

## TOWN OF HARTFORD SELECTBOARD MINUTES

Tuesday, March 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; Dan Fraser, Vice Chair; Kim Souza, Clerk; Rocket, Member; Lannie Collins, Member; Mary Erdei, Member; Ally Tufenkjian via Zoom, Member; Paula Nulty, Acting Asst. Town Manager; Dana Clawson, Environmental Sustainability Co-Ordinator; Scott Cooney, Fire Chief; Joe Major, Treasurer; Members of the Public

**Jam Link:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=plmOJqfRedg>

- I. **Call to Order the Selectboard Meeting** by M. Hoyt at 6PM.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. **Local Liquor Control Board:** M. Hoyt recessed the Selectboard Meeting and opened the Local Liquor Control Board.

**New:** a. M. Erdei made the motion seconded by Rocket to approve Northern Stage Company, 76 Gates Street, White River Junction, VT 05001 for Outside Consumption. Passed: 5 in favor, 1 abstained (D. Fraser), 1 recused (K. Souza).

### **Renewals:**

M. Erdei made the motion seconded by A. Tufenkjian to approve the renewal of Cumberland Farms of Vermont, INC. Doing Business As: Cumberland Farms #8007, 1167 Hartford Avenue, White River Junction, VT 05001 for 2<sup>nd</sup>, Tobacco and Tobacco Substitute Endorsement. Passed: 5 in favor, 1 abstained (D. Fraser), 1 recused (K. Souza).

L. Collins made the motion seconded by M. Erdei to approve the renewal of Little Istanbul Inc. Doing Business As: Little Istanbul, 27 North Main Street, White River Junction, VT 05001 for 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed: 5 in favor, 1 abstained (D. Fraser), 1 recused (K. Souza).

M. Erdei made the motion seconded by A. Tufenkjian to approve the renewal of Jennifer Kaar, Doing Business As: The Filling Station, 70 Gates Street, White River Junction, VT 05001 for 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>. Passed: 5 in favor, 1 abstained (D. Fraser), 1 recused (K. Souza).

M. Erdei made the motion seconded by A. Tufenkjian to approve the renewal of It's About Thyme, Doing Business As: Thyme Restaurant, 85 North Main Street, White River Junction, VT 05001 for 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and Outside Consumption. Passed: 5 in favor, 1 abstained (D. Fraser), 1 recused (K. Souza).

L. Collins made the motion seconded by M. Erdei to approve the renewal of Montshire Services, LLC Doing Business As: Bob's Service Center, 4 Ballardvale Drive, White River Junction, VT 05001 for 2<sup>nd</sup> and Tobacco. Passed: 5 in favor, 1 abstained (D. Fraser), 1 recused (K. Souza).

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

**V. Order of Agenda:** Without objection, moved Selectboard Comments to before Public Comment.

**VI. Selectboard**

**1. Selectboard Comments and Announcements**

D. Fraser stated actions directed from L. Collins stop.

Rocket shared his experience as Board member and in general and concerns with treatment as both, is considering resignation, apologized to public and Board for any past actions, left meeting as protest.

K. Souza addressed Rocket and did not concur with some of his recollections.

Lannie spoke to concerns with Board.

**2. Public Comment – All residents of Hartford.**

David Briggs spoke in support of re-opening Gates Street connection to Terraces. Board requested update from Public Works Dept. on Gates Street assessment.

Nicole Affeldt spoke about 3/9/23 Meeting and Selectboard's role.

John Hall spoke in support of team building and listening sessions for Board.

David Allen spoke to the Board focusing on work to be done.

Sue-Ellen Parmenter spoke about race, Town committees, addiction, huts, and focusing on drug problems in Town.

Heidi Duto asked when the Strategic Plan on Equity and Inclusion would be implemented, and spoke to Board work on the Town.

Todd Campbell supports David Briggs and re-opening Gates Street, asked if re-doing street was included in ARPA designated funding of water main repairs for Street, Board responded it was not.

