



TOWN OF HARTFORD SELECTBOARD MINUTES

Tuesday, December 6, 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, Lana Livingston; Paula Nulty; Lynn Bohi; Dan Nott; Daryl Seitchik; Joe Major;

Participants on Zoom: Ally Tufenkjian, Member (joined the meeting at 6:30pm); Tom Proctor; FX Flynn; Beth Long; Mike Davidson;

CATV/JAM Link: <https://catv.cablecast.tv/CablecastPublicSite/show/31496?channel=1>

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

II. Pledge of Allegiance was recited and led by Joe Major.

III. Order of Agenda: There were no changes to the order of agenda.

IV. Selectboard

1. Public Comments:

Joe Major of WRJ addressed the Selectboard concerning the Haven. The Haven's mission is to help people, that is all. Mr. Major is upset that they have been "taking a hit" lately. We are lucky to have them in our community as well as the other agencies that help people. Mr. Major also applauded at the number of women in leadership positions in the Town. He is proud of the community he is in right now.

2. Charter Review Presented by the 5th Charter Commission.

Tom Proctor from Rights and Democracy spoke to the Selectboard about the "Just Cause Evictions" clause proposed to be entered into the Town's Charter. It was suggested that this be a separate item (amendment) on the March ballot and not attached to the Proposed Charter changes.

This was the final draft of the proposed charter by the 5th charter committee. Next steps are for a staff review for concerns and recommendations, for the Selectboard to go over the staff's concerns and recommendations and also to address any questions or concerns that the Selectboard members have.

V. Executive Session: Selectboard Vice Chair, Dan Fraser made the motion to go into Executive Session to discuss attorney client communications in respect to the new Open Meeting Law allegations of Remington Nevin received on November 16, 2022 and that in accordance with Vermont's Open Meeting Law 1 V.S.A. § 313 and 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, Lannie Collins seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins made the motion to close the Executive session at 8:43PM. Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

VI. Expected action on Open Meeting Law allegations of Remington Nevin received on November 16, 2022.

Dan Fraser moved to find that the failure of the Selectboard not to amend its agenda to appoint the members of the CAST at the beginning of the meeting on November 15, 2022, violated the Vermont Open Meeting Law. 2nd by Mary Erdei. 7 in favor.

Dan Fraser moved to find that the Town Charter was not violated since due notice of the CAST appointments were provided by way of the Selectboard meeting of August 16, 2022. 2nd by Mary Erdei. 7 in favor.

Dan Fraser moved to remedy the violation by ratifying the appointments to the CAST made on November 15, 2022 and noticed as part of the agenda today, December 6, of John Reid (Planning Commission 2024), Laura Simon (Resilient Hartford 2023), Carolyn Hooper (Resilient Hartford 2025), Lee Michaelides (Conservation Commission 2025), Jesse Pollard (Hartford Energy Commission 2024), Molly Smith Dunn (Hartford Energy Commission 2025), and Ashton Todd (Hartford Energy Commission 2023). 2nd by Mary Erdei. 7 in favor.

Dan Fraser moved remedy the violation by requiring each Selectboard member to review the relevant Vermont Statutes to refresh their recollection of the requirements of amending the agenda. 2nd by Mary Erdei. 7 in favor.

Kim Souza moved that a one-time exception to the Personnel Policy be made for the payment of 41 hours of vacation time to Acting Town Manager, Gail Ostrout, effective pay date December 15, 2022. 2nd by Mary Erdei. 7 in favor.

VII. Consent Agenda: None

VIII. Adjourn the Selectboard Meeting At 8:45pm, Lannie Collins moved to adjourn the meeting. 2nd by Dan Fraser. 7 in favor.



Kim Souza, Clerk
12/6/2022