



TOWN OF HARTFORD SELECTBOARD MINUTES

Tuesday, November 16, 2021, 6:00pm
Hartford Town Hall, 171 Bridge Street, White River Junction, VT 05001

Present: Dan Fraser, Chair; Joseph Major, Vice-Chair; Kim Souza, Clerk; Dennis Brown, Member; Lannie Collins, Member; Michael Hoyt, Member; Ally Tufenkjian, Member; Tracy Yarlott-Davis, Town Manager; Lana Livingston, Administrative Assistant; Gail Ostrout, Director of Finance; Stephanie Gile; Mary Erdei; Heidi Duto.

ZOOM Participants: Ted Levin, Bonnie Dow, John Mudgett, Tammi Stammers

CATV LINK: <https://catv.cablecast.tv/CablecastPublicSite/show/18460?channel=1>

- I. **Call to Order the Selectboard Meeting:** Selectboard Chair, Dan Fraser called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited.
- III. **Local Liquor Control Board:** None
- IV. **Order of Agenda:** There were no changes to the Order of Agenda.

V. Selectboard

1. **Public Comment-** Heidi Duto of WRJ thanked Joe Major for hosting a very good public session on Homelessness. At the last Selectboard meeting Ms. Duto handed out information pertaining to Simon Dennis continuing to build the small structures for the unhoused. She noted that the charges for cleanup of Prospect Street were in this week's manifest. She would like to know how much more money the town is expected to pay for cleanups of Mr. Dennis' structures. Discussion followed on how and when the Town is responsible to do these cleanups. Ms. Duto also asked Selectboard Chair, Dan Fraser if he was going to apologize to Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins for his remarks of 2 meetings ago. This was in response to Mr. Kendall asking him to apologize at the last meeting.

Tammie Stammers from WRJ via Zoom asked if the Town officials knew about the trailer/camper that is now located at the South Main Street parking lot. There seems to also be 2 dogs as well. Mr. Fraser thanked Ms. Stammers and said they would look into it.

2. Selectboard Comments and Announcements

Ally Tufenkjian commented on more information she has gotten about the Climate change committee. Implementations from Global and State sources may trickle down to us. She is glad that we have the Climate plan and noted that we have some of these things in the plan and glad we have it already in place.

Ally Tufenkjian also wanted to offer condolences to the family of Wesley Black and thanks for his service to the Town.

Kim Souza thanked Joe Major for organizing the housing symposium. She also is waiting for Gov. Scott to decide to enable the Towns to place masks mandates. This may come back to the Selectboard to make decisions.

3. Appointments

- a. Selectboard Member, Dennis Brown made the motion to Re-Appoint Clare Forseth to the Hartford Tree Board for a three-year term beginning November 16, 2021 and ending November 15, 2024. Selectboard Member, Ally Tufenkjian seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- b. Selectboard Clerk, Kim Souza made the motion to Re-Appoint Anita Hamalainen to the Hartford Design Review Committee for a three-year term beginning November 16, 2021 and ending November 15, 2024. Selectboard Member, Michael Hoyt seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- c. Selectboard Vice Chair, Joe Major made the motion to Appoint Ted Levin to the Hartford Conservation Commission for a four-year term beginning November 16, 2021 and ending November 15, 2025. Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- d. Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins made the motion to Appoint Stephanie Gile to the Hartford Zoning Board of Adjustment for a three-year term beginning November 16, 2021 and ending November 15, 2024. Selectboard Member, Dennis Brown seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

4. Town Manger's Report:

Significant Activity Report Link

<https://www.hartford-vt.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/223>

Town Manger's Report Link

<https://www.hartford-vt.org/DocumentCenter/View/5466/TM-REport-111621>

The Board agreed by consensus that the sign ordinance can be taken off the Town Manager's plate for now. It may be revisited at a later time.

5. Board Reports, Motions & Ordinances

- a. FY 21 Audit Presentation

Link: <https://www.hartford-vt.org/DocumentCenter/View/5467/Hartford-FYE-2021-AUDIT-DRAFT-to-board-111621>

Selectboard Member, Michael Hoyt made the motion to accept the Independent Auditor's Report on the FYE 2021 Draft Financial Statements as presented. Selectboard Vice Chair, Joe Major seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b. Financials Update

Link to Presentation: <https://www.hartford-vt.org/DocumentCenter/View/5469/BOARD-FINAL-PRESENTATION-TOTAL>

VI. Commission Reports:

Kim Souza reported from the Design Review Committee. They act as an advisory committee to the Planning Commission. They are discussing one application around demolition standards in the downtown WRJ district. There is a continuance on this particular application.

Mike Hoyt reported from the School Board meeting. There was a public presentation on the budget. Climate Action Committee he was unable to attend.

Ally Tufenkjian reported from Resilient Hartford. They are done with their fall planting. Working putting fences around trees. Emergency Shelter Committee is working on a meeting with the Planning Department and Planning Commission on the RV policy. HCoreI is working on reviewing the Strategic Plan for Racial Equity and Inclusion and looking at some of those recommendations. They have formed a small working group that will find a timeline to present to the Selectboard with recommendations.

Lannie Collins reported that the Sister City Committee met. They are doing a Hartford-Canon Logo contest. Getting the schools together to work on this. Lannie urged them to involve the private schools as well as the Town school. They are also working on Bulletin Board information for the Quechee Information Center. They are also trying to set up a connection between both technical centers of both schools, Hartford and Canon.

Dennis Brown reported that the Conservation Commission met the beginning of the month. They will be presenting to the Selectboard in the future about the timber harvest in the town forest. They are also working with the upper valley mountain bike group. They have a one-year trial contract with this group. They have received a few thank you notes for maintaining the trails. Some people would like the trail leaf blown. The committee is evaluating whether this is a good idea or not. The Tech Center has also been working up there. They have chopped trees and are putting signs up about what they are doing. They have applied for a water bottle service station grant through Green Up Vermont. Mr. Brown assumes that is for Town Hall.

Dan Fraser Tree Board's tree of the month is the American Liberty Elm Trees located at the Quechee Pocket Park. They are working on getting the application out for the Tree Warden Position as well.

Kim Souza reported that HCoreI is having students attend the meetings. The committee would like to change the charge to add student liaisons that would be able to vote.

VII. Consent Agenda: Selectboard Vice Chair, Joe Major made the motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Selectboard Member, Michael Hoyt seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Approve Payroll Ending: 11/13/2021

Approve Meeting Minutes of: 11/2/2021 & 11/9/2021

Approve A/P Manifest of: 11/12/2021 & 11/16/2021

Selectboard Meeting Dates of: Already Approved: 11/23/2021 (budget); 11/30/2021.

VIII. Executive Session: Selectboard Clerk, Kim Souza made the motion to go into Executive session for a discussion of a contract for an executive search consultant for which premature general public knowledge would clearly place the public body at a substantial disadvantage [I VSA §313(a)(1)(A)]. Selectboard Member, Dennis Brown seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Selectboard Member, Dennis Brown made the motion to close the executive session at 9:24 PM. Selectboard Member, Ally Tufenkjian seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Motion: Selectboard Clerk, Kim Souza made the motion to engage the International Association of Chiefs of Police for a nation-wide search for a Police Chief. Selectboard Member, Ally Tufenkjian seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

IX. Adjourn the Selectboard Meeting: Selectboard Member, Ally Tufenkjian made the motion to adjourn the Selectboard Meeting at 9:25 PM. Selectboard Member, Michael Hoyt seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'AT', written over a horizontal line.