

**Town of St. Albans
Selectboard Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 5th, 2017
6:30 p.m.**

On Monday, June 5th, 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, Brendan Deso, Bill Nihan, Al Voegele, Town Manager, Carrie Johnson, and Recording Secretary, Jenn Gray.

Chair, B. Cheeseman called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Public: Peter Blouin, Dave Hardy, Luke Willey of Ruggiano Engineering, Police Chief, Gary Taylor and Mary Pickener.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

MOTION: B. Cheeseman made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Capital Equipment Warrant

MOTION: S. Smith made a motion to approve the Capital Equipment warrant in the amount of \$16,520. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Payroll Warrants

MOTION: B. Deso made a motion to approve the payroll warrants dated, May 26th in the amount of \$24,604.28, June 2nd in the amount of \$16,419.62 and May 19th, 2017 in the amount of \$15,687.68. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

General Warrant

MOTION: B. Nihan made a motion to approve the general warrant dated June 5th, 2017, in the amount of \$243,353.63. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Police services contract and insurance related items contributed to the large warrant.

Minutes

MOTION: A. Voegele made a motion to approve the Selectboard meeting minutes for Monday, May 15th, 2017 and the 'special' meeting minutes dated Monday, May 22nd, 2017. Motion carried with a 4-0 vote with B. Cheeseman abstaining as he did not attend the May 22nd meeting.

Police Chief Gary Taylor

Chief Taylor came before the Board to give an update. Enforcement has been stepped up with the recent paving projects completion. They pulled over a person doing 74 mph in front of the Fire Department on Lake Road on Saturday night. Drug enforcement has been increased. There was a vehicle that drove through a window at Jolley on Fairfax Road; the vehicle contained 5 ounces of crack cocaine. They also handled a bomb threat at the State office building in May.

A. Voegele asked Chief Taylor whether the confederate flag he has seen in the community is an indication of extreme groups in the area. Chief Taylor stated it's more of someone being rebellious, trying to make a statement.

B. Deso asked Chief Taylor that with all the new paving, are there more stops on Lower Newton Road for speeding as well as Lake Road. Chief Taylor stated that was the case.

B. Nihan asked Chief Taylor what kind of work is being done regarding cell phone violations while driving. Chief Taylor explained that on Congress Street a week and a half ago, 52 violations were observed in one area and of those, about a dozen were cell phone violations.

Chief Taylor explained that 2 officers were sent to Burton Island during Memorial Day weekend. They spent about 4 hours on the island. Officers will be dispatched there at

different times which include the 4th of July weekend and Labor Day weekend. They also will go to the island if called.

B. Cheeseman asked Chief Taylor to explain the coverage for the 4th of July weekend, Bay Day and the Great Race. There will be a Captain and a Lieutenant. The Lieutenant is in charge of Bay Day. They have met with Director of Public Works, Alan Mashtare.

Mary Pickener asked Chief Taylor when people are warned or ticketed how often do they re-offend; Chief Taylor stated that it's about 50% of people.

Peter Blouin asked Chief Taylor if his officers are asking for birth certificates or Social Security cards. Chief Taylor explained the police department is not in the immigration business and that they do not go out looking for illegal immigrants.

B. Deso stated that with the Infrastructure Study Committee starting to review the needs of the Town and the renovations to the Bath House at the Bay Park, he asked Chief Taylor about offering surveillance resource recommendations. Chief Taylor said he was more than willing to provide recommendations.

Collins Perley Sports Center – Mary Pickener

Mary Pickener is the Town's representation on the Collins Perley Sports Center Board and provided an update for the Board. The whole surface of the track is being replaced. Another bay was added to the garage in the back of the building. The Booster Club is still trying to figure out their financing for their new building. There is still talk about a field house but, no immediate plans to ask the new School Board. A brew fest was suggested, however, the Board said no, that it wasn't the kind of message they wanted to send to the community. Sun Common approached them about doing a solar canopy, covering half of the parking lot in the front, looks like a carport. Collins Perley would get a break on their electricity with a savings of \$100,000 over a number of years. They purchased a side-by-side with attachments enabling them to do their own plowing. The building's paging system has been upgraded.

Town Manger's Report

Bay Dock & Route 36 Report

Luke Wiley from Ruggiano Engineering came before the Board to explain the Bay Dock and Route 36 Report. They took an elevated view of the whole area and reviewed information that was gathered in the past. They looked at the proposed marina, pier (dock) elevation, the intersection improvements as well as additional parking and conceptual cost estimates were provided.

Phone call: Henry Demar called to explain what he recalled what the dock was constructed with when it was upgraded 20+ years ago.

There was much discussion on dock construction and the creation of additional parking. The Board provided a sketch to Mr. Wiley to review regarding parking near the dock.

VT Dept. of Tourism Campaign

The Vermont Department of Tourism is doing an advertising campaign asking towns to submit pictures of their community. C. Johnson asked residents if they have any pictures of the Town of St. Albans to submit them to her office.

Parcel Mapping Project Grant

The Town is in the initial group to receive the update to our parcel mapping through a state grant.

Bridge Inspection Reports

These reports are conducted every other year and we now need to locate them online. Next inspection is September, 2017.

Master Gardener Group

C. Johnson thanked the Master Gardener group who has been doing the planting of flowers for the Town this year; Judy Zsoldos, Penny Gutierrez, Heidi Crossman and Marsha and Taylor Yates.

Public Comment

None.

Other Business

B. Cheeseman explained he had received inquiries about the Town merging with the City. He stated that there have been no talks with the City regarding a municipal merger; nothing in the works and that this was a false rumor.

B. Cheeseman explained that we are going to post the sidewalk study eventually but, it had gone back to the Planning Commission and some minor changes were made. The sidewalk ordinance will go before the Planning Commission at their meeting on June 13th.

A. Voegelé asked permission from the Board to draft a letter to the Governor thanking him for staying with the Paris Climate Agreement that President Trump has pulled the US out of. The Board suggested A. Voegelé do it as a private citizen as the request didn't receive support.

Schedule

The next regular Selectboard meetings are Monday, June 19th and Monday, July 10th. Bay Day is Saturday, July 1st.

Executive Session

MOTION: B. Deso made a motion to go into executive session at 8:34 p.m. to discuss legal, contractual or personnel issues where premature general public knowledge of the subject matter would place the Town (or person involved) at a substantial disadvantage. It was further moved to enter into executive session to discuss legal, personnel and contractual issues under the provisions of Title 1, section 313(a)(1) of Vermont Statutes and to invite in Town Manager, Carrie Johnson. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

MOTION: B. Deso made a motion to come out of executive session at 9:30 p.m. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Adjournment

MOTION: B. Nihan made a motion to adjourn the Selectboard meeting at 9:31 p.m. All in favor, none opposed, motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,
Jenn Gray, Recording Secretary