



## TOWN OF HARTFORD SELECTBOARD MINUTES

Tuesday, August 22, 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; Lannie Collins, Member; Mary Erdei, Member; Rocket, Member; Ally Tufenkjian, Member; Lana Livingston; Gail Ostrout; Rick Vincent; Scott Hausler; Bryan Gazda; Chris Holzworth; Chris Lathrop; Jacob Wimett; Sally Bellew; Sara Campbell; Todd Campbell; Lynn Bohi; Aaron Warner; Heidi Duto; Gabrielle Lucke; Will Adler; Susan Mullens;

**Zoom:** Kim Souza, Clerk; Dan Fraser, Vice Chair; Marcy Bartlett

**JAM Link:** [Hartford Selectboard 08/22/23 - YouTube](#)

- I. Call to Order the Selectboard Meeting by Chair, Mike Hoyt at 6PM.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance was recited and led by Rocket.
- III. Local Liquor Control Board: None
- IV. Local Cannabis Control Board: None
- V. Order of Agenda: there were no changes to the order of agenda.
- VI. Selectboard

1. Public Comment

Lynn Bohi, from Wilder and the Charter Committee, noted that the Charter that had been on the original agenda but taken off before this meeting was warned hoped that this meant that the new Town Manager would be part for the Charter review process.

Aaron Warner, from Hartford, spoke to the Board with his concerns about the HCOREI committee. He warned the Board that committees like this doing DEI work have been hit with lawsuits recently all over the country.

Marcy Bartlett from Wilder called to say she had the read the article about the new Town Manager and she is glad to hear it.

2. Selectboard Comments and Announcements

All the Selectboard members welcomed the new Town Manager, John Haverstock, who will beginning October 2<sup>nd</sup>. They also thanked Gail & Paula for the work they have done in the absence of a Town Manager these last few months.

Mary Erdei added that she had a good experience with the Hartford police when they were attending to the deceased husband of a friend she was visiting.

3. Appointments:
- a. **Selectboard Member, Ally Tufenkjian made the motion to appoint Susan Mullens to the Hartford Committee on Racial Equity and Inclusion (HCOREI) for a two-year term beginning August 22, 2023 and ending August 21, 2025. Selectboard Member, Rocket seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**

4. Town Manager Significant Activity Report: <https://www.hartford-vt.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/450>

Significant Activity Reports: <https://www.hartford-vt.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/449>

5. Board Reports, Motions & Ordinances
- a. State of Vermont Re-Appraisal Order  
**Selectboard Member, Rocket made the motion to authorize the Chair to sign the State's re-appraisal order. Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**
  - b. Errors & Omissions Correction to 2023 Property Value & Grand List  
**Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins made the motion to Approve the Errors & Omissions correction to the property located at 186 Hillcrest Terrace, Map ID 45/28, SPAN #10213 & 2023 Grand List. Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei seconded the motion. 6 were in favor, 1 recused (Souza), the motion passed.**
  - c. Purchase of Two Electric Mowers  
**Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei made the motion to authorize the Town Manager to sign for and purchase the Toro Z Master Mowers through the Sourcewell Contract as identified in the attached documents and invoice for \$72,851.60. Selectboard Member, Ally Tufenkjian seconded the motion. 5 were in favor, 1 not in favor (Collins), the motion passed.**
  - d. Gates Street and Fairview Terrace Retaining Walls Engineering  
The Selectboard, by consensus, agreed that option 4 would be the best option going forward. This is also the option that DPW supported.
  - e. VLCT Annual Meeting Voting Delegate  
**Selectboard Clerk, Kim Souza made the motion to appoint Lannie Collins as the voting delegate for the VLCT Annual Meeting for the Town of Hartford. Selectboard Member, Ally Tufenkjian seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**
  - f. Community Safety Review RFP Results  
After discussion, these are the dates/plans going forward so far:
    - Gail Ostrout will reach out to the Bidders to ask if their deadlines can be extended to October 31<sup>st</sup>.
    - By the next meeting, September 5<sup>th</sup>, all Selectboard members will have reviewed all six of the RFPs.
    - At the September 5<sup>th</sup> meeting, Lannie Collins will bring a scoring matrix that the Board can use to Rank the RFPs.

- A possible special meeting to discuss the RFPs may be held on September 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Ally Tufenkjian suggested that the Selectboard make time to interview all the bidders.

g. Town Manager Search Update

John Haverstock has been selected to be Hartford's Town Manager. He will start on October 2, 2023.

- VII. Executive Session: **Selectboard Member, Ally Tufenkjian made the motion that because we are conducting a search for a Town Manager, I move that we enter executive session to discuss employment of a public officer/employee pursuant to title 1, Section 313(a)(3). Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**

**Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins made the motion to close the executive session at 8:20PM. Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**

\*\*Please note: Selectboard Member, Rocket left the meeting at this time.

VIII. Commission Reports

Hartford Parks and Recreation, 08/10/2023

Respectfully submitted by Mary Erdei, Selectboard Liaison

Citizen comments included a request for a Bocce Ball court layout at Maxfield or Frost Park for the community. Director Scott Hausler reported that most of the parks were not badly affected by the flooding. Only Quechee Falls Park was affected negatively, primarily with the fencing ripped away, lighting fixtures and bark mulch, and Springfield Fence will hopefully replace the fencing in the next week or so. Silt and debris has made for labor intensive work to clean up, particularly at the Watson Dog Park.

Discussion ensued regarding playground updates. Lyman and Maxfield Parks are the most used and concerns over accessibility to playgrounds is now being considered. Hurricane Trail Run moved to August 26th as a result of flooding. Discussion also centered around a Vermont State Building Communities Grant for activities and structures.

- IX. Consent Agenda: **Selectboard Member, Ally Tufenkjian made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**

Approve Payroll Ending: 8/19/2023

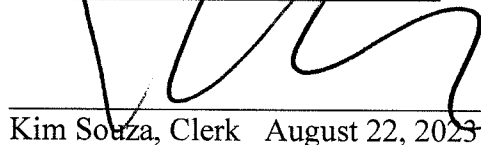
Approve Meeting Minutes of: 8/8, 8/9, 8/11 and 8/15/2023

Approve A/P Manifest of: 8/18/2023 and 8/24/2023

Selectboard Meetings Already Approved: 9/5 & 9/19/2023

- X. Adjourn the Selectboard Meeting

**Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins made the motion to adjourn the selectboard meeting at 8:25PM. Selectboard Vice Chair, Dan Fraser seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**



Kim Souza, Clerk August 22, 2023 meeting.