

**Town of St. Albans
Selectboard Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 28th, 2015
6:30 p.m.**

On Monday, September 28th, 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, Bruce Cheeseman, David McWilliams, Sam Smith, Town Clerk, Anna Bourdon, Lister Tadd Redman, Planner, Nat Neider and Town Manager, Carrie Johnson.

General Public: Steve Hauck, Tom Carpenter, Randy Betournay, Stephen Lareau, Peter Blouin, Marlene Marcano, Bob Alsop, David Erikson, Bob Roberts and St. Albans Messenger Reporter, Elodie Reed.

The Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Rules of Procedure

C. Johnson took this opportunity to go over the public comment section of the Rules of Procedure, reminding the audience to wait until public comment to make their comments to the Selectboard on agenda items.

Police Chief Gary Taylor

Chief Taylor explained to the Board that there was a bomb threat in the industrial park last weekend. 80 people were evacuated and the offender was arrested.

Chief Taylor provided the Board with an update on the state's consolidation on 911 call centers. There are 8 state Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP) and 4 regional. St. Albans is the busiest regional PSAP. Rutland has rolled into the Rockingham PSAP and Derby into Williston's.

Chief Taylor explained that the police conducted a covert speed study for 7 days on Little County Road and Brigham Road. Statistics showed that there were 6,929 vehicles on the Brigham Road with 10% of them driving 41 mph or more. On the Little County Road, there were 2,434 vehicles with 11% of them driving 41 mph or more.

Chief Taylor updated the Board on policing concerns and issues on Burton Island. He met with the State Police, Burton Island Park Rangers and Town Manager, Carrie Johnson. It had been agreed upon at this meeting that the St. Albans Police would provide policing on the island. Earlier in the summer, there had been complaints of drinking and disorderly conduct. Chief Taylor explained that with police presence on the island, he is hoping to cut down on those complaints.

Errors and Omissions

Lister, Tadd Redman came before the Board to explain the errors and omissions and field questions.

MOTION: B. Palmer made a motion to accept the Errors and Omissions as presented. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Planning Update – Nat Neider

Planner, Nat Neider came before the Board to give them an update on items he's been working on. He explained that as a requirement of the MS4 Permit, over the weekend, he and his family picked up trash in the Rugg Brook area. He went on to state that by this time next year, we will need to consider a budget for the next 20 years to make some milestone markers in the MS4 Permit. He had provided a list of items he's working and gave a status on each.

Collins Perley Bike/Pedestrian Path Construction Grant

N. Neider explained that the Town was denied this grant. Even though the Town was denied, the state encouraged us to reapply next year.

Grant Resolution – Comprehensive Plan Update

N. Neider requested the Board sign a grant resolution to apply for a \$16,000 Municipal Planning Grant. He will be working closely with Northwest Regional Planning Commission to update the Town Plan to make sure we meet State requirements. The Town match is \$2,300.

Bylaw Progress

The Planning Commission is meeting on Tuesday, September 29th to go over minor changes and then move forward with a public meeting in October.

Rain Garden

The rain garden was originally to be constructed on the property of Town Hall but, because of the stormwater runoff from the building and parking lot ending up in the front corner of the church's lawn next door, they have given the Town permission to construct the rain garden on the church grounds.

MOTION: B. Palmer made a motion to approve and sign the grant resolution. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Harbor View Confirmation

MOTION: B. Palmer made a motion to accept Harbor View Road as a public road. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Rules of Procedure

S. Dukas suggested changing the Selectboard's Rules of Procedure as needed, to move the approvals of the general warrant, industrial park warrant, payroll warrants and meeting minutes to the beginning of their meetings going forward. The Board was in consensus.

