

## **Meeting of the St. Johnsbury Select Board January 13, 2020 at 6:00 PM-Pomerleau Building**

Present- SB: Kevin Oddy, Chair, Brendan Hughes, Dennis Smith, Jeff Moore  
Staff-Town Manager-Chad Whitehead; Assistant Town Manager- Joe Kasprzak; Finance  
Officer Lesley Russ, Town Clerk Stacy Jewell; Zoning Administrator Paul Berlejung  
Press: KATV, T. Wellington

### Agenda Amendments:

- On a motion by Dennis and second by Jeff the board added DPW Equipment Finance to the agenda ahead of the Manager's Report.

### Public Comment:

- none.

### Warrants:

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

### Liquor Licenses:

- On a motion by Jeff and second by Dennis the board approved the Liquor License renewals. Brendan Hughes abstained.
- On a motion by Jeff and second by Dennis the board approved the Liquor License for Heather Alger at 142 Eastern Avenue.

### Minutes:

- On a motion by Dennis and second by Brendan the minutes for 12/23 were approved with the addition of the date. Jeff abstained.
- On a motion by Jeff and second by Dennis the board approved the minutes for 12/9 with the addition of Dennis to board members present.

### Gravel Rides Project:

- Clare Popus of the Gravel Rides Project addressed the board. The project has received additional funding from Northern Borders Regional Commission and intended to expand the project into St Johnsbury and Lyndonville.
- Joe Fox from the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee and Tara Holt from the Chamber expressed support for the project.
- The Select Board indicated they support the project.

### 2020-2021 Budget Review

- Chad Whitehead gave an overview of minor revisions to the budget.
- The board opened up the meeting to public input. No questions or comments were received.
- The budget will be reviewed and approved by the select board at a special meeting set for January 22, 2020 at 5:30.

### December Finance Update

- December finance update was provided by Finance Officer Lesley Russ.

Cemetery Commission- Draft Term Language:

- On a motion by Jeff and second by Dennis the board approved the following language to be added to the Town Meeting ballot:
- “Shall the voters of the Town of St Johnsbury reduce the term of office for the board of Cemetery Commissioners from terms of five (5) years to terms of three (3) years?”

Annual Fees:

- On a motion by Dennis and second by Brendan the board approved the annual fee schedule.

Communications Union District

- On a motion by Brendan and second by Dennis the board approved by a vote of 3v1, (Brendan, Dennis and Kevin in favor- Jeff opposed) adding the following language to the Town Meeting Ballot
- “Shall the Town of St Johnsbury enter into a communications union district (CUD) to be known as NEK Community Broadband, under the provisions of 30 V.S.A. Ch82.?”

Zoning Update:

- Paul Berlejung addressed the Select Board and provided an update on the number of permits and activity in the Zoning Office. DRB and DAC applications are up over last year and he noted redevelopment/re-occupation of buildings within the downtown were on the rise.

DPW Equipment Bids:

- On a motion by Dennis and second by Brendan the board authorized the Town Manager to accept and sign loan paperwork with Community National Bank for the amount of \$346,507 for a 5 year term with an interest rate of 2.1%. Jeff abstained.

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

- Special Meeting for Budget Approval was scheduled for January 22 at 5:30 pm.

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