



TOWN OF ST. JOHNSBURY

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Meeting of the St. Johnsbury Select Board August 24, 2020 at 6:00 PM-Pomerleau Building

Present-

Select Board: Tim Angell, Chair, Kevin Oddy, Brendan Hughes, Dennis Smith (via zoom)

Staff: Chad Whitehead, Stacy Jewell, Rachel Waterhouse, Joe Kasprzak (via zoom), Steve Beauregard (via zoom)

Press: KATV, Todd Wellington (via zoom)

Public: Nancy Cohen, Jim Brown

Agenda Amendments:

- none

Public Comment:

- Nancy Cohen addressed the board regarding concerns about Select Board meeting postings and the agenda being posted properly. The Town Manager confirmed that he posted the agenda on the website himself. Town Clerk confirmed that the agenda is posted at the Welcome Center, on the Town of St Johnsbury website and at the Anthony. Jim Brown confirmed that the notice of a meeting appeared in the Caledonian on Aug. 24th e-edition. Brendan clarified that the agenda was posted on the website but the meeting did not appear on the calendar on the website. Nancy Cohen's concern was noted.

Minutes:

- On a motion by Kevin and second by Brendan the minutes for 08/13/2020 were approved as presented.

Warrants:

- On a motion by Kevin and second by Brendan the warrants were deferred until later in the meeting.

Liquor Licenses:

- On a motion by Kevin and second by Dennis the 1st class and 3rd class liquor license for the St. Johnsbury Distillery were approved by a roll call. Kevin, Tim and Dennis were all in favor of the approval. Brendan abstained.

Equipment Reserve Funds- 2020-2021 Equipment purchase

- The Town Manager asked the board to move \$90,150 from the restricted reserve to the unrestricted reserve for the purchase of highway equipment.

- No public questions or comments.
- On a motion by motion by Dennis and second by Brendan to approve the transfer of \$90,150 from the restricted reserves to the highway unrestricted reserves specific to the equipment purchase of the F-550 and the Western Star. Unanimous vote to approve.

2020-2021 Municipal Tax Rate

- The Town Manager approached the board and asked them to reconsider looking at the tax rate later in the year as there was a meeting between the Town Clerk, Town Manager, Assessor and Finance Manager on August 25, 2020 to review and make adjustments to present to the board.
- A special Select Board meeting was scheduled for August 31, 2020 at 6 pm to set the tax rate.

NFIP Hearing Date

- After consulting with Jim Brown it was decided the hearing will take place on Sept. 14, 2020 at 5:30 pm.

DWSRF and CWSRF Construction Loan Applications:

- Previously the board approved to submit a loan application in the amount of \$8,466,810.00 for water and wastewater project on Gilman Ave. and Pleasant St.
- On a motion by Kevin and second by Dennis the board approved to separate the loan applications into two. One in the amount of 5,231,500 for the clean water project and the other in the amount of \$3,235,310 for drinking water project and to authorized the Town Manager to be the representative for both loans. This was approved by unanimous vote.

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

- The Town of St. Johnsbury received 1780 cloth masks through a state program. The Fire Department, Northeast Kingdom Human Services and the Town Manager are hosting a mask drive for the St. Johnsbury residences on Thursday August 27, 2020 from 11 am until 1 pm at the Leonard Ballfield.
- The Town Manager's Office has secured final details with Catamount Arts and the St. Johnsbury Chamber for art and music event, outdoor market place and dining in compliance with state guidelines. The events will run 9/12/2020 and 9/26/2020 from 1 pm to 4 pm on Railroad Street, at the Three Rivers Trail head and Welcome Center. A grant in the amount of \$5,000 has been secured from the Levitt Foundation to help with covering the cost of the performers.

Other Business

- Nancy Cohen wanted to express the huge contribution the Hughes family has made on downtown St. Johnsbury with the opening of the St. Johnsbury Distillery and how beautifully done it was.
- Stacy Jewell expressed that Larry Golden has been painting a mural on his building in St. J Center and what a huge improvement to the space. Nancy Cohen agreed it was a nice improvement.
- Tim reminded the public that there is an empty seat on the Select Board and that letters of interest can be sent to the Town Manager until 09/04/2020 to finish up Jeff Moore's term. He encouraged people to apply. The board will review all letters of interest with the plan of making an announcement at the Sept. 14th meeting.

On a motion be Brendan and second by Kevin the board adjourned by unanimous decision.