

TOWN OF HARTFORD SELECTBOARD MINUTES

Tuesday, August 5, 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; Ida Griesemer; Erik Krauss; John Haverstock; Peter Zendran; Lannie Collins; Connie Kelley; Emily Zanleoni; Chris Holzwarth;

Present on Zoom: Chair, Mary Erdei; Lana Livingston; Heidi Duto

Late Arrival (6:30): Miranda Dupre

Absent: Clerk, Ashley Andreas

JAM LINK:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jPhmF3JB5hQ&list=PLAdkf9ugxof7FGsvb7b8PHLFaNfKZbq-g>

- I. Call to Order the Selectboard Meeting by Vice Chair, Mike Hoyt at 6:02PM.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance was recited and led by Lannie Collins.
- III. Local Liquor Control Board: None
- IV. Local Cannabis Control Board
Selectboard Vice Chair, Mike Hoyt recessed the Selectboard Meeting and opened the Local Cannabis Control Board at 6:02PM.
 - a. **Selectboard Member, Erik Krauss made the motion to approve the Local Cannabis License #S-000013122; for Easy Green Genetix LLC. Selectboard Member, Ida Griesemer seconded the motion. All were in favor (4) and the motion passed.**
 - b. Approval of the Local Cannabis License #S-000012661; for Altius THC LLC.
No one from Altius THC LLC was in attendance. This application will be put on the next Selectboard Agenda on August 19th.

Vice Chair, Mike Hoyt closed the Local Cannabis Control Board at 6:04 and reopened the Selectboard Meeting.

- V. Order of Agenda; There were no changes to the order of agenda.
- VI. Selectboard
 1. Public Comment
Lannie Collins from Hartford has concerns about the proposed Coolidge Block Project. He has spoken with other residents, and they are also concerned. It looks like the high-end types of housing that is proposed are not what Hartford needs right now. We need to focus on housing much like what Lebanon has done with "block" housing.

Peter Zendran from WRJ spoke of public safety concerns.

Marcy Bartlett from Wilder to follow up on the Parks & Recreation Significant Activity Report. She pointed out the news of the increase in drug use in Veteran's Park. We need to pay attention to this. The monument committee did a wonderful job to make this a special inviting place. They have plans to add more monuments. Recently a Boy Scout has chosen this park as his Eagle Scout project. She thanked the Health Officer and the Police for all they are doing.

2. Selectboard Comments and Announcements

Erik Krauss thanked the staff for taking the minutes of each Selectboard Meeting.

Mary Erdei congratulated the Fire Department on their new building in Quechee.

Mike Hoyt noted that the VT Department of Health is holding a free Dental Clinic on Saturday, September 20th, 9am-3pm at Cornerstone Community Center. Make appointments by calling 802-295-4176.

3. Appointments

- a. Selectboard Member, Ida Griesemer made the motion to Re-Appoint Susan Mullens to the Hartford Committee on Racial Equity and Inclusion (HCOREI) for a two-year term beginning August 5, 2025 and ending August 4, 2027. Selectboard Member, Erik Krauss seconded the motion. All were in favor (4) and the motion passed.
- b. Selectboard Member, Erik Krauss made the motion to Appoint Gaal Shephard Crowl to Hartford's Tree Board for a three-year term beginning August 5, 2025 and ending August 4, 2028. Selectboard Member, Ida Griesemer seconded the motion. All were in favor (4) and the motion passed.

4. Town Manager Report

Homelessness Impacts on Vermont Municipalities

On Monday, July 28 there was a statewide Zoom discussion between municipal managers and VLCT to discuss what initiatives to support in the next legislative session to address the impacts of homelessness on Vermont communities.

Clerical Workers Union

On Thursday, July 31, there was another negotiation session between the Town and the Clerical Workers Union.

Public Safety Coalition

On Thursday, August 14, there will be another monthly meeting of the Public Safety Coalition, spearheaded by HPD's Community Outreach Team.

Save the Date-Quechee Club Forum

Our friends at the Quechee Club have confirmed Wednesday, November 19 from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm at the Quechee Club Main Dining Room as the details for a Quechee Club Forum, featuring the Selectboard and key Staff.

Selectboard Tour of Transfer Station

In anticipation of a presentation by Town consultant Sanborn Head in September, I would like to set up a tour of the Transfer Station for Selectboard members.

Significant Activity Reports Link: <https://www.hartford-vt.org/Archive.aspx?ADID=516>

Note: Miranda Dupre joined the meeting at this time.

5. Board Report, Motions & Ordinances

- a. Update from the Hartford Community Coalition presented by Emily Zanleoni.

- b. Consider and Approve Receipt of Donations

1. HPD E-Bike Purchase

Selectboard Member, Erik Krauss made the motion that the Selectboard to accept the donation from Community Bank for the purchase of the E-Bikes and E-Bike Racks for the Hartford Police Department. Selectboard Member, Miranda Dupre seconded the motion. All were in favor (5) and the motion passed.

