



TOWN OF ST. JOHNSBURY

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Meeting of the St. Johnsbury Select Board October 26, 2020 at 6:00 PM-Pomerleau Building Select Board Meeting

Present-

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

Staff: Chad Whitehead, Rachel Waterhouse (via zoom), Joe Kasprzak (via zoom), Stacy Jewell, Jon Bouffard (via zoom)

Press: Todd Wellington (via zoom), KATV

Public: Jim Brown; Don Smith (via Zoom)

Agenda Amendments:

- Kevin requested adding an executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss personnel issues.
- Motion by Kevin and second by Dennis to add an executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss personnel issues. All in favor.

Public Comments:

- Main Street Halloween decorations look fantastic. The Halloween Committee out did themselves this year given the circumstances. Looks great and wanted to thank them.

Minutes:

- On a motion by Dennis and second by Daniel the special select board meeting minutes from 10/13/2020 were approved as presented. All in favor.
- On a motion by Kevin and second by Dennis the select board meeting minutes from 10/13/2020 were approved as presented. All in favor.

Warrants:

- On a motion by Kevin and second by Dennis the warrants were approved as presented. All in favor. Brendan abstained.

Liquor Licenses:

- None

Grand List Adjustments:

- On a motion by Dennis and second by Kevin the board approved the grand list adjustments for 2020 #4 in the amount of \$670.55. All in favor.
- On a motion by Kevin and second by Dennis the board approved the grand list adjustments for 2020 #5 in the amount of \$527.22. All in favor.

Intent to Convey Real Estate:

- The Town Manager approached the board to request the board to consider selling the properties listed at 955 Portland Street and 17 Third Ave lot #30. The Town acquired these properties via deed 08/31/2020 as the result of tax sale. The public has 30 days to petition the intent to sell.
- On a motion by Dennis and seconded by Kevin to approve the intent to sell the properties listed as 955 Portland Street, St. Johnsbury, VT and 17 Third Ave. lot # 30, St. Johnsbury, VT. Unanimously all in favor.

Industrial Park Board Appointment:

- Since Jeff Moore resigned from the board a new appointment on the Industrial Park Board is needed.
- On a motion by Kevin and second by Daniel to appoint Brendan to the Industrial Park Board. All in favor. Brendan abstained.

USDA Moose River Loan Closing:

- Chad Whitehead, Town Manager approached the board to get the Select Board's approval to execute the USDA Moose River Loan in the amount of \$577,000 with a 1.25% interest rate.
- On a motion by Dennis and second by Daniel to authorize the Town Manager to execute the USDA Moose River Loan in the amount of \$577,000.

Portland Street Bridge:

- Chad Whitehead, Town Manager reported that construction on the Portland Street Bridge started 10/26/20. The repairs include replacing the expansion joints and repairing the sidewalk. Starting 10/27/20 the bridge will be closed to traffic. It is expected to open back up on Friday 10/30/20. A detour has been put into place and includes being rerouted to Concord Ave.
- No questions from the board.
- No questions from the public.

Manager's Report: Chad Whitehead, Town Manager provided a manager's report which included the following updates:

- 2021-2022 budgets are being developed.
- Bids for 98 Mill Street closed on 10/23/20. The highest bidder was in the amount of \$11,800. The taxes that are due on the property are valued at \$ 46,996. Town Manager and Select Board will need to meet to discuss.
- Tax Sale is scheduled to take place the last week in December.
- Provided an update on the Main Street Redevelopment Project.

- Stacy Jewell, Town Clerk provided an update on the Town Clerk's Office.
- Provided operational updated on the Fire Department, Dispatch, Police Department and Public Works.
- Resumed EOC meetings last week with the hospital, school and other entities. Monitoring the increase in COVID cases in the area.
- Tim questioned how long Myers will be generous with the bike path. Chad said currently there is no limit at this time but the need is still there to move forward with the path section across the CN Brown property.
- Tim questioned the Undercliff Erosion Project and if it would be completed this season. Chad explained that J Hutchins Inc. was notified immediately and it's intended to happen this season. Tim commented that he would like to see it completed this season.
- Dennis questioned water/sewer shut off during a pandemic. The town will be tagging shut offs for Tuesday. It was also explained that there has been grant funds available to private owners to assist them with payment.
- Dennis questioned the PT staffing issue with the Police Department. Chad explained that one full time officer will be deploying for one year in the spring.

Other Business:

- None

Executive Session:

- On a motion by Kevin and second by Daniel the board voted that there was a need for an executive session to discuss a contractual personnel issue that premature general public knowledge would place the public body and the Town at a substantial risk. All in favor.
- On a motion by Kevin and second by Dennis the board voted to enter executive session and invited the Town Manager and Town Clerk to join them. All in favor.
- On a motion by Tim and second by Brendan the board voted to exit executive session.
- The chair had nothing to report.

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