



**TOWN OF HARTFORD
SELECTBOARD MINUTES
BUDGET WORKSHOP**

Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at 6:00 P.M.
Hartford Town Hall
171 Bridge Street
White River Junction, Vermont 05001

Present: Simon Dennis, Selectboard Chair; Richard Grassi, Selectboard Vice Chair; Dennis Brown, Selectboard Clerk; Alan Johnson, Selectboard Member; Jameson Davis, Selectboard Member; Kim Souza, Selectboard Member; Leo Pullar, Town Manager; Lana Livingston, Administrative Assistant; Dawn Pullar.

Phone: Rebecca White, Selectboard Member.

I. Call to Order Selectboard Meeting

Selectboard Chair, Simon Dennis called the meeting to order at 6:02 P.M.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Dawn Pullar led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Order of Agenda: An Executive Session will be added to the end of the agenda.

IV. Selectboard

1. Budget Workshop:

a. Review Draft Revised Budget. (Info Only)

Town Manager, Leo Pullar reviewed the revised draft budget. This is a budget that does not include the Parks & Recreation Van.

b. Final Review/Adoption of Budget. (Mot. Req.)

Selectboard Member, Jameson Davis made the motion to include the Parks and Recreation Van in the budget. Selectboard Member, Dick Grassi seconded the motion. 6 were in favor and 1 (Rebecca White) Abstained. The motion passed.

This is a lease and the cost for a year is \$10,500.00.

Selectboard Vice Chair, Dick Grassi made the motion that we hire 2 Fire Fighters for the Fire Department with a third Fire Fighter being hired through the grant process program. Selectboard Chair, Simon Dennis seconded the motion. After some discussion and the Town Manager explaining that the Fire Department would apply for the grant for all three Fire Fighters anyway, Mr. Grassi withdrew his motion.

Wellness Coordinator Discussion:

Selectboard Vice Chair, Dick Grassi expressed his concern over the proposed \$50,000 for a Wellness Coordinator for the Town of Hartford. There is no job description, no description for qualifications, we don't know if it is going to be part time or full time or if it will be a paid position or a volunteer position, there are just too many unknowns.

Selectboard Member, Alan Johnson sees the position as part time with no benefits.

Selectboard Clerk, Dennis Brown sees a lot of good coming from it, but at this time there are just too many unknowns.

Selectboard Member, Jameson Davis noted with all the growth in just downtown WRJ, with affordable housing as one of the growing areas, he can see a need for this position.

Selectboard Member, Kim Souza commented that she can see the need especially for our elderly growing population.

Mr. Grassi made the motion to withdraw/remove the \$50,000.00 in the budget for the Wellness Coordinator. Selectboard Clerk, Dennis Brown seconded the motion. 2 members voted yes (Grassi & Brown) and 5 voted no (Souza, Johnson, White, Dennis, Davis) with no abstentions. The motion failed.

Mr. Davis made the motion to decrease the amount for the Wellness Coordinator from \$50,000 to \$30,000. Mr. Pullar explained that when he initially proposed the \$5,000, this was for investigating and exploring options for a Wellness Coordinator. There was no second for the motion so the motion failed.

General Fund Adoption:

Selectboard Member, Alan Johnson made the motion That the Selectboard adopt the Fund 10, General Fund, operating budget of \$17,070,682.83; and, pending voter approval of the operating budget, authorizes the use of Grand List Funds, Reserve Funds, and Already Encumbered Funds as amended. Further, upon voter approval of the Local Option Tax Revenue Funds questions, authorizes use of those funds as described in the ballot questions. Selectboard Member, Kim Souza seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

c. Approval of Enterprise Fund Budgets. (Mot. Req.)

Selectboard Member, Rebecca White made the motion

That the Selectboard approve the Fund 30, Solid Waste Fund, operating budget of \$858,154.32 and

That the Selectboard approve the Fund 50, White River Junction Water Fund, operating budget of \$1,051,044.40 and

That the Selectboard approve the Fund 55, Quechee Water Fund, operating budget of \$505,864.78 and

That the Selectboard approve the Fund 60, White River Junction Waste Water Fund, operating budget of \$1,774,690.30 and

That the Selectboard approve the Fund 65, Quechee Waste Water Fund, operating budget of \$1,328,241.27.

Selectboard Clerk, Dennis Brown seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

V. Executive Session:

Selectboard Vice Chair, Dick Grassi made the motion that In accordance with Vermont's Open Meeting Law requirements, I move that the Selectboard enter into Executive Session to discuss the employment, appointment, or evaluation of a Public Officer under the provisions of Title 1, Section 313(a)(3) of the Vermont Statutes and to discuss or consider records or documents that are exempt from the public records laws under the provisions of Title 1, Section 313 (a)(6) of the Vermont Statutes. Selectboard Member, Jameson Davis seconded the motion at 8:13 P.M. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Note: Rebecca White departed (phone) at 9:43 P.M.

Selectboard Member, Jameson Davis made the motion to close the Executive Session. Selectboard Vice Chair, Dick Grassi seconded the motion at 9:48 P.M. All were in favor and the motion passed.

VI. Adjourn the Selectboard Meeting (Mot. Req.)

Selectboard Member, Jameson Davis made the motion to close the meeting at 9:48 P.M. Selectboard Member, Kim Souza seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

All Meetings of the Hartford Selectboard are open to the public. Persons who are seeking action by the Selectboard are asked to submit their request and/or materials to the Selectboard Chair or Town Manager's office no later than noon on the Wednesday preceding the scheduled meeting date. Requests received after that date will be addressed at the discretion of the Chair. Citizens wishing to address the board should do so during the Citizen Comments period.

