



TOWN OF HARTFORD SELECTBOARD MINUTES

Tuesday, June 9, 2026, 6:00pm
Hartford Town Hall, 171 Bridge Street,
White River Junction, VT 05001

This meeting was conducted in person at Town Hall

Present: Chair, Ida Griesemer; Vice Chair, Erik Krauss; Clerk, Ashley Andreas; Michael Eigenbrode; Mary Erdei; Tim Fariel; John Haverstock; Margaret Emslie; Brian Lukowitz; Dottie Moffitt; Jill Aube; Faye Grearson; Charlotte Martin; Dan Severance; Caitlin Sabins; Andrew Winter; Janet Potter; David Briggs

Present on Zoom: Meghan Mullane, Victoria Brooks; Larry Blake Harvey; Matthew Terry

Absent: Miranda Dupre

JAM Link: [Hartford Selectboard 06/09/26](#)

- I. Selectboard Meeting Called to Order by Selectboard Chair Ida Griesemer at 6:00 PM.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance was recited and led by Selectboard Chair Ida Griesemer.
Selectboard Clerk Ashley Andreas arrived at the meeting.
- III. Local Liquor Control Board:
 1. Consider the Renewal Application of Maple Street Catering, LLC, dba Big Fatty's BBQ, 186 S. Main St., WRJ, VT. 05001 (1st Class, 3rd Class, Outside Consumption)
 2. Consider the Renewal Application of Fontinalis, LLC, dba Fontinalis, 27 N. Main St., WRJ, VT. 05001 (2nd Class)
 3. Consider the Renewal Application of Northern Hospitality, dba Hotel Coolidge, 3950 Main St., WRJ, VT. 05001 (1st Class, 3rd Class)
 4. Consider the Renewal Application of K-B Ventures Inc., dba Jake's Market & Deli, 1477 Maple St., Hartford, VT. 05047 (2nd Class, Tobacco License, Tobacco Endorsement)
 5. Consider the Renewal Application of Little Istanbul, dba Little Istanbul, 27 N. Main St., WRJ, VT. 05001 (2nd Class)
 6. Consider the Renewal Application of Hanover Consumer Cooperative Society, Inc., dba WRJ Co-op, 209 Maple St., WRJ, VT. 05001 (2nd Class)
 7. Consider the Renewal Application of Wolfree Hospitality, LLC, dba Wolf Tree, 40 Currier St., WRJ, VT. 05001 (1st Class, 3rd Class, Outside Consumption)
 8. Consider the Renewal Application of Global Montello Group Corp., d/b/a Jiffy Mart #439, 6800 Woodstock Rd., Quechee, VT. 05059 (2nd Class, Tobacco License, Tobacco Endorsement)

Selectboard Member Mary Erdei moved to approve the renewal application of Maple Street Catering, LLC, dba Big Fatty's BBQ, 186 S. Main St., WRJ, VT. 05001 (1st Class, 3rd Class, Outside Consumption), the renewal application of Fontinalis, LLC, dba Fontinalis, 27 N. Main St., WRJ, VT. 05001 (2nd Class), the renewal application of Northern Hospitality, dba Hotel Coolidge, 3950 Main St., WRJ, VT. 05001 (1st Class, 3rd Class), the renewal application of K-B Ventures Inc., dba Jake's Market & Deli, 1477 Maple St., Hartford, VT. 05047 (2nd Class, Tobacco License, Tobacco Endorsement), the renewal application of Little Istanbul, dba Little Istanbul, 27 N. Main St., WRJ, VT. 05001 (2nd Class), the renewal application of Wolfree Hospitality, LLC, dba Wolf Tree, 40 Currier St., WRJ, VT. 05001 (1st Class, 3rd Class, Outside Consumption), the renewal application of Global Montello Group Corp., d/b/a Jiffy Mart #439, 6800 Woodstock Rd., Quechee, VT. 05059 (2nd Class, Tobacco License, Tobacco Endorsement). Selectboard Clerk Ashley Andreas seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Selectboard Member Mary Erdei moved to approve the renewal application of Hanover Consumer Cooperative Society, Inc., dba WRJ Co-op, 209 Maple St., WRJ, VT. 05001 (2nd

Class) Selectboard Clerk Ashley Andreas seconded the motion. 5 were in favor (Eigenbrode abstained) and the motion passed.

