



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 Hannah King, Ward 8

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Transportation, Energy and Utilities Committee of the City Council
Tuesday January 23rd, 2024 – 4:00PM

645 Pine St – DPW Front Conference Room

–DRAFT MINUTES–

Chair Barlow calls meeting to order at 4:08PM

1. Agenda

Councilor Bergman moves to approve the agenda. Councilor King seconds. All in favor, passes unanimously.

2. Minutes of 1.9.24

Councilor Bergman moves to approve the minutes. Councilor King seconds. All in favor, passes unanimously.

3. Public Forum

None present.

Closes at 4:09PM

4. Main Street Great Streets Update

- Laura Wheelock

Laura Wheelock provides overview of project and outreach thus far. Parking and detour routes. Construction starting Feb 5th.

Councilor Gene Bergman – Questions about pedestrian (library route) and vehicle detours. Confirms outreach

Councilor Hannah King – What will Edmunds impacts be? Confirms they got outreach.

Chair Mark Barlow – Will closure have potential to extend?

LW – Not likely, limited scope here that is well understood.

GB– What about weather?

LW – They can continue work in cold as long as they are keeping materials unfrozen.

MB – Eclipse impacts?

LW – it is in contract as a holiday. Main St shouldn't have active construction at that time - Church St and Parking lot only.

Item closes 4:25PM

5. GMT FY25 Assessment and Fare Resumption

- Clayton Clarke

Clayton Clarke – Goes over fare status. See equity outreach [here](#). Ridership is still trending up post covid. Overall assessment up 4.1% over previous year. Goes over fiscal year budget for 2025 and Burlington's over payment for past 4 years. Goes over Fare Resumption plans and programs.

Chapin Spencer – Should there be a desire to adjust fare free designation TEUC will need to take to Council.

Councilor Gene Bergman – Would like to see numbers on ridership and how we can encourage increased ridership for TDM. Dollar for a ride does not change for short rides vs long riders which may need to adjust.

CC – this system will give us a better understanding of population that routes are serving to give us data to make informed improvements.

Councilor Hannah King – Have you experienced higher ridership when routes are free?

CC – We don't have real data to assess. During fare free time we have never gotten to peak fare ridership. We can't say if this is from fare rates or not. Short rides may decrease with fares.

GB – Open to this year returning to fares only if we have capacity and a commitment to look at TDM to see about maximization of ridership This data collected from cards will allow us to implement better fee structures in the future.

HK – Other communities in Burlington like new American communities – how is this info relayed to them? Is there translation services – how will they know about new payment structures?

CC – Translating multiple one-minute videos to show we are returning to fare and fee structure. Partnering with community organizations for these communities to be partners.

MB – Very concerned about security described. Willing to advocate for importance at state level.

CC – Reached out and have no options for outside security with availability.

HK – What happens when this is an incident on a bus?

CC – First call is to supervisor. Then it is either deescalated or police are called. Then we determine if individual should be able to continue service.

GB – Can you provide a look at this year's assessment and what the increases are if we are to go away from fare so we can see what savings would be.

Item ends 5:14 PM.

6. Solar Ordinance and Rooftop Re

- William Ward, Permitting and Inspection Director

Chair Mark Barlow – September meeting we had South Burlington come and this is to follow up.

Bill Ward – Provides overview of Solar Ordinance, Planning and Zoning and Fire Department requirements.

Councilor Gene Bergman – Would like Burlington to be harmonious with South Burlington standards and understand where we are the same and different from.

Fire Marshal Matt Stone - Goes over state requirements.

BW – We can provide a written report with cross departmental input.

MB – We want to see where we can maximize our opportunity. If that is what So Burl has adopted, then we want to understand why we can or cannot do that. Or, if there are other ways or agreements outside of this to maximize rooftop solar, we need to understand obstacles.

GB – Need to look at other codes and give us a sense for a future regulatory system after we look at So Burl as a comparable location.

GB – How does this fit with neighborhood code Planning and Zoning is working on?

BW – Can follow up and TEUC with timeline.

Item ends 5:48 PM.

7. Director's Report

Chapin Spencer – Update on Wastewater Treatment Improvements.

Item ends 5:49 PM

8. Councilors' Update

None.

Item ends 5:49 M

9. Next Meeting 2/27/24

Potential to meet at 4

10. Adjourn

Councilor Bergman moves to adjourn. Councilor King seconds. All in favor. Meeting Adjourns 5:56 PM