



**TOWN OF
HARTFORD
SELECTBOARD
Minutes**

Tuesday, December 13, 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: Kim Souza, Clerk; Lannie Collins, Member; Mary Erdei, Member, Ally Tufenkjian, Member; Lana Livingston; Gail Ostrout; James Turner; Kelsey Rush; Patrick Adrian; John Haffner; Esme Cole; Valen Werner

Participants on Zoom: Michael Hoyt, Chair; Dan Fraser, Vice-Chair; Rocket, Member

JAM Link: <https://catv.cablecast.tv/CablecastPublicSite/show/31548?channel=1>

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

- I. **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited and led by Gail Ostrout.
- II. **Local Liquor Control Board:** Selectboard Chair, Mike Hoyt recessed the Selectboard Meeting and opened the Local Liquor control Board.
 1. **New**
 - a. Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins made the motion to approve a 1st, 2nd and Outside Consumption Liquor License for Putnam's Vineyard, LLC, 188 South Main St., WRJ 05001. Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei seconded the motion. 5 approved, 2 (Frazer, Souza) recused. The motion passed.

Selectboard Chair, Mike Hoyt closed the Local Liquor Control Board and reopened the Selectboard Meeting at 6:30PM.

III. **Local Cannabis Control Board: None**

IV. **Order of Agenda**

V. **Selectboard**

1. **Public Comment:** There were no public comments.
2. **Selectboard Comments and Announcements**

Lannie Collins reported that the Hartford Community Coalition did not get their funding request in on time so they need to collect signatures. Please support them in this effort.

Mike Hoyt reminded members of an added Selectboard Meeting to have the Bond Bank presentation on December 20th.
3. **Appointments**

New: Selectboard Clerk, Kim Souza made the motion to appoint John Haffner to the Committee on Housing and Homelessness for a 2-year term beginning December 13, 2022 and ending December 12, 2024. Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

4. Town Manager Report and Significant Activity Report
<https://cms5.revize.com/revize/hartfordvt/Total.pdf>

5. Board Reports, Motions & Ordinances

- a. Information Technology Budget Presented by Dillon Walsh.
- b. Town Solar Overview Presented by Dana Clawson.
- c. VTRANS Presentation Route 4 Presented by Matthew Arancio from VTrans.

VII. Commission Reports

Kim Souza:

The Planning Commission held a public hearing on December 5th to consider a proposal from The Wilder One for a 4.125-megawatt 14.7-acre solar electric generation field to be located at 1567 Route 14 in Hartford. There was substantial discussion around the need to cut approximately 7 acres of trees to accommodate the array.

The Hartford Business Revolving Loan Committee met on December 7th. They discussed the status of current loans and opportunities for potential loans with the funding available from the HBRLF as well as set their annual 2023 meeting schedule and consideration of the committee's next chairperson.

Mary Erdei:

Hartford Conservation Commission December 5, 2022. Two guests spoke at the monthly meeting: Tim Stout from Shrewsbury, VT, a 35 year professional in Energy Efficiency gave a "Forest Carbon Presentation" to the Commission and guests. Also, Anna Schal (UVMBA) discussed mountain biking on trails including in the Hurricane Forest. Tim's presentation focused on Carbon Storage and Sequestration through methods of preserving standing trees, growing trees, and land management plans of 30 acres and above turning long-term contracts (20 years) into carbon credits. Under New England's Climate Imperative, Tim announced that app. 45% of our CO₂ is absorbed by our forests in this region. Many references and resources were given to help landowners and foresters make use of this program that officially rolled out in the fall of 2022. Applications are online now. With a vote from the Commission, the Trailforks app. Will be kept open now regarding trails in the Hurricane Forest, reporting on conditions, closures and downed trees. A winter education event will be held on Jan. 14th, from 10a.m-12 noon, led by Ted Levin and Lee Michaelides.

