

**Town of St. Albans
Selectboard Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 20th, 2019
6:00 p.m.**

On Wednesday, February 20th, 2019 at 6:00 p.m., at Town Hall the Town of St. Albans Selectboard met.

Officials and staff present: Chair William Nihan, Vice Chair Bruce Cheeseman, Stan Dukas, Al Voegele and Town Manager, Carrie Johnson. Absent was Brendan Deso.

W. Nihan opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. The purpose of the early start to the Selectboard meeting was to conduct an executive session to discuss a legal issue.

Executive Session

MOTION: A. Voegele made a motion to go into executive session at 6:00 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. Cheeseman made a motion to recess the Selectboard meeting at 6:15 p.m. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Regular Meeting – 6:20 p.m.

Officials and staff present: Chair William Nihan, Vice Chair Bruce Cheeseman, Stan Dukas, Al Voegele, Town Manager Carrie Johnson, Director of Public Works Alan Mashtare, Director of Administration, and Recording Secretary Jenn Gray. Brendan Deso arrived at 6:27 p.m.

Public: Esther Morse, Dan Cunningham, Liz Jackson, Brad Jackson, Jonathan Giroux, and Jessica Frost.

The Pledge of Allegiance.

Legal Stipulation – Commons Associates

W. Nihan explained that a legal issue was discussed in executive session prior to the meeting. The following motion was made:

MOTION: A. Voegele made a motion to have the Selectboard accept the stipulation agreement between Commons Associates and the Town of St. Albans. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Industrial Park Warrant

MOTION: B. Cheeseman made a motion to approve the Industrial Park warrant in the amount of \$3,922.86. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Payroll Warrants

MOTION: B. Cheeseman made a motion to approve the payroll warrants dated February 8th, 2019 in the amount of \$26,098.57 and February 15th, 2019 in the amount of \$18,703.73 and All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

General Warrant

MOTION: S. Dukas made a motion to approve the general warrant dated February 20th, 2019 in the amount of \$152,493.43. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Minutes

A. Voegele had two corrections to the meeting minutes for Monday, February 4th meeting.

MOTION: A. Voegele made a motion to approve the Selectboard 'special' meeting minutes for Monday, February 4th, 2019 as amended. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

A. Voegele had one corrections to the meeting minutes of Thursday, January 30th.

MOTION: A. Voegele made a motion to approve the Selectboard 'special' meeting minutes for Wednesday, January 30th, 2019 as amended. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Liquor Control Board

MOTION: W. Nihan made a motion to recess the Selectboard meeting and convene as the Liquor Control Board. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Kinney Drug and Burton Island both applied for renewals of their Second Class licenses.

MOTION: W. Nihan made a motion to approve the Second Class liquor licenses as presented. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

MOTION: W. Nihan made a motion to adjourn the Liquor Control Board and reconvene the Selectboard. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Town Manger's Report

Parks Committee

C. Johnson explained that both Town residents Liz Jackson and Brad Jackson, residents of Gricebrook were in attendance and joining the Town's Parks Committee.

Department of Public Works (DPW) Relocation Project Update

C. Johnson explained that there will be an open house at the current DPW location at 300 Georgia Shore Road on Thursday, February 21st at 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The Selectboard will be there to answer questions and refreshments will be provided.

B. Deso explained that we did an in-house mailer to all legal voters in the Town. We also did an insert in the St. Albans Messenger the weekend of February 16th and have another one coming out on February 21st. We have received quite a bit of feedback and shares on Facebook. He also encouraged folks to come to the open house tomorrow (2/21/19).

C. Johnson clarified that the Development Review Board (DRB) has approved the DPW project. Now, Town voters are being asked to approve it on Town Meeting Day.

Review of Town Warning

C. Johnson briefly went over the Town Meeting Day Warning. One of the articles on the ballot is the elimination of the office of Lister. The Town no longer uses Listers in the assessment capacity but, instead have an appointed Assessor.