Kelly Armbrust spoke in support of Jon Hall.

Bridget Armbrust spoke in support of procedure for Board.

Joe Major spoke to differing opinions on the Board and the work of HCOREI.

Geri Williams supports Terraces neighborhood and made observations of Board.

Michelle Boleski spoke to the Strategic Plan for Equity and Inclusion in tandem with School Board and the Town Manager Search Committee.

Mike Morris spoke to training , in Robert's Rules and the Town Charter for the Board.

Gayle Ottmann spoke in support of a retreat for Board members.

### **3. Appointments**

- a. The Board tabled the Appointment of Jennifer Kravitz to the Committee on Housing and Homelessness for a two year term beginning March 21, 2023 and ending March 20, 2025.
- b. D. Fraser made the motion seconded by M. Erdei to reappoint Katie Mann to the Hartford Conservation Commission for a four year term beginning March 21, 2023 and ending March 20, 2027. Passed: 6 in favor, 1 absent (Rocket).

### **4. Significant Activity Report**

The Board directed P. Nulty to extend invitations to all libraries in Town to report on their operations and positions in Hartford.

The Board directed P. Nulty to request a paving plan schedule from Public Works.

The Board directed P. Nulty to request an update from Planning on the ARPA funds earmarked for housing matters.

The Board directed P. Nulty to report on staffing levels across all Town Departments.

### **5. Board Reports, Motions & Ordinances**

- a. Town Hall Heat Pump Overview was presented by D. Clawson.
- b. UNH's Sustainability Institute, Jennifer Andrews, Project Director, with D. Clawson presented Town of Hartford Carbon Footprint Report; Erik Krauss, Tim Fariel, and Mike Morris, all of Hartford, called in to address the study; the Board directed P. Nulty to request a report on the Town's EV charging stations.
- c. D. Fraser made a motion seconded by K. Souza to approve the EMPG 20 Local Emergency Management and EOC Enhancement Grant. Passed: Passed: 6 in favor, 1 absent (Rocket).
- c. K. Souza made a motion seconded by D. Fraser to choose Vermont League of Cities and Towns as the vendor to conduct the Town Manager Search. Passed: 5 in favor, 1 against (Collins), 1 absent (Rocket). Cathy Melocik, Gabrielle Lucke, Tim Fariel, Mike Morris, Joe Major, and Heidi Duto spoke to the work, membership, and/or role Search Committee.

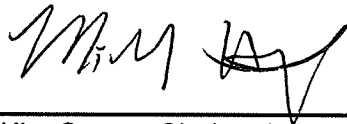
- d. D. Fraser made the motion seconded by Mary Erdei to confirm K. Souza as Selectboard Training Coordinator. Passed: 5 in favor, 1 abstained (Souza), 1 absent (Rocket).
- e. K. Souza made the motion seconded by D. Fraser to ratify change to Town Manager Search Committee charge. Passed: 5 in favor, 1 against (Collins), 1 absent (Rocket).

**VII. Consent Agenda:** D. Fraser made the motion seconded by M. Erdei to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of 3/9/23 Meeting Minutes to be tabled. Passed: 6 in favor, 1 absent (Rocket).

Approve Payroll Ending: 3/18/2023  
Approve Meeting Minutes of: 3/6/2023 and 3/9/2023  
Approve A/P Manifest of: 3/17/2023 and 3/21/2023  
Approve Selectboard Meetings: 4/4/2023 and 4/18/2023

**VIII. Executive Session:** That in accordance with Vermont's Open Meeting Law 1 V.S.A. § 313, I move that the Selectboard enter into Executive Session: To discuss the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee. Tabled.

**IX. Adjourn the Selectboard Meeting:** D. Fraser made the motion seconded by M. Erdei to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:45PM. Passed: 6 in favor, 1 absent (Rocket).



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~~Kim Souza, Clerk~~ MIKE HOYT, SELECTBOARD CHAIR  
3/21/23 Minutes

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Date