



**TOWN OF HARTFORD
SELECTBOARD
MINUTES**

Tuesday, June 4, 2019 at 6:00 pm
Hartford Town Hall
171 Bridge Street
White River Junction, VT 05001

Present: Simon Dennis, Selectboard Chair; Richard Grassi, Selectboard Vice Chair; Dennis Brown, Selectboard Clerk; Dan Fraser, Selectboard Member; Alan Johnson, Selectboard Member; Kim Souza, Selectboard Member; Brannon Godfrey, Town Manager; Lana Livingston, Administrative Assistant; Scott Cooney, Fire Chief; Lori Hirshfield, Director of Planning & Development; Matt Osborn, Planner; Geoff Martin, Energy Coordinator; Bruce Riddle; Mike Morris; Katy Allis-Paredes; Marcella DiBlasi; Scott Neal; Kathleen Beckett; Will Lambek; Diane Root; Leslie Black; Rosemary Affeldt; Margery Phillips; Jeff Bell; Paul Mangamello; Veronica Cally; Kevin Leveret; Alexis Jetter; Annelise Orleck; Sherry Merrick; Ann Raynolds; Marilyn Malmquist; Murray Ngoima; Kire Kelley; Bethany Fleishman; Ruth Fleishman; Tom McCleary; Laura Wolfe; Paige Heverly.

Note: Jameson Davis, Selectboard Member; arrived at the meeting at 6:22 P.M.

Select this link to view the entire Selectboard Meeting recorded by CATV:

<http://catv.cablecast.tv/CablecastPublicSite/show/8566?channel=1>

Link to the Selectboard Agenda Packet and documents:

<https://www.hartford-vt.org/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/06042019-1332>

I. Call to Order the Selectboard Meeting

Selectboard Chair, Simon Dennis opened the Selectboard meeting at 6:04 P.M.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Mike Morris from the Town of Hartford led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Local Liquor Control Board: N/A

IV. Order of Agenda: Items 6.a. and 6.b. will be switched to have 6.b. first.

V. Selectboard

1. Citizen, Selectboard Comments and Announcements:

There were no Citizen comments.

Selectboard Comments: Selectboard Vice Chair, Dick Grassi thanked the Town Manager and Town Staff for their quick response to the Water Main Break on Christian Street over the weekend.

Selectboard Member, Kim Souza reported that on 6/13 at HHS the Attorney General will be speaking at 5:30 on anti-bias and hate crimes.

a. Proclamation: Special Olympics (motion required)

Selectboard Vice Chair, Dick Grassi read the Special Olympics Proclamation:



Motion by Selectboard Vice Chair, Dick Grassi to pass the Proclamation as read. Selectboard Member, Alan Johnson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

2. **Public Hearing:** Selectboard Chair, Simon Dennis recessed the Selectboard Meeting and opened the Public Hearing. This is the second and final Public Meeting for the Town of Hartford Town Plan.

- a. Town of Hartford Town Plan

Lori Hirshfield, Matt Osborn and Geoff Martin presented the final version of the Hartford Town Plan.

Selectboard Chair, Simon Dennis closed the Public Meeting and reopened the Selectboard Meeting.

3. **Adoption of the Town of Hartford Town Plan**

Link to the Hartford Town Plan:

<https://www.hartford-vt.org/DocumentCenter/View/1990/2019-Hartford-Town-Plan-4-5-19-draft-w-Plng-Cover-memo-5-15-2019-staff-memo>

Selectboard Member, Jameson Davis made the motion to adopt the Town Plan of the Town of Hartford. Selectboard Member, Alan Johnson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

4. **Appointments**

- a. Consider the Re-Appointment of Mike Vanesse to a three year term on the Parks and Recreation Commission beginning June 4, 2019 and ending June 3, 2022.
- b. Consider the Re-Appointment Brett Mayfield to a three year term on the Parks and Recreation Commission beginning on June 4, 2019 and ending on June 3, 2022.

Selectboard Member, Alan Johnson made the motion to re-appoint Mike Vanesse to a three year term on the Parks and Recreation Commission beginning June 4, 2019 and ending June 3, 2022 and to re-appoint Brett Mayfield to a three year term to the Parks and Recreation Commission beginning June 4, 2019 and ending June 3, 2022. Selectboard Member, Dan Fraser seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

5. **Town Manager's Report:** Significant Activity Report period ending June 4, 2019.

Select this link to read the entire Significant Activity Report from the Town Manager:

<https://www.hartford-vt.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/160>

6. Board Reports, Motions & Ordinances

a. Fire Department Ladder 1 Replacement (update only)

Fire Chief, Scott Cooney presented the latest information concerning the Ladder Truck Status. The insurance company has totaled the vehicle and the Town will receive a payoff settlement from the insurance company. The truck is deemed a total loss and the damage appears consistent with the accident description.

The Total loss value for this truck is \$150,000.00 based on comparable market of year, make and model. Since we previously paid \$2,157.18 for the November loss, I will deduct this amount from the total loss value of \$150,000 for a net value of \$147,842.82. We are accepting bids for the salvage now. Time frame all depends on how quickly this can occur.

