



TOWN OF HARTFORD SELECTBOARD MINUTES

Tuesday, November 26, 2024, 6:00pm
Hartford Town Hall, 171 Bridge Street,
White River Junction, VT 05001

Present: Michael Hoyt, Chair; Kim Souza, Vice-Chair; Mary Erdei, Clerk; Lannie Collins, Member; Brandon Smith, Member; Ida Griesemer, Member; Gail Ostrout; Joe Major; Adams Carroll; Scott Hausler; Lori Hirshfield; Mariam Wood.

Present on Zoom: Lana Livingston

JAM LINK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Akunl8ETfpg>

- I. Call to Order the Selectboard Meeting by Selectboard Chair, Mike Holt at 6:00 PM.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance was recited and led by Joe Major.
- III. Local Liquor Control Board: None
- IV. Local Cannabis Control Board: Selectboard Chair, Mike Hoyt recessed the Selectboard Meeting and the Local Cannabis Control Board was opened at 6:01PM.
 1. **Selectboard Clerk, Mary Erdei made the motion to approve the renewal of #S-000009921-The Tea House, LLC for a Local Cannabis License. Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**
Selectboard Chair, Mike Hoyt closed the Local Cannabis Control Board and reopened the Selectboard Meeting at 6:05PM.
- V. Order of Agenda – there were no changes to the order of agenda.
- VI. Selectboard
 1. Public Comment
Joe Major of WRJ thanked the people of Hartford for supporting him as he ran for Senator to the State of Vermont. He is going to do his best to make our lives better. He has heard from many that the State needs to work on property taxes, so he is going to try to do that. He will be putting his contact information soon and pledged to get back to any messages left within 24 hours.
 2. Selectboard Comments and Announcements
Kim Souza asked if the Board wanted to ask the Town Manager to put aside time on a future agenda for a public session with Chief Sheldon about the updated Town Fair and Impartial Policing Policy.

Lannie Collins has concerns about the parking situation South Main Street parking lot and some long-term vehicles that have been parked there. He wants to see if the vehicles can be removed if they are in violation or what the status is of those vehicles. He also wants to see if we can get an idea of how many spots are utilized by tenants.
 3. Appointments
 - a. **Selectboard Clerk, Mary Erdei made the motion to Re-Appoint Dan Nott to the Hartford Committee on Housing and Homelessness for a two-year term beginning November 26, 2024, and ending November 25, 2026. Selectboard Vice Chair, Kim Souza seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**
 4. Town Manager's Report
Significant Activity Reports: <https://www.hartford-vt.org/Archive.aspx?ADID=498>
Community Nurse
An excellent candidate has accepted the Town's offer of employment. There a couple of steps required before we can make an announcement. Stay tuned.

Town Manager Absence

The Town Manager will be out of the office from mid-day of Thursday, November 21 thru Monday, December 2, with no access to work phone or email. Hopefully, it will prove to be a quiet Thanksgiving holiday period. I will oversee the agenda and packet compilation for the budget-heavy November 26 Selectboard meeting and Finance Director Gail Ostrout will preside on behalf of Town staff in my absence. For any emergencies, The Finance Director, HR Director, my Administrative Assistant and the Selectboard Chair and Vice Chair have my personal cell phone number.

Thanksgiving Day

The Town offices will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 27 and 28. Happy Thanksgiving! ...or as they say in the Netherlands: Fijne Thanksgiving!

5. Board Reports, Motions & Ordinances

- a. HCoreI Update by Pat Autilio
 - b. Consider Requests (2) for Exception to Town's Social Service Appropriation Policy. **Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins made the motion that we do not offer an exception to Advance Transit or the Hartford Historical Society for exemptions to the policy. Selectboard Vice Chair, Kim Souza seconded the motion. 4 were in favor (Collins; Souza; Hoyt; Erdei) and 2 (Smith; Griesemer) were not in favor. The motion passed.**
 - c. Planning and Development Budget Presentation by Lori Hirshfield.
 - d. Parks & Recreation Budget Presentation by Scott Hausler
 - e. Finance Budget Presentation by Gail Ostrout
 - f. Discuss Recreation Deficit (Fund 73) and Capital Deficit (Fund 80)
Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins made the motion that The Selectboard authorize the Finance Director to complete two separate fund transfers 1) \$55,742.06 Fund 73 and 2) \$120,001.71 Fund 80 for a total transfer out of the General Fund totaling \$175,743.77. Selectboard Clerk, Mary Erdei seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
 - g. Accept External Audit Report
Selectboard Vice Chair, Kim Souza made the motion that the Selectboard accept the Audit Report supplied by the Town's external auditors, Mudgett, Jenner & Krogh-Wisner, P.C. dated November 26, 2024. Selectboard Member, Lannie Collins seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- Attachments:
<https://www.hartford-vt.org/DocumentCenter/View/10683/Hartford-DRAFT-Gov-Ltr-11132024>
<https://www.hartford-vt.org/DocumentCenter/View/10682/Hartford-DRAFT-FS-11192024>
- h. Consider Re-Assigning Committee Roles of Susan Buckholz
Aquatics Center Oversight Committee – Mike Hoyt
HBRLF – Lannie Collins
Parks & Rec – Mary Erdei

VII. Commission Reports - None

VIII. Consent Agenda. **Selectboard Vice Chair, Kim Souza made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Selectboard Clerk, Mary Erdei seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**

Approve Payroll Ending: 11/23/2024

Approve A/P Manifest of: 11/22/24 & 11/27/2024

Approve Meeting Minutes of: 11/12/2024; 11/14/2024 & 11/19/2024

Future Meetings: 12/3/2024 Budget; 12/10/2024; 12/17/2024
and 12/19/2024 Budget

- IX. Adjourn the Selectboard Meeting
Selectboard made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:17PM. Selectboard Clerk, Mary Erdei seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.



Mary Erdei, Clerk
November 26, 2024 Selectboard Meeting