

**Town of St. Albans  
Selectboard Meeting Minutes  
Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
6:30 p.m.**

On Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 6:30 p.m., at Town Hall the Town of St. Albans Selectboard met.

**Officials and staff present:** Chair, Bruce Cheeseman, Vice Chair, Sam Smith, Bill Nihan, Al Voegele, Town Manager, Carrie Johnson, Director of Public Works, Alan Mashtare and Recording Secretary, Jenn Gray. Absent was Brendan Deso.

**Public:** Peter Blouin, Dawn and Greg Hale, Stan Dukas and St. Albans Messenger Reporter Elaine Ezerins.

Chair, B. Cheeseman called the meeting to order at 6:34pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION: A. Voegele made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.**

**General Warrant**

**MOTION: B. Nihan made a motion to approve the general warrant dated October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017, in the amount of \$50,952.12. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.**

**Payroll Warrants**

**MOTION: A. Voegele made a motion to approve the payroll warrants dated October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017 in the amount of \$15,851.39 and October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017 in the amount of \$15,273.29. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.**

**Industrial Park Warrant**

**MOTION: S. Smith made a motion to approve the Industrial Park warrant in the amount of \$612.57. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.**

**Minutes**

**MOTION: A. Voegele made a motion to approve the Selectboard meeting minutes for Monday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.**

**Northwest State Correctional Facility Update**

Superintendent Greg Hale came before the Board to provide an update. Currently, the correctional facility is in the middle of a \$1 million renovation of windows, roof and concrete. He stated that the maximum capacity at the facility is 247 maximum but, they don't usually max out to that, preferring to leave some wiggle room within the facility.

B. Cheeseman explained that one of our Town residents had a question about the sex offender program. Mr. Hale explained it's been back at Northwest for 2 years but, previously it was there for 20 years. That changed when the population switched from men to women. When the population switched back to all men, the sex offender program was reinstated. Currently there are 51 sex offenders from all over the state. They are in the program for 6 months then released back to their home facility. 25% of those sex offenders are from Franklin/Grand Isle. If an inmate doesn't complete the program, they must stay in prison until their release date.

A. Voegele pointed out that there are services the correctional facility offers to the community. Mr. Hale stated that it's very important for the facility to continue being a good community neighbor.

**Stone House Revitalization Account**

At a previous Selectboard meeting, the amount of the donation was stated at \$125,000 plus interest. It should have been \$130,000.

**MOTION: A. Voegele made a motion to add the \$5,000 for a total of \$130,000 plus interest to be moved to the Stone House Revitalization Account. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.**

S. Smith asked about the financing mechanism, how people can donate to the revitalization account. C. Johnson stated she will do some research an on process. Maybe get in touch with hospitals to see how they handle donations.

### **Town Manger's Report VLCT Delegate Designation Form**

C. Johnson did attend Town Fair and asked that this form be signed after the fact.

**MOTION: A. Voegele made a motion to authorize Bruce Cheeseman to sign the delegate designation form for VLCT appointing Carrie Johnson a voting delegate. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.**

### **"St. Albans Town" Lobby Sign**

C. Johnson explained that we would like to put a "lobby" sign behind the Board on the wall that reads, "St. Albans Town". The Board agreed and chose the design with the shadow. Cost is about \$1,100.

S. Smith asked what happened to the black board that used to hang on the wall behind the Board. Alan Mashtare stated it was moved to the basement. S. Smith suggested a replacement caulk board or a white board for future use may be helpful.

### **Bay Dock – Pier Update**

C. Johnson has received a revised scope of work from Knight's Engineering and will move that review forward this week.

### **SASH Multi-Use Path & Crosswalk**

This was formerly called Grice Brook Homeowners Association Research Status. C. Johnson is still looking for funding support. Path is similar to what the Town proposed in 2015 but, this revised path would go from Collins Perley north to the SASH, towards Grice Brook, cross the SASH, then to SATEC, and north along the Grice Brook road to connect with the City.

S. Smith asked if there was any plan for a path to go from Collins Perley to Hard 'Ack. C. Johnson explained that it is mentioned in the Sidewalk Master Plan. B. Nihan again stated his opinion about how dangerous it would be to put a crosswalk access on the SASH with the speed of vehicles.

### **Meeting with Rise VT and NMC**

B. Cheeseman and C. Johnson met with Rise VT and Northwestern Medical Center to explain to them what the Town wants to do with the multi-use path.

### **Sidewalk Master Plan & Policy**

The Board was provided copies of the Sidewalk Master Plan, Sidewalk Policy and maps. Director of Administration, Ned Connell will be coming to meet with the Selectboard on November 6<sup>th</sup> to answer any questions from the Board. B. Nihan would like to make sure that the maintenance of sidewalks is explained in the policy.

### **Public Comment**

#### **City/Town Fire Department Consolidation**

Stan Dukas came before the Board to discuss the fire consolidation. He explained he'd previously had been on the Police Advisory Committee. Because the police department was doing well, the committee ran out of items to work on. They then decided to focus on fire services for the Town and mutual aid. After giving history on meetings with the City of St. Albans and their fire department, he stated that the Town needs to make sure that it fully understands what they will be doing before we go to the voters or make changes.

#### **Fire Unification**

B. Cheeseman explained that he attended a meeting today with Fire Chief Bob Cross, A. Voegele and C. Johnson. He stated that there are no changes whatsoever. Both municipalities will continue to support their communities and mutual aid. The Automatic Mutual Aid Response Letter of Intent that was signed by C. Johnson and Fire Chief Bob Cross has been forwarded to City Manager, Dominic Cloud. His signature allows us to move forward. If Dominic says no, it dies. If he agrees to it, we hold a public meeting.

S. Dukas stated he doesn't want the Town to pay for the whole costs of hiring a CPA to research both the City and Town's assets and financials for both fire departments.

B. Nihan asked his fellow board members what the objective is for the Town to offer fire services to the City or to merge. A. Voegele explained the majority of both departments want to work together. B. Nihan stated that it does make sense to have some kind of merged department but, to do it; we need to do it in a thorough business manner.

#### **Schedule**

The next regular Selectboard meetings are Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. and Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Special meetings are November 13<sup>th</sup> and December 5<sup>th</sup>. December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

#### **Other Business**

Peter Blouin notified the Board that after the paving was completed on Lake Road and Lake Street, street and road signs were installed incorrectly. C. Johnson will talk to VTrans about the error as this is Vermont Route 36 and they had installed the signage.

#### **Executive Session**

None.

#### **Adjournment**

**MOTION: S. Smith made a motion to adjourn the Selectboard meeting at 7:30 p.m. All in favor, none opposed, motion carries.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Jenn Gray, Recording Secretary