- IV. Local Cannabis Control Board: None
- V. Order of Agenda: There were no changes
- VI. Selectboard
 - 1. Public Comment: None
 - 2. Selectboard Comments and Announcements

Mary Erdei spoke on June 20th, Wilder Public Library session with Esme Cole on legislative updates.

Ida Griesemer welcomed people to the Juneteenth Celebration at Town Hall on June 20th and requested the Selectboard members cc her on emails that respond to residents to acknowledge receipt.

Tim Fariel spoke on the tone of emails and the common goals.

- 3. Appointments: None
- 4. Town Manager Report Significant Activity Reports

HR Director/Executive Assistant to Town Manager

The Town has received a good number of applicants for the HR Director/Executive Assistant to the Town Manager position and interviews are ongoing.

Juneteenth Holiday

Town offices will be closed on Friday, June 19 in observation of the Juneteenth holiday.

Planning Director

Planning Director Lori Hirschfield announced her retirement.

Town Manager Selection Committee

The Selectboard will meet with candidates on June 30th and July 1st.

- 5. Board Report, Motions & Ordinances
 - Committee/Commission Updates: None
 - Action Items:

- a. Interviews of Applicants for Opioid Fund Grant Review Committee

Applicants (Caitlin Sabins, Janet Potter, Brian Lukowitz, Charlotte Martin, and Dottie Moffitt) were interviewed by the Selectboard

- b. Additional Interviews of Applicants for Twin Pines Housing Task Force

Applicants (Jill Aube, Victoria Brooks, Margaret Emslie, Larry Blake Harvey, Brian Lukowitz, Meghan Mullane, Janet Potter, Tim Severance, Faye Gearson) were interviewed by the Selectboard

- VII. Executive Session: Legal (Discuss Potential Litigation); Personnel (Discuss and Evaluate Opioid Fund Grant Review Committee Applicants and Twin Pines Housing Task Force Applicants)

Selectboard Clerk Ashley Andreas moved to find that there are legal matters involving the Town and premature general public knowledge would clearly place the Town and/or persons at a substantial disadvantage, moved that the Selectboard go into executive session to discuss a matter in which the Town may become involved in litigation and which may involve attorney-client communications made for the purpose of providing professional services, as set forth in 1 V.S.A. Section 3133 (a)(1)(E) and (F), and moved that the Selectboard go into executive session to discuss and evaluate applicants to serve on the Opioid Fund Grant Review Committee and Twin Pines Housing Task Force, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. Section 3133 (a)(3). Selectboard Member Mary Erdei seconded the motion. All were in

favor and the motion passed.

VIII. Selectboard

5. Board Report, Motions & Ordinances (Continued)

Action Items:

- c. Appoint Members to Opioid Grant Review Committee

Selectboard Chair Ida Griesemer moved to appoint Caitlin Sabins, Janet Potter, Charlotte Martin, Brian Lukowitz, and Dottie Moffitt to the Opioid Fund Grant Review Committee. Selectboard Vice Chair Erik Krauss seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

- d. Appoint Members to Twin Pines Housing Task Force

Selectboard Chair Ida Griesemer moved to appoint as tenant representative Jill Aube, Brian Lukowitz, Meghan Mullane, and Time Severance and for social service providers, move that we appoint Victoria Brooks, Larry Blake Harvey and Faye Grearson to the Twin Pines Housing Task Force. Selectboard Member Tim Fariel seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Selectboard Chair Ida Griesemer moved to appoint Ashley Andreas as the Selectboard Liaison. Selectboard Vice Chair Erik Krauss seconded the motion. 5 were in favor (Andreas abstained) and the motion passed.

