



**TOWN OF HARTFORD
SELECTBOARD MINUTES**

Tuesday, August 16, 2022, 6:00pm
Hartford Town Hall, 171 Bridge Street,
White River Junction, VT 05001

This meeting was conducted in person at Town Hall and on Zoom

Present: Dan Fraser, Vice-Chair; Kim Souza, Clerk; Lannie Collins, Member; Mary Erdei, Member; Rocket, Member, Ally Tufenkjian, Member; Lana Livingston, Administrative Assistant; Heidi Duto; Scott & Patti Holmes.

ZOOM Participants: Michael Hoyt, Chair; Tracy Yarlott-Davis, Town Manager; Marie Alvin

CATV LINK: <https://catv.cablecast.tv/CablecastPublicSite/show/28011?channel=1>

- I. Call to Order the Selectboard Meeting:** by Chair, Mike Hoyt at 6:00PM
- II. Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Rocket
- III. Local Liquor Control Board: NONE**
- IV. Order of Agenda:** There were no changes to the order of agenda.
- V. Selectboard**

1. Public Comment

Scott Holmes of Hartford apologized to Kim Souza for his comments at the last regular meeting. He also apologized to Rocket. He asked why if the Town owns the Bugbee Building that the Handicap accessible doors have not been installed. We need to take care of our senior citizens. Mike Hoyt responded that at the next regular meeting the Board will be addressing the doors at Bugbee.

Joe Major of WRJ addressed the Board. He noted that they are going into a very stressful time as they start the Budget season soon. He would like to stress the need for the following items. Keeping in mind the ARPA funding that is coming.

'1. The town roads are deteriorating. There needs to be a set amount (more than one million) for the repair of these roads.

'2. The Transfer Station needs a plan and money to finance the plan to close it.

'3. Parking meters in downtown.

'4. The Town took over Christian Street cemetery this year and another may follow soon. There needs to be a plan for the operation of these cemeteries.

Marie Alvin of Hartford stressed the need to look ahead and create a plan for the unhoused. She would like to see it go to a townwide vote.

2. Selectboard Comments and Announcements

Kim Souza reminded the other selectboard members that if they are interested in the VLCT training the deadline is approaching.

Rocket said the assessment would show people that are living on the margin of losing their homes. This would be helpful information.

Lannie with a follow up from last night's discussion about the budget. He would like to hold the discussions and department approvals until the end to have the whole picture available.

Mike Hoyt attended the skate board event. It went well. Rocket also commented on it

and said how professional it was run and the neighbors all seemed to enjoy it. Rocket also commended the running of the elections. They have a good process.

3. Appointments: NONE

4. Town Manager's Report

Significant Activity Report:

<https://cms5.revize.com/revize/hartfordvt/AUGUST%2016%20total%20report.pdf>

New Website – still remodeling

Town staff continue to find old links and routing as we clean up the migration. Please email me the broken URL links and we'll put in a ticket to fix them. Tyarlott-davis@hartford-vt.org

We are going to wait until the dust settles on content before editing photos so please stay tuned!

Police Chief Search

Finalist interviews will be completed this week. Each of the top three candidates is spending a day doing interviews and tours of the Town. I will spend a few days reflecting on those interviews and hearing the perspective of the Department Leaders who will also be meeting with them.

Young African Leaders Initiative

Many thanks to the Dickey Center for inviting Hartford to participate in an afternoon of discussion with this program. You can find out more here:

<https://home.dartmouth.edu/news/2022/03/dartmouth-host-young-african-leaders-july>

While the program's mission is to spur economic growth and democratic governance in Africa, I learned a lot hearing their questions and perspectives. We connected one individual to our Parks and Recreation department as he is committed to bringing a robust parks and recreation program to his community.

WRJ Pride

Many thanks to the Main Street Museum for inviting me to Pride. My family has a lot of fun and we are already looking forward to next year.

I also want to thank Jeremy Delisle, Chip Haley, and Nott's Excavating for their work to ensure that the parade route was as smooth and dust free as possible.

Free COVID Tests

Covid-19 is still making its way through our community. I tested positive on August 1. If you have not yet received your free federal Covid-19 tests, please visit: <https://www.covid.gov/tests>.

Upcoming Meeting Topics

These are tentative and subject to move or change. We also include additional items as needed.

