



**TOWN OF HARTFORD
SELECTBOARD MINUTES
BUDGET WORKSHOP**

Thursday, November 29, 2017 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; Selectboard Member; Alan Johnson, Selectboard Member; Jameson Davis, Selectboard Member; Kim Souza, Selectboard Member; Leo Pullar, Town Manager; Hannah Tyler, Director of Public Works; Jeremy Delisle, Public Works; Scott Hausler, Director of Parks and Recreation; Dawn Pullar; Mike Morris; Margaret Richardson; Rick Senuta; Michael Redmond; Skip Nalette; Hilde Ojibway; Dave Sherman; Graham Robinson; David Briggs; Peggy Adams; Barbara Farnsworth; Tim Fariel; George Lucke; Jeff Arnold; Lannie Collins.

Absent: Rebecca White, Selectboard Member.

I. Call to Order Selectboard Meeting

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

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Michael Morris led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Order of Agenda: There were no changes to the order of Agenda.

Citizen Comments:

Barbara Farnsworth, spoke in favor of the pool, cited the access of using that to distribute food through the HCC there.

Michael Redman from Upper Valley Haven supports pool, uses of the Haven also use the pool, so they've missed it and had to transport people to other water facilities during the summer months.

Peggy Richardson, pool hours not convenient for working families.

Jeff Arnold, supports the pool. Wants to fund through LOT and a bond. Letter from Mr. Arnold is attached.

David Briggs, supports pool, and using LOT to help pay for it.

Gail Guernsey, supports the pool.

Selectboard Comments: None

IV. Selectboard

1. Budget Workshop:

a. Parks & Recreation (511/512/514/515/516/521/524/527/528/530/531)

Presentation from Scott Hausler, Director of Parks & Recreation.

Lannie Collins, comments on van, make it multiple use eg. Share w/Senior Ctr.
Comment on mowing, comments on pool and had concerns on the expense of it.

Hilde Ojibway, comments in support of pool, not having it will add to social issues amongst young kids.

Joe Trottier, comments on pool and UVAC, put this before the voters

Tim Ferial, comments on pool and requested to explore more options

b. Public Works (311/312/313/314/315/321/325/351)

Presentation from Hannah Tyler, Director of Public Works.

c. Solid Waste (Fund 30)

Lannie Collins asked about the washout on Rt. 5, and the damages caused from this to Neal and Rustic Rd.

Presentation from Hannah Tyler, Director of Public Works.

d. Water (Fund 50, 55)

Presentation from Hannah Tyler, Director of Public Works.

e. Wastewater (Fund 60, 65)

Presentation from Hannah Tyler, Director of Public Works.

V. Future Selectboard Meeting/Workshop Date(s):

- Already Approved: 12/4/2018, 12/6/2018 (Budget Workshop) 12/11/2018 (Budget Workshop), 12/18/2018, 1/2/2019, 1/8/2019 (Budget Workshop), & 1/10/2019 (Budget Workshop)

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

Selectboard Vice Chair, Dick Grassi made the motion to Adjourn the meeting at 10:13 P.M.

Selectboard Member, Jamison 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.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dan L. N.", is written over a horizontal line.

Note: J. Arnold letter is attached.

Nov. 29, 2018

My three children learned how to swim at Sherman Manning Pool during the years 2000-2008. It was a very lively venue that was used by many other children and frequented by parents.

We run a daycare and many of our graduates attended the Recreational Department's Ventures Camps which used the pool during their daily activities.

Homeless families staying at the Haven regularly use the pool because they can simply walk to it.

HCRS (Health Care and Rehabilitation Services) campers also use the pool.

When the pool closed in 2015, and then again in 2017 and this past summer, there were many cries from regular users to reopen it. Rutland's Municipal Pool faced a similar crisis when its pool closed in 2014. It took them three years to rebuild and open it. Once it reopened, its revenues covered its operational costs.

Our pool opened on June 24, 1967, 51 years ago, and only cost \$97,000 or \$679,000 in today's dollars so it is rather upsetting that Weston and Sampson said it may cost \$3.6 million to replace it with two smaller pools that only hold about half the volume of water that are present pool holds. Rutland replaced their pool that was designed by this same company for a cost of \$2.5 million. Obviously, there are many questions around the cost of replacing our pool that need to be looked at and only an engineering study will give us those answers.

Given that the pool has very deep roots in this community and many of our children learned how to swim there or used it during recreational camps and it offered a healthy, supervised, outdoor experience that can't be replicated at UVAC or in the White or Connecticut Rivers, I believe, and so do many others that the pool is an important asset to this community that should be replaced and renewed.

Fortunately, we have a steady revenue stream from Local Option Taxes that amounted to \$278,000 this year which if leveraged to pay down bond payments for 20 years using 50% of those annual revenues, 2 million dollars of pool reconstruction costs could be paid for without raising our property taxes one cent.

I hope that you see the need for a municipal pool in Hartford, at our high school, and fund the \$70,000 necessary to do the engineering study that will lead up to the bonding of the pool in the spring of 2020. To sum up the town's sentiment about the pool, I will share what the Town Manager's executive secretary, Paula Nulty wrote on Facebook on December 7, 2016:

"Thanks, [Jeff](#) for shining a light on the pool issue. I support the Hartford Town Pool 100%: all age recreation, invaluable lessons, community attractiveness, and just fun! I interviewed the guards this summer and their own enthusiasm was boundless. It's an important part of our town worth the investment."

Thank you

Jeff Arnold