



TOWN OF HARTFORD SELECTBOARD MINUTES

Tuesday, July 22, 2025, 6:00pm
Hartford Town Hall, 171 Bridge Street,
White River Junction, VT 05001

This meeting was conducted in person at Town Hall

Present: Vice Chair, Michael Hoyt; Clerk, Ashley Andreas; Ida Griesemer; Erik Krauss; Miranda Dupre; John Haverstock; Chris Holzwarth; Bryan Gazda; Lexi Webster; Lori Hirshfield; Dillon Walsh; Rick Vincent; Adam Grounds; David Briggs; Loretta Peggy Allen; Jason Czora; Steve Lagasse; Connie Kelley; Tim Fariel; Lannie Collins; David Briggs; Peggy Adams; Maggie Burnett; Andrew Winter; Jesse Pollard; Linda Miller

Absent: Mary Erdei; Brandon Smith

Present on Zoom: Lana Livingston; Kyle Katz; Maria Alvin; Rachel Hebert; Sonia O'Banion; Marcy Bartlett; Mary Kay Brown; Mike Morris

JAM LINK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QkFVvXiwi3w&list=PLAdkf9ugxof7FGsvb7b8PHLfaNfKZbq-g>

- I. Call to Order the Selectboard Meeting at 6:02pm by Vice Chair, Mike Hoyt
- II. Pledge of Allegiance was recited and led by Lannie Collins
- III. Local Liquor Control Board: None
- IV. Local Cannabis Control Board: None
- V. Order of Agenda: Items 5.k.2-5 and Item 5.l. were tabled
- VI. Selectboard

1. Public

Lannie Collins from Quechee said as he watches the Selectboard Meetings he feels the Board is getting off track and wanting to micromanage the Department Heads. He believes that the Selectboard should have a better handle on what the duties of the Selectboard are.

Marie Alvin from Hartford Ave. updated the Board on the Park & Ride. It is being patrolled and HPD is doing an excellent job. She inquires on the grant for lights at the Park & Ride and how much is it? The Haven seems to be quieter lately. She would like to know how much the Haven and Town Pines are costing the Town. She went to the Police Outreach and said not many citizens showed up. She would also like to know how many needles are being picked up at Lyman Point Park daily.

Rachael Hebert from Hartford in favor of the police not having face coverings.

Sonia O'Banion from Hartford wanted to know what the process will be for filling the seat of the Selectboard that will be vacant August 1st. She is interested in filling the seat as a past Board Member. She is not in favor of the Coolidge Block redevelopment. She believes that the Town should protect it's law enforcement so in favor of face masks.

Marcy Bartlett from Wilder is not in favor of the Norwich properties being serviced from our water and wastewater systems.

Mary Kay Brown from WRJ wanted to know what the process will be to fill Brandon Smith's seat.

2. Selectboard Comments and Announcements

Ashley Andreas noted that there has been 3-4 deaths of unhoused recently after the motel voucher system has stopped on July 1st. She is urging the housing committee to report back to the Selectboard what is being done.

Ida Griesemer said the tax bills were sent out this year with a flyer that listed resources for citizens that are finding it hard to pay their taxes. She would welcome any feedback on the flyer and hopes that this can be done again with the next tax bill.

3. Appointments

Renewal: Selectboard Member, Erik Krauss made the motion to Re-Appoint Nikki Boyle to the Parks & Recreation Commission for a three year term beginning July 22, 2025 and ending July 21, 2028. Selectboard Member, Miranda Dupre seconded the motion. All

were in favor and the motion passed.

4. Town Manager's Report

Local Option Sales Tax

On July 1, 2025, the Town's voter-approved local option sales tax took effect. If there any retailers in Hartford (all 5 Villages) who have not heard from the State about the requirement to collect and report this tax revenue, please contact the Vermont Department of Taxes right away.

Tax Rates and Tax Bills

The Town's Selectboard set tax rates for FY 2026 on Thursday, July 10. Tax bills were printed on Friday, July 11 and mailed on Monday, July 14.

Tax Sale

As mentioned at the July 14 Special Selectboard meeting, a Tax Sale is scheduled for August 14. Hopefully, some of the people subject to the Tax Sale will pay off their debt in order to be removed from the list.

Outreach Opportunity

The General Manager of the Quechee Club has extended an invitation for Selectboard members and key Town Staff to attend a 90-minute community forum at the Quechee Club on either Wednesday, November 5 or 19 from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm to discuss issues of common interest/concern. The timing of the invitation is opportune because the Selectboard has been considering engaging in more community outreach. (Some Board members will recall having participated in a well-attended and well-received "listening session" event in Wilder last year). This event could be open to the broader community, as the Quechee Club's Main Dining Room can accommodate 150 people. If the Selectboard is interested, I would be happy to accept the invitation and to work with the Quechee Club to develop an agenda for the forum.

Significant Activity Reports: <https://www.hartford-vt.org/Archive.aspx?ADID=515>

5. Board Report, Motions & Ordinances

- a. Update from the Zoning Board presented by Steve Lagasse, Vice Chair of the Zoning Board of Adjustment
- b. Update from Resilient Hartford presented by Chair, Kyle Katz.
<https://www.hartford-vt.org/DocumentCenter/View/12788/RH-Selectboard-Presentation-070825>
- c. Re-Assessment Update Presentation: presented by Rick Vincent.
<https://www.hartford-vt.org/DocumentCenter/View/12789/Hartford-Assessing-Reappraisal-Summary-Presentation>
- d. Public-Private Partnership Application Regarding Potential Re-Development of the Coolidge Hotel Block Presented by Lexi Webster; Lori Hirshfield, Adam Grounds and David Briggs.
<https://www.hartford-vt.org/DocumentCenter/View/12790/PPP-Application---Coolidge-Hotel-Redev-SB-Packet-7-22-25>

Selectboard Member, Miranda Dupre made the motion that the Selectboard approve the Public-Private Partnership Application for level 1 for the Coolidge Hotel Block and allow it to proceed to level 2. Selectboard Clerk, Ashley Andreas seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

- e. Consider Proposals to Provide Water and Wastewater Service to Two Norwich Properties
Selectboard Member, Miranda Dupre made the motion to instruct Town staff under the direction of the Town Manager to proceed with discussions with the Norwich Farmer's Market and Twin Pines in their request to access utility services from the Town of Hartford, and to develop mutually satisfactory agreements to govern the future interactions and roles and responsibilities of the parties. Selectboard member, Erik Krauss seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- f. Consider Acceptance of Class 2 Paving Grant
Selectboard Member, Erik Krauss made the motion to accept Grant #P02231 and authorize John Haverstock, Town Manager, to execute it and any subsequent loan documents. Selectboard Member, Marinda Dupre seconded the motion. All were in

favor and the motion passed.

- g. Review Paving Bids, Award Contract and Additional Paving Projects
Selectboard Member, Ida Griesemer made the motion that the Selectboard utilizing the identified funds move to (1) authorize the Department of Public Works to purchase supplies and materials up to a total of \$131,982 to replace associated culverts and make drainage repairs and improvements prior to paving along the identified roads, (2) authorize the Town Manager to execute a contract with Pike Industries in the amount of the base bid for \$803,576.75, (3) to execute any necessary change orders with Pike for services along the requested roads/streets up to a total maximum amount of \$878,160. Further, staff recommends that the Selectboard move to (4) instruct Town Staff to further evaluate and scope potential roads/streets for inclusion in the FY26 paving program prioritizing roads or streets by traffic volume and surface condition for acceptance by the Town Manager, and (5) authorize the Town Manager to approve staff recommendations and execute contract amendments/change orders and related Town of Hartford expenditures such as ditching or culvert replacement for up to \$362,749.15 of additional work. Selectboard Clerk, Ashley Andreas seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- h. Review Bids on Wastewater Line Cleaning & Video Inspection and Award Contract
Selectboard Clerk, Ashley Andreas made the motion That the Selectboard authorize the Town Manager to execute a contract with N.A. Manosh, Inc. for \$50,680 with any change orders to follow the purchasing policy. Selectboard Member, Ida Griesemer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- i. Consider Authorizing Asset Management Loans for Hartford and Quechee Water Systems
Selectboard Clerk, Ashley Andreass made the motion that the Selectboard (1) approve and sign the Step II loan application designating John Haverstock, Town Manager as the Authorized Representative and Bryan Gazda, Director of Public Works as the Alternative Representative, (2) approve a waiver of Section 3.6 of the Purchasing Policy to procure the engineering services recognizing the unique requirements of the loan process and the current valued and economically reasonable working relationship the Town has with the Dufresne Group as allowed by Section 3.7 of the Purchasing Policy, and (3) approve the Town Manager to execute the engineering contracts with Dufresne Group upon receipt of the Grant Agreements utilizing each System's Engineering Reserves to cover the unforgiven expenses of \$23,800 for the Hartford Water System and \$2,600 for the Quechee Water System. Selectboard Member, Erik Krauss seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- j. Consider Waiver of Purchasing Policy to Retain Asset Management Plan Consultant and Award Contracts **Included in item i. motion.**
- k. Consider and Approve Receipt of Donations
 - 1. HFD Thermal Camera Purchase (Bryne Foundation) \$10,000 Donation.
Selectboard Member, Erik Krauss made the motion to approve the acceptance of the donation for the Personal Thermal Imaging Cameras for the Fire Department. Selectboard Member Ida Griesemer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
 - 2. HPD E-Bike Purchase - tabled
 - 3. HPD K9 Vehicle Purchase - tabled
 - 4. HPD K9 Vehicle Purchase - tabled
 - 5. HPD Drone Purchase - tabled
- l. Discuss Possibility of an Ordinance Prohibiting Face Coverings for Law Enforcement – tabled.
- m. Review and Approve Selectboard Work Planning Document - **tabled to bring back one complete document.**
- n. Discuss Budget Process and Consider Adoption of FY2027 Budget Cycle Calendar

Selectboard Member, Erik Krauss made the motion to adopt the proposed FY 2027 budget calendar. Selectboard Member, Ida Griesemer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

- o. Review Selectboard Member's Resignation and Discuss Filling Vacancy tabled for Information by VLCT.

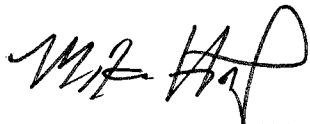
VII. Commission Reports - None

VIII. Consent Agenda: Selectboard Member, Ida Griesemer made the motion to accept the Consent Agenda, Selectboard Member, Erik Krauss seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Approve Payroll Ending: 7/19/2025
Approve A/P Manifest: 7/18/2025 & 7/24/2025
Approve Meeting Minutes of: 7/10/2025; 7/14/2025
Future Meetings Approved: 8/5/2025; 8/19/2025

IX. Executive Session: None

X. Adjourn the Selectboard Meeting: Selectboard Member, Miranda Dupre made the motion to adjourn the Selectboard Meeting at 9:41 PM. Selectboard Member Erik Krauss seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.



Ashley Andreas, Selectboard Clerk
July 22, 2025

Mite Hoyt, Vice Chair