

**Town of St. Albans
Selectboard Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 3rd, 2020
6:30 p.m.**

On Monday, February 3rd, 2020 at 6:30 p.m., at Town Hall the Town of St. Albans Selectboard met.

Officials and staff present: Chair Brendan Deso, Jessica Frost, Al Voegele, Town Clerk Anna Bourdon, Town Manager Carrie Johnson, and Recording Secretary Jenn Gray. Absent were Vice Chair Bruce Cheeseman and Stan Dukas.

Public: Jim Murphy, Peter Blouin, Matt Young with Ascent Consulting, St. Albans Messenger Reporter Michael Frett, David McWilliams, Charlie Moore, Alex Lehning with the St. Albans Historical Society, Anne Pomeroy, Paul and Sarah Lerner, Grant Butterfield Jonathan Giroux, and Erin Creley.

Chair B. Deso called the Selectboard meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda Amendment

MOTION: A. Voegele made a motion to add a discussion and Planning Commission appointment to the agenda. Seconded by J. Frost. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Infrastructure Development Fund Warrant

MOTION: A. Voegele made a motion to approve the Infrastructure Development Fund warrant in the amount of \$430,038.84. Seconded by J. Frost. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Payroll

MOTION: J. Frost made a motion to approve the payroll warrants dated January 24th, 2020 in the amount of \$20,630.74, and January 31st, 2020 in the amount of \$35,005.86. Seconded by A Voegele. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

General Warrant

MOTION: A. Voegele made a motion to approve the general warrant dated February 3rd, 2020 in the amount of \$32,735.06. Seconded by J. Frost. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Minutes

MOTION: A. Voegele made a motion to approve the Selectboard meeting minutes from Monday, January 21st, Wednesday, January 15th, and Thursday, January 16th, 2020 as written. Seconded by J. Frost. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Public Comment

Town resident David McWilliams came before the Board stating that the logo used on the municipal pool flyer says "St. Albans Recreation" which is a City label. If the Town is going to be part owner, it should be changed. B. Deso thanked him for his comment.

Public Hearing – Freedom Rains Children’s Center (Daycare) – Vermont Community Development Program Grant

C. Johnson read the official hearing.

MOTION: A. Voegele made a motion to open the public hearing on Freedom Rains Children’s Center. Seconded by J. Frost. All in favor, none opposed motion carried.

Grant Butterfield spoke on behalf of Freedom Rains Children’s Center and briefly explained the grant application process. He believes there is a need for this center in St. Albans, but the grant dictates that applicants go through the process of a public hearing and that the Town is the grantee. Let’s Grow Kids and other child resources help with the determination of need. Mr. Butterfield has been in negotiations for a property at exit 19 in St. Albans. He went to stated that his wife, Suzanne Butterfield currently runs a childcare center in Colchester and has done so for 23 years. There is a significant waiting list to get into that center.

Town resident, Paul Lerner asked if there were any financial encumbrances on the Town. A. Voegele stated that there are none. C. Johnson stated the application required this public hearing to allow citizens the opportunity to ask questions.

MOTION: A. Voegele made a motion to close the public hearing. Seconded by J. Frost. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Appointment – Planning Commission

Anne Pomeroy had expressed interest in serving on the Planning Commission. B. Deso said that he fully supported appointing Ms. Pomeroy. It was suggested that the Board appoint Ms. Pomeroy now for an unexpired term and then reappoint her in March after Town Meeting for a term of 3 years.

MOTION: A. Voegele made a motion to appoint Anne Pomeroy to the Planning Commission to fill an unexpired term and the reappoint after Town Meeting Day for a term of 3 years. Seconded by J. Frost. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Liquor Control Board

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

Liquor License Renewals

Hannaford, Burton Island, St. Albans Jolley, Walmart, Mill River Brewing, Bronson's Landing, and VFW had submitted applications for renewal.

MOTION: A. Voegele made a motion to approve all Liquor License renewal applications as presented. Seconded by J. Frost. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

MOITON: J. Frost made a motion to adjourn the Liquor Control Board and reconvene the Selectboard meeting. Seconded by A. Voegele. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Town Manager's Report

Department of Public Works (DPW) Update – Matt Young Project Manager

Matt Young came before the Board to provide an update on the DPW project. He explained that this was the last update for DPW garage and then he'd return once there was an update to provide on the salt shed. Mr. Young did point out that the Town received a Certificate of Occupancy on January 9th and that the project was \$25,000 under budget. Those funds will go towards the construction of the salt shed.

Salt Shed

Mr. Young explained that there was a hold up with the salt shed grant with VTrans. VTrans wants to redo the RFQ process. We had already completed a RFQ process and were told it would be accepted. Then we were told months later it would not be accepted. VTrans had developed their own RFQ process which was approved. This process goes back to VTrans internal legal review. Mr. Young explained that we should be able to begin the bid process in mid to late March with construction mid-summer.

St. Albans Historical Society Annual Report – Alex Lehning Executive Director

Alex Lehning came before the Board to present a video showing some hands on learning experiences for kids called Lake Lessons (nonprofits and state agencies assist with this). Mr. Lehning explained that the museum is in the 3rd year of a 10 year plan to achieve financial and organizational sustainability and the museum is in their second year of internships. Fundraisers have increased from 3 to 5 per year. Mr. Lehning stated that the museum building is an 1861 renaissance school building and in need of roof and cupola repairs. He also mentioned that a new security system had been installed.

Water & Wastewater Allocation Request – Municipal Pool at Hard'Ack

MOTION: J. Frost made a motion to approve the water and wastewater allocation request for the City of St. Albans for the Municipal Pool as presented. Seconded by A. Voegele. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Schedule

The next Selectboard meetings are Tuesday, February 18th and Monday, March 2nd.

Community Pool Informational Meetings:

Mon., Feb. 10th City, Town & Hard'Ack Boards at City Hall at 8pm

Mon., Feb. 24th City Council at City Hall at 7pm

Mon., Mar. 2nd Town Selectboard at Town Hall at 6:30 p.m.

Chair's Report

None.

Other Business

Peter Blouin came before the Board to discuss a junk ordinance complaint that he was ticketed for last summer. He was of the understanding that once he addressed the items in question, the ticket would be dismissed. Mr. Blouin went on to say that he had spoken to a few of the Selectboard members prior to tonight's meeting. C. Johnson explained that there was a difference in opinion on the screening that was used to hide the junk from public view. A. Voegele explained that when Mr. Blouin spoke to him, he told Mr. Blouin he needed to work with the Town Manager on this issue. B. Deso suggested to Mr. Blouin to address this not in a public space and prior to a meeting. Mr. Blouin stated that he has a hearing in March. C. Johnson stated that the Town had not received notice of this hearing and she will look into it.

Adjournment

MOTION: A. Voegele made a motion to adjourn the Selectboard meeting at 7:18 p.m. Seconded by J. Frost. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Jenn Gray, Recording Secretary