

**Town of St. Albans
Selectboard Meeting Minutes
Monday, August 15th, 2016
5:00 p.m.**

On Monday, August 15th, 2016 at 5:00 p.m., at Town Hall the Town of St. Albans Selectboard met.

Officials and staff present: Chair, Stan Dukas, Vice Chair, Bruce Cheeseman, Sam Smith, and Town Manager, Carrie Johnson. Also present was George Dorsey from Edgewood Holdings. Absent were David McWilliams and Bill Nihan.

S. Dukas called the meeting to order at 5pm.

The purpose for the 5pm start to the Selectboard meeting was to hold an executive session to discuss a contractual issue.

Executive Session

MOTION: S. Dukas made a motion to go into executive session at 5:01 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, personnel and contractual issues under the provisions of Title 1, section 313(a)(1) of Vermont Statutes and invite in Town Manager, Carrie Johnson and Edgewood Holdings. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

MOTION: S. Dukas made a motion to come out of executive session at 6:20 p.m. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Regular Meeting – 6:30 p.m.

Officials and staff present: Chair, Stan Dukas, Vice Chair, Bruce Cheeseman, Sam Smith, Town Clerk, Anna Bourdon, and Town Manager, Carrie Johnson. Absent was Bill Nihan. David McWilliams arrived at 6:50pm.

Public: Peter Blouin, Police Chief Taylor, Lt. Maurice Lamothe, Al Voegele, Catherine Dimitruk, Bethany Remmers, and St. Albans Messenger Elaine Ezerins.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

MOTION: S. Dukas made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Payroll Warrants

MOTION: B. Cheeseman made a motion to approve the payroll warrants dated August 12th, 2016 in the amount of \$14,674.78 and August 5th, 2016 in the amount of \$16,049.53. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Industrial Park Warrant

MOTION: B. Cheeseman made a motion to approve the Industrial Park warrant in the amount of \$110. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

General Warrant

MOTION: S. Smith made a motion to approve the general warrant dated August 15th, 2016 in the amount of \$36,200.67. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Minutes

MOTION: S. Dukas made a motion to approve the Selectboard meeting minutes for Monday, August 1st, 2016. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Police Chief Gary Taylor

Police Chief Taylor and the Vermont State Police Barracks Lieutenant Commander Maurice Lamothe came before the Board. Chief Taylor explained that there was a 2% increase for police services in 2016 for the Town. There was a decrease in motor vehicle crashes. 36% of police calls are in the Town.

Chief Taylor explained that there were 7 fatal overdoses last year. There were 3 in the Town and 4 in the City. The overdoses were 5 Heroin, 1, Dilaudid and 1 Fentanyl. He went on to explain that Naloxone was administered 10 – 12 times. There is also some tainted Heroin that could be potentially fatal called “Game of Thrones”.

Lt. Lamothe introduced himself as the new Vermont State Police Commander in St. Albans. He explained the drug problem is out of control and just last week there were 2 fatal overdoses that Vermont State Police responded to.

Assessor’s Office – Errors & Omissions (E&O)

The Assessor’s Office provided the Board with a resolution to reduce the house value for Daniel and Jennifer Boudreau, located at 545 Perry Road.

MOTION: S. Smith made a motion to accept the Assessor’s Errors and Omissions recommendation to reduce the house value for Daniel and Jennifer Boudreau, located at 545 Perry Road as presented. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Water & Sewer Feasibility Study Update – DuBois & King

Jonathan Ashley from DuBois and King came before the Board to give them a progress update on the water and sewer feasibility study he is working on for the Town. Mr. Ashley provided handouts for the Board which included maps and an outline of what has been done so far. He explained that existing sewer manholes and hydrants have been GPS located for mapping. Parcel mapping has been loaded up and put together with the grand list. Soil mapping has been completed as well. No test pits yet but, will be done as part of Phase 1.

Mr. Ashley explained that Sub-Service areas have been added to the map. Those areas are defined as; Growth Center, Residential, Commercial and Industrial Park. The total gallons per day (gpd) for the entire service area would be 335,000 with 258,000 of that currently existing and 77,000 gpd for future growth.

In summary, Mr. Ashley stated the Town could find land to treat wastewater. Test pits will be dug in the near future.

Northwest Regional Planning

Catherine Dimitruk and Bethany Remmers came before the Board to discuss the State’s conceptual plans to construct a rotary at Exit 19. Ms. Dimitruk explained the intersection is failing during the peak hours and has been since 2010. Wait times at the intersection are too long, there have been several accidents and there are no accommodations for bikes or pedestrians.

A 2009 Intersection Feasibility Study Update was completed of the St. Albans South State Highway (SASH) and VT Route 104 intersection. The study concluded that the best was to solve the failure of the intersection is to construct a 2-lane roundabout.

Ms. Dimitruk explained that in 2015, Act 145 was created. This allows VTrans to charge impact fees that impact transportation projects. This creates a funding mechanism for fixing the intersection at SASH and VT Route 104.

Ms. Remmers briefly went over the 2009 Feasibility Study alternatives. The recommendation is Alternative C – constructing a 180 ft. diameter multi-lane roundabout. The proposed cost is \$2,100,000.

Time frame for this project could be 3-8 years unless a large project comes in and trips the need and in which case the process would be expedited.

Bay Crosswalk

Ms. Remmers recommended that the Town request VTrans to do a Road Safety Audit Review for the area of the Bay crosswalk. This could be done this fall. The Board agreed to request the review. C. Johnson to asked Ms. Remmers to schedule the audit as soon as possible.

Town Manger’s Report Personnel Policy Update

The Board was provided a copy of draft changes for their review. Revisions have been made to the Personnel Policy to accommodate for domestic partnership and the changes to sick leave for part-time employees. The Board requested more information

on the sick leave laws and that the domestic partner section be added as previously discussed.

NIMS Training

NIMS training is scheduled for Tuesday, September 6th. 5pm – 8pm.

Act 250 Notices

The Board was provided Act 250 notices for St. Albans Mini Storage, Handy Business Property Partnership and the Certificate of Public Good application for Canusa – 33 Solar LLC on Rewes Drive. No action required.

Public Comment

None.

Schedule

The next Selectboard meetings are Wednesday, September 7th and Monday, September 19th.

Other Business

C. Johnson drafted a letter to Allen Robtoy at the City of St. Albans thanking him and his Public Works Department for the great job they did with the work on Lake Street.

Local Option Tax

S. Dukas would like to discuss some Local Option Tax (LOT) funds to be set aside for brick and mortar at a future meeting.

Executive Session

MOTION: S. Dukas made a motion to go into executive session at 8:25 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, personnel and contractual issues under the provisions of Title 1, section 313(a)(1) of Vermont Statutes and invite in Al Voegele and Town Manager, Carrie Johnson. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

MOTION: S. Smith made a motion to come out of executive session at 9:45 p.m. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Adjournment

MOTION: B. Cheeseman made a motion to adjourn the Selectboard meeting at 9:45 p.m. All in favor, none opposed, motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Gray