

**Town of St. Albans
Selectboard Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 22nd, 2015
6:30 p.m.**

On Monday, June 22nd, 2015 at 6:30 p.m., at Town Hall the Town of St. Albans Selectboard held a regular meeting.

Officials and staff present: Chair Brent Palmer, Vice-Chair Stan Dukas, David McWilliams, Sam Smith, Director of Public Works, Steve Beauregard, Town Clerk, Anna Bourdon and Town Manager, Carrie Johnson. Absent was Bruce Cheeseman.

General Public: Bob LaFont, Pike Industries, Peter Blouin, Marlene Marcano, Paul Larner and Messenger reporter, Elodie Reed,

The Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Palmer called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2015 Paving Bids

We received two bids for paving:

D. McWilliams opened the bid from **S. T. Paving, Inc.**, from Waterbury. Bid was for \$68.57 per ton for 7,198 tons for a total cost of \$493,566.86.

S. Smith opened the bid from **Pike Industries, Inc.** Bid was for \$62.80 per ton for 7,551 tons for a total cost of \$474,202.80.

Both bids include repairs to the Bay dock.

MOTION: D. McWilliams made a motion to accept the bid from Pike Industries and to authorize Town Manager, Carrie Johnson to sign the contract. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

B. Palmer asked Director of Public Works, Steve Beauregard if there was another solution to fixing the Bay dock without using asphalt because of the environmental concerns might it have on the lake. S. Beauregard explained that there was an alternative, using concrete. Everything on the dock would need to be torn up and replaced with concrete. That cost would be \$98,000 but, this would be a more permanent fix. The concrete would be 6" thick. S. Beauregard suggested putting this more permanent repair to the dock in next year's budget and go out to bid. He also mentioned raising the dock. S. Dukas suggested some engineering work would need to be done on the dock. He believes this may have already been done years ago.

For this year, the dock will be patched.

Water/Sewer Discussion

B. Palmer explained to the audience the Town is going to start a discussion with the City of St. Albans regarding water and sewer. At this point, two Selectboard members will be appointed to meet with the City Council and begin formal negotiations.

S. Smith would like to be considered as one of the representatives. He has a good understanding of the water/sewer conversations that have taken place between the City and the Town in the past.

D. McWilliams stated that he feels having S. Smith as one of the representatives would be a conflict of interest because of past lawsuits S. Smith had been involved in with the City regarding water and sewer. S. Smith stated that his involvement makes it more beneficial.

B. Palmer stated that these are just preliminary discussions and no decisions will be made yet, just gathering information.

S. Dukas suggested Bruce Cheeseman be the other Selectboard representative.

MOTION: S. Dukas made a motion to appoint B. Cheeseman and S. Smith to be the Selectboard representatives to meet with the City of St. Albans Council members beginning at the meeting of July 13th, 2015. Motion carried with a 3-1 vote with D. McWilliams voting opposed.

Town resident, Paul Lerner suggested one of the representative not be on City water and sewer. That representative would be Bruce Cheeseman.

Appointment of Assistant Animal Control Officer

Anthony Farrar (Tony), currently one of our Parks employees is interested in serving as an Assistant Animal Control Officer. He has been highly recommended by Parks Director, Bill Meigs and Animal Control Officer, D. McWilliams. D. McWilliams will train Tony.

MOTION: S. Smith made a motion to appoint Anthony Farrar as Assistant Animal Control Officer. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Town Manager's Report Draft Junk Ordinance

Another version of the Junk Ordinance was provided to the Board. Zoning Administrator, Becky Perron and the Town Attorney have both reviewed the draft. We need to make sure there are no conflicts between the bylaws and the ordinance. The bylaws supersede the ordinance. Junk cars and screening can be covered in the bylaws. C. Johnson suggested the Planning Commission have an opportunity to review the ordinance and bylaws to prevent bylaws/ordinance conflicts.

D. McWilliams questioned if the traveled way is in the Town's right of way. C. Johnson said it is and that when Zoning Administrator, Becky Perron goes out to inspect a site, she observes from the Town right of way and then seeks permission from the property owner to come onto their property.

P. Lerner stated that the Selectboard should decide what the Junk Ordinance says and not seek suggestions from the Planning Commission.

S. Smith stated all references to Selectboard within the ordinance should remain. C. Johnson explained that this will delay the enforcement progress.

S. Dukas suggested going over Article 1, "Definitions", reaching consensus and pass the entire ordinance along to the Planning Commission for review.

S. Smith shared his concerns with the section "Junkyards" and "visible from any portion of a public highway". If it is a junkyard, then it would be screened.

The Board was in agreement with Article 1. Article 2 will be discussed at the next Selectboard meeting on July 13th, 2015 and the Planning Commission shall review the ordinance for conflicts with the draft bylaws.

2015 Regional Visit Planner for Mark Fenton – National Walkability/Bikeability Community Infrastructure Expert

C. Johnson has spoken with Northwestern Medical Center regarding a visit from Mark Fenton. Mr. Fenton is a community infrastructure expert who evaluates communities for walkability and bikeability. There is a grant from RISE Vermont and Northwestern Medical Center that will pay for his visit.

C. Johnson suggested that she, Selectboard members and members of the Park and Recreation Committee walk the Town with Mr. Fenton. Other communities involved are Swanton, Highgate and City of St. Albans.

2015 VTrans Bicycle & Pedestrian Program

C. Johnson explained that the Town qualifies for this grant because certain criteria had been met by completing the feasibility study for the bike/pedestrian path. This grant may award funds from \$650,000 to \$1 million. C. Johnson was seeking support from the Selectboard to apply for the grant, if awarded the Town will be responsible for the project for a match.

B. Palmer expressed his concerns stating that Town voters voted down the bike/pedestrian path at Town Meeting day. He also stated that we could turn down the grant if necessary.

The Board supported having C. Johnson apply for the grant.

Department of Public Works Relocation Progress

Tom Barden has been hired to submit a new estimate on building the Public Works complex due to the first estimate being too high. He's been asked to cut costs in certain places and revise the Scope of Work. S. Beauregard and the relocation committee would like to mirror the Swanton Department of Public Works complex. A meeting on July 1st has been scheduled to go over the new estimate with Mr. Barden.

Huntington Street Update

The City section of Hunting Street was narrow near the Town line and the Town section was narrow as well. The street is being widened and the sidewalk is being connected which will improve safety and accessibility.

Speed Reduction

We received a letter from Amy Gamble, Traffic Operations Engineer for VTrans regarding our request to lower the speed limit on Fairfax Road, in front of Collins Perley in order to install a crosswalk. Ms. Gamble does support the crosswalk but, the speed limit does not need to be lowered. The speed study data shows that 85% of the drivers in that area are going 43 mph. The crash data shows that most crashes are in the afternoon peak hours and are not related to speed. C. Johnson to follow up with Ms. Gamble to see if we can request a speed reduction despite the study results.

Liquor Control

MOTION: S. Dukas made a motion to recess the Selectboard meeting and convene as the Liquor Control Board. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Linda Ward, representative for the St. Albans Elks Lodge requested a one day permit for a field day at Kamp Kilkare. The state is requiring the Elks Lodge to apply for a festival permit. The event will be held on August 23rd, 2015.

MOTION: S. Dukas made a motion to approve the application for the one day liquor license for August 23, 2015 for the St. Albans Elks Lodge. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

MOTION: S. Dukas made a motion to adjourn the Liquor Control Board and reconvene as the Selectboard. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Public Comment

Paul Lerner came before the Board to notify them of a goose problem at the Bay Park. In the past, the Town's Health Officer would scare the geese off by shooting off blanks. D. McWilliams will check into this.

Northwest Access TV

D. McWilliams asked the Board, on behalf of Northwest Access TV if they would consider moving their meetings from the 2nd and 4th Mondays to the 1st and 3rd every month. This would not take effect until next year. The Board will take it into consideration and discuss at the next Selectboard meeting with a full board.

Industrial Park Warrant

MOTION: S. Dukas made a motion to approve the Industrial Park warrant in the amount of \$799.47. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Payroll Warrants

MOTION: S. Smith made a motion to approve the payroll warrant dated June 19th, 2015 in the amount of \$15,449.24. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

MOTION: S. Smith made a motion to approve the payroll warrant dated June 12th, 2015 in the amount of \$14,580.14. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

General Warrant

MOTION: D. McWilliams made a motion to approve the general warrant for June 9th, 2015 through June 22nd, 2015 in the amount of \$203,646.51. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Minutes

MOTION: S. Dukas made a motion to approve the Selectboard meeting minutes for Monday, June 8th, 2015. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Schedule

Bay Day is Sunday, July 5th. Next Selectboard meetings are July 13th and July 27th.
Town offices will be closed Friday, July 3rd.

Other Business

None

Executive Session

MOTION: B. Palmer made a motion to enter into executive session at 8:01 p.m. to discuss legal, contractual or personnel issues where premature general public knowledge of these subjects could place the Town or person involved at a substantial disadvantage. He further moved to enter into executive session to discuss a personnel and contractual matter under the provisions of Title 1, section 313(a)(1) of Vermont Statutes and to invite in Town Manager, Carrie Johnson and Town Clerk, Anna Bourdon. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

MOTION: D. McWilliams made a motion to come out of executive session at 8:34 p.m. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Salary Increases

MOTION: S. Dukas made a motion to approve the salary increases for Fiscal Year 2015 – 2016 as presented with the discussed changes. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Adjournment

MOTION: S. Dukas made a motion to adjourn the Selectboard meeting at 8:35 p.m. All in favor, none opposed, motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Gray