

**Town of St. Albans
Selectboard Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 19th, 2022
6:30 p.m.**

On Monday, September 19th, 2022 at 6:30 p.m., the Town of St. Albans Selectboard met at Town Hall.

Officials and Staff: Chair Jonathan Giroux, Vice Chair Bryan DesLauriers, Brendan Deso, Jack Brigham, Jeff Sanders, Town Manager Carrie Johnson, and Interim Director of Operations Al Voegelé.

Chair J. Giroux called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public in Attendance: Franklin County Sheriff Roger Langevin, Franklin County Sheriff's Lieutenant Mark Lauer, Pat Vincent, Paul and Sally Larner, Anne Pomeroy, and Consultant Corey Parent.

Staff participating via Zoom: None. Locked out of Zoom.

Public Participation via Zoom: None. Locked out of Zoom.

General Warrant

MOTION: J. Brigham made a motion to approve the general warrant dated September 19th, 2022 in the amount of \$111,656.58. Seconded by B. Deso. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Stone House Warrant

MOTION: B. Deso made a motion to approve the Stone House warrant dated September 19th, 2022 in the amount of \$2,495.00. Seconded by J. Brigham. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Infrastructure Development Warrant

MOTION: B. Deso made a motion to approve the Infrastructure Development warrant dated September 19th, 2022 in the amount of \$1,814.38. Seconded by J. Sanders. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Industrial Park Warrant

MOTION: B. Deso made a motion to approve the Industrial Park warrant dated September 19th, 2022 in the amount of \$817.34. Seconded by J. Brigham. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Stormwater Utility Warrant

MOTION: B. Deso made a motion to approve the Stormwater Utility warrant dated September 19th, 2022 in the amount of \$16,130.63. Seconded by J. Sanders. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Payroll

MOTION: B. DesLauriers made a motion to approve the payroll warrants dated September 2nd, 2022 in the amount of \$23,678.64, September 9th, 2022 in the amount of \$24,176.11, and September 16th, 2022 in the amount of \$23,182.03. Seconded by J. Brigham. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Minutes

MOTION: B. Deso made a motion to approve the regular Selectboard meeting minutes of Wednesday, September 7th, 2022 and the Selectboard special meeting minutes of Thursday, September 1st as presented. Seconded by J. Brigham. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Public Comment

None.

Liquor Control Board

MOTION: J. Brigham made a motion to recess the Selectboard and convene the Liquor Control Board. Seconded by J. Sanders. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

The Pizza Hut in the Highgate Shopping plaza has sold to a new owner, American Dream Restaurant, LLC. That owner must apply for new licenses.

MOTION: B. Deso made a motion to approve the new application for American Dream Restaurant, LLC for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd class liquor licenses as presented. Seconded by J. Brigham. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

MOTION: J. Brigham made a motion to adjourn the Liquor Control Board and reconvene the Selectboard meeting. Seconded by J. Sanders. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Town Manager's Report

Monthly Sheriff Update – Franklin County Sheriff's Office (FCSO)

Franklin County Sheriff Roger Langevin came before the Board to provide his monthly update. A paper copy of the monthly update had been provided to the Board prior to the meeting. Sheriff Langevin explained that county wide, they are fighting retail theft ring. Also, similar problems are happening in Chittenden and Orleans Counties. A lot of items have been recovered and there have been some arrests. These investigations take time and resources and have taken away from some of the Town patrolling. A lot of these thefts are drug related, people needing money to buy drugs.

Sheriff Langevin explained that the FCSO is fully staffed for the existing contracts they have and they are not taking on any new business until he hires more people. Two people have been hired with one going through the Level 2 Academy. She would like to be an SRO (Student Resource Officer). The other person had left FCSO a few years ago to train officers overseas. He has now returned and working on being fully certified.

Sheriff Langevin explained that two new cruisers have been ordered and he's hoping to have them in May, 2023, but that may actually turn out to be November or December of 2023.

Town Hall Update – Nathaniel Jamison-Root

Because Zoom was unavailable for this meeting, Mr. Jamison-Root was unable to provide his update to the Board. However, the Board did receive a paper copy of the update prior to the meeting. C. Johnson explained that invoices were light this month and there isn't much going on at the new Town Hall. The parts have been ordered for the Reverse Osmosis (RO) system. DEW is facilitating that installation. C. Johnson also explained that the replacement doors for the large boardroom were received and were incorrect, so those have been reordered again.

Disposal of Town Assets

C. Johnson explained that Corey Parent, Corey Gratton, and John Montagne went through the Department of Public Works garage and salt shed areas to determine items we could get rid of before the winter months. There are a few items on the disposal list that were donated to the Town and C. Johnson suggested contacting the donors prior to disposing of those items. Then, we can offer items for sale or donate them on a first come first sever basis. The Board had been provided a list of items to be disposed of. C. Parent stated that most of the items on the list are valued at \$1,000 or less. He suggested putting an ad out to receive bids. If no one bids and someone shows up and makes an offer of \$100 or \$50 on something, let them have it.

C. Johnson recapped by stating that an ad will be run for the items to be sold.

Sheriff Langevin and Lt. Lauer left the meeting at this time.

Old Town Hall Fact Sheet

C. Johnson explained that Jenn Gray worked with Zoning Administrator Megan Sherlund and Assessor Bill Hinman to put together the fact sheet on the current Town Hall. C. Johnson went on to say that B. Hinman had suggested doing a Highest and Best Use Analysis. This was included in the Board's meeting packet. C. Johnson asked the Board if they were ready to hold a meeting in November to discuss the future of the current Town Hall. Both the fact sheet and the analysis will be added to the Town's website. The Town will schedule a meeting to discuss the old Town Hall in November, 2022

Act 250 Notice

3 Water's Edge Drive – M & H McDonald

Informational only, no action required.

Schedule

The next regular Selectboard meetings are Monday, October 3rd and Monday, October 17th at 6:30 p.m. First budget meeting will be held on October 26th at 8am.

Other Business

Race For Sheriff

B. Deso explained there are write-in candidates, backed by both parties (Democratic and Republican). He went on to say that he would be happy to support and vote for Mark Lauer for Sheriff and that Gail Messier should pull out of the race. It doesn't make sense to have two write-ins.

J. Brigham shared with the Board that looked into the progress on the repairs to the Town's boom mower. He said we should have it back in the spring.

Executive Session

MOTION: J. Sanders made a motion to go into executive session at 7:10 p.m. to discuss contractual and personnel matters 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 personnel issue under the provisions of Title 1, section 313(a)(1) of Vermont Statutes and to invite in Town Manager Carrie Johnson and Interim Director of Operations Al Voegelé. Seconded by J. Brigham. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

MOTION: B. Deso made a motion to come out of executive session at 8:59 p.m. Seconded by J. Sanders. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Adjournment

MOTION: B. DesLauriers made a motion to adjourn the Selectboard meeting at 9:00 p.m. Seconded by J. Brigham . All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenn Gray, Recording Secretary