



TOWN OF ST. JOHNSBURY

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Select Board Meeting Minutes 51 Depot Square, St Johnsbury, VT June 8, 2020 6:00 PM

Present :

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

Staff: Chad Whitehead, Stacy Jewell, Joe Kasprzak, Lesley Russ, Tim Page, Steve Beauregard, Jon Bouffard

Press: Todd Wellington(via Zoom), KATV

Public: Cindy Stanton, Ron Steen, Brian LeBlanc, Janet Quatrini, Jim Brown, Stephanie Clark, Matthew Ghafoori, Jamie Murphy, James Brown, Tara Holt, Nancy and Elwood Cohen, Martha Staskus, Megan Bunnell, Trevor Bunnell, Lucille Oaks

Agenda Amendments: none

Public Comment: Kevin wanted to thank Maurine Webster for her work she has completed for the Town Clerk's office.

Minutes:

- On a motion by Dennis and second by Tim the minutes for 5/11/2020 were approved
- On a motion by Dennis and second by Kevin the minutes for 5/26/2020 were approved.

Warrants:

- Accounts Payable check warrant dates 05/22/2020 to 05/26/2020 in the amount of \$190,792.52 was approved on a motion by Kevin and second by Dennis
- Accounts Payable check warrant dates 05/29/2020 to 06/01/2020 in the amount of \$204,502.99 was approved on a motion by Dennis and second by Kevin
- Accounts Payable check warrant dates 06/05/2020 to 06/08/2020 in the amount of \$48,484.30 was approved on a motion by Kevin and second by Dennis
- Payroll for Week Ending 05/22/2020 in the amount of \$34,902.11 was approved on a motion by Dennis and second by Kevin
- Payroll for Week Ending 05/29/2020 in the amount of \$40,106.52 was approved on a motion by Kevin and second by Dennis.
- Payroll for Week Ending 06/05/2020 in the amount of \$37,796.04 was approved on a motion by Dennis and second by Kevin
- Payroll for Week Ending 06/12/2020 in the amount of \$38,840.97 was approved on a motion by Kevin and second by Dennis.

Liquor License:

- On a motion by Dennis and second by Kevin the board approved the Class 1 liquor license for St J Brewery and Outdoor consumption for Caledonia Brewing Kingdom Taproom and Table. Brendan abstained.

Delinquent Dogs

- List of delinquent dogs was provided to the Select Board by the Town Clerk.

May Finance Update

- The May finance update was provided by Finance Officer Lesley Russ.

Water/Wastewater Budget:

- The draft water/wastewater budget was reviewed by Chad Whitehead.
- On a motion by Tim and second by Dennis the board approved the Water and Wastewater budgets with no increases in water or wastewater rates as presented by the Town Manager.

Main Street Revitalization Project:

- The Main Street Revitalization Project plans were reviewed by Joe Kasprzak and Stephanie Clark of White and Burke including plans to redevelop 1187 Main Street, the Armory and the Fire site on Main Street.

Tax Stabilization Agreement- 623 Concord Avenue:

- Tax stabilization agreement was reviewed by Joe Kasprzak for redevelopment of 623 Concord Avenue.
- Tax Stabilization determined this property is a priority from a vacant and blighted point of view and warrants support from the Town. Properties like this should be incentivized to invest in renovation of these properties.
- On a motion by Tim and second by Dennis the board approved the 10 year tax stabilization as presented and recommended by the Tax Stabilization Committee for 623 Concord Avenue.

Norwich Solar Hospital Hill Preferred Site Status Request

- Martha Staskus of Norwich Solar presented to the board draft plans for two solar projects located at 710 Old Center Road 730 Lapierre Road.
- Planning Commission has provided approval.
- On a motion by Tim Angell and second by Brendan the board approved providing preferred site status to the Lapierre Road solar project.
- On a motion by Tim and second by Dennis the board approved providing preferred site status to the Old Center Road solar project.

Water and Wastewater Interest Policy

- On a motion by Dennis and second by Brendan the board approve continuing the deferral of interest for May and June of 2020.

Manager's Report:

- Brink building state permit has been approved and the building is anticipated to be torn down within the next few weeks
- Mowing of the Grove Cemetery will not be mowed by probation and parole as they are not working. DPW will backfill the work.

- Town can meet in person, but recommendations are that remote meeting availability remain in effect.
- Would like to recognize Lt Bickford and Mrs. Turbaugh for their efforts to resolve the situation at the demonstration near the police station.

Other Business:

- none.

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, Jamie Murphy, Jon Bouffard and Joseph Mc Neal to join them.
- On a motion by Tim and second by Brendan the board voted to exited executive session.
- The chair had nothing to report.
- On a motion by Dennis and second by Kevin the board adjourned by unanimous decision.