



TOWN OF ST. JOHNSBURY

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Special Meeting of the St. Johnsbury Select Board March 25th, 2024 @ 6:00 pm

Present-

Select Board: Steve Isham, Frank Empsall, Tracy Zschua, Dennis Smith

Staff: Chad Whitehead, Rachel Waterhouse, Joe Kasprzak, Stacy Jewell, Brad Reed, Kresten Sterling (via zoom)

Public: KATV, Jim Brown, Cal Rec. (via zoom), Karen Geraghty (via zoom), Gillian Sewake (via zoom), Don Smith (via zoom), Evan Olsen (via zoom)

VCDP CBDG Caledonia Food Cooperative Grant Public Hearing:

- Joe Kasprzak, Assistant Town Manager presented the Caledonia Food Cooperative Grant Application. He asked the Select Board to consider the application for the VCDP CBDG Grant by the Town for the Caledonia Food Cooperative. He explained that the Public Hearing notice was posted on March 7th and has completed the 15 day warning period. Joe read the resolution. If the Select Board agreed Joe would be the contact person and Chad would be designated as the authorizing person for the grant. He highlighted that the project agrees with the Town's current Municipal Plan and the Regional Plan with approval from NVDA. The Town would be a pass through for these grant funds. Meaning that the Town will receive the funds and pass them along to the Caledonia Food Cooperative.
- Karen Geraghty, Project Manager for the Caledonia Food Cooperative project provide a brief update regarding the Coop. He mentioned that phase 2 has been completed and the Coop has raised enough funds to purchase 502 Railroad Street. The closing is scheduled for April 10th. After that the project will move into phase 3 which will consist of construction and retrofit. She explained that the Coop plans to apply for a number of Grants and the CBDG is just one of them and would assist with the costs of phase 3. She mentioned that the timeline for completion is 15 to 18 months with an opening date of Fall 2025.
- Joe mentioned that the Coop's business plan is available on the Town website.

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