

TOWN OF HARTFORD SELECTBOARD MINUTES

Tuesday, June 13, 2023

This meeting was conducted in person at Town Hall

Present: Selectboard: Michael Hoyt, Chair; Dan Fraser, Vice-Chair; Lannie Collins, Member; Mary Erdei, Member; Rocket, Member, Ally Tufenkjian, Member; Others: Lana Livingston; Gail Ostrout; Paula Nulty; Joe Major; Heidi Duto; Sara Campbell; Rebecca Whitney; Cassie Kolok; Virginia Stone; Erica Fallon; Cindy & Doug Kussius; Wendy DeCoff; Amelia Donahey

School Board Present: Kevin Christie; Peter Merrill; Nancy Russell; Doug Heavisides; Russell North; Tom DeBalsi; Roy Hathorn

Present on Zoom: Kim Souza, Clerk;

JAM Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G0F7M42vhrM>

- I. Call to Order the of the Selectboard Meeting by Michael Hoyt at 6:04pm.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance led by Selectboard Member Rocket.
- III. Call to Order the School Board Meeting; by Kevin Christie at 6:05pm.
- IV. Joint School Board & Selectboard Equity Meeting - facilitated by Mary Gannon from the Vermont Partnership for Fairness & Diversity.
 - A. Welcome – round table discussion began.
 - B. Community Agreements
 - C. Background & Context
 - D. Board Equity Updates
 - E. Hartford Community on Racial Equity & Inclusion Quarterly Update
 - F. Discussion on Board Collaboration & Next Steps
 - G. Adjourn the Selectboard Meeting by Mike Hoyt at 8:05pm.
 - H. Adjourn the School Board Meeting by Kevin Christie at 8:10pm.
- V. Open the Regular Selectboard Meeting by Mike Hoyt at 8:20pm.
- VI. Local Liquor Control Board: None
- VII. Local Cannabis Control Board: None
- VIII. Order of Agenda: no changes
- IX. Selectboard
 1. Public Comment

CHICo from JAM addressed the Selectboard about the new camera setup using the “owls”. It was decided that the Staff would have input on this new proposed system before the Board making any decisions. This will be scheduled for the next Selectboard meeting.

Marie Alvin from WRJ called in to ask if the Haven has been billed for the ambulance calls. Gail Ostrout said that Chief Cooney has responded and Gail

will send Marie another email with his comments. Marie said the police report in the Significant Activity Report was helpful. She also wanted to know when the Park & Ride will get the new signage. Bryan Gazda, DPW Director said they have been ordered and they are waiting for them.

Todd Campbell from WRJ said he watches the Selectboard meetings from home and hopes the new system will not change that.

Michelle Boleski from WRJ provided several suggestions on what could be done to make the Park & Ride safer.

Heidi Duto from WRJ also had several ideas for the Park & Ride.

2. Selectboard Comments and Announcements

Kim Souza reminded people about the Juneteenth Celebration on the 17th at Lyman Point Park, 2-4:30.

Ally Tufenkjian showed a plaque that Joe Major had accepted from the Governor.

Rocket reminded people that the Quechee Ballon Fest is this weekend and they are still looking for volunteers for parking. He also had gone to the West Hartford farmer's market at the WH Library. Many activities including live music!

3. Appointments: None

4. Town Manager and Significant Activity Reports

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

Police:

<https://cms5.revize.com/revize/hartfordvt/Sig%20Acts%206.13%20TOTAL%20POLICE.pdf>

5. Board Reports, Motions & Ordinances

a. South Main Street Parking Lot & Currier Street Reconstruction Award.

Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins made the motion that the Selectboard award the contract to Nott's Excavating, LLC for the South Main Street Parking Lot TIF Project and the Currier Street TIF Project construction for the total amount of \$1,678,741.15, and direct the Town Manager to execute the necessary documents and procedures to implement the construction projects. Selectboard Member, Rocket seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b. Fee Schedule

Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins made the motion to adopt the fiscal year 2024 Fee Schedule, with the Christian St. Cemetery correction and authorize the Acting Town Manager to implement the new rates effective July 1, 2023. Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

X. Commission Reports

Mary Erdei: Parks & Recreation Commission.

