



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 September 28th, 2026 @ 6:00pm

Present-

Select Board: Frank Empsall, Ellen Burt, Dennis Smith, Steve Isham, Brendan Hughes

Staff: Chad Whitehead, Joe Kasprzak, Stacy Jewell (via zoom), Kate Bent (via zoom), Chief Reed, Jack Thomas

Public: KATV, Steve Dolgin (via zoom), Jim Brown, Dana Gray (via zoom), Issiah Wilson, Chase Empsall, Mike O'Hara, Rep Deb Dolgin, Tony Wolusky, Joe Kasprak, Richard B., Paul Conlon

Agenda Amendments:

- None

Public Comment:

- Resident Erin and Steve spoke about the crosswalk from Boynton Ave to Main Street. John's son was hit about 5 years ago while using it. Residents expressed how it is dangerous concerning speeding, and there being a lack stop signage at either end of roadways. Erin and Steve will email Chad the proposals and photos and Chad will follow up with the selectboard.
- Resident Mike O'Hara asked the selectboard if they have reviewed the 2026, 2027, and 2028 NVDA plan. Selectboard said no. Chad stated he did and it will continue being reviewed.
- Resident Paul asked about the 2nd floor being vacant. Chad stated there are a few tenants currently but still available. Paul expressed the Police Department moving to the second floor.
- Director Steve of DPW gave a brief update on timelines.
- Tim Angell asked Chad if the Police Chief position will be put to the public for public input. Chad said that is not usually how the process goes, and currently the process is confidential. Chad said he will take it into consideration and will get back to him.
- Chad shared there are 4 applications, and the first phase of interviewing has been completed.

Minutes:

- On a motion by Dennis and second by Brendan to approve the special meeting minutes from September 14th. All in favor.

- On a motion by Dennis and second by Brendan to approve the regular meeting minutes from September 14th with the noted correction. All in favor.

Warrants:

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

Liquor Licenses/ Tobacco Licenses:

- None

Grand List Adjustments:

- On a motion by Dennis and second by Brendan to accept the Grand List Adjustment 2026 number 1-5 as presented. All in favor.

Public Safety Facilities Committee Update:

- Chief Reed gives an overview of a PowerPoint presentation.
- Chief Reed said they are in the middle of getting some cost estimates, off-site replacements possibly.
- Received one quote for contractors, but still looking into more.
- Waiting on report from Larry of the basement stabilization.
- Still currently waiting on the lobby floor to be replaced.
- Ellen asked if the Firefighters would want to stay at the 1187 building if the Police Department moved out, Chief Reed expressed the space is an issue, but it is a great location spot.

Town Manager's Report:

- Chad shared that the zoning position has been filled by Jack Thomas.
- Chad shared the Police Department are still in need of dispatchers.
- RFC request for R.K miles remains open.
- Chad reviewed the Public Safety Group and how they are still continuing to meet.
- Call volume have went from 131-170 to only 99 in the last two weeks.
- Chris Deenhy and the Fire Department have been meeting individuals in the park about current needs.
- Chad expressed behaviors seem to be getting better.
- St. Johnsbury Academy students painting below the bridge.

Other Business:

- None.

Executive Session:

- On a motion by Dennis and second by Brendan to adjourn. All in favor.

September 28th Select Board Meeting Video:

https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A_us02web.zoom.us_rec_share_ulUiUPaK4-5F8NCZfmEFj0lcRI8tXr4odcsQpfMJu9mrootmAWngRHkSf5TGEkCsw6.1rQagJ-2DKk6uCldci&d=DwMFAw&c=euGZstcaTDllvimEN8b7jXrwqOf-

