

**Town of St. Albans
Selectboard Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 5th, 2020
6:00 p.m.
Via Zoom Teleconferencing**

On Monday, October 5th, 2020, at 6:00 p.m., the Town of St. Albans Selectboard met.

Officials and staff in attendance: Chair Brendan Deso, Vice Chair Jessica Frost, Stan Dukas, Erin Creley, Jonathan Giroux, Town Manager Carrie Johnson, and Project Manager Matt Young.

Chair, B. Deso called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The purpose of the early start to the meeting was to hold an executive session to discuss a contractual issue.

Executive Session

MOTION: J. Giroux made a motion to go into executive session at 6:00 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 is further moved to enter into executive session to discuss legal, contractual, or personnel issued under the provisions of Title 1, section 313(a)(1) of Vermont Statutes and to invite Town Manager Carrie Johnson and Project Manager Matt Young. Seconded by E. Creley. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

MOTION: E. Creley made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 6:28 p.m. Seconded by J. Giroux. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Regular Meeting – 6:30 p.m.

Officials and staff in attendance: Chair Brendan Deso, Vice Chair Jessica Frost, Stan Dukas, Erin Creley, Jonathan Giroux, Town Manager Carrie Johnson, Director of Public Works Alan Mashtare, Town Clerk Anna Bourdon, and Recording Secretary Jenn Gray.

Public Participation via Zoom Teleconferencing: Erik Alling with Stantec, Al Voegele, and Jackie Brown.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

General Warrant

MOTION: S. Dukas made a motion to approve the general warrant dated October 5th, 2020 in the amount of \$410,837.12. Seconded by E. Creley. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Payroll

MOTION: E. Creley made a motion to approve the payroll warrant for September 23rd, 2020 in the amount of \$31,963.33 and October 5th, 2020 in the amount of \$24,052.40. Seconded by J. Giroux. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Infrastructure Development Warrant

Payment to Connor Contracting for the salt shed.

MOTION: J. Giroux made a motion to approve the Infrastructure Development Warrant dated October 5th, 2020 in the amount of \$73,447.00. Seconded by J. Frost. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Impact Fee Warrant

Payment to Connor Contracting for the salt shed.

MOTION: J. Giroux made a motion to approve the Impact Fee warrant in the amount of \$120,000. Seconded by E. Creley. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Minutes

MOTION: J. Giroux made a motion to approve the Selectboard meeting minutes from Monday, September 21st, 2020 as presented. Seconded by J. Frost. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Public Comment

Al Voegele, thanked the Town and the Department of Public Works (DPW) for an excellent job on the stormwater management work done on French Hill Road.

Bicycle & Pedestrian Health Path

Alternatives Presentation Meeting – St. Albans Health Path Scoping Study

Erik Alling with Stantec went over the alternatives in his presentation for the SASH crossing scoping study. Alternative 1 is a pedestrian hybrid signal called HAWK. This would consist of a pedestrian activated traffic signal. It will remain off until the pedestrian pushes a button activating it.

Alternative 2 is a pedestrian and vehicle access and signal. This would consist of a roadway intersection with signal. There would be a new extension to Gricebrook Road including a traffic signal with pedestrian crosswalk.

Mr. Alling explained that there are signal warrants that need to be satisfied to have either alternative possible. With Alternative 1, based on estimated pedestrian trips from BFA and SATEC to Colins Perley, Thorpe Avenue Extension neighborhood to SATEC, and Gricebrook Road to Thorpe Avenue Extension the signal warrants are satisfied. However, with Alternative 2, based on vehicular and pedestrian volumes being much lower than threshold, the signal warrants are not satisfied. Mr. Alling recommended going with Alternative 1.