First off, there are now 2 (two) vacancies on Parks and Recreation Commission.

A few citizen concerns: Community Gardens and following rules there; also, Girl's youth softball has faced difficulties accessing field space for play, including no bases set out, no mowed grass for 5th and 6th grade girls at Ratcliff despite initiated procedures last year to be organizationally better.

Community Center survey questions put on hold over the summer, but fine-tuning questions continue.

Needle drops for both Diabetes and other drugs continue to concern the Parks and Rec department with Brett Mayfield doing research and finding that this issue is country wide. He suggests we move to mounting needle drop boxes at the most used parks where currently they are found (Ratcliff, Watson, and some at Kilowatt North). They would be less than \$200 and may be much less depending on whether we use metal or plastic boxes you can mount (for the security of children and dogs particularly).

Soft opening for the Sherman Manning Pool this weekend with "Official Opening on June 17th. Need help with parking for Quechee Balloon Festival for Brian Hanson Scholarship Fund and Summer Camp Ventures.

Hartford Conservation Commission

June 5, 2023 At the time of this meeting there is ONE vacancy on the Commission and several interested applicants.

Guest speaker Tiffany Carlson of Quechee, Vt and Connecticut would like to see a concerted effort in the town to promote and provide a Pathway for pollinators. Green Up Day was successful in its efforts despite a lower turnout and less tonnage of waste. Thank you to all. The Tree Board planted 14 trees (Willow, Cottonwoods and Maples) at Lyman Park from nearer to the water rising upward onto the banks. Ted Levin, naturalist, led an early morning May 27th bird walk in the forest where about 12 people attended and app. 22/23 species identified including tanagers, warblers and vireos among others. June 3 was a work day for the town forest involving more than 20 individuals including members and friends of the commission and the UVMBA. Town Forester A.J. Follansbee will be leading a walk thru of the new cuts in the forest and explaining the "design" of the recent logging on Tuesday, June 26th. The commission discussed bramble seed dispersal, particularly scattering berries by the new log landings both for habitat health and to invite pollinators, particularly bees, and to encourage growth in the area. A date of August 17 at 6 pm is set for dispersal of seeds in the berries for this purpose at the Hurricane Forest log landing. More information regarding "gifts" of berries/ seed dispersal will be forthcoming. Finally, next Spring, April/May the Commission hope to involve the town in working on invasive species that are working into the forest and its roadways: Honeysuckle, Garlic Mustard and Japanese Barberry.

Kim Souza

On May 31st, the Planning Commission/Town Plan Steering Committee held a meeting that focused on review of draft goals, strategies, and actions for the Housing Chapter of the Town Plan. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 29th. Look for more information on this at the Home for Hartford Page on the Town Website.

Town Manager Search Committee met on June 8th and went over the final recruitment materials so that the position can be posted. Resumes will be due early July and the first round of interviews should begin in late July. We will be discussing potential interview questions at our next meeting on June 22nd.

- XI. Consent Agenda: Selectboard Vice Chair, Dan Fraser made the motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Selectboard Member, Rocket seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Approve Payroll Ending: 6/10/2023

Approve Meeting Minutes of: 5/30/2023

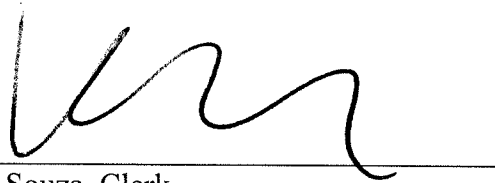
Approve A/P Manifest of: 6/9/2023 and 6/15/2023

Selectboard Meetings Already Approved: 6/20/2023 & 6/27/2023

- XII. Executive Session: Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins made the motion to discuss the appointment/employment/evaluation of a public officer/employee in Executive Session. Selectboard Member, Ally Tufenkjian seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Selectboard Vice Chair, Dan Fraser made the motion to close the Executive meeting at 9:55pm. Selectboard Member, Rocket seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

- XIII. Adjourn the Selectboard Meeting
Selectboard Member, Ally Tufenkjian made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:55pm. Selectboard Member, Rocket seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.



Kim Souza, Clerk
6.13.2023 Meeting