



**TOWN OF HARTFORD
SELECTBOARD AGENDA**

Tuesday, November 5, 2019, 6:00pm
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; Jameson Davis, Selectboard Member (in at 6:05PM); Dan Fraser, Selectboard Member; Alan Johnson, Selectboard Member; Kim Souza, Selectboard Member; Brannon Godfrey, Town Manager; Lana Livingston, Administrative Assistant; Gail Ostrout, Finance Director; Mike Morris; Bonnie Lesage; John Mudgett; Michelle Boleski; Allison Litten; Laura Cooney; Joan Ponzoni; Lannie Collins; Frederica Graham; Pat Fiskens.

<http://catv.cablecast.tv/CablecastPublicSite/show/10468?channel=1>

I. Call to Order the Selectboard Meeting

Selectboard Chair, Simon Dennis called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Selectboard Vice Chair, Richard Grassi led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Local Liquor Control Board: N/A

IV. Order of Agenda: Changes – Add Sister City Presentation after 4b.
Add CIP Workshop after 4e.

V. Selectboard

1. Public, Selectboard Comments and Announcements: TBD

Citizen Comments: Mike Morris had suggestions for alternative parking sites in downtown WRJ. He spoke to Bill Matthewson who owns 6 acres of land behind Norwich Technologies building on Bridge Street. The owner is interested. Also Mr. Morris spoke about the Court parking lots. They are available to the general public evenings and weekends. The court however will not post signs to advertise this. Mr. Morris added that perhaps a “first 10 minutes free” option could be on the parking meters for those people that just need to pop into a shop to pick something up or drop off.

Selectboard Comments: Selectboard Clerk, Dennis Brown said he was

disappointed in the Valley News coverage of the last Selectboard meeting about the proposed parking structure. He believes they left a lot out and if they are going to report on something, they should report it all or nothing. Selectboard Member, Kim Souza expressed her wish to have a separate committee to explore all options for a parking structure.

Selectboard Vice Chair, Richard Grassi asked about the civil suit for the opioid epidemic. He understands if we do nothing then we will be included in the nationwide suit. He would like the Selectboard to have a discussion to see if that is what the Board wants. Mr. Godfrey will schedule it on the Nov. 19th agenda. Selectboard Member, Alan Johnson mentioned that the Attorney General, TJ Donovan accepted a grant that will go through the Hartford Community Coalition.

2. Appointments:

- a. Consider the Re-Appointment of Mary Hutchins to a 4-year term on the Hartford Conservation Commission beginning November 5, 2019 and ending on November 4, 2023.

Selectboard Vice Chair, Dick Grassi made the motion to re-appointment Mary Hutchins for a 4-year term on the Hartford Conservation Commission beginning November 5, 2019 and ending November 4, 2023. Selectboard Member, Jameson Davis seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

- b. Consider the Re-Appointment of Jo-Ann Ells as Zoning Administrator for a 3-year term beginning November 2019 and ending November 2022.

Selectboard Member, Jameson Davis made the motion to re-appoint Jo-Ann Ells as the Zoning Administrator for the Town of Hartford for a 3-year term beginning November 21, 2019 and ending November 22, 2022. Selectboard Member, Alan Johnson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

3. **Town Manager's Report:** Significant Activity Report ending November 4, 2019.

<https://www.hartford-vt.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/172>

4. Board Reports, Motions & Ordinances

- a. Independent Auditor Presentation (Motion Required)

The Auditors presented the highlights of the Audit to the Selectboard. The auditor reviewed the Town's financial statement and assures that they are free of material misstatement according to governmental accounting standards.

Selectboard Member, Alan Johnson made the motion to accept

the Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements. Selectboard Member, Dan Fraser seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b. FY20 First Quarter Financial Report (Information Only)

Gail Ostrout, Finance Department Director presented the first quarter of FY2020 reports. Overall there are few areas of concern. Ms. Ostrout will present again after the seconded quarter reports are ready.

ADDED: Sister City Presentation: The Sister City Committee presented highlights from the visit of 3 students and 2 teachers from Cenon, France. It was very successful and the committee would like to continue with this relationship we have with the Cenon, France people. To be able to offer both trips to France and hosting them here, the committee is requesting an appropriation of \$10,000 in this coming year budget.

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1i6UnG_P8VORbkheFA5A00Fcfp-RHTf4sRWaqmuQernA/edit?usp=sharing

c. Heating Fuel Bid (Motion Required)

Mr. Brown asked if there was any discussion about getting all the fuel needs for the Town from one vendor. Questioning if it would be a bigger contract (increased buying power) so a better price on all the items. Mr. Godfrey explained that currently the contracts are separate and have different ending times so it would be difficult to do that right now.

There was also discussion led by Mr. Grassi and Ms. Souza if it would be beneficial to enter into the contract with the School. Mr. Grassi asked this at a prior meeting and as to date the Town has not entered into any discussion with the school about this. Mr. Godfrey will follow up on this.

Selectboard Member, Dan Fraser made the motion to approve the bid award to Dead River Company in the amount of \$2.2711/gallon for heating fuel oil. Selectboard Clerk, Dennis Brown seconded the motion. 6 were in favor, 1 was not in favor (Grassi), the motion passed.

d. Bluff Road Acceptance (Motion Required)

The Upper Valley Waldorf School completed an expansion with site improvements to their facility on Bluff Road in Quechee Village during the 2018 construction season. The Hartford Planning Commission approved the project requiring the first 100'± of Bluff Road be widened to improve safety with the intersection of Quechee Main Street, see Site Plan Approval #17-03.

Selectboard Clerk, Dennis Brown made the motion to accept the current roadway improvements in Bluff Road and deed. Selectboard Member, Kim Souza seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

e. Presentation on 5G Technology (Information Only)

Frederica Graham and Pat Fiskien presented their concerns to the Board about 5G Technology and its potential health impacts if unregulated.

5. Commission Meeting Reports:

Selectboard Member, Dan Fraser reminded everyone that the Homelessness Committee meeting is tomorrow (Wed.) morning at the Town Hall. Also, the Tree Committee will be sponsoring a Tree of the Month Club. More details will follow as Mr. Fraser gets them.

Mr. Dennis mentioned that FX Flinn has offered to meet with the Staff to go over the Town Meeting Cycle Process.

6. Consent Agenda (Mot Req.):

Selectboard Member, Kim Souza made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as listed. Selectboard Vice Chair, Dick Grassi seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Approve Payroll Ending: 11/2/2019

Approve Meeting Minutes of: 10/22/2019 & 10/29/2019

Approve A/P Manifest of: 11/1/2019 & 11/5/2019

Selectboard Meeting Dates of:

- Already Approved: 11/19/2019
- Needs Approval: 12/3/2019, 12/10/2019, 12/17/2019

7. Executive Sessions:

Selectboard Vice Chair, Dick Grassi made the motion to go into Executive Session for the Discussion of pending civil litigation to which the Selectboard is or may be a party for which premature general public knowledge would clearly place the public body at a substantial disadvantage [I VSA §313(a)(1)(E)] Selectboard Member, Jameson Davis seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Selectboard Vice Chair, Dick Grassi made the motion to close the Executive Session at 10:50 P.M. Selectboard Member, Dan Fraser seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

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

Selectboard Member, Kim Souza made the motion to Adjourn the meeting at 10:52 P.M. Selectboard Member, Dan Fraser 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.
