

TOWN OF ST. JOHNSBURY

51 Depot Square, Suite 1 St Johnsbury, VT 05819 802-748-4331 www.stjvt.com

Meeting of the St. Johnsbury Select Board April 22nd, 2024 @ 6:00 pm

Present-

Select Board: Steve Isham, Frank Empsall, Brendan Hughes, Tracy Zschau

Staff: Chad Whitehead, Rachel Waterhouse, Joe Kasprzak

Public: Gillian Sewake (via zoom), Don Smith (via zoom), KATV, Todd Wellington, Jim Brown

Agenda Amendments:

None

Public Comment:

None

Warrants:

On a motion by Brendan and second by Frank to approve the warrants as presented. All in favor.

Minutes:

• On a motion by Frank and second by Brendan to approve the minutes from the April 10th Select Board meeting. All in favor.

Liquor/Tobacco License:

- Steven Isham presented the following liquor and tobacco licenses and renewals:
 - 98 Mill Street, LLC.- Outside Consumption
 - 98 Mill Street, LLC.- 3rd class
 - 98 Mill Street, LLC- 1st class
 - American Legion Post #58- 1st class
 - Eastern Ave. Flowers LLC.- 2nd class
 - Elks Lodge #1343- 1st class
 - Elks Lodge #1343- 3rd class
 - Elks Lodge #1343- Outside Consumption
 - St. Johnsbury Country Store- 2nd class
 - St. Johnsbury Distillery- 3rd class
 - St. Johnsbury Distillery- 1st class

- St. Johnsbury Distillery- Outside Consumption
- Whirligig Holdings, LLC.- 1st class
- Whirligig Holdings, LLC.- Outside Consumption
- On a motion by Frank and second by Tracy to approve the liquor licenses as presented. All in favor. Brendan abstained.
- No tobacco licenses were presented.

STJRF Grant Agreement- NFC 560 Railroad Street Project:

- Chad Whitehead, Town Manager explained that Evan Olseon from the Northern Forest Center was unable to attend the Select Board meeting and asked that the Grant Agreement be tabled until the first May meeting.
- On a motion by Brendan and second by Frank to table the STJRF Grant Agreement- NFC 560 Railroad Street Project until the first Select Board meeting in May.

Town Manager's Report:

- Chad Whitehead, Town Manager provided the following Town Manager's Report.
- Geo Thermal Energy Workshop held last Monday was very successful.
- Joe Kasprzak, Assistant Town Manager mentioned that the participation and energy of the workshop was great. He explained that there is will likely be a second workshop in the future.
- Steve Isham, Select Board Chair mentioned that the workshop was very informational and that he would like to see more of the data.
- Congressionally Direct Spending Requests have been submitted to Senator Welch and Leahy's offices.
- Water and Sewer Budget Presentation will be held at the first Select Board meeting in May.
- The full time position in DPW has been filled.
- Recruitment continues for summer help in DPW.
- Tracy mentioned that her son loved working for the Town the summer he did.
- Chief Pierce and Rachel continue recruitment for the Police Department and will be attending a Job Fair in the beginning of May.
- Green Up Day is scheduled for May 4th. The Energy Committee is spear heading the event.
- National Drug Take Back Day is April 27th from 10 am until 2 pm at the Police Department.
- Bike Fair is scheduled for May 4th.
- Knob Property Committee is hosting a meeting on Wednesday April 24th at5:30 pm and is looking for public input on the Knob.
- Tax Sale is scheduled for the end of June.
- Yard and Leaf Clean Up Day is scheduled for May 18th from 8 am until noon on Oak Street.
- Steve Isham mentioned that Green Up Day in VT is hoping to set a world record. Petitions have been going around asking people to pledge that they will spend at least 5 minutes cleaning up on Green Up day. He mentioned that 2 boxes of green up bags were handed out at Maple Fest.

Other Business:

• Jim Brown mentioned that the Planning Commission at their April 16th meeting looked at finishing the bylaw modernization shortly and hopes to hold a public hearing around August.

Executive Session:

- On a motion by Frank and second by Brendan that there was a need for executive session to discuss a contractual matter where public knowledge could place the Town at substantial risk.
- On a motion by Frank and second by Brendan to enter into executive session and invite the Town Manager and Assistant Town Manager. All in favor.
- On a motion by Frank and second by Brendan to exit executive session. All in favor.
- The Chair had nothing to report.

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