minutes from August 21 as drafted.

Motion by Councilor Carpenter, Seconded by Councilor Barlow.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: Unanimous

3. Public Forum

No members of the public present. Councilor Bergman suspended public forum should a member of the public arrive and wish to speak.

4. Indecent Exposure Ordinance Discussion

Attorney Sturtevant shared an updated draft ordinance. This draft ordinance is available in the CivicClerk agenda packet.

Councilor Bergman clarified that the draft ordinance only applies to the genitals and anal region and not breasts. Councilor Bergman continued that he would be inclined to strike the language about anal region, but that it might be up to prosecutorial discretion about what that entails.

Councilor Barlow proposed changing “anal region” to anus.

Motion to change “anal region” to “anus” in the draft ordinance.

Motion by Councilor Barlow, Seconded by Councilor Carpenter.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: Unanimous

Councilor Bergman said that allowing public nudity when done during a permitted event would be an acceptable middle ground for not violating freedom of expression.

Councilor Carpenter said she is concerned about the decision process for permitting such events and who would be responsible for making the decision.

Councilor Barlow said that the ordinance was proposed to solve a specific problem and that including language about event permits is unnecessary and that ultimately the enforcement would not happen for nudity outside of the problem at issue.

Councilor Bergman proposed adding language similar to the permitted events exceptions from the noise ordinance.

All councilors agreed to add language that states that persons operating an event under an entertainment permit shall comply with all conditions of the permit.

Motion to refer the draft ordinance as amended back to the full City Council.

Motion by Councilor Barlow, Seconded by Councilor Carpenter.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: Unanimous

Councilor Bergman asked for the City Attorney’s Office to continue to review for First Amendment issues.

5. Any Other Committee Business

The next ordinance committee meeting is scheduled for September 18 at 5:00 PM.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:06 PM.

CITY OF BURLINGTON

In the Year Two Thousand Twenty-Five

An Ordinance in Relation to

stages of passage:

ORDINANCE CODE VIOLATION REPORTING INCENTIVES

ORDINANCE _____

Sponsor: (Department or Councilor) _____

Public Hearing Dates: _____

First reading: _____

Referred to: _____

Rules suspended and placed in all _____

It is hereby Ordained by the City Council of the City of Burlington as follows:

1 That Chapter 1, General Provisions, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Burlington be and hereby is
2 amended by amending Sec. 11, thereof to read as follows:

3
4 (a) All fines and penalties for the violation of any ordinance or the order of any board lawfully established
5 thereunder, or the order of any person who has been given lawful authority to issue such order, or the order
6 of the mayor or city council, shall, when recovered, inure to the city, and be paid into the city treasury, unless
7 otherwise directed by the laws of the state or the ordinances of the city.

8 (b) Annually, as part of the city council's budget resolution, the city council may appropriate not more than
9 twenty-five percent (25%) of all fines and penalties collected pursuant to subsection (a) of this section
10 (exclusive of any deductions made by the judiciary or any other public agency responsible for collecting
11 such fines or penalties, and exclusive of any administrative fees to any public agency or other third party the
12 city may be required by law to pay out of any fines or penalties collected by it), to a special fund for the
13 purposes described in subsection (c) of this section.

14 (c) Subject to subsection (d) of this section, the chief of police may, by publication once in a newspaper of
15 general circulation and on the police department's website, offer a reward for any material information that
16 leads to the apprehension of any person who has violated this code and to successful prosecution of the
17 violation. The chief of police may terminate any such offer at any time following the same procedure. Any
18 such offer of reward shall be described as being conditioned on the provisions of this section.

19 (d) No offer of reward pursuant to subsection (c) of this section shall be issued by the chief of police unless:

20 _____ (1) The chief of police finds that adequate funds exist in the fund created pursuant to subsection (b)
21 of this section to warrant making the offer;

22 (2) The chief of police finds that making the offer is necessary or convenient to the efficient
23 administration of justice;

24 (3) The mayor concurs in the chief of police's findings; and

25 (4) The offer of reward applies broadly to one of the following: any violation of this ordinance code;
26 any violation of a specific provision or class of provisions of this ordinance code; or a specific violation of
27 this ordinance code resulting in substantial damage to public or private property, serious bodily injury to any
28 person, or the death of any person.

29 (e) The maximum amount of any offer of reward shall be one hundred dollars and no cents (\$100.00) per
30 informant per violation. The city shall have no obligation to pay a reward to any individual unless the chief
31 of police reasonably determines that the information supplied by that individual was material to both the
32 apprehension of the violator and to the successful prosecution of the violation. The city also shall have no
33 obligation to pay a reward unless and until adequate funds exist in the fund created pursuant to subsection (b)
34 of this section. Rewards shall be paid out of the fund in priority first based on the date the relevant code
35 violation was successfully prosecuted, and second based on the date the individual first provided information
36 to the city.

