



TOWN OF ST. JOHNSBURY

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www.stjvt.com

Meeting of the St. Johnsbury Select Board December 14th, 2024 @ 2:00 pm

Present-

Select Board: Steve Isham, Frank Empsall, Tracy Zschau (via zoom), Dennis Smith, Brendan Hughes (via zoom)

Staff: Chad Whitehead, Rachel Waterhouse (via zoom), Jim Brimblecombe (via zoom), Joe Kasprzak (via zoom), Stacy Jewell (via zoom), Chief Joel Pierce

Public: Dana Gray, Megan's I-phone (via zoom), Scott Campbell (via zoom), Brittany (via zoom), Jim Nolan (via zoom), WCAX (via zoom), Chris Mercon (via zoom), Lauren Jarvi (via zoom), Elizabeth (via zoom), Shannon Harvey (via zoom), Amy Petersen (via zoom), Michael Wright (via zoom), A. Starr (via zoom), Catheg (via zoom), Kelsey (via zoom), CG (via zoom), Elijah (via zoom), Evan Colman (via zoom), dythr (via zoom), Colton LeBoeuf (via zoom), Annika McCann (via zoom), S. Farina (via zoom),

Incident Update:

- Steve Isham began the meeting by thanking everyone who responded and has assisted St. Johnsbury since this incident took place on Friday afternoon, including Caledonia County Sheriff's Department, St. Johnsbury Police, Bradford Police, Essex County Sheriffs Department, and Lyndonville Police.
- Chad Whitehead, Town Manager explained that this emergency Select Board meeting was called to address the concerns regarding the incident that took place in Town last night. He mentioned that Captain Jason Gray, sustained severe injuries as the result of being shot in the line of duty and is currently at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center receiving treatment. His recovery sounds promising. The Police Department and Dispatch, as well as the first responders, are being supported as they deal with this traumatic event. He explained that the manhunt for the suspect continues at this time.
- Steve Isham mentioned that the investigation is being led by the Vermont State Police and asked the public to rely on their press releases for accurate information.
- Chad Whitehead Town Manager and Chief Joel Pierce asked the Select Board to consider offering a \$25,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of the individual responsible for this horrific crime.
- On a motion by Dennis and second by Frank to offer a reward in the amount of \$25,000 for information leading to the arrest of the individual responsible for shooting Police Captain Gray. All in favor.
- Chad explained that Chief Joel Pierce continues to work with other agencies to ensure police presence and patrol in St. Johnsbury while the St. Johnsbury Police Officers recover.
- Major Petersen from the Vermont State Police explained that they continue to lead the investigation and provide accurate information to the public through press releases. He urged the

public to maintain vigilance and personal safety measures, and assured the community that the investigation was ongoing with full resources available.

- Steve Isham emphasized the Town's commitment to supporting the police department and the community, and the availability of resources to help with the trauma of the situation.
- Frank thanked the New Hampshire State Police for sending a chopper. He said he was glad to see that type of response.

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

December 14th Select Board Meeting Video:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/Dz4l0gomX6ASBKVavcmLTwV7pGggcytgb4uZIMY3cDOWSAgBT-iK3r0nQJTFCEs.3Eu06rxYxDH_t9gi

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