August 23: Board finalizes FY24 operating budget priorities, CIP Workshop, HCoreI Update, Informational discussion on proposed housing on Prospect Street

September 6: Tentative discussion on ARPA funding and FY24 Operating Budget, Flag and Banner Policy

September 20: FY22 Encumbrances

If you have an item that you'd like to bring forth to the Board, please email the Chair (mhoyt@hartford-vt.org) and Vice Chair (dfraser@hartford-vt.org). We meet on the Wednesday prior to the meeting to set the agenda.

The agenda is released the Thursday prior to the meeting and supporting documentation is emailed out by 3pm Friday.

5. Board Reports, Motions & Ordinances

a. Parks & Recreation Month Declaration

<https://cms5.revize.com/revize/hartfordvt/2022%20Hartford%20Selectboard%20July%20is%20Rec%20Parks%20Month%20Proclamation.pdf>

Selectboard Ally Tufenkjian made the motion That In accordance with Vermont's Open Meeting Law requirements, I move that the Selectboard enter into Executive Session to discuss the employment, appointment, or evaluation of a Public Officer under the provisions of Title 1, Section 313 (1)(3) of the Vermont Statutes.

Selectboard Clerk, Kim Souza seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Selectboard Clerk, Kim Souza made the motion to close the Executive Session at 8:55PM.
Selectboard Vice Chair, Dan Fraser seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

- a. Climate Action Plan FY24 Operating Budget Priorities was presented by Environmental Sustainability Coordinator, Dana Clawson.

Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins made the motion that
It is requested that the Hartford Selectboard officially dissolve the Climate Advisory Committee and that the Hartford Selectboard approve the Climate Action Steering Team as a working group of the Hartford Energy Commission. As a working group of the Energy Commission the Climate Action Steering Team will continue to follow Open Meeting Law and have a Selectboard Liaison. Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei seconded the motion.
All were in favor and the motion passed.

VI. Commission Reports

Ally Tufenkjian

Resilient Hartford:

- Two work outings were held at the Food Forest on July 6th and July 19th that focused on planting cover crops in the Abenaki Garden and there will be another August work outing.
- A rain gutter system is being developed to support a consistent water source for the Food Forest.
- Developed a list of potential grants for the Food Forest.
- There is still an opening on the Committee; applications are welcome.

Hartford Committee on Racial Equity & Inclusion (HCOREI):

- Briefly discussed the Selectboard DEI trainings and the possibility of having some trainings with both Selectboard and School Board members together; more discussion would be needed between both Boards.
- Met with Tuck School of Business regarding program opportunities that could support the Public Information Officer position. There is a pitch session on Sept. 7th at Tuck where businesses and towns pitch projects to the students. It is likely that Hartford would get chosen; if so, Hartford would get paired with 2 or 3 students. HCOREI will start working on this pitch.
- Gathering supporting documentation for the 'Equitable and Inclusive Communities' Vermont Community Foundation grant to move along the grant application process.

Dan Fraser

Tree Board:

Jeff Henderson is donating his stipend to the Tree Board to help cover cost of trees.
Letter to Key Auto asking them to consider increase green space along edge of property.
Tree walk in Early Sept.

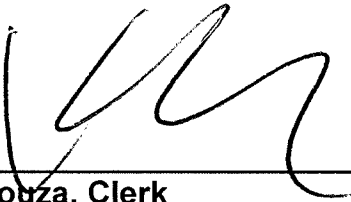
VII. Consent Agenda:

Selectboard Vice Chair, Dan Fraser made the motion to approve the consent agenda.
Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei seconded the motion. All were in favor and the
motion passed – Exception: Lannie Collins abstained from the August 2, 2022 Meeting
Minutes.

Approve Payroll Ending: 8/13/2022
Approve Meeting Minutes of: 7/26/2022 & 8/2/2022
Approve A/P Manifest of: 8/12/2022 & 8/16/2022
Approve Selectboard Meetings: 9/6/2022 & 9/20/2022
Selectboard Meeting Already Approved: 8/23/2022

VIII. Adjourn the Selectboard Meeting: Selectboard Vice Chair, Dan Fraser

made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:55PM. Selectboard Member,
Mary Erdei Seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.



Kim Souza, Clerk