B. Deso stated that the vehicular signal would make more sense for future growth in that area. Mr. Alling stated that it is more likely that VTrans would not approve Alternative 2. Alternative 1 did not meet the signal warrants. He did suggest potentially putting in a stop sign in that area. B. Deso asked if the speed would be lowered. Mr. Alling stated no. Extension modification would need to be done to the SASH to lower the speed. B. Deso asked if we should do the HAWK first and then do a curb cut and then do a full traffic signal later. Mr. Alling stated that could be possible. He also suggested going forward with the HAWK because there is a good chance the Town will be awarded the grant because the Town was already awarded grant funds for the scoping study. Mr. Alling stated that this conversation will be included along with the grant. Mr. Alling stated that we should formalizing the alternative and then he can talk to someone at VTrans regarding putting a road in that area in the future.

S. Dukas asked how do we get the bicycles and school kids to this crossing? Mr. Alling explained there is a report that goes over this, but the crossing needs to come first and we can't build the whole network at once. C. Johnson explained you can cross on the north side of Gricebrook towards the City, connecting to Thorpe Avenue and City sidewalks, and on the south to Thorpe Avenue Extension to Town streets and the complex path.

Next steps: Mr. Alling to speak to VTrans and then finalize the report. Mr. Alling will attend the next Selectboard meeting on Monday, October 19th seeking endorsement of a preferred alternative.

St. Albans Health Path Construction Grant

Submitted on September 30th, 2020, with work from Erik Alling and C. Johnson.

Liquor Control Board

MOTION: J. Giroux made a motion to recess the Selectboard and enter into the Liquor Control Board. Seconded by J. Frost. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) - Robert E. Glidden Post 758.

MOTION: J. Giroux made a motion to approve the liquor licenses request for the VFW as presented. Seconded by J. Frost. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

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

Town Manager's Report

Village Designation Update

C. Johnson explained that the Town received approval for the Village Designation on Monday, September 28th.

Appointment of Honor Wall Committee

C. Johnson explained that last winter, the Board had expressed wanting to establish a committee to accept nominations for the Honor Wall. The committee would meet in the winter and bring a recommendation to the Selectboard in February. B. Deso suggested the Board review the procedure and have it on the next Selectboard meeting agenda, October 19th.

Town Hall Relocation Update

C. Johnson explained that we have started our public outreach. We are holding an open house at Town Hall this Wednesday, October 7th from 6pm to 7:30 p.m. Town Clerk Anna Bourdon will be downstairs to show people the vault space and C. Johnson will be upstairs to show the administrative space. Only a few people will be allowed in the building at one time and masks are required.

Salt Shed Update

A. Mashtare explained that the last pour of all the pillars was completed today. Trusses coming in a couple of weeks. There are three local companies doing the work at the salt shed; Connor Contracting, Harrison Concrete, and Heath Wright (back filling). Some materials are coming from Sticks and Stuffs. The paving will not be done this year, so DPW will be working out of the old salt shed.

S. Dukas asked when the first shipment of salt would be delivered. A. Mashtare explained that he has signed a contract with Compass out of Quebec and we are expecting our first delivery on October 13th. Compared to our previous vendor, Compass is \$10/ton less expensive. They will deliver within 48 hours of a phone call from the Town.

Certificate of Public Good – Advanced Notice

Green Lantern Solar

No action required.

PurposeEnergy – St. Albans, LLC

No action required.

Schedule

The next regular Selectboard meetings are Monday, October 19th and Monday, November 2nd at 6:30 p.m. Budget meetings will be at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, October 12th and Monday, October 26th.

Chair's Report

B. Deso explained he has received some early entries for the Halloween costume contest. Accepting submission until October 25th.

Other Business

None.

Executive Session

MOTION: E. Creley made a motion to go into executive session at 7:21 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 is further moved to enter into executive session to discuss legal, contractual, or personnel issued under the provisions of Title 1, section 313(a)(1) of Vermont Statutes and to invite Town Manager Carrie Johnson. Seconded by J. Giroux. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

MOTION: J. Frost made a motion to come out of executive session at 8:49 p.m. Seconded by . All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Adjournment

MOTION: J. Giroux made a motion to adjourn the Selectboard meeting at 8:50 p.m. Seconded by S. Dukas. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Jenn Gray, Recording Secretary