

**Town of St. Albans
Selectboard Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 1st, 2020
6:00 p.m.
Via Zoom Teleconferencing**

On Monday, June 1st, 2020 at 6:00 p.m., the Town of St. Albans Selectboard met via Zoom Teleconferencing.

Officials and staff in attendance: Chair Brendan Deso, Vice Chair Jessica Frost, Stan Dukas, Jonathan Giroux, Erin Creley, Town Manager Carrie Johnson, and Town Hall Relocation Project Manager Matt Young with Ascent Consulting.

B. Deso called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. The reason for the early start to the Selectboard meeting was to discuss a contractual issue in executive session.

Executive Session

MOTION: E. Creley made a motion to go into executive session at 6:02 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 is further moved to enter into executive session to discuss legal, contractual, or personnel issued under the provisions of Title 1, section 313(a)(1) of Vermont Statutes and to invite Town Manager Carrie Johnson and Project Manager Matt Young. Seconded by S. Dukas. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

MOTION: E. Creley made a motion to come out of executive session at 6:28 p.m. Seconded by J. Frost. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Regular Meeting – 6:30 p.m.

Officials and staff in attendance: Chair Brendan Deso, Vice Chair Jessica Frost, Stan Dukas, Erin Creley, Jonathan Giroux, Town Manager Carrie Johnson, Town Clerk Anna Bourdon, Director of Public Works Alan Mashtare, Farmers Market Manager John Montagne, and Recording Secretary Jenn Gray.

No public allowed in Town Hall for the meeting due to pandemic containment rules.

Public on video conference: Al Voegele, Jackie Brown, Roger Langevin, Tyler Whitcomb from Whitcomb Paving, and Bretton Gardner from Pike Industries.

Chair B. Deso called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

B. Deso took the opportunity to discuss the national news story about the death of George Floyd, the man killed by a police officer in Minnesota. He took this time to discuss equality and police protection and reminded the Board to keep this in mind when discussing the police contract.

Amend and Approve Agenda

One item was added to the agenda; the 2020 paving bids.

MOTION: E. Creley made a motion to add the 2020 paving bids to the agenda. Seconded by J. Frost. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

General Warrant

MOTION: S. Dukas made a motion to approve the general warrant dated June 1st, 2020 in the amount of \$14,871.38. Seconded by E. Creley. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Infrastructure Development Warrant

MOTION: J. Giroux made a motion to approve the Infrastructure Development warrant in the amount of \$1,106.50 to Cross Consulting. Seconded by J. Frost. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Payroll

MOTION: J. Giroux made a motion to approve the payroll warrants dated May 29th, 2020 in the amount of \$36,239.96 and May 22nd, 2020 in the amount of \$18,791.24. Seconded by E. Creley. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Industrial Park Warrant

B. Deso asked A. Mashtare to explain why there were so many Drummack invoices after we replaced the pump at the Industrial Park. A. Mashtare explained that when Wind River took over the Drummack business, they fell behind on their billing. The invoices in question dated back to October, 2019.

MOTION: J. Giroux made a motion to approve the Industrial Park warrant in the amount of \$3,990.32. Seconded by J. Frost. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Minutes

MOTION: E. Creley made a motion to approve the Selectboard meeting minutes from Monday, May 18th, 2020 as written. Seconded by J. Giroux. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Public Comment

None.

Town Manager's Report

Farmers Market

A. Mashtare and J. Montagne spoke to the Board about the start of the 2020 Farmers Market. J. Montagne, who is the Farmers Market Manager explained that the first Farmers Market of the season was held last Thursday, May 28th. Not all committed vendors were there, but we do expect 5 more soon. Some postponed participating due to the pandemic. J. Montagne went on to explained that the vendors' booths were situated 12 feet apart and CDC guidelines were followed. There was a pretty good turnout for the first market.

B. Deso asked when Cohen park would be open? J. Montagne stated that Cohen Park is open now.

2020 Paving Bids

A. Mashtare contacted 5 vendors and received 2 bids for paving. He went over the items he requested of bidders. Whitcomb's quote was \$67.65/ton and Pike Industries' bid was \$65.75. A. Mashtare explained that after looking over the tonnages and prices per unit, he awarded the bid to Pike Industries. He then explained the French Hill project to the Board which was included in the scope of work. A. Mashtare stated that this should take care of the worst part of that road.

J. Frost said that she's heard from residents on Maquam Shore Road that they appreciate the shoulders recently put on that road.

COVID-19 Update

C. Johnson explained that we are slowly opening. The Governor increased the maximum group size gathering from 10 to 25 people. Gyms, nails salons, and hair salons have been approved to open. A. Bourdon is still scheduling people by appointment to come into Town Hall to do their research both upstairs and downstairs. This is to allow a certain amount of people in the small research area. A. Bourdon is also doing contact tracing.

Treasurer's Report

A. Bourdon did received the final quarter Local Option Tax (LOT) payment. This payment covered the period between 2/8/20 – 5/13/20. It is the largest, 4th quarter payment received to date; \$194,000.

As of June 1st, we have collected the 4th tax installment. Our current fund balance is \$715,860.00. However, A. Bourdon needs to subtract out funds for the fire department reserve and DPW reserve. That will leave \$527,000 for our fund balance. Revenues are on track and expenditures are below. We do need to collect \$200,000 more, but there is one Industrial Park tenant that owes the Town \$85,000.

Town Hall Relocation

We are moving forward with getting the schematic design work done as soon as possible to have it ready for a November vote. Matt Young submitted the RFP for design vendors last Friday. Prices are coming in very competitively.

Schedule – All meetings will be via Zoom

B. Deso stated we need to schedule a meeting for next week to begin discussions on the police contract. The Board agreed to meeting on Monday, June 8th at 5:30 p.m. This meeting will be held in executive session via Zoom.

The next regular Selectboard meetings are Monday, June 15th and Monday, July 6th. B. Deso would like to hold the June 15th meeting with Board members in the Boardroom, and public participation via Zoom. Everyone will need to wear a mask at the June 15th meeting.

Another meeting hasn't been scheduled yet for Town Hall Relocation committee. C. Johnson stated that she is staying updated via email and phone calls with Matt Young.

Chair's Report

B. Deso explained that there has been very little spread of COVID-19 in our community as of late. He again mentioned George Floyd's murder and said that when the Board discusses the police contract to have a section referencing the use of excessive force; requiring regular reporting to the Town when it's reported.

Other Business

None.

Adjournment

**MOTION: J. Giroux made a motion to adjourn the Selectboard meeting at 7:07 p.m.
Seconded by J. Frost. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,
Jenn Gray, Recording Secretary