

**Town of St. Albans
Selectboard Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 4th, 2019
6:30 p.m.**

On Monday, March 4th, 2019 at 6:30 p.m., at Town Hall the Town of St. Albans Selectboard met.

Officials and staff present: Chair William Nihan, Vice Chair Bruce Cheeseman, Brendan Deso, Stan Dukas, Al Voegele, Town Manager Carrie Johnson, Director of Public Works Alan Mashtare, Town Clerk, Anna Bourdon, Animal Control Officer David McWilliams, and Recording Secretary Jenn Gray.

Public: Charlie Moore, Sheri Moore, Kim Smith, Mike Lussier, Jonathan Giroux, Sean Conner, Mike Connor, Patti Rainville, and Alex Lehning St. Albans Museum.

The Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Informational Hearing

C. Johnson read the official warning for Town Meeting Day.

Alex Lehning, Executive Director of the St. Albans Museum came before the Board to answer any questions on Article Eight on the ballot. This article asks the approval for the Selectboard to support the museum at \$15,000 annually for five years. Mr. Lehning gave a brief overview of the museum, its history and some of the programs they provide.

Dave McWilliams stated that the museum represents the St. Albans area; City and Town. We should support it.

Town resident, Mike Lussier wanted clarification on the ballot question regarding the support for \$15,000 for 5 years. Mr. Lehning confirmed this to be correct. Mr. Lussier asked what the tax implications were if this question passes. Mr. Lehning explained that a house with a value of \$200,000, it would cost the homeowner \$3.20 per year.

W. Nihan asked Town Clerk Anna Bourdon how many taxpayers were in the Town. A. Bourdon stated around 4,200.

Patti Rainville, museum board member shared stories about her family. Her father graduated school in 1929 from the museum building. She also asked people to consider what would we do with all the artifacts if the museum closed.

A. Voegele explained that he attend a guided visit through the museum with Ms. Rainville and highly recommends it. He also stated that the museum is a depository for the history of St. Albans. It holds our collection of items dating back as far as 1763.

Mr. Lehning again asked for support on Article 8 and went on to explain that the museum is working on several new exhibits; the 100 year anniversary of Co-op, the 100 year anniversary of the American Legion, and a Rail City project.

B. Cheeseman stated this is a valuable asset for both the Town and City and asked for the voters to seriously consider supporting this article.

Articles

C. Johnson read through 8 articles on the Town Meeting Day ballot.

Article 4

Shall the Legal Voters authorize the Selectboard to spend up to \$130,000 to purchase a new plow truck for the Department of Public Works using previously collected Department of Public Works Reserve funds?

Mr. Lussier asked A. Mashtare questions about trucks and what constitutes replacement. A. Mashtare explained trucks are replaced based on hours used.

Article 6

Shall the Legal Voters authorize the elimination of the office of Town Lister in accordance with 17 V.S.A. §2651c(b)(1) and replace it with a professionally qualified

assessor who shall have the same powers, discharge the same duties, proceed in the discharge thereof in the same manner, and be subject to the same liabilities as are prescribed for listers or the board of listers under the provisions of Title 32?

C. Johnson explained that we currently have an elected Board of Listers. They are not the staff that is actively managing the grant list or the parcels that make up the grand list. This question eliminates the elected Board of Listers that exists really in name only at this point. The people who actually do the work are an appointed Assessor and Assistant Assessor.

David McWilliams asked what will be done about current Lister, Tadd Redman's position. C. Johnson explained Tadd is a current Lister and a current employee. He works a few hours a week and has a job description for his position. It's not a requirement that he be an elected Lister.

At this time, A. Bourdon asked if the Board could review the warrants as she needed to go to Collins Perley to prepare for Town Meeting Day. The Board agreed to change the order of the agenda.

Payroll Warrants

B. Cheeseman asked A. Bourdon why the payroll warrant dated February 22nd was so high. A. Bourdon explained that overtime was paid as well as reconciling the retirement account for all the employees. Selectboard stipends were paid also.

MOTION: B. Cheeseman made a motion to approve the payroll warrants dated February 22nd, 2019 in the amount of \$32,274.97 and March 1st, 2019 in the amount of \$17,318.98 and All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

General Warrant

MOTION: S. Dukas made a motion to approve the general warrant dated March 4th, 2019 in the amount of \$86,942.14. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Department of Public Works (DPW) Relocation Project Presentation

C. Johnson went over the presentation on the Department of Public Works Relocation Project, "Why We Need It" Google document.

W. Nihan stated that the Selectboard supports this project.

Minutes

A. Voegele had a few edits to the minutes from the February 20th meeting.

MOTION: A. Voegele made a motion to approve the Selectboard meeting minutes for Wednesday, February 20th, 2019 as amended. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Liquor Control Board

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

St. Albans Diner applied for a First Class license renewal.

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

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

Town Manger's Report

St. Albans Bay Farmers Market Grant

C. Johnson explained that we applied for a grant for the Farmers Market. This is a nationally competitive grant and we requested \$34,000. This grant does not require a local match. Funds would be used to hire a Farmers Market manager who would be able to run the EBT cards program, further our marketing efforts, and can be used for electrical upgrades in the Stonehouse.

Act 250 Notice of Application Filing – Nissan of St. Albans, Inc.

Informational only, no action required.

Act 250 Notice of Application Filing – Klein Family LLC/Zurn Sisters
Informational only, no action required.

Act 250 Notice of Application Filing – Harbor View St. A, LLC
Informational only, no action required.

Public Comment
None.

Schedule
7am to 7pm is Town Meeting Day on Tuesday, March 5th. The next regular meetings are Monday, March 18th and Monday, April 1st.

Other Business
None.

Adjournment
MOTION: A. Voegele made a motion to adjourn the Selectboard meeting at 7:41 p.m. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Jenn Gray, Recording Secretary