

**Town of St. Albans
Selectboard Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 12th, 2018
6:00 p.m.**

On Thursday, April 12th, 2018 at 6:00 p.m., at Town Hall the Town of St. Albans Selectboard met. B. Nihan opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Officials and staff present: Chair, Bill Nihan, Vice Chair, Bruce Cheeseman, Brendan Deso, Stan Dukas, Al Voegele, Town Manager, Carrie Johnson, Alan Mashtare, and Recording Secretary, AJ Johnson.

Public: none present.

The Pledge of Allegiance.

**Planning Work Session
Capital Improvement Projects**

The Selectmen reviewed a worksheet where each of them prioritized potential Capital Improvement Projects. There was discussion.

The first and second agreed upon priorities are the Department of Public Works and Town Hall buildings/potential relocations. C. Johnson stated a steering committee is about a week away from providing their suggestions to the Selectboard. B. Cheeseman suggested further investigation may be needed on a parcel currently owned by Mr. Charbonneau. C. Johnson stated the steering committee reviewed roughly 25 potential sites for a future Municipal site. A. Voegele reminded the Board that multiple buildings could be developed as part of a municipal complex; a parcel with more acreage could be appealing.

The third agreed upon priority is Phase I of the proposed St. Albans Heath Path. C. Johnson stated the Town may apply for a grant of up to half a million dollars. The proposed path is getting good support from NMC and NRPC.

The fourth priority is Stormwater funding (a variety of MS4 projects). B. Nihan stated MS4 funding will have a life of its own and be discussed in the near future.

The final priority is the Stonehouse at the Bay Park. B. Cheeseman stated the seawall at the Bay Park should be finished before beginning another project. S. Dukas wondered what the goal was with the Stonehouse. A. Voegele stated an engineer had reviewed the building and found deficiencies. At the very least, the building will require new windows and doors to become "weather tight". Eventually, the building could see many upgrades, which is challenging as the Stonehouse is a historic building. DPW Director Alan Mashtare joined the meeting at 6:30 and gave a brief update on the various needs of the building. A. Voegele stated the Stonehouse could be a great community space if updated properly. B. Nihan suggested the Board discuss the Stonehouse at a later date as there are many moving pieces.

B. Nihan suggested the Board focus on getting the first two projects moving and concentrate on the other projects as funding becomes available.

Pending Items

The Board requested a review of all pending items.

The first item is an Emergency Plan / Procedure for Town Hall. C. Johnson agreed they would schedule an emergency drill with Captain Ron Hogue, for the Town Hall before the end of May.

The second item is the Town Forest Master Plan. The Board agreed that a committee should be set up to plan for future Town Forest Projects. B. Nihan suggested including Cohen Park and the Bay Park in the planning process. B. Deso volunteered to be on the proposed committee. B. Nihan requested minutes be kept of the meetings. The Selectboard approved the formation of a parks committee.

The next item discussed is the intersection of Route 36 near the Bay Store. The Board discussed maintenance of the road, a possible 4-way stop, and potential future parking near the intersection. The State currently owns and maintains Lake Road. B. Nihan suggested the Board continue the conversation of potentially taking over that section of road when they make a decision on what to do with the existing dock.

The Board also discussed if the Town would have boat slips available for rent at the Town dock. After a brief discussion with A. Mashtare, the Board agreed to have a couple spaces available for day use, and have a slip for the Fire Department boat, but not to provide slips to be rented for the season.

The Board also discussed the proposed Health Path again, as well as the Bay Park Stonehouse. The Board also discussed a proposed Memorial Policy. The Board suggested further research on the Stonehouse and Memorial Policy should be tasked to the new Parks Committee.

C. Johnson gave a brief update about the Rain Garden. Seedlings will be planted in spring. The Board agreed to remove the Rain Garden from the pending list.

B. Deso gave an update on the status of the Sidewalk Master Plan.

The Board had a general discussion about elected versus appointed Assessor positions.

C. Johnson gave an update on the Route 7 North Study. C. Johnson hopes to acquire a completion date soon.

A. Mashtare gave a briefing regarding the FCC License. So far, he has been denied 4 times from Canada. A. Voegele wondered if the Town could use frequencies from New York.

The Board briefly discussed the committee formally known as the Public Advisory Committee, now named the Police Advisory Board. The Board agreed the Committee should be kept, but should only meet if there is a citizen complaint. An ad will be placed seeking volunteers. A. Voegele currently serves on the committee; B. Cheeseman said he would be willing to be an alternate.

A. Mashtare explained that he and N. Connell had done a Site Visit to review Stormwater flooding in the Industrial Park. The DPW crew installed check dams at the site to slow down the flow of stormwater. N. Connell is exploring grant options to resolve the issue.

C. Johnson explained a resident had asked about support of bringing VT Gas to the Bay area. There was not a great deal of support from VT Gas, and they were going to explore possible options.

Executive Session

MOTION: A. Voegele made a motion to go into executive session at 8:25 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 and DPW Director Alan Mashtare. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Adjournment

MOTION: A. Voegele made a motion to come out of executive session and adjourn the Selectboard meeting at 8:45 p.m. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
AJ Johnson, Recording Secretary