



TOWN OF HARTFORD SELECTBOARD MINUTES

Tuesday, February 21, 2023, 6:00pm
Hartford Town Hall, 171 Bridge Street,
White River Junction, VT 05001

This meeting was conducted in person at Town Hall

Present: Michael Hoyt, Chair; Kim Souza, Clerk; Lannie Collins, Member; Mary Erdei, Member; Rocket, Member, Ally Tufenkjian, Member; Lana Livingston; Gail Ostrout; Adams Carroll; Marcy Bartlett; Janelle Sahutski; Miriam Wood; Cathy Melocik; Heidi Duto; Susanne Abetti; John Hall; Greg Sheldon;

Present by Zoom: Dan Fraser, Vice-Chair

JAM Link:

<https://catv.cablecast.tv/CablecastPublicSite/show/32858?channel=1>

- I. **Call to Order the Selectboard Meeting** by Chair, Mike Hoyt at 6:00PM
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited and led by Chief Greg Sheldon.
- III. **Local Liquor Control Board.**
Selectboard Chair, Mike Hoyt recessed the Selectboard meeting and opened the Local Liquor Control Board at 6:02 PM.

Renewals:

Selectboard member, Mary Erdei made the motion to approve the renewals of 1st and 3rd Class licenses for Crazy Chris's Elixir Corp. Doing Business As: Elixir, 188 Main Street, White River Junction, VT 05001 and Blood's Catering & Party Rentals, 1147 Hartford Ave., White River Junction, VT 05001. Selectboard Member, Ally Tufenkjian seconded the motion. 5 were in favor, 1 recused (Souza) and 1 (Fraser) abstained. The motion passed.

Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins made the motion to approve the renewal of a 1st Class liquor license for Phnom Penh Sandwich Station, 7 North Main Street, White River Junction, VT 05001. Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei seconded the motion. 5 were in favor, 1 recused (Souza) and 1 (Fraser) abstained. The motion passed.

Selectboard Member, Ally Tufenkjian made the motion to approve the renewals of 2nd Class Liquor License for Cynthia A. Walker, Doing Business As: Quechee General Store, 4473 Woodstock Road, Quechee, VT 05059 and Class for Scavenger Gallery, 41 South Main St. White River Junction, VT 05001. Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei seconded the motion. 5 were in favor, 1 recused (Souza) and 1 (Fraser) abstained. The motion passed.

Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins made the motion to approve the renewal of 1st, 2nd, 3rd, Class & Tobacco & Tobacco Endorsement for Summit Stores, LLC, 18 & 42 Sykes Mtn. Avenue, White River Junction, VT 05001. Selectboard Member, Ally Tufenkjian seconded the motion. 5 were in favor, 1 recused (Souza) and 1 (Fraser) abstained. The motion passed.

Selectboard Member, Ally Tufenkjian made the motion to approve the renewal of a 2nd Class, Tobacco & Tobacco Endorsement for Summit Stores, LLC 2479 Woodstock Road, Quechee, VT 05060. Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei seconded the motion. 5 were in favor, 1 recused (Souza) and 1 (Fraser) abstained. The motion passed.

Selectboard Chair, Mike Hoyt closed the Local Liquor Control Board and reopened the Selectboard Meeting at 6:05PM.

IV. **Local Cannabis Control Board:** None

V. **Order of Agenda** – no changes

VI. **Selectboard**

1. Public Comment

Marcy Bartlett from Wilder was grateful for all Frank Klymn has done for the town. She welcomed the new Chief of Police Greg Sheldon and she spoke in favor of lowering the speed limit in Wilder Village.

Cathy Melocik from Wilder spoke in favor of lowering the speed limit in Wilder with also enforcement when available.

Susanne Abetti read a letter in support of the Robin Adair Logan who was not reappointed to the Planning Commission at the last Selectboard meeting.

2. Selectboard Comments and Announcements

Kim Souza has recommendations for Selectboard training that she will put forth after the elections.

Dan Fraser spoke to VT State Law allowing for Selectboard members being able to join the meeting via zoom.

Rocket welcomed the new police chief.

Lannie Collins had reached out to MRI about assisting in the search for the Town Manager. They do not have the capacity right now to take on Hartford. He also asked if anyone had been to the Town Forest lately. He is concerned about the state it is currently in. He would like to hear from the Conservation Commission if there is more work to be done there or is it going to be left as is.

