

TOWN OF HARTFORD SELECTBOARD MINUTES

Tuesday, June 25, 2024, 6:00pm  
Hartford Town Hall, 171 Bridge Street,  
White River Junction, VT 05001

This meeting was conducted in person at Town Hall

**Present:** Kim Souza, Vice Chair; Mary Erdei, Clerk; Lannie Collins, Member; Brandon Smith, Member; Susan Buckholz, Member; Ida Griesemer, Member; John Haverstock; Bryan Gazda; Scott Hausler; Colin Butler; Cori Santagate; David Crocco; Jason Merrill; Leslie Merrill; Mary Kay Brown; Dennis Brown.

**Zoom:** Gail Ostrout; Scott Smith; Pat Autilio; Ally Tufkenjian.

**JAM LINK:** [https://www.youtube.com/live/41lmIr\\_r2mM?si=gxwZHIB6F\\_nrOhHD](https://www.youtube.com/live/41lmIr_r2mM?si=gxwZHIB6F_nrOhHD)

- I. Call to Order the Selectboard Meeting by Vice Chair, Kim Souza at 6:03pm.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance was recited and led by John Haverstock
- III. Local Liquor Control Board:
  1. Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins made the motion to approve the Renewal of liquor license for Vural Oktay, Inc, d/b/a Tuckerbox, 1 South Main Street, White River Jct., VT 05001 for a 1<sup>st</sup> Class, 3<sup>rd</sup> Class and Outside Consumption Permit, with the Outside Consumption Permit conditioned on the applicant maintaining handicapped pedestrian access clearance on sidewalk at all times. Selectboard Member, Sue Buckholz seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
  2. Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei made the motion to approve New Liquor Licenses for Jason Merrill d/b/a REDCan, 129 South Main Street, White River Jct., VT 05001 for a 1<sup>st</sup> Class and 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Permit. Selectboard member, Lannie Collins seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
    - Selectboard Vice-Chair Kim Souza closed the Local Liquor Control Board.
- IV. Local Cannabis Control Board: None
- V. Order of Agenda: There is a brief amendment to the proposed FY25 Fee Schedule
- VI. Selectboard
  1. Public Comment: None
  2. Selectboard Comments and Announcements
    - Lannie Collins congratulated all involved for a successful Hartford High Alumni Parade.
  3. Appointments
    - Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins made a motion to re-appoint Colin Butler to the Planning Commission for a three-year term beginning June 25, 2024 and ending on June 24, 2027. Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
    - Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei made a motion to re-appoint Tobias Dayman to the Planning Commission for a three-year term beginning on June 25, 2024 and ending on June 24, 2027. Selectboard Member, Brandon Smith seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
  4. Town Manager's Report/Significant Activities

The Town Manager reminded the Board of the likely need for special meeting(s) in early July for FYE accounts payable and to set Tax Rates.

Significant Activity Reports

Link: <https://www.hartford-vt.org/Archive.aspx?ADID=485>

5. Board Reports, Motions & Ordinances
  - a. Consider Light Pole Banner Application Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins made a motion to approve the application submitted by the Hometown heroes group. Selectboard Member, Sue Buckholz seconded the motion. The vote in favor was 4-2 (Smith and Erdei opposed).
  - b. Update from the Parks & Recreation Commission.
  - c. Consider HCOREI request for a Staff Liaison. Selectboard Member, Lannie Smith made the motion to instruct the Town Manager to appoint a Town Staff member to HCOREI to serve as a non-voting liaison. Selectboard Member, Sue Buckholz seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
  - d. Adopt the Proposed FY25 Fee Schedule Selectboard Member, Kim Souza made the motion to adopt the proposed FY25 Fee Schedule, as amended. Selectboard Member Mary Erdei seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
  - e. Consider Draft Committee Stipend Policy Selectboard Member, Brandon Smith made a motion to adopt the proposed Committee Stipend Policy. Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei seconded the motion. The vote in favor was 5-1 (Collins opposed).
  - f. Consider Committee Charge Amendments to Allow for Stipends Selectboard Member, Ida Griesemer made the motion to amend the ByLaws of the Energy Commission, Resilient Hartford and the Conservation Commission to allow for the payment of stipends. Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
  - g. Discussion of Selectboard Training Options.

VII. Commission Reports

- Kim Souza:

**The Town Plan Steering Committee** met on June 10<sup>th</sup> to review a 2<sup>nd</sup> round of strategies proposed by consultants from Better City for the Economic Development chapter update of the Town Plan. A fully remote Community Forum to collect input on the proposed strategies was scheduled for June 18, but had to be cancelled due to technical issues at Town Hall. A new date has not yet been rescheduled.

**The Planning Commission** met on June 24 to review several applications including a lot line adjustment, a property subdivision and site plans for the Windsor District courthouse renovation, a proposed car wash on Sykes Mtn Ave and The Haven's low barrier shelter. The Haven's site plan had been approved in December, but they have since determined that a renovation of the existing structure is untenable, so they are developing a new plan with an entirely new structure. All applications were approved with some amendments.

Brandon Smith:

**The Hartford Committee on Housing and Homelessness** met on June 20, 2024. The bulk of the discussion centered around developing an ask for the Selectboard to create a directory of rental housing in Hartford. The committee decided it needs to solidify the purpose(s)/benefits and textural/statutory mechanisms of such a directory. One possible benefit could be the town learning of companies from out of town, or out of state, that might own large numbers of rentals, to ensure they comply with local rules. The group also discussed the first steps of discussion about housing developments around the north end of Route 5 near and into Norwich, which would require collaboration with the Department of Public Works on the implications to the water and wastewater systems.

**Ida Griesemer:**

**Energy Commission:** Approved funds (from Climate Action Reserve Fund) for design and installation of heat pump at the public safety building.

- Funds for the pumps will come from the Energy and Conservation Block Grant.

- VIII. Consent Agenda: **Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Selectboard Member, Ida Griesemer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**

Approve Payroll Ending: 6.22.2024

Approve A/P Manifest of: 6/21/2024 and 6/27/2024

Approve Meeting Minutes of: 6/11/2024 (as amended)

Approve Selectboard Meetings: 7/9/2024 and 7/23/2024

- XI. Adjourn the Selectboard Meeting

**Selectboard Member, Mary Erdei made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 PM. Selectboard Member, Ida Griesemer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mary Erdei", written over a horizontal line.

Mary Erdei, Clerk

June 25, 2024 Meeting.