



TOWN OF ST. JOHNSBURY

51 Depot Square, Suite 1

St Johnsbury, VT 05819

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www.stjvt.com

Meeting of the St. Johnsbury Select Board November 12th, 2024 @ 6:00 pm

Present-

Select Board: Steve Isham, Frank Empsall, Tracy Zschau

Staff: Chad Whitehead, Joe Kasprzak, Brad Reed

Public: KATV, Gillian Sewake, Matt Krajeski, Richard Boisseau, Jim Brown, Dana Gray

Agenda Amendments:

- None

Public Comment:

- None

Minutes:

- On a motion by Frank and second by Tracy to approve the minutes from Oct. 28th with the noted corrections. All in favor.

Warrants:

- On a motion by Frank and second by Tracy to table the warrants. All in favor.

Liquor and Tobacco Licenses:

- None

Grand List Adjustments:

- None

Error and Omissions Request 2024:

- Matt Krajeski, Assessor addressed the board to review the error and omission request for 2024. Matt explained that the request is regarding a parcel of land on Breezy Hill Road. The current assessment was

for 87,300 acres but a survey from 2018 showed that the parcel was smaller than was initially thought. Matt requested that the grand list value for 2024 be adjusted to \$84,900.

- On a motion by Tracy and second by Frank the board approved the request.
- Matt will work with Stacy to finalize the change of appraisal notice and revise the tax bill.

St. Johnsbury Energy Committee Appointment:

- Chad explained that Robert Michael is interested in joining the St. Johnsbury Energy Committee. Chad highlighted that Robert has a background in aerospace and computer engineering. He has been attending St. Johnsbury Energy Committee meetings for some time. The St. Johnsbury Energy Committee is excited to have Robert join the Committee pending Select Board approval. Chad requested that the Select Board appoint Robert Michael to the Energy Committee for the remainder of the year.
- On a motion by Frank and second by Tracy the board appointed Robert Michael to the Energy Committee for the remainder of the year. All in favor.

Validation Resolution:

- The Board was presented with a resolution to validate a previous vote on the fire truck bond purchase, correcting a typo in the original article.
- Validation Resolution Adoption- On a motion by Tracy and second by Frank the board approved the following Validation Resolution:
VALIDATION RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2641 and 24 V.S.A. § 1756, notice of the November 5, 2024, special meeting of the Town of St. Johnsbury was given in part by posting the Warning thereof in five public places from September 30, 2024, through November 5, 2024, and by publishing said Warning in the Caledonian Record on October 15, 2024, October 22, 2024, and October 29, 2024; and

WHEREAS, as provided in 24 V.S.A. § 1758(a), the article submitted to the voters shall include the following language in substantially the form of: "Shall general obligation bonds or notes in an amount not to exceed One Million Six Hundred and Fifty Four Thousand Dollars (\$1,654,000), subject to reduction by the application of federal and state grants-in-aid, and reserve funds be issued for the purpose of acquiring two fire trucks, the estimated cost of such equipment being One Million Six Hundred and Fifty Four Thousand Dollars (\$1,654,000)?;" and

WHEREAS, the article presented to the voters on November 5, 2024, included a typo by excluding the words "be issued;"

WHEREAS, the requisites of the statute relating to the wording of the Article of business relating to the proposition of incurring bonded indebtedness not having been complied with because of oversight, inadvertence or mistake of law or fact, the Selectboard desire to avail themselves of the validation provisions of 17 V.S.A. § 2662 and 24 V.S.A. § 1757; and

WHEREAS, at the November 5, 2024, Town meeting the proposition of incurring bonded indebtedness for the purpose of acquiring fire trucks was approved, those voting in Favor being 2048 and those voting Opposed being 991; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Selectboard hereby finds that, notwithstanding the failure to comply with all of the statutory requirements, the required length of notice of said special Town meeting has been had; accordingly,

BE IT RESOLVED that, to the fullest extent permitted by law, the Selectboard hereby ratify, confirm and validate all action taken by the Town at the special meeting thereof held on November 5, 2024.

Town Manager's Report:

- Chad Whitehead, Town Manager provided the following report.
- Exploratory meetings with FEMA for the July Flooding events have been initiated.
- Road update included that following the July 31st event, 75 roads were significantly impacted and several were not passable. Currently 28 roads still require work , but all roads are passable and most remaining work is minor.
- DPW continues to work on road repairs before winter.
- The Public Safety Task Force continues to meet every 2 weeks. They have been focusing on public safety and working with the State Public Safety Enhancement Team.
- The Fire Department is searching for grant opportunities to help offset the costs of the new fire truck apparatus and equipment purchases.
- Town Managers Office continues to work on developing the FY25/26 budget with department heads.

Other Business:

- None

Executive Session:

- None

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

November 12th Select Board Meeting Video:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/LqgRWxLlZqGbcEkd_br7jmsYHEy-S4xxMY9DLkK0whg6DeNGidILMo2yh7txOFcg.qaEIMsuAcfwUMdYS

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