3. Appointments

Reappointments:

1. Selectboard Clerk, Kim Souza made the motion to reappoint Frank Klymn to the Hartford Business Revolving Loan Fund (HBRLF) for a

3 year term beginning February 21, 2023 and ending February 20, 2026. Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

4. Town Manager Report and Significant Activity Report

<https://cms5.revize.com/revize/hartfordvt/Sig%20Acts%20total%20for%202.21.2023.pdf>

5. Board Reports, Motions & Ordinances

a. Auditor Engagement Letter

Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei made the motion that The Selectboard authorizes Michael Hoyt, Selectboard Chair and Gail Ostrout, Finance Director to sign the FYE 2023 Financial Audit Service Engagement letter with Mudgett, Jennett & Krogh-Wisner. Selectboard Clerk, Kim Souza seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b. HCOREI Charge and Quarterly Update

Selectboard Clerk, Kim Souza made the motion to approve the HCOREI Charge as presented. Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei seconded the motion. 5 were in favor and 2 (Rocket/Collins) were not in favor. The motion passed.

c. Wilder Village Speed Limit SB Info

Selectboard Member, Ally Tufenkjian made the motion to Direct the Town Manager to pursue state reduction of the speed limit on Hartford Avenue, north of Bugbee Street to 25 MPH as identified by the Hartford Police Department. Selectboard Clerk, Kim Souza seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

d. Advance Transit Board Member Discussion

Adams Carrol, director of Advance Transit presented an overview of the Advance Transit Board and the current, Town of Hartford, open position that the Selectboard can appoint to the Board.

VII. Commission Reports

Ally Tufenkjian

Housing and Homelessness Committee:

-The committee had its organizational meeting last week and appointed John Haffner Chair, Patrick Danaher as Vice Chair, and Alex Belenzs as Secretary.

-A big thank you to Lori Hirshfield, the committee's staff liaison for helping to coordinate schedules and get the first meeting organized.

-The group reviewed the committee charge and had a great discussion about areas of interest and is excited to get started in its work.

-There are two committee spots open; please apply if interested.

Kim Souza

The Town Plan Steering Committee met on Feb 13. There was substantial discussion about community outreach and engagement relating to gathering input for the Town Plan housing chapter.

Staff went over the project schedule, the opportunity to partner with JAM (Junction Arts & Media), logo/branding for the project, and Community Meeting format & questions for breakout groups.

The first of four community event is planned for Tuesday, February 28th at 6:30 p.m. (a Zoom Discussion of Where Hartford is Today & Where We Want to Be in the Future. For more information, contact Town Planner Matt Osborn at mosborn@hartford-vt.org or 802 478-1118. Subsequent Community Engagement Meetings will be in-person.

- VIII. **Consent Agenda: Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins made the motion to approve the 2/7/2023 Minutes, Selectboard Clerk, Kim Souza seconded the motion. 6 were in favor and 1 (Tufenkjian) abstained. The motion passed.**

Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins made the motion to approve the Consent agenda of: Payroll Ending: 2/18/2023; A/P Manifest of: 2/17/2023 and 2/21/2023. Selectboard Mary Erdie seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Approve Payroll Ending: 2/18/2023

Approve Meeting Minutes of: 2/7/2023

Approve A/P Manifest of: 2/17/2023 and 2/21/2023

Approved Selectboard Meetings: 2/28/2023 (training), 3/6/2023, 3/9/2023 (organizational) and 3/21/2023.

- IX. **Executive Session: Selectboard Member, Ally Tufenkjian made the motion That in accordance with Vermont's Open Meeting Law 1 V.S.A. § 313, the Selectboard enter into Executive Session: To discuss the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee. Selectboard Clerk, Kim Souza seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed. (8:30PM)**

NOTE: Dan Fraser was not present at this post Executive Session.

Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei made the motion to close the Executive Session at 9:11PM. Selectboard Member, Ally Tufenkjian seconded the motion. All were in favor (6), the motion passed.

- X. **Adjourn the Selectboard Meeting**
Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins made the motion to close the Selectboard Meeting at 9:12PM. Selectboard Member, Ally Tufenkjian seconded the motion. All (6) were in favor and the motion passed.



Kim Souza, Clerk
2/21/2023