Hartford Parks and Recreation December 8, 2022. The Polar Express was set to go on Saturday, Dec 10 beginning at 10 a.m. with 3 train cars ready to transport children and Santa! (100 kids/car) The Marketing and Community Relations Plan was approved by the Commission. Discussion ensued regarding the suggested changes to a Hartford Parks Ordinance directed by Emily Zanleoni (Hartford Community Coalition) with previous guest speakers Sarah Wraight and Alice Stewart. The issue brought before the Commission was the need to regulate the ban of smoking substances along with the inclusion of non-smoking vaping devices and use of cannabis in public parks. The members of the Commission voted to accept those amendment concerns but without any action at this time, pending legal review and further discussion of the actual process of an amendment.

Ally Tufenkjian:

Resilient Hartford:

- The November 12th work outing to close up the Clifford Park Food Forest for winter was successful.
- Apple Corps, which has been supporting the Food Forest work, applied for a Building a Local Economy (BALE) grant to assist in managing the Clifford Park Food Forest and other food generating projects.
- The Committee will be focusing on volunteer sustainability and engagement to create a wider circle of volunteers for the Food Forest work. If you're interested in volunteering, please reach out to Matt Osborn (mosborn@hartford-vt.org).
- Member Earl Hatley has been successful establishing a second Abenaki Garden in Quechee and had several good turnouts for work outings.
- Member Carolyn Hooper will be meeting with the Principal of the Wilder School about creating a food forest at the school property in Wilder Village.

Hartford Committee on Racial Equity & Inclusion (HCOREI):

- Tuck Community Consulting project: The Town Communication Survey is still open for more participation; it can be found on the homepage of the Town Website. The student report is pending in December.
- Selectboard DEI training is on track for January 3rd.
- Two HCOREI members have been participating in the Police Chief search interviews.
- Community Safety Review: RFP is being reviewed and revised now; expect to be re-released in early 2023.
- A recommendation will be sent to both the School Board and the Selectboard putting forth Molly A. as HCOREI's student liaison.
- The Committee continues to update its charge (due for amendments in April 2023) as well as make its submission for the Annual Town Report.
- Chair Sara Campbell has sent out a sample policy-on-policies and policy templates for review and approval by Selectboard and Acting Town Manager.

Hartford Committee on Housing and Homelessness:

- Applications are still open; the application form can be found on the Town Website and can be submitted in person at Town Hall or via email to Lana Livingston (llivingston@hartford-vt.org).

Rocket announced that Info. Night will be on January 9th.

VIII. Consent Agenda: Selectboard Clerk, Kim Souza 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: 12/10/2022

Approve Meeting Minutes of 11/29/2022;12/6/2022
& 12/8/2022

Approve A/P Manifest of: 12/9/2022 & 12/13/2022

Approve Selectboard Meetings: 1/3/2023; 1/5/2023; 1/10/2023;
1/17/2023;1/19/2023 & 1/24/2023 and added 12/20/2022

Note: Already Approved:12/15/2022 and 12/27/2022.

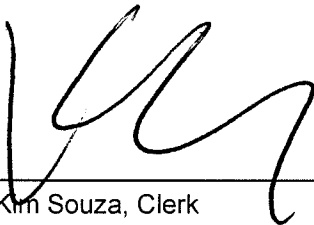
- IX. Executive Session: Selectboard Member, Ally Tufenkjian made the motion That in accordance with Vermont's Open Meeting Law 1 V.S.A. § 313, I move that the Selectboard enter into Executive Session: To discuss confidential attorney-client communications of which premature general public knowledge 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 Member, Mary Erdei seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Please note: Dan Fraser did not log back in to Zoom post Executive Session.

At 9:24pm, Lannie Collins moved to exit Executive Session 2nd by Ally Tufenkjian. 6 in favor and the motion passed.

Kim Souza moved that the Selectboard direct the acting Town Manager to accept the application of one current town employee for the position of Harford's Chief of Police. 2nd by Ally Tufenkjian. 5 in favor (Collins, Rocket, Tufenkjian, Souza & Hoyt) 1 opposed (Erdei) The motion passed.

- X. Adjourn the Selectboard Meeting
At 9:25pm, Lannie Collins moved to adjourn the meeting. 2nd by Mary Erdei. 6 in favor and the motion passed.



Kim Souza, Clerk
12/13/2022