



TOWN OF ST. JOHNSBURY

Town Manager's Office
51 Depot Square, Suite 3
St Johnsbury, VT 05819
802-748-3926
www.stjvt.com

Town Clerk 802-748-4331
Dispatch 802-748-2314
Police 802-748-2314
Fire 802-748-8925
Public Works 802-748-4408
Assessor Office 802-748-4272

Select Board Meeting Minutes 51 Depot Square, St Johnsbury, VT July 13, 2020 6:00 PM

Present :

Select Board: Jeff Moore, Kevin Oddy, Tim Angell, Dennis Smith, Brendan Hughes

Staff: Chad Whitehead, Stacy Jewell, Joe Kasprzak (via zoom), Paul Berlejung (via zoom)

Press: Todd Wellington(via Zoom), KATV

Public: Deborah Dolgan (via zoom); Nancy Cohen, Mike Lemieux, Jim Brown, Ed Zucarro

Agenda Amendments: none

Public Comment:

- Nancy Cohen addressed the board regarding her concerns over the impacts on solar projects on Vermont's landscape and economy.
- Mike Lemieux addressed the board about preferred site criteria and expressed concern on a solar development off Hospital Hill and it's impacts on the agricultural lands and the historic monument for the First Meeting House.

Minutes:

- On a motion by Dennis and second by Brendan the minutes for 6/26 were approved

Warrants:

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

Liquor License:

- On a motion by Dennis and second by Kevin the 1st class and 3rd class liquor license for the Winegate were approved. Brendan abstained.

Adoption of Public Roads

- Ed Zucarro addressed the selectboard about adoption of the following roads:
 - Buzzell Street
 - Concord Ave
 - Old Concord Ave
 - Dundee St
 - Nelson St
 - Oak St
 - Pleasant St
 - School St
 - Summer Ave

- Gilman Ave
- On a motion by Dennis and second by Brendan the board accepted the roads as presented.

Appointment of Alternate Check Signer

- On a motion by Tim and second by Kevin the board appointed Darcy Edmonds as an alternate check signer in the Treasurer's Office.

Reappraisal Reserve Fund

- On a motion by Brendan and second by Dennis the Board authorize the transfer of \$88,210 from the Restricted Reappraisal Reserves to Unreserved fund Balance to cover the reappraisal costs for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

Zoning Update:

- Paul Berlegung, the Zoning Administrator presented an update on the housing registration, and zoning activity to date.

Housing Vermont Community Development Block Grant

- Patrick Shattock of Rural Edge addressed the board regarding a Community Development Block Grant for the New Avenue Project being completed by Housing Vermont.
- On a motion by Dennis and second by Brendan the board accepted the \$550,000 Community Development Block Grant.

DPW Equipment Purchase

- Steve Beauregard addressed the board to request authorization to purchase and repair a used F550. The department saved \$23,000 on previous equipment purchases and had received \$4500 from the sale of old unused equipment.
- On a motion by Dennis and second by Kevin the board approved the equipment purchase as presented.

WPL-221 Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund Amendment

- On a motion by Tim and second by Dennis the board approved the amendment for the amount of \$534,600.

Step III Engineering Services Agreement for Pleasant and Gilman Project

- On a motion by Tim and second by Brendan the board authorized the Town Manager to execute the ESA for the Pleasant and Gilman water project for the amount of \$239,100.
- On a motion by Dennis and second by Brendan the board authorized the Town Manager to execute the ESA for the Pleasant and Gilman wastewater project for the amount of \$467,180.

Delinquent Tax Sale Discussion

- Delinquent Tax Collector/Town Manager addressed the board to determine if there was support for a delinquent tax sale in light of the current COVID-19 pandemic, and the board agreed that the Town should proceed with a tax sale this year.

Manager's Report:

- The fiscal year has closed out and the Preliminary Audit work has been complete. The auditors will be at the Town Offices the first week of August.

- The Town Manager's Office is working with Catamount Arts and the St Johnsbury Chamber to explore opportunities for art and music events, outdoor market place and dining in compliance with state guidelines.
- The DPW director has secured \$20,000 in grant funds for the Underclyffe land slide project.

Other Business:

- Jim Brown indicated that the Planning Commission will be holding a NFIP hearing for changes in the floodplain zoning.

Executive Session:

- On a motion by Kevin and second by Dennis the board voted that there was a need for an executive session to discuss a contractual matter that premature general public knowledge would clearly place the public body at a substantial disadvantage.
- On a motion by Kevin and second by Dennis the board voted to enter executive session and invited the Town Manager to join them.
- On a motion by Dennis and second by Tim the board voted to exist executive session.
- The chair had nothing to report.
- On a motion by Dennis and second by Tim the board adjourned by unanimous decision.