37 (f) This section is enacted solely in the public interest, and nothing herein is intended to establish a contract
38 with any individual who might claim a reward hereunder.

39 (g) As used in this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

40 (1) "Apprehended" means ticketed, arrested, or otherwise brought within the lawful jurisdiction of
41 the Judicial Bureau or the Superior Court. Apprehended also means the issuance of a parking citation.

42 (2) "Material" means that at the time the relevant information was provided, city employees had not
43 yet discovered the information on their own, and without the information, it is unlikely that the violator
44 would have been apprehended and successfully prosecuted.

45 (3) "Successfully prosecuted" means that the violator has voluntarily paid any penalty or fine without
46 contesting it, or that a final judgment or order of the court has been issued finding the person guilty of the
47 violation alleged.

48 (h) Unless this subsection is sooner repealed by the city council, subsections (b) to (h) of this section shall be
49 automatically repealed at the end of the second fiscal year commencing after the date of the final adoption by
50 the city council of the ordinance originally adding this subsection. Upon the automatic repeal of subsections
51 (b) to (h), subsection (a) shall cease to be denominated as subsection (a), and shall instead constitute the
52 entirety of this section.

53

54 * Material stricken out deleted.

55 ** Material underlined added.

56

57

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60 ER/Ordinances 2025/*Violation reporting incentives*

61 Date

From: Assistant City Attorney Erik Ramakrishnan
To: City Council Ordinance Committee
Date: September 3, 2025 via Email

We last met to discuss the Incentives Ordinance on August 21, 2025. At that time, you asked me to meet with representatives of various City departments to determine whether the proposal is needed and, if so, what types of offenses it should be directed at. In response to inquiries, I have received the following feedback:

- (1) The Mayor's Office is not in favor of the proposal.
- (2) The CAO is concerned about a lack of funding to pay rewards. The ordinance deals with this concern, but the point is well-taken that frequently there will be insufficient revenue from fines to pay rewards, which is why the ordinance takes the approach it does in limiting City liability for reward payments.
- (3) Code Enforcement expressed concern that a few residents would overwhelm the system making complaints in expectation of rewards, which would hamper the department's ability to respond to priorities and legitimate complaints.
- (4) The Police Chief echoed the latter concern and added that complaints are likely to target vulnerable populations, especially the homeless, who we are trying to reach through restorative processes. Making vulnerable populations the target of public complaints, and creating an expectation among the public that complaints will be followed-up, would hamper BPD's attempt to build relationships in furtherance of restorative processes. In support of this concern, it was noted that studies show that excessive fining of vulnerable populations was a significant impetus behind the 2014 unrest between police and civilians in Ferguson, Missouri.
- (5) Parks echoed the above concerns.

In response to the question whether there is any category of offenses for which rewards would be useful, the Police Chief noted that BPD has the ability to offer rewards for information involving serious felonies, e.g., murders and other violent crimes, and that this is the only type of offense for which a reward is well-suited.

Resolution Relating to

**CONSUMER CHOICE AND DISCLOSURE FOR FUEL
PURCHASES MADE WITH DEBIT CARDS**

RESOLUTION 6.3

Sponsor(s): Councilors Litwin, Singh, Traverse

Introduced: 09/08/25

Referred to: _____

Action: adopted; amended version

Date: 09/08/25

Signed by Mayor: 09/09/25

CITY OF BURLINGTON

In the year Two Thousand Twenty-Five.....

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

1 That WHEREAS, consumer protection regulations in the State of Vermont emphasize transparency in
2 commercial transactions to ensure that consumers have access to clear and accurate information regarding the
3 terms of their purchases; and

4 WHEREAS, many fueling stations implement a policy of holding funds beyond the actual purchase
5 price of fuel when customers use debit cards, which may temporarily limit access to funds for consumers and
6 cause financial inconvenience; and

7 WHEREAS, consumers may remain unaware of these holds and their potential impact on available
8 account balances, which may lead to unintended overdraft fees, declined transactions, or other financial
9 hardships; and

10 WHEREAS, requiring fueling stations to post clear and permanent signage disclosing their debit card
11 hold policies will enhance transparency, empower consumers to make informed decisions, and align with
12 Burlington's commitment to consumer protection and fair business practices;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Burlington respectfully
14 requests the Ordinance Committee and City Attorney review whether or not to update our relevant ordinances
15 as follows:

- 16 1. All fueling stations operating within the City of Burlington that have debit card fund hold policies are
17 hereby required to post clear, conspicuous, and permanent signage on each individual fuel pump
18 disclosing the following information:
 - 19 a. The exact amount or possible maximum that may be held;
 - 20 b. The maximum duration for which such funds may be held;
 - 21 c. An option to go inside and prepay with PIN to avoid such holds if that is an option available to
22 the consumer;
- 23 2. Fueling stations may include additional language on their signage referring customers to their
24 individual banking institutions for further questions regarding specific bank policies;

* * * * *

DISTRIBUTION:

I hereby certify that this resolution
has been sent to the following
department(s) on

ORIGINAL

RESOLUTION RELATING TO

.....
.....
.....

