Commissioners Present: Commissioner Archambeau, Commissioner Barr, Commissioner Bose, Commissioner Gillman, Commissioner Hogan (Chair), Commissioner O’Neill-Vivanco (Vice-Chair), Commissioner Overby.

ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Hogan called meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

ITEM 2 – AGENDA

Commissioner Barr made a motion to accept the agenda. Commissioner Archambeau seconded. Unanimous approval.

ITEM 3 – PUBLIC FORUM

Jeff Nick is on the Marketplace and he expressed concerns with the changes made to South Winooski Avenue, he understands the goals but feels there are problematic components to the design. The offset of intersection at Bank Street and City Market and Cherry Street and Buell Streets. Not bad now with not much traffic but is concerned when downtown gets busy again that there will be problems.

Joanne Larson lives at 50 Charlotte Street and called stating she is looking for guidance. On January 4th, recycling was not picked up and she was told it was because cars were parked on both sides of street and truck could not get down the street. Charlotte meets requirements for a narrow street and wants reliable access to her home. She has concerns that if recycling cannot get down street can emergency vehicles.

Trina Beck lives at 77 Charlotte Streets and stated that large trucks cannot get down the street in winter when two cars are parked directly across from each other which is a serious safety issue. Would like seasonal parking on one side of the street.

Asa Long liked the discussion in December on the roundabout on Shelburne Road. Stated the design looks good has concerns about speed coming onto South Willard.

ITEM 4 – CONSENT AGENDA
Commissioner Archambeau made a motion to approve the consent agenda
Commissioner Bose seconded
Unanimous approval

ITEM 5 - Water Resources Rate Restructuring and Affordability Program Update

There was a power point presentation on this delivered by Megan Moir, Jenna Olsen and Jessica Lavalette.

Megan Moir stated they started doing a public outreach on this program but it was put on hold due to the pandemic and since we have made some changes to the plans that we already had.

Jenna Olsen stated that sustainable funding was crucial for drinking water – cost to provide water service in Burlington. Looking at alternative rate structures, alternative revenue sources, affordability frameworks, and process to educate and solicit input on Water Resources rates.

Jessica Lavalette went through a power point in which she explained six proposed rate and policy changes.

Jenna stated that they were going to attend NPA’s, presenting at TEUC and sending out notifications to higher use customers the proposals and changes that they had developed for their program.

Commissioner O’Neill asked about how the program will be rolled out, about irrigation and about residential sprinklers, if there is an irrigation for the Intervale. She was advised that about 210 residents have sprinkler systems right now and we will not provide a lower bill to these people.

Commissioner O’Neill asked if we had a program like BED beat the peak. Jenna advised that water usage is higher is summer and stated we hand out kits to residents to test for leaks. We are looking into a program for smart meter assistance for implementing or helping.

Commissioner Archambeau asked about private fire protection and Megan informed him that there is an additional cost charged to customers who have this fire protection.

Commissioner Bose stated that elements of our presentation should be put out there in pamphlets for the public to help them understand what you want to do.

Commissioner Gillman stated to get this information out to as many people as possible.
Commissioner Archambeau made a motion to support and advance the Rate Restructuring and Affordability Program effort. Commissioner O’Neill-Vivanco seconded. Unanimous approval.

ITEM 6 – Parking Request for South End Green Stormwater Infrastructure

We are looking for no parking of any vehicles in several locations in the south end for space, which will be needed for rain garden systems in the area. This will also provide the space needed for the proposed stormwater treatment systems the no parking zones will provide the needed space for emergency services to conduct operations.

Commissioner Gillman asked if the parking utilization in the neighborhoods was not an issue in the neighborhood and Philip Peterson stated to him that parking is abundant in the neighborhoods and most houses do have driveways.

Jenna Olsen explained that the rain gardens coincide with the catch basins which are at the low points in the roadway. Jenna also stated that there is a municipal maintenance plan to get cleaned out and on routine basis.

Commissioner Barr asked if any of these areas were residential only parking and Philip Peterson stated that no they were not.

Commissioner Archambeau made a motion to approve the parking changed. Commissioner Barr seconded. Unanimous approval.

ITEM 7 – Asset management

Looking for Commission support to the full implementation of the City’s Asset Management Program, specifically advancing contract with DTS to implement VUEWorks software as a computerized software maintenance management system. Seeking to amend contract with KCI to assist city through Task 3 of asset management and implementation program. To advance a contract with ROK Technologies to host the city GIS data in a cloud based servicer. Looking for Commission support for amendment to the existing Drinking Water and Clean Water State revolving fund planning loans to fund the Water Resources portion of above costs.

Gustave Sexauer had a power point presentation on all of the above programs.

Commissioner all agree that there was a lot of detail in the presentation and they support this programs. Work orders will be able to be put into this program and updated. Commissioner Overby asked how long VueWorks has been in use and was
informed for at least ten years. There has been communication with several communities who use the program and are happy with it.

Commissioner Overby made a motion to accept staff’s recommendation. Commissioner Barr seconded. Unanimous approval

ITEM 8 – Approval of Draft Minutes of 12/16/21

Commissioner Overby stated she wanted to make a change in the minutes in Questions and comments under Item 5 of the Agenda of the December meeting: Commissioner Overby expressed concern that the proposed 25 mile per hour approach speed to the roundabout was too fast for the safety of pedestrian crossings at the roundabout. She recommended the approach speed be 15 miles per hour. DPW staff stated that Burlington is prohibited by state law from setting City traffic speeds to less than 25 mph. Commissioner Overby said she would ask her state Reps what steps were necessary at the state level to enable Burlington to set a 15 mph speed limit for the approach to a roundabout

Commissioner Barr made a motion to accept minutes with the changes of Commissioner Overby. Commissioner Bose seconded. Unanimous approval

ITEM 9 - Director’s Report

Director Spencer stated that the Waterfront/Rail Park work is continuing for the bike path relocation and Amtrak passenger rail service. There have been regular meeting continuing with the City, VTrans and Vermont Rail and we are preparing for a busy 2021 construction season. We are hopeful for passenger rail service starting late this year.

ITEM 12 – COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner O’Neill-Vivanco stated she was downtown during the holiday season and absolutely liked the new configuration of North Winooski Avenue.

Commissioner Barr stated that he has had complaint about the cars travelling down East Avenue quite fast and have had request for the speed radar to be put back up. Kudos on the snow removal. Old East End interlude festivities have been eased back. There will be activities but do it yourself ones.

Commissioner Hogan asked if narrow streets publish where things stand. Have staff make notes on streets with issues such as unable to get recycling due to the cars being parked on the street.
ITEM 13 – ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING DATE February 17, 2021

Commissioner Archambeau made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner O’Neill-Vivanco seconded Unanimous approval.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.