- e. Consider Approving the Proposed DPW Purchase of a 4X4 Truck

Selectboard Member Mary Erdei moved that the Hartford Selectboard approve the purchase of a 2026 Ford Maverick Hybrid via state contract for \$35,235 and approve the Town Manager to sign any relevant documents. Selectboard Clerk Ashley Andreas seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

- f. Review and Consider Approval of Town Fees and Charges

Selectboard Clerk Ashley Andreas moved that the proposed FY 2027 Fee Schedule be adopted by the Selectboard and implemented by Staff, with any new rates becoming effective on July 1, 2026. Selectboard Member Tim Fariel seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

- g. Consider Approval of Capital Improvement Plan Committee Charge

Selectboard Clerk Ashley Andreas moved that the Town's Selectboard approve and adopt the proposed Charge for the Capital Improvement Plan Committee including the additions or edits provided by Erik Krauss in the email exchanges about this topic. Selectboard Member Tim Fariel seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

- h. Appoint a Town Official as Voting Delegate to Special Meeting of VLCT

Selectboard Member Mary Erdei moved that the Town's Selectboard appoint John Haverstock, our current Town Manager to serve as the Town's delegate to participate at the VLCT special meeting of Monday, June 22. Selectboard Member Tim Fariel seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Discussion Items (Action May be Taken):

- i. Review and Discuss Proposed Town Staff Social Media Policy

Selectboard Member Mary Erdei moved that the Town of Hartford General Personnel Policy

be amended to add the Social Media Policy as presented to the Selectboard, with such amendment being posted as required, and considered for adoption at the next regular Selectboard meeting. Selectboard Clerk Ashley Andreas seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

j. Review and Discuss Proposed Town Communications Policy

Selectboard Member Tim Fariel moved that the Town of Hartford General Personnel Policy be amended to add the Communications Policy as presented to the Selectboard, with such amendment being posted as required, and considered for adoption at the next regular Selectboard meeting. Selectboard Member Mary Erdei seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

k. Continued Discussion of Affordability Initiatives

Selectboard Clerk Ashley Andreas moved that the Selectboard replace the existing updates for Resilient Hartford, the Energy Commission, Committee on Housing and Homelessness and Hartford Business Revolving Loan Fund with a joint update from those four committees that will be scheduled for September for that meeting to be focused on affordability and that the Selectboard direct its liaisons to the Energy Commission, Committee on Housing and Homelessness, Resilient Hartford and Hartford Business Revolving Loan Fund to communicate the request for proposals to the respective Chairs immediately. Selectboard Member Tim Fariel seconded the motion. 5 were in favor, one opposed (Erdei) and the motion passed.

IX. Commission Reports

Tim Fariel spoke on the Historic Committee is working on updating the Veterans kiosk.

Ashley Andreas spoke on the Committee on Housing and Homelessness doing a build day with Habitat for Humanity.

Erik Krauss reported on Conservation Commission

At their June 1 meeting, the Conservation Commission reviewed nominations for the Conservator of the Year award - someone who acts to protect wildlife habitat or watersheds, works to increase conservation awareness or education about the natural world and generally advances the Conservation Commission's mission of protecting Hartford's natural resources. The award presentation for this year's finalist will be conducted during the annual HCC Block Party.

The Conservation Commission held a well-attended trail work day on June 6 at the Town Forest in collaboration with the Upper Valley Mountain Bike Association. A new trail bridge was constructed, another was improved, trail makings and other routine maintenance was completed.

Lastly, during its June 1 meeting the Conservation Commission began a preliminary discussion about the rights of nature for the Ottaquechee River. A group of citizens has approached the five towns through which the river passes about adopting an ordinance to protect the water quality of the river. This would strengthen protections under the Federal Clean Water act which offer minimal protection. The Commission has not yet decided how it wishes to proceed and will continue to research and discuss the matter.

Mary Erdei spoke on Design Review Committee reviewed proposal for new awning for Tuckerbox.

Ida Griesemer spoke on the Energy Commission attended regional meetup.

X. Consent Agenda

Selectboard Member Mary Erdei moved to approve the Consent Agenda including new meetings added on 6/30/2026 and 7/1/2026. Selectboard Member Tim Fariel seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Approve Payroll Ending: 6/6/2026

Approve A/P Manifest: 6/5/2026 & 6/11/2026

Approve Meeting Minutes of: 5/26/2026

Future Meetings Approved: 6/30/2026, 7/1/2026, 6/23/2026 and 7/7/2026

XI. Adjourn the Selectboard Meeting

Selectboard Vice Chair Erik Krauss moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 PM. Selectboard Member Tim Fariel seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Ashley Andreas, Selectboard Clerk
June 9, 2026