

**ST. JOHNSBURY BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2012**

The St. Johnsbury Selectboard met in the Municipal Board Room on Monday, June 11, 2012 at 700pm for its Regular Meeting of the Select Board. Present were: Chairman Jim Rust, Vice-Chairman Alan Ruggles, Rodney Lamotte, Bernard Timson, and Kevin Oddy.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance at 700p.

**PUBLIC ATTENDANCE**

Also present: Special Assistant in Town Manager's Office Dawn McPhee, HR Manager Courtney Daniels, Town Clerk/Treasurer, Stacy Jewell, Bill Jewell, Pam Smart, Tim Persons, Al Dunn, Laural Ruggles, Tim Angell, Brian Christman, Janet Quatrini, Nelson Baker, Bruce Corrette, David Sawtelle, Sonya Sawtelle

**PRESS ATTENDANCE**

Bryan White of KATV and Taylor Reed of Caledonian-Record

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

**MINUTES**

On a motion by Ruggles, seconded by Lamotte, the minutes of May 28<sup>th</sup> regular meeting was unanimously approved and passed by the Board.

**WARRANTS**

On a motion by Oddy, seconded by Timson, the Board unanimously approved the following warrants:

Check 69190 – 69255	88,890.17
Check 69278 – 69280	1,052.91
Check 2333 – 2336	158,151.56
Check 69303 – 69310	17,205.40
Check 69351 – 69361	163,765.32
Check 69383 – 69386	1,513.14
Check 69387 – 69399	30,399.00
Check 69421 – 69423	1,052.91
Check 69424	1,230.00
Check 69256 – 69277	11,561.42
E-check 218 – 249	17,147.43
Check 69281 – 69302	11,054.96
E-check 250 – 282	17,921.28
Check 69362 – 69382	11,044.36
E-check 283 – 317	18,244.18
Check 69400 – 69420	10,685.91
E-check 318 – 352	17,975.72

## **LIQUOR AND CATERING LICENCES**

On a motion by Timson, seconded by Lamotte, the license request by Sodexo was unanimously approved.

## **ST. J. WALKING MAPS**

Laural Ruggles of NVRH presented walking maps to public. The first maps were done in 2005 via BCBS and Fit & Healthy Coalition. This current version includes