The next steps are to:

1. Release a quick response RFP for a demo ladder truck or one in production. To include financing options and if necessary, a leased vehicle option in the interim.
2. Review RFP responses
3. Recommend purchase option to the Town Manager.

b. Fair and Impartial Policing Policy

Background: In April 2018, the Police Chief executed Special Order 18-002 implementing Fair & Impartial Policing in conjunction with a model policy developed by the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council (VCJTC). This operational policy institutes procedures, standards, training and practices to prohibit police officers from engaging in biased policing. It essentially memorializes in policy the practices that are already ingrained in the culture of our Police Department. It also states that the Hartford Police has no obligation to communicate with federal immigration authorities regarding an individual's immigration status, but it does not prohibit communication in the interest of public safety, officer safety and laws pertaining to protecting victims and witnesses, which would violate federal law.

Earlier this year, the Winooski Police Department revised its version of the VCJTC model policy to prohibit communications with federal immigration authorities.

Discussion: Individual members of the Selectboard have expressed an interest in the Hartford Police Department adopting a similar amendment eliminating all communications with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

There was discussion and testimonies supporting this amendment by both Hartford residents and non-residents. (Please see the CATV recording of the meeting for these.)

<http://catv.cablecast.tv/CablecastPublicSite/show/8566?channel=1>

The Selectboard decided not to take a vote on the amendment until further discussion with Chief of Police Kasten and also to look further into any legal liabilities for the Town. It was decided that a small group to include Simon Dennis, Brannon Godfrey, Phil Kasten and a legal representative will meet to further discuss this issue. The Selectboard hopes that this will be addressed again at a Selectboard meeting as early as July 2019.

- c. Sale of Properties: 175 Newton Lane and 1346 Jericho Street. (motion required)

Selectboard Member, Dan Fraser made the motion to Authorize the sale of #4-24 (1356 Jericho Street) for \$22,186.20 and #4-29 (175 Newton Lane) for \$17,112.64 to Michelle Noyes, with closing to occur on or after 30 days from publication of the notice of sale of Town Property. Selectboard Clerk, Dennis Brown seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

- d. Fairview Terrace monitoring Update (Information Only)

Background: Over the last decade, the condition of the retaining walls and roads on Fairview Terrace and Gates Street have visibly worsened. In 2013, Knight Consulting Engineers were contracted to study the area and provide a variety of options for addressing the infrastructure. In December 2017, over concerns that the infrastructure was unsafe for travel, the section of Gates Street from Fairview Terrace to Maplewood was closed to vehicular traffic. In September 2018, Pathways Consulting was contracted to establish several points to monitor bimonthly for movement for one calendar year. In November 2018, after surveying the public and visual monitoring of the infrastructure, the decision was ultimately made to re-open Gates Street to one way traffic downhill.

Discussion: Over the last decade, the condition of the retaining walls and roads on Fairview Terrace and Gates Street have visibly worsened. In 2013, Knight Consulting Engineers were contracted to study the area and provide a variety of options for addressing the infrastructure. In December 2017, over concerns that the infrastructure was unsafe for

travel, the section of Gates Street from Fairview Terrace to Maplewood was closed to vehicular traffic. In September 2018, Pathways Consulting was contracted to establish several points to monitor bimonthly for movement for one calendar year. In November 2018, after surveying the public and visual monitoring of the infrastructure, the decision was ultimately made to re-open Gates Street to one way traffic downhill.

Recommendation: It is our recommendation to complete the contracted monitoring period which was established to prepare an accurate report of possible movement. The 12 months of monitoring is intended to assist identifying trends or anomalies, and is critical to properly engaging with consultants (likely geotechnical and structural engineers) who will develop a plan to stabilize the infrastructure.

- e. Initiation of 5th Charter Review Committee and Ratification of Charge (motion required)

Due to the late hour of this meeting, Selectboard Member, Alan Johnson made the motion to table this agenda item until sometime in the future. Selectboard Vice Chair, Dick Grassi seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

- f. Affirmation of Selectboard Commitments (Information Only)

Due to the late hour of this meeting, Selectboard Member, Kim Souza made the motion to table this agenda item. Selectboard Vice Chair, Dick Grassi seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

7. Commission Meeting Reports:

Selectboard Member, Jameson Davis reported that the HCorei is gathering a rubric and questions for the RFP interviews.

Selectboard Member, Alan Johnson reported that the Conservation Commission and the Community Coalition will both be collecting single use water bottles. They will also distribute reusable bottles until their supply runs out.

Selectboard Clerk, Dennis Brown went to the Zoning Commission. They had one application and that was approved.

The Planning Commission will meet on June 10th at 6:30 PM to review the preliminary plan for a new building at 123 South Main Street in WRJ.

8. **Consent Agenda (Motion Required): Selectboard Clerk, Dennis Brown made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as listed. Selectboard Member, Kim Souza seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**

Approve Payroll Ending: 6/1/2019

Approve Meeting Minutes of: 5/21/2019 and 5/22/2019

Approve A/P Manifest of: 5/31/2019 and 6/4/2019

Selectboard Meeting Dates of:

- Already Approved: 6/11/2019 (workshop if needed) and 6/18/2019

- Needs Approval: 7/2/2019, 7/16/2019 and 7/30/2019

9. **Adjourn the Selectboard Meeting. (Motion Required): Selectboard Vice Chair, Dick Grassi made the motion to Adjourn the meeting at 11:07 P.M. Selectboard Member, Jameson Davis 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.