There are articles on this year's ballot to purchase a truck for DPW and the fire department. Each vehicle will be purchased with previously collected funds.

Act 250 Notice of Application Filing – James Hungerford

Informational only. For a contractor's shop.

Stormwater Management Program 2019

The Board received a copy of the Town's Stormwater Management Plan. B. Deso asked if we are going to need someone to oversee active construction and post construction? Is that going to be delegated to Zoning Administrator and Director of Administration? These positions are both very busy and he doesn't feel we have the staff. C. Johnson said we are looking separately at hiring a consultant to help with the regulations and determine staffing needs once they are approved and must be enforced.

Town Community Survey

Final report provided to the Board. It will be posted on the Town's website.

Salt/Sand Shed

DPW has closed the salt/sand shed to the public because of a potential liability. It was discovered that others, not necessarily Town residents, were using this resource. A. Mashtare pointed out that there is a pile of sand outside the salt shed for residential use.

Public Comment

Class 4 Roads

S. Dukas mentioned Class 4 roads stating that we have two Class 4 roads; Thorpe Avenue and Forest Drive and asked what the Town's responsibilities are for maintaining

them. A. Mashtare explained that the only responsibility is to fill a pothole once in a while in the summer. The rest is up to the residents. Regarding Thorpe Avenue, we would have to go across private road to get to the public right-of-way in order to provide maintenance. We can do ditching and fill potholes but, that is the extend of the maintenance.

W. Nihan asked what the Town would need to do to take care of a Class 3 road? A. Mashtare explained we would have to plow, ditch, and we would want to pave. We can't put salt down on a dirt road. C. Johnson explained that if the Board would like to reclassify a Class 4 road, we must follow reclassification hearing statutes.

Esther Morse, who lives on Gricebrook explained that they do not have access without using Thorpe Avenue to one of the 9-plexes.

Dan Cunningham who also lives on Gricebrook explained that at the end of Gricebrook and Thorpe Ave., all the dirt from the building of their community was put on a neighboring cornfield and then spread around on the field. Now, they are experiencing flooding of a parking lot on a regular basis. It is undermining the road. The ditch there is plugged up as well.

The Board supports looking at the whole project and the health path as well as getting the facts on reclassification and maintenance of Class 3 and Class 4 roads.

A. Voegele asked if we allow people in the Town Forest in the winter. A. Mashtare explained that it was on the recommendation of the Board to close the Town Forest for the winter. He has a "closed" sign posted.

B. Cheeseman asked why the gate was open at the Bay Park. A. Mashtare explained it has been opened for fishermen, a practice the Town has done for years.

St. Albans City Public Works

A. Mashtare thanked the City of St. Albans Public Works Department for allowing the Town DPW to use one of their trucks when we had two trucks down during a recent storm. He went on to say that both municipalities can work together. B. Cheeseman stated he would like to see how the two communities can work together on costs savings in the future.

Schedule

Next regular meetings will be Monday, March 4th and Monday, March 18th. The informational meeting on the Town Meeting Day articles will be held at the Monday, March 4th meeting.

B. Deso suggested having a meeting on Monday, March 11th to discuss the outcome of the DPW vote. B. Cheeseman suggested waiting until the meeting of March 18th. W. Nihan explained that upon the DPW project being approved, the contract will be effective immediately. A. Voegele suggested if we need to, we will warn a meeting for March 11th after Town Meeting Day.

W. Nihan explained if the vote fails, we have two options; one is to revisit it again or look at what it will take to retrofit the current site. You would have to start looking at environmental controls and ways to keep the salt out of the lake.

Mr. Cunningham asked why the vote failed the last time. W. Nihan explained that it was too expensive, some frills that were in there (the proposal), shouldn't have been. The new proposal is very functional.

Other Business

None.

Adjournment

MOTION: A. Voegele made a motion to adjourn the Selectboard meeting at 7:22 p.m. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Jenn Gray, Recording Secretary