



**TOWN OF HARTFORD
SELECTBOARD
Minutes**

Tuesday, November 29, 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: Michael Hoyt, Chair; Dan Fraser, Vice-Chair; Kim Souza, Clerk; Lannie Collins, Member; Mary Erdei, Member; Rocket, Member, Ally Tufenkjian, Member; Lana Livingston; Gail Ostrout; Paula Nulty; Lori Hirshfield; Connie Kelley; Kelsi Nanatovich; Scott Moody; Dan Nott; Heidi Duto; Michelle Boleski; Joyce Perkins; Gaal Shephard Crowl; Patrick Danaher; Michael Redmond; Joyce Perkins; Patrick Adrian; Jonathan Schectman; Doris Villandry;

Zoom Participants: Molly Smith Dunn; Alex Belensz; Ralph Hybels; Marie Alvin; Bonnie Dow; John Mudgett.

CATV/JAM Link: <https://catv.cablecast.tv/CablecastPublicSite/show/31464?channel=1>

- I. **Call to Order the Selectboard Meeting** by Chair, Mike Hoyt at 6:00PM.
- 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

Jonathan Schectman from Quechee asked the Board to consider opening the Quechee covered bridge sidewalk throughout the winter months. It was closed last year as it was deemed dangerous with the icy buildup. This caused the public to walk in the road to cross the river. It seems more dangerous to have people walking in the road. Mr. Schectman would like this sidewalk sanded/salted to accommodate the pedestrian traffic in the winter months.

Michelle Boleski of WRJ commented that this is the third meeting of the Selectboard where there is technical difficulties. These should be fixed prior to the meetings.

Maria Alvin commented that at the last Planning/Zoning meeting that the commissioners reversed their earlier decisions concerning the Haven. This should not be allowed. She also commented on the dangerous situation that is at the Wilder Park and Ride.

2. Selectboard Comments and Announcements

Mary Erdei reported on a Climate Change presentation she attended. This was attended by current and elected public officials of Windsor County. This was information on what the State is doing. There will be future Energy training programs after the first of the year or early spring. The Towns would need to provide a site for training and identify the participants.

3. Appointments

- a. Selectboard member, Lannie Collins made the motion to Re-Appoint Molly Smith Dunn to the Hartford Energy Commission for a 3-year term beginning November 29, 2022 and ending November 28, 2025. Selectboard member, Mary Erdei seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- b. Selectboard Vice Chair, Dan Fraser made the motion to Appoint Gaal Shepherd Crowl to the Hartford Tree Board for a 3-year term beginning November 29, 2022 and ending November 28, 2025. Selectboard Member, Rocket seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- c. New Committee: Hartford Committee on Housing and Homelessness, term is two years as listed in the Charge. Applicants: Alex Belensz, Dan Nott, Patrick Danaher, Michael Redmond, Ralph Hybels.

Appointments will be made after the Executive Session at the end of the meeting tonight.

4. Board Reports, Motions & Ordinances

- a. Auditors FYE 22 audit presentation by John Mudgett and Bonnie Dow.

Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins made the motion to accept the Independent Auditor's Report on the FYE 2022 Draft Financial Statements as revised on November 26, 2022. Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

- b. Town Clerk Budget presentation made by Lisa O'Neil, Town Clerk.
- c. Police: Parking Ordinance and Social Work presentation by Acting Chief, Connie Kelley.
- d. Municipal Planning Grant presented by Lori Hirshfield.
Selectboard Clerk, Kim Souza made the motion to

Approve the submission of a VMPG application and sign the “FY23 Municipal Resolution for Municipal Planning Grant” form and designate Selectboard Chair Mike Hoyt as the Municipal Authorizing Official and Vice Chair Dan Fraser as the Alternate Municipal Authorizing Official and designate Lori Hirshfield as Grant Administrator. Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

- e. Housing and Homelessness Committee Staff Assignment presented by Lori Hirshfield.
- f. Board Liaison Town and School Meeting Committee – Rocket volunteered to be the Selectboard liaison.
- g. Gates Street (Hill) and Fairview Terrace Retaining Wall Engineering Selection Committee Recommendation (RFP 2022=HI) **Selectboard Member, Rocket made the motion to Move that the Board accept the proposal of services by Dubois & King along with the sub-contractor Geo-Design to facilitate advancing the gates Street and Fairview Terrace retaining wall stabilization and reconstruction project with the goal of stabilizing or replacing retaining wall segments 1a, 1b and 4 as described in the scope of project section 2, and to authorize the Acting Town Manager Gail Ostrout to sign the contract with Dubois & King. Selectboard Vice Chair, Dan Fraser seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**

VII. Commission Reports

Kim Souza

Planning Commission met 11/28 to review 3 applications which were all approved with extensive public comment and commissioner discussions.

Application #22-29 for a site development plan to convert a hotel to a multi-dwelling and office project in the newly rezoned GCR district near the VA Hospital on Ballardvale Drive was approved.

Application #22-23 to reconsider the requirement to provide an internal access drive between the Upper Valley Haven and Saint Paul's Church was approved.

Application #22-30 for a site development plan for a multi-dwelling and performing arts facility on Gates Street was also approved.

VIII. Consent Agenda: Selectboard Vice Chair, Dan Fraser made the motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Selectboard Clerk, Kim Souza seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Approve Payroll Ending: 11/26/2022

Approve Meeting Minutes of 11/15/2022 & 11/22/2022

Approve A/P Manifest of: 11/23/2022 & 11/29/2022

Approve Selectboard Meetings: 12/6/2022; 12/8/2022; 12/13/2022;

IX. Executive Session: Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei made the motion 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 confidential attorney-client communications of which premature general public knowledge would clearly place the public body or person involved at a substantial disadvantage, and the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee. Selectboard Vice Chair, Dan Fraser seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins made the motion to close the Executive Session at 9:57pm. Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Motions: Ally Tufenkjian moved to appoint Alex Belensz, Patrick Danaher and Dan Nott to the Hartford Committee on Housing and Homelessness for two-year terms beginning November 29, 2022 and ending November 28, 2024. 2nd by Lannie Collins. Seven in favor, the motion passed.

x. ADJOURN the Selectboard Meeting: Selectboard Vice Chair, Dan Fraser made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:58PM. Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.


Kim Souza, Clerk

11/29/2022