

**TOWN OF HARTFORD
SELECTBOARD MINUTES**

Tuesday, January 28, 2020, 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; Dan Fraser, Selectboard Member; Alan Johnson, Selectboard Member; Kim Souza, Selectboard Member; Brannon Godfrey, Town Manager; Lana Livingston, Administrative Assistant; Lori Hirshfield; Hannah Tyler; Scott Cooney; Erin Parizo; Greg Edwards; Sean Neely; Bethany Fleishman; Donald Hemenway; Richard Schramm; Alexander Schramm; Jim Borelli; Agnes Anna Zephyr; Clare Forseth; Dave Sherman; Tim McGary; Nancy Howe; Cathy Melocik; March Bartlett; Dennis Smith; Christopher Andreasson; Richard Brittain; Zachary Bryan; Kristine McDevitt; Samantha Dunn; Phil Kasten; Scott Cooney; Thom & Janice Valley; Lannie Collins.

Absent: Jameson Davis, Selectboard Member

CATV Link: <http://catv.cablecast.tv/CablecastPublicSite/show/11115?channel=1>

I. Call to Order the Selectboard Meeting

Selectboard Chair, Simon Dennis called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M.

II. Pledge of Allegiance: Selectboard Vice-Chair, Dick Grassi led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Local Liquor Control Board: N/A

IV. Order of Agenda: No changes

V. Selectboard

1. Public, Selectboard Comments and Announcements:

Citizen comments: Cathy Melocik from Wilder asked if the sidewalks and crosswalks on Hartford Avenue, Rte. 5, could be looked at. They are not being cleared. Also, there is poor lighting near Chandler Road where there is an AT Stop but no sidewalk and no crosswalk.

Selectboard comments: Kim Souza has been visiting and listening to area Selectboards and Councils to see how they are handling Welcoming Ordinances. She also noted that Lebanon is recently making Zoning Adjustments to allow for affordable housing.

Alan Johnson wanted residents to know that the speed signs for Wilder's Rt 5 are in this next year's budget. If the budget passes on March 3rd, the signs are likely to be put up after July 2020.

Simon Dennis reported that 2 events held at the Quechee Library and Bugbee Senior Center this past week were well attended.

2. Appointments: N/A

3. Special Presentation

- a. VTrans Rte. 5 Corridor Transportation Alternatives (motion required)

Selectboard Vice Chair, Dick Grassi made the motion to approve the Route 5 Corridor Transportation Alternatives as presented. Selectboard Member, Alan Johnson seconded the motion. 5 were in favor, 1 (Brown) was not in favor. The motion passed.

Kim Souza and Dennis Brown asked if an explanation could be given to the Board about why the ramp entrance was never put back.

Selectboard Chair, Simon Dennis recessed the Selectboard meeting and opened the Public hearing at 7:25 P.M.

4. Public Hearing: Vermont Community Development Program Application for Wentworth Phase 2 and Wilder Housing Project

Lori Hirshfield, Town of Hartford Director of Planning and Development, gave an overview of the proposed \$400,000 Vermont Community Development Program (VCDP) grant that would be subgranted to Twin Pines Housing Trust to develop 21 new units of mixed income housing on two sites. Andrew Winter, Executive Director of Twin Pines Housing, gave a more detailed summary of the proposed development and site plans.

Marcy Bartlett from Wilder Village asked if there were any other changes to the original site plan for the Wilder site other than the pitch of the roof. Andrew Winter stated there were four: roof pitch; eliminating light in the rear of the building to reduce the impact on the adjoining neighborhood; reduced the height of one light to focus it on the parking area; and additional stormwater filtration in a section of the site.

Ms. Bartlett noted her appreciation, and the neighborhood working together with Twin Pines in the future.

There were no additional public comments.

Selectboard Chair, Simon Dennis closed the public hearing and reopened the Selectboard Meeting at 8:45 P.M.

5. Board Reports, Motions & Ordinances:

- a. Vermont Community Development Program Application for Wentworth Phase 2 and Wilder Housing Project (motion required)

Selectboard Member, Alan Johnson made the motion to approve the submittal of the grant application for the Wentworth Community Development Housing Phase 2 (includes the Wilder Housing Project) and authorize the Town Manager to take all necessary actions to apply for and implement the grant And to approve and sign the Resolution for VCDP Grant Application Authority. Selectboard Member, Dan Fraser seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b. Sale of 175 Newton Lane and 1346 Jericho Street (motion required)

Selectboard Member, Dan Fraser made the Motion to Authorize the sale of #4-29 (175 Newton Lane) for \$18,264.82 and #4-24 (1346 Jericho Street) for \$23,780.25 to Thomas and Janice Valley, 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.

c. FY21 - FY26 Capital Improvement Plan (motion required)

Selectboard Clerk, Dennis Brown made the motion to approve the FY21 – FY26 Capital Improvement Plan as presented by the Town Manager. Selectboard Member, Kim Souza seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

d. Selectboard Self Evaluation (information only)

At the next meeting on February 11th the Board will look at ways to self-evaluate. Kim Souza will look for a rubric. They may also just do a workshop and use the white board method.

e. Town Manager Evaluation Rubric (information only)

The Board decided to use the new form presented by the Town Manager. Board members are to bring their complete forms to the next meeting.

6. **Town Manager's Report:** This Significant Activity Report ending January 27, 2020.

Link: <https://www.hartford-vt.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/177>

Good news is that VTRANS will pay for the Hartford Bridge Repair.

7. **Commission Meeting Reports:**

Kim Souza reported from HCOREI. They are working their way towards interviewing 3 applicants for the opening they have on the committee.

Dan Fraser thanked Paula Nulty for all the hard work she did to get the Town Report ready for publication.

8. **Consent Agenda (Motion Required):** **Selectboard Member, Kim Souza made**

the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as corrected. Selectboard Vice Chair, Dick Grassi seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Approve Payroll Ending: 1/25/2020

Approve Meeting Minutes of: 1/14/2020, 1/21/2020 & 1/24/2020

Approve A/P Manifest of: 1/24/2020 and 1/28/2020

Selectboard Meeting Dates of:

- Already Approved: 2/11/2020 and 2/25/2020

9. Executive Session:

Discussion of a Labor Relations Agreement for which premature general public knowledge would clearly place the public body at a substantial disadvantage [I VSA §313(a)(1)(B)]

Selectboard Vice Chair, Dick Grassi made the motion that pursuant to 1 VSA 313(a){1}{B) that the premature general public knowledge of the Comprehensive Tentative Agreement with the Fire Union dated December 13, 2019 will clearly place the Selectboard at a substantial disadvantage." At 10:00 P.M. Selectboard Member, Alan Johnson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Selectboard Vice-Chair, Dick Grassi made the motion to go into executive session to discuss the Comprehensive Tentative Agreement dated December 13, 2019. Selectboard Member, Alan Johnson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Selectboard Member, Alan Johnson made the motion to close the Executive Session at 10:45 PM. Selectboard Member, Dan Fraser seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

10. Consideration of Collective Bargaining Agreement with Hartford Career Firefighters' Association Local 2905 of the International Association of Firefighters.


Selectboard Member, Alan Johnson made the motion to approve the changes to the Fire Union contract that expired on June 30, 2017 as described in the comprehensive Tentative Agreement dated December 13, 2019." Selectboard Member, Dan Fraser seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

11. Adjourn the Selectboard Meeting (Motion Required):

Selectboard Vice-Chair, Dick Grassi made the motion to close the Selectboard Meeting at 10:50P.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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "D. L. N.", is written above a solid horizontal line. The signature is cursive and extends to the right of the line.