MOTION: B. Palmer made a motion to change the Rules of Procedure. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Payroll Warrant

MOTION: B. Palmer made a motion to approve the payroll warrant dated September 18th, 2015 in the amount of \$15,372.56. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

MOTION: B. Palmer made a motion to approve the payroll warrant dated September 25th, 2015 in the amount of \$22,216. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Industrial Park Warrant

MOTION: B. Palmer made a motion to approve the Industrial Park warrant in the amount of \$773.08. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

General Warrant

MOTION: B. Palmer made a motion to approve the general warrant for September 15th, 2015 through September 28th, 2015 in the amount of \$49,197.74. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Town Manager's Report

Department of Public Works (DPW) Relocation Project Update & Junk Ordinance

C. Johnson provided an update on the DPW relocation project. We are moving forward with a special election this fall to be held on Tuesday, November 10th. At this special election, we would be requesting taxpayer support for relocation of the Department of Public Works complex to the Town owned land on Brigham Road. C. Johnson also explained that the cost for construction of the complex has been scaled back to \$1.7 million for the building, \$522,000 for site work plus soft costs.

A petition to rescind the Junk Ordinance was brought in to Town Clerk, Anna Bourdon. The question to rescind the Junk Ordinance will be asked at the special election on November 10th as well.

B. Cheeseman explained the construction cost per square footage for the building is in line with today's construction costs. He went on to explain some of the features that will be included in the new complex.

MOTION: B. Palmer made a motion to hold a special election on Tuesday, November 10th, 2015 for the DPW building and the Junk Ordinance. Open for discussion.

S. Smith explained he's going to vote negative on the DPW relocation project because of the costs. He disagrees with B. Cheeseman saying that the costs per square footage are on the high side.

B. Cheeseman disagreed with S. Smith's comments about square footage costs and also pointed out that building a safe and environmentally friend complex is right thing to do for the Town and employees.

MOTION: B. Palmer made a motion to hold a special election on Tuesday, November 10th, 2015 for the DPW building and the Junk Ordinance. Motion carried with a 4-1 vote with S. Smith voting opposed.

Town resident, Bob Roberts came before the Board, to ask them if they are being influenced by the EPA or State to move the DPW building off the lake. The Board stated no, not that this time. Mr. Roberts then asked if the Town has considered what to do with the current facility if the new DPW facility is built. Maybe if the public knew there were other uses for the property would help with how they vote. B. Palmer explained that this has been looked at and one thing that must be considered is whether the property is a Brown Field. This will entail testing that will costs thousands of dollars testing that should be done after the buildings are removed.

Crosswalk Update: Act 250

C. Johnson gave an update on the Collins Perley and Bay Store crosswalks. Sam Ruggiano spoke to a representative with Act 250 in order to get details on construction costs. Shall the Town construction, own and maintain the crosswalks? B. Palmer would like the DPW director to come to the next meeting to explain how these crosswalks will be maintained. Dave Kimmel said his staff would maintain the sidewalk and crosswalk portions on the Collins Perley property.

Charter Subcommittee

C. Johnson explained that we should add something regarding the Lister's office in the charter. If a subcommittee is formed, we could start to meet this fall and any changes can be on the Town Meeting ballot in March. B. Cheeseman and D. McWilliams agreed to serve on this subcommittee along with Carrie Johnson and a few Town residents. B. Cheeseman suggested Al Voegele be asked to sit on this subcommittee.

VFW 20th Anniversary

C. Johnson thanked S. Smith and D. McWilliams for attending the VFW 20th anniversary celebration last week.

Public Comment

None.

Minutes

MOTION: S. Dukas made a motion to approve the Selectboard meeting minutes for Monday, September 14th, 2015. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Schedule

Next Selectboard meetings are October 12th and October 26th. Mark Fenton, Transportation Specialist will be visiting Friday, October 9th. Secretary Condos Transparency Meeting will be held at Town Hall on Tuesday, November 3rd from 5:30 p.m. to 8pm. All are welcome.

Other Business

None.

Executive Session

MOTION: S. Dukas made a motion to go into executive session at 7:47 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 legal and personnel issues under the provisions of Title 1, section 313(a)(1) of Vermont Statutes and invite in Town Manager, Carrie Johnson. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

MOTION: S. Dukas made a motion to come out of executive session at 8:40 p.m. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Adjournment

MOTION: S. Dukas made a motion to adjourn the Selectboard meeting at 8:40 p.m. All in favor, none opposed, motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Gray
Town of St. Albans Selectboard
Mtg. of 9.28.2015