



TOWN OF HARTFORD SELECTBOARD MINUTES

Tuesday, May 13, 2025, 6:00pm
Hartford Town Hall, 171 Bridge Street,
White River Junction, VT 05001

This meeting was conducted in person at Town Hall

Present: Chair, Mary Erdei; Clerk, Ashley Andreas; Miranda Dupre; Ida Griesemer; Erik Krauss; Brandon Smith; John Haverstock; Dana Clawson; Cathy Melocik; Cody Dana; John Reid; Peter Zendran; Mark Bradley; Jasmine Hawkins; James Fortmuller; Julia Trottier; Lydia Taylor

Present on Zoom: Vice Chair, Michael Hoyt; Bryan Gazda; Lana Livingston; Michelle Boleski; Heidi Duto

JAM LINK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hpgO3t4QpxM>

- I. Call to Order the Selectboard Meeting at 6:02pm by Chair, Mary Erdei.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance was recited and led by John Haverstock.
- III. Local Liquor Control Board
Selectboard Chair, Mary Erdei recessed the Selectboard Meeting and opened the Local Liquor Control Board.

Renewals:

- ✓ 1. Selectboard Clerk, Ashley Andreas made the motion to approve the Renewal Application for Quechee General Store d/b/a Quechee General Store Inc., 5573 Woodstock Road, Quechee, VT 05059 for a 2nd Class License.
and
2. to approve the Renewal Application for Tuckerbox, 1 South Main Street, White River Junction, VT 05001 for a 1st Class License, 3rd Class License and an Outside Consumption License.
and
3. to approve the Renewal Application for Jake's Quechee Market, Inc. d/b/a Jake's Quechee Market, 7161 Woodstock Road, Quechee, VT 05059 for a 2nd Class and Tobacco License.
and
4. to approve the Renewal Application for Neshobe River Company, Foley Brothers Brewing d/b/a Neshobe River Company, Location Name of Quechee Gorge Tasting Room, 5573 West Woodstock Road, Quechee, VT 05759 for a 1st Class and Outside Consumption License.
and
5. to approve the Renewal Application for The Public House at Quechee Gorge d/b/a The Public House Pub, 5813 Woodstock Road, Quechee, VT 05059 for a 1st Class License, a 3rd Class License and an Outside Consumption License.
Selectboard Member, Erik Krauss seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Selectboard Chair, Mary Erdei closed the Local Liquor Control Board and reopened the Selectboard Meeting at 6:07PM.

- IV. Local Cannabis Control Board: None
- V. Order of Agenda: There were no changes to the order of agenda.
- VI. Selectboard
 1. Public Comment
Peter Zendran from WRJ shared his concerns about local retailers not accepting cash for services.
 2. Selectboard Comments and Announcements
Ida Griesemer shared comments and thoughts about recycling.

Brandon Smith commented on the local retailer not accepting cash and asked the Town Manager to explore legal possibilities, perhaps an ordinance that would require businesses to accept cash as payment.

Ashley Andreas heard feedback from tenants at the newer rental units about not feeling safe.

✓3. Appointments

Selectboard Member, Erik Krauss made the motion to approve the Appointment of Cathy Melocik to the Hartford 250th Commemoration Committee for a Term Beginning May 13, 2025 and ending on September 1, 2027 or earlier. Selectboard Member, Miranda Dupre seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

✓4. Town Manager Report
Clerical Worker's Union

Negotiations on the terms of the contract continued with a session on Friday, May 2.

VTrans Paving Grant

I am pleased to report that the Local District Office of VTrans has recommended that Hartford receive a \$175,000 paving grant. Some of you may recall the last budget cycle during which the Board voted to reduce the FY26 paving budget by \$150,000, so this good news is both welcome and well-timed.

Capital Improvement Plan

I am also pleased to report that the Town has been awarded full funding for a municipal planning grant, which will enable the Town to hire a consultant to help the Town re-invigorate the Town's Capital Improvement Plan. Thanks to the Planning & Development Department for their invaluable assistance in securing this funding for our important project.

Windsor County Selectboard Meet-Up

On the evening of Thursday, May 8, there was a gathering of Selectboard members from across Windsor County. Thanks to our friends at VLCT, Two Rivers Ottauquechee Planning Commission and the Mount Ascutney Regional Commission for organizing this event.

Significant Activity Reports Link: <https://www.hartford-vt.org/Archive.aspx?ADID=509>

5. Board Report, Motions & Ordinances

a✓ Planning Commission Update to the Selectboard presented by Chair of the Planning Commission, John Reid.

b✓ HCOREI Update to the Selectboard Presented by Chair of HCOREI, Pat Autilio.

c✓ Consider Adopting Resolution Naming Hartford a Disability-Friendly Town

Presented by Pat Autilio and Cody Dana.

✓ **Selectboard Clerk, Ashley Andreas made the motion to adopt the Resolution Naming Hartford a Disability-Friendly Town. Selectboard Member, Miranda Dupre seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**

Resolution on Hartford as a Disability-Friendly Town

WHEREAS, the Hartford Town Select Board recognizes that, for the Town of Hartford to truly thrive, every community member must be able to fully and meaningfully participate in every aspect of public life, from civic to economic to recreational, and

WHEREAS, the Hartford Town Select Board recognizes that proactively working to remove barriers to full and meaningful participation for disabled members of the community is of vital importance to achieving that goal,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Hartford Town Select Board

commits to pursue the following preliminary disability inclusion actions, which will take the Town of Hartford beyond the minimum legal ADA requirements:

Section 1: The Hartford Town Select Board encourages local businesses and organizations to become Certified Disability-Friendly to create a community of belonging for all, and

Section 2: The Hartford Town Select Board encourages the Town to adopt best practices that will help it to serve as a model for disability inclusion in the business sector, and

Section 3: The Hartford Town Select Board encourages the Town to strive for inclusive and accessible spaces and events including:

- accommodations language on public signage
- accommodations language on invitations and registrations for all events hosted and sponsored by the Town,
- requests for accommodations language to be used on invitations and registrations for events the Town speaks at and/or co-sponsors, and

Section 4: The Hartford Town Select Board commits the Town to conducting internal checks and creating improvement plans that will be implemented over time to ensure accessibility and disability inclusion in:

Employment practices, encompassing but not limited to accommodations,
Talent recruitment and retention policies,
Facilities, promoting universal design whenever possible, and
Websites, promoting accessibility whenever possible.

Dated this 13th day of May 2025 at Hartford, Vermont.

- d. Review Bids on New Water Division Truck and Award Contract
Selectboard Vice Chair, Mike Hoyt made the motion to accept the bid in the amount of \$50,148.00 from Formula Ford Lincoln, Rutland VT., for a 2025 Ford F250 4x4 Super Duty Supercab with plow and authorize the Town Manager to sign all documents associated with the purchase of the vehicle. Selectboard Member, Erik Krauss seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- e. Discuss Town Hall HVAC and Proposed Purchasing Policy Exception
Selectboard Member, Brandon Smith made the motion to waive the Purchasing Policy requirement for multiple bids on goods and services with a total price of over \$20,001 and approve the Town Manager, to execute the contract with Alliance Mechanical to fix the condenser serving the 2nd and 3rd floor of Town Hall for \$22,433. Selectboard Member, Ida Griesemer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- f. Review and Approve Bugbee Senior Center Memorandum of Agreement
Selectboard Member, Erik Krauss made the motion that the Selectboard accept the terms of the draft MOA and that the Town Manager be authorized to sign the MOA on behalf of the Town. Selectboard Member, Brandon Smith seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- g. Consider Establishing an Ad Hoc Committee to Review Options and Make Recommendations for Bugbee Building Renovations

It was decided by consensus that the Town Manager and Executive Director of the White River Council on Aging would come back to the Selectboard at the next meeting on May 27th with a proposed Bugbee Committee members list and by-laws for the ad

hoc Bugbee Building Committee.

- h. Discuss Selectboard Training Leadership and Potential Programs
It was decided by consensus to go ahead with both options, VLCT and Erik Krauss' suggestions for a full-day workshop. John Haverstock will follow up with VLCT to see if they could perhaps do both options.

Please Note: Mike Hoyt left the meeting at this time.

- i. Consider Researching Recycling Collection Options
Selectboard Member, Brandon Smith made the motion that the Selectboard direct the Town Manager with Town Staff, to take 6-8 weeks to investigate various options for recycling collection at curbside including a proposal for Town Staff to do this search among what ever options he sees fit. Selectboard Clerk, Ashley Andreas seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed (6/0).

VII. Commission Reports

✓Melinda Dupre: **Tree Board:** Arbor Day– 115 trees/plants/shrubs sold, \$1,944.10 in profit
Donated two nursery trees (black cherry and cottonwood) to White River Elementary School to replace some oaks that had been removed. The fifth-grade class looks forward to planting this tree and watching it grow. The goal is for the class to see the difference from now to when they graduate from high school. Also, we were able to sell some of our nursery trees at a discount to assist in the work going towards Clifford Park.

✓Erik Krauss: **Historic Preservation Commission:**
Wilder residents Harry Kendrick, Phil Sargent and Bonnie Arnold are working on a proposed historical sign to be located behind the guardrail on Passumpsic Road across from Depot Street. The sign will provides information about the history of Wilder Village on one side and the history of the Wilder Paper Mill on the other side. The timeline for installation and unveiling of the sign will depend on fundraising - the volunteer team is planning to raise \$4,500 for the project.

Historic Preservation Commission is seeking new members!

✓**Conservation Commission:**

Trails Day for the Town Forest is Saturday, June 7th from 9a to Noon. There is still cleanup work from the April ice storm to be done, the trailhead kiosk will be repaired, trails reblazed and other trail maintenance work to be done. Work will be followed by a cookout.

VIII. ✓ Consent Agenda: **Selectboard Member, Ida Griesemer made the motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Selectboard Member, Brandon Smith seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**

Approve Payroll Ending: 5/10/2025

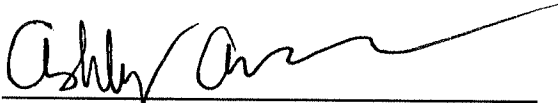
Approve A/P Manifest: 5/9/2025 & 5/13/2025

Approve Meeting Minutes of: 4/15/2025

Future Meetings Approved: 5/27/2025; 6/10/2025 and 6/24/2025

IX. ✓ Executive Session: None

X. Adjourn the Selectboard Meeting: **Selectboard Member, Erik Krauss made the motion to adjourn the Selectboard meeting at 9:25PM. Selectboard Member, Mirand Dupre seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**



Ashley Andreas, Clerk

May 13, 2025 Selectboard Meeting