

**Town of St. Albans
Selectboard Meeting Minutes
Monday, August 3rd, 2020
6:30 p.m.
Via Zoom Teleconferencing**

On Monday, August 3rd, 2020 at 6:30 p.m., the Town of St. Albans Selectboard met in the Bliss Room in the St. Albans Museum in St. Albans City with limited in person capacity for the public as well as public participation via Zoom Teleconferencing.

Officials and staff in attendance: Chair Brendan Deso, Stan Dukas, Jonathan Giroux, Erin Creley, Town Manager Carrie Johnson, Director of Public Works Alan Mashtare, and Recording Secretary Jenn Gray. Absent was Vice Chair Jessica Frost.

The Selectboard meeting was held in the Bliss Room to allow for limited in person public attendance and via Zoom due to pandemic containment rules.

Present: St. Albans Messenger Reporter, Michael Frett.

Public & Staff Participation via Zoom Teleconferencing: Grant and Suzanne Butterfield, Al Voegele, Franklin County Sheriff Roger Langevin, Lieutenant John Grismore, Mike Hoeflich, and Michael Connor.

Chair B. Deso called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Vermont Community Development Program (VCDP) Implementation Grant
Freedom Rains Children's Center**

MOTION: J. Giroux made a motion to open the public hearing on the VCDP Implementation Grant for Freedom Rains Children's Center. Seconded by E. Creley. All in favor, none opposed motion carried.

Grant Butterfield explained the Town is the applicant and then works with a sub grantee.

B. Deso reviewed the resolution the Town needed to sign as part of the grant.

E. Creley stated she is pleased to see this type of project moving forward and bringing more child care opportunities into St. Albans.

Resolution

MOTION: E. Creley made a motion to adopt the resolution. J. Giroux seconded. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

MOTION: J. Giroux made a motion to close the public hearing. Seconded by E. Creley. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

General Warrant

MOTION: S. Dukas made a motion to approve the general warrant dated August 3rd, 2020 in the amount of \$76,175.07. Seconded by J. Giroux. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Infrastructure Account Warrant

MOTION: J. Giroux made a motion to approve the Infrastructure Account Warrant in the amount of \$203.60. Seconded by E. Creley. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Payroll

E. Creley pointed out that the payroll warrant dated July 21st should be dated July 31st.

MOTION: E. Creley made a motion to approve the payroll warrant for July 24th, 2020 in the amount of \$23,647.32 and for July 31st, 2020 in the amount of \$37,378.66. Seconded by J. Giroux. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Minutes

MOTION: J. Giroux made a motion to approve the Selectboard meeting minutes from Monday, July 20th, 2020 as presented. Seconded by E. Creley. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Public Comment

None.

Town Manager's Report

Franklin County Sheriff's Office Contract

C. Johnson stated she expected the contract would be finalized this week. B. Deso stated it'll be discussed in executive session tonight.

Police Advisory Committee Reorganization

B. Deso explained he had another draft of the reorganization, but because Vice Chair J. Frost wasn't in attendance, he would like to bring it back to the next meeting, so the whole Board can share their comments. E. Creley suggested putting the draft on Facebook and the Town's website.

Salt Shed Update

The salt shed bids were opened and reviewed. M. Young stated the apparent lower bidder was Connor Contracting and he was waiting for VTrans approval on the selected contractor.

Certificate of Public Good Application – SolarSense VT XXV, LLC

Informational only. No action required.

COVID-19

C. Johnson explained the Town has applied for cloth masks which will be distributed to residents in the future. Each town will receive up to 25% of their population in masks. Town Hall is open by appointment only. Governor Scott opened retail from 25% to 50%.

Other Business

B. Deso explained why the Selectboard meeting was being held in the Bliss Room. It was a dry run to see if members of the public wanted to attend. Thanked both Alex Lehning and Joe Luneau for helping with logistics.

B. Deso went on to explain that the museum's budget needed help; the Town allocates \$15,000 a year and the museum is running in a deficit. COVID-19 forced the museum to shut down at this time. He pondered approaching the Library and then approach the City and the Town for municipal takeover of the museum.

E. Creley said that this is an important asset for our community and she supports moving forward with the discussion. J. Giroux agreed and expressed his support to keep working on it.

Schedule

The next regular Selectboard meeting is Monday, August 17th. The first meeting in September falls on Labor Day. That meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 9th. The employee picnic is Tuesday, August 4th. The Primary election is Tuesday, August 11th.

B. Deso explained that Health Officer Bob Cross drafted a Public Safety for Polls document. Polling may be held in a tent outside of Collins Perley as part of the safety guidelines related to COVID-19 if weather allows.

Chair's Report

B. Deso took this opportunity to state that it was a pleasure to work with Lt. John Grismore and Sheriff Roger Langevin on the Sheriff's contract. Lt. J. Grismore thanked the Town and stated he was looking forward to working with the Town.

Other Business

None.

Executive Session

MOTION: E. Creley made a motion to go into executive session at 7:02 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. Seconded by J. Giroux. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

MOTION: S. Dukas made a motion to come out of executive session at 7:32 p.m. Seconded by E. Creley. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Salt Shed Construction Bid

MOTION: S. Dukas made a motion to approve and accept the Connor Contracting bid as an informal bid and to authorize Town Manager Carrie Johnson to sign the contract on the Town's behalf. Seconded by E. Creley. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Franklin County Sheriff's Office Contract

MOTION: J. Giroux made a motion to recommend Town Manager Carrie Johnson to sign the Franklin County Sheriff's Office contract. Seconded by S. Dukas. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Executive Session

The Board went back into executive session to discuss other items.

MOTION: S. Dukas made a motion to return to executive session at 7:35 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. Seconded by J. Giroux . All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

C. Johnson left the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

MOTION: J. Giroux made a motion to come out of executive session at 8:36 p.m. Seconded by S. Dukas. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Adjournment

MOTION: S. Dukas made a motion to adjourn the Selectboard meeting at 8:37p.m. Seconded by E. Creley. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Jenn Gray, Recording Secretary