

**Town of St. Albans
Selectboard Meeting Minutes
Monday, August 10th, 2015
5:30 p.m.**

On Monday, August 10th, 2015 at 5:30 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, Planner, Nathaniel Neider and Town Manager, Carrie Johnson. Sam Smith arrived at 5:40 p.m. and Bruce Cheeseman arrived at 6pm.

Chair, B. Palmer called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

The purpose of the early start to the Selectboard meeting was to hold a work session with Planner, Nat Neider to discuss stormwater plans and funding.

MOTION: B. Palmer made a motion to recess the Selectboard meeting at 6:15 p.m. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

MOTION: B. Palmer made a motion to reconvene the Selectboard meeting at 6:30 p.m. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Regular meeting - 6:30 p.m.

General Public: Peter Blouin and Messenger reporter, Elodie Reed,

The Pledge of Allegiance.

SATEC Emergency Access – State Agreement

C. Johnson provided the Board with the state agreement to allow St. Albans Town Education Center (SATEC) to install an emergency only access from their property onto the St. Albans State Highway (SASH). SATEC will be responsible for all maintenance on this access.

S. Smith had a question regarding insurance on the part of the Town and SATEC and the liability. The Board asked C. Johnson to speak with the Town Attorney regarding this, before they approve it.

**Town Manager's Report
Draft Junk Ordinance**

The Board was presented draft 9.2 of the Junk Ordinance. Changes were made to Section 3, Enforcement, Fees and Penalties. D. McWilliams suggested adding funds to the budget for legal fees that may arise enforcing the Junk Ordinance.

S. Smith pointed out that Section 1, Definitions, subsection F, "Junk", there isn't a quantity of junk in the description. He suggested that the word "substantial" be added to the description of "Junk". There was not consensus on that suggestion.

C. Johnson to make changes and bring a clean copy back to the Board for their next meeting.

Crosswalk Updates

C. Johnson has been talking with Sam Ruggiano regarding the crosswalks the Town is proposing to install. He suggested doing construction plans and was authorized to get them done as soon as possible. He's done the topographic plans already and has spoken to Amy Gamble at the state who put him in touch with someone else at the state. Once the construction plans are done, a meeting will be set up with Sam Ruggiano, C. Johnson, Director of Public Works, Steve Beauregard and someone from the state to resolve any permitting issues.

B. Palmer read a statement from the state saying they've been right out straight and he expressed his frustration.

Social Media Policy

The Board was presented a draft of the Town's Social Media Policy. This was drafted from a VLCT template. C. Johnson stated that we don't have an issue currently but, some sort of enforcement should be in place if someone goes on a negative campaign.

B. Palmer stated this should be discussed in executive session. B. Cheeseman stated this could border on infringing upon people's freedom of speech.

Biodigester GMP Project

The Town received a letter from Green Mountain Power saying they've started the Public Service Board process to install a biodigester. This was strictly informational, no action required.

Fire Department Bylaw Update

Changes have been made to the bylaws and Fire Chief Cross is going to go over those changes with the officers at their meeting this evening. A final draft will be brought to the Selectboard for their next meeting.

Public Comment

B. Palmer shared a letter that was received by the Town (originally sent to David McWilliams) regarding the bike/pedestrian path. The letter stated opposition for the bike/pedestrian path but, support for the relocation of the Department of Public Works complex. He encouraged more residents to share their opinions with the Board, whether it is by letter or attending a Selectboard meeting.

Town resident, Peter Blouin came before the Board stating he's not clear on what the Board considers junk. He pointed out that you need to have a substantial amount of metal in order to get a good price for selling.

Bay Park Flowers

B. Palmer took this opportunity to thank Heidi Crossman, Marcia Yates, Judy Zoldis and Penny Gutierrez for the wonderful job they've done with the flowers at the Bay Park.

General Warrant

MOTION: B. Palmer made a motion to approve the general warrant for July 28th, 2015 through August 10th, 2015 in the amount of \$34,172.19. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Industrial Park Warrant

MOTION: S. Dukas made a motion to approve the Industrial Park warrant in the amount of \$2,159.50. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Payroll Warrant

MOTION: B. Palmer made a motion to approve the payroll warrant dated July 31st, 2015 in the amount of \$25,253.97. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Payroll Warrant

MOTION: B. Palmer made a motion to approve the payroll warrant dated August 7th, 2015 in the amount of \$14,135.64. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Minutes

MOTION: S. Smith made a motion to approve the Selectboard meeting minutes for Monday, July 27th, 2015. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Schedule

This year's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day is Saturday, August 15th, 2015 from 8am to 1pm at the Public Works Garage.

Next Selectboard meetings are August 24th and September 14th.

A 'special' Selectboard meeting will be held on Thursday, August 13th to meet with the Town Attorney.

Other Business

The Swanton Selectboard has asked if the Town Selectboard would like to have a joint meeting with them and the Fairfield Selectboard to discuss the Swanton Wind project. This meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 1st at 7pm. B. Palmer, S. Dukas and B. Cheeseman will attend this meeting.

Executive Session

MOTION: B. Palmer made a motion to go into executive session at 7:30 p.m. to discuss legal, contractual or personnel issues where premature general public knowledge of the subject matter would place the Town (or person involved) at a substantial disadvantage. It was further moved to enter into executive session to discuss a legal and personnel issues under the provisions of Title 1, section 313(a)(1) of Vermont Statutes. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

MOTION: D. McWilliams made a motion to come out of executive session at 9:13 p.m. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Adjournment

MOTION: D. McWilliams made a motion to adjourn the Selectboard meeting at 9:13 p.m. All in favor, none opposed, motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Gray