

Meeting of the St. Johnsbury Select Board October 21, 2019 at 6:00 PM-Pomerleau Building

Present- SB: Kevin Oddy, Chair, Tim Angell, Dennis Smith; Brendan Hughes (by phone)
Staff-Town Manager-Chad Whitehead; Assistant Town Manager Joe Kasprzak; Finance
Officer Lesley Russ
Press: KATV

Public Comment/Agenda Amendment:

- Robert Barnett of St. Johnsbury provided the board with a complaint about the Chief of Police.

Warrants:

- On a motion by Dennis and second by Tim the warrants were approved.

Liquor Licenses:

- none

Minutes:

- none

Halloween Parade Street Closure:

- Chad Whitehead provided the event permit application and reviewed the street closure request on behalf of the Halloween Committee. On a motion by Dennis and second by Tim the board approved the closure of Main Street on October 31 from 4:30 PM to 8:00 PM as requested.

Finance Report:

- Lesley Russ reviewed the finance report with the board.
- The board asked when the new officers would be done training at the Police Academy. The officers would be complete with the Academy on November 22, 2019
- The board asked if there was any obligation for officers to remain with the Town of St Johnsbury upon completion of the training and Chad indicated that there are requirements if an officer goes to another municipality or department that the department that hires them is required to reimburse the Town of costs incurred to train the officer.

Grand List Adjustments

- On a motion by Tim and second by Dennis the board approved GLA 2019-6 in the amount of \$407.94.
- On a motion by Dennis and second by Tim the board approved GLA 2019-7 in the amount of \$77.83
- On a motion by Dennis and second by Tim the board approved GLA 2019-8 in the amount of \$274.39
- On a motion by Dennis and second by Tim the board approved GLA 2019-9 in the amount of \$1072.53.

Transfer to Economic Development Reserves:

- On a motion by Tim and second by Dennis the board approved the transfer of \$30,000 of the readiness to serve payments to the Economic Development Reserves.

Undercllyffe Drainage:

- On a motion by Dennis and second by Tim the board approved an expense of \$6,400 for a contract with Dufresne Group to develop plans for a storm drainage and erosion problem on Undercliff Street.

Bulay Tax Appeal:

- On a motion by Tim and second by Dennis the board approved hiring Giles, Merriman & Tarrant and New England Municipal Consultants to represent the Town for the Bulay Tax Appeal.

Manager's Report: Chad Whitehead provided the following updates:

- The Department of Public Works is evaluating new sidewalk plow equipment and will provide updates as plans develop.
- The Manager discussed moving the regularly scheduled meeting on the 11th to the 12th because of Veterans Day and the board agreed.
- Steven Beauregard had been appointed as the new Director of Public Works and would be at the next board meeting to introduce himself to the board and the public.
- Signs for H&H - Section of sidewalk needed to be replaced to set Connecticut River By-way signage. Will be waiting for warmer day to set base. If not we will get posts installed for other signs and have to postpone for warmer weather.
- NBRC – Three Rivers path extension has placed 60 – 80% of subbase material. Expecting shutdown soon. Expect remainder of project to be completed in the spring.
- Thursday – attended hearing on behalf of Housing Vermont with the Vermont Community Development Program for final funding piece for new avenue project. Expect to hear November 26, 2019.
- State of Vermont contracted the Town regarding evaluation risk assessment of Stiles Pond Dam. 100% funded with FEMA and State money. This is being done now ahead of legislative changes that may result in mandated changes to the Dam rules in Vermont. Participation potentially gets the Town in line for future funding sources.
- Beautification Committee will be organizing a community work day to clean up and decorate for the winter season the week before Thanksgiving. Looking for volunteers.

Other Business:

- The board asked the Manager about the Brink Building on Bay Street as it is anticipated to be torn down soon.
- The board asked about the Route 5 bike path project and the Manager indicated that it was anticipated to be bid over the winter and constructed early next summer.

On a motion by Dennis and second by Tim the board determined there was a need for an executive session to discuss potential property acquisition.

On a motion by Dennis and second by Tim the board entered executive session and invited the Town Manager and Assistant Town Manager to join.

On a motion by Dennis and second by Tim the board exited executive session. The Chair had nothing to report.

The meeting adjourned on a motion by Tim and second by Dennis.