Adopted by the City Council

....., 20.....

..... Clerk

Approved....., 20.....

..... Mayor

Vol. Page

* * * * *

- 25 3. The City of Burlington shall empower the Department of Permitting and Inspections to respond to
26 consumer complaints if a fueling station does not comply with this policy and may establish and
27 enforce a reasonable fine and any inspection or administrative fees;
- 28 4. The City of Burlington shall empower the Department of Permitting and Inspections to revoke the
29 operator's permit to operate and order the closure of a lot that fails to come into compliance repeatedly,
30 which will not be lifted until they demonstrate full compliance to the satisfaction of the Department of
31 Permitting and Inspections; and
- 32 5. Provide for a period of 90 days after the effective date of the ordinance for fueling stations to come
33 into compliance and further allow for a one-time courtesy warning to come into compliance for an
34 additional 60 days.
- 35

36
37 *EL/Resolutions 2025/Consumer Choice and Disclosure for Fuel Purchases Made with Debit Cards*
38 9/4/25

* * * * *

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ORIGINAL

RESOLUTION RELATING TO

Consumer Choice And Disclosure For Fuel Purchases Made With Debit Cards

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Adopted by the City Council

September 8....., 20..... 25.....

[Signature]..... Clerk

Approved..... Sept 9....., 20..... 25.....

[Signature]..... Mayor

Attest:

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Resolution Relating to

**CONSUMER CHOICE AND DISCLOSURE OF PARKING
TERMS & RATES IN PRIVATELY OWNED LOTS**

RESOLUTION 6.4

Sponsor(s): Councilors Litwin, Singh, Traverse

Introduced: 09/08/25

Referred to: _____

Action: adopted; amended version

Date: 09/08/25

Signed by Mayor: 09/09/25

CITY OF BURLINGTON

In the year Two Thousand Twenty-Five.....

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

1 That WHEREAS, the Burlington City Council strives to uphold best practices in consumer choice and
2 disclosure in all aspects of commerce operating in the City of Burlington; and

3 WHEREAS, privately-operated parking lots have grown in recent years in the City of Burlington and
4 do not match City of Burlington parking rates; and

5 WHEREAS, the City of Burlington and City Council have received feedback from members of the
6 public and visitors of Burlington that differences between privately-operated parking lots and publicly-
7 operated parking lots are not clear to the [driving] consumer; and

8 WHEREAS, privately-owned parking lot operators may not be honoring Vermont's free public
9 parking for those displaying handicapped parking permits; and

10 WHEREAS, hourly parking rates are not clearly and conspicuously posted on visible signage to the
11 driving public and consumers often do not see the rate until they have already parked and are standing at the
12 payment kiosk;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Burlington City Council respectfully requests the
14 Ordinance Committee and City Attorney's Office to review new ordinance language that accomplishes the
15 following and to draft any appropriate language to address the issues raised in Committee deliberations:

- 16 1. Requires privately-owned parking lot operators to include the words "privately-owned" to appear
17 on signage visible from the roadway;
- 18 2. Requires privately-owned parking lot operators to clearly and visibly disclose parking rates at the
19 roadway in a manner that would inform the consumer prior to entering and parking;
- 20 3. Requires privately-owned parking lot operators using dynamic or changing pricing models to
21 clearly and visibly disclose that and the maximum possible rate the consumer could pay at the
22 roadway in a manner that would inform the consumer prior to entering and parking;
- 23 4. Requires privately-owned parking lot operators to post clear and conspicuous signage that if they
24 intend to charge customers displaying handicapped parking permits to park that they must inform
25 drivers that they may park for free on the street or in City-owned lots; and

* * * * *

DISTRIBUTION:

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ORIGINAL

RESOLUTION RELATING TO

.....
.....
.....

Adopted by the City Council

....., 20.....

..... Clerk

Approved....., 20.....

..... Mayor

Vol. Page

* * * * *

5. Provide for a period of 90 days after the effective date of the ordinance for privately-owned parking lot operators to come into compliance and further allow for a one-time courtesy warning to come into compliance for an additional 60 days.

EL/Resolutions 2025/*Consumer Choice and Disclosure of Parking Terms & Rates in Privately Owned Lots*
9/4/25

* * * * *

DISTRIBUTION:

I hereby certify that this resolution
has been sent to the following
department(s) on

ORIGINAL

RESOLUTION RELATING TO

Consumer Choice And Disclosure Of Parking Terms & Rates In Privately Owned Lots

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Adopted by the City Council

September 8 20 25

[Signature] Clerk

Approved..... Sept 9 20 25

[Signature] Mayor

Attest:

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