2. HPD K9 Vehicle Purchase
The motion is under 5.b.3.
3. HPD K9 Vehicle Purchase
Selectboard Ida Griesemer made the motion to accept the anonymous donation of \$40,000 towards the K9 Vehicle Purchase and to approve the future purchase pending funding sources at future meetings. Staff may proceed with the ordering of the vehicle. Selectboard Member, Erik Krauss, seconded the motion. All were in favor (5) and the motion passed.
4. HPD Drone Purchase - \$10,000 Donation.
Selectboard Member, Ida Griesemer made the motion to approve the receipt of the donation for the Police Department Drone purchase. Selectboard Member, Miranda Dupre seconded the motion. All were in favor (5) and the motion passed.
- c. Consider Proposal to Purchase New K9 Cruiser presented by Chief, Connie Kelley.
The motion is under 5.b.3.
- d. Update Rankings of Pre-Qualified Engineers presented by Chris Holzwarth.
Selectboard Member, Erik Krauss made the motion that the Selectboard (1) accept the updated Water Resource Engineer rankings, (2) continue to waive the Request for Proposal requirements of the Town of Hartford Purchasing Policy for engineering services funded through State Revolving Funds or where competitive bidding is not allowed or feasible, and (3) to authorize the Department of Public Works to utilize the RFQ process and rankings to satisfy the applicable portions of the purchasing policy for self-funded projects. Selectboard Member, Ida Griesemer seconded the motion. All were in favor (5) and the motion passed.
- e. Consider Acceptance of Structures Grant for Quechee-Hartland Road Culvert Engineering presented by Chris Holzwarth.
Selectboard Member, Miranda Dupre made the motion to (1) accept Structures Grant #BC2426, (2) authorizes John Haverstock, Town Manager to execute said grant and any subsequent loan documents, and (3) authorizes the Town Manager to execute an engineering contract to the winning bidder amongst the prequalified water resource engineers up to \$80,000. Selectboard Member, Ida Griesemer seconded the motion. All were in favor (5) and the motion passed.
- f. Authorize Town Manager to Bid at Tax Sale
Selectboard Member, Erik Krauss made the motion to authorize the Town Manager to bid the debt balance at the upcoming August 14 tax sales on the parcels identified in the document presented tonight. Selectboard Member, Miranda Dupre seconded the motion. All were in favor (5) and the motion passed.
- g. Discuss FY2027 Budget Guidance for Staff
Selectboard Members discussed the need for Budget Guidance, and they will decide that at the next regular meeting, August 19th.
- h. Continued Discussion of Selectboard Vacancy
Selectboard Member, Erik Krauss made the motion that pursuant to Section 203(a)(1)(E) of the Town Charter, to begin a process of soliciting Selectboard candidate applicants, with applications due to Town Manager John Haverstock no later than Friday, August 15 at 5:00 pm, with time during the regular Tuesday meeting, August 19th, during which the Selectboard will select candidates to be

interviewed and deliberation and selection announcement to occur on a special meeting to be held on August 26th. Interviews to be held in open session and deliberations to be held in executive session. Selectboard Member, Miranda Dupre seconded the motion. All were in favor (5) and the motion passed.

- i. Consider Adoption of Selectboard Work Plan
Selectboard Member, Ida Griesemer made the motion to adopt the Selectboard work plan. Selectboard Member, Miranda Dupre seconded the motion. All were in favor (5) and the motion passed.

VII. Commission Reports - None

VIII. Consent Agenda: Selectboard Member, Miranda Dupre made the motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Selectboard Member, Ida Griesemer seconded the motion. All were in favor (5) and the motion passed.

Approve Payroll Ending: 8/2/2025

Approve A/P Manifest: 8/1/2025 & 8/7/2025

Approve Meeting Minutes of: 7/22/2025 as amended

Future Meetings Approved: 8/19/2025; 8/26/2025; 9/2/2025; 9/16/2025; 9/30/2025

IX. Executive Session: Personnel: Selection of Additional Members of Bugbee Building Renovation Committee; Update on Clerical Union Contract Negotiations.

Executive Session Motion (Personnel, Contractual and Legal)

1. Selectboard member, Erik Krauss made the motion to find that premature general public knowledge would clearly place this body or person involved at a substantial disadvantage, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. Section 313 (a) (1).
and
2. Move to discuss a potential contract, personnel matters and legal advice, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. Section 313 (a)(1)(A); 1 V.S.A. Section 313 (a)(1)(F); and 1 V.S.A. Section 313 (a)(3). Selectboard Member, Ida Griesemer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Out of Executive Session: Selectboard Member, Miranda Dupre made the motion to close the Executive Session at 8:15pm. Selectboard Member, Ida Griesemer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Selectboard Member, Miranda Dupre made the motion that the Selectboard appoint Scott Farnsworth and Linda Simon Miller to the Bugbee Senior Center Building Renovation Committee. Selectboard Member, Erik Krauss seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

X. Adjourn the Selectboard Meeting: Selectboard Member, Ida Griesemer made the motion to close the Selectboard meeting at 8:15PM. Selectboard Member, Erik Krauss seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.



Mary Erde, Chair

August 5, 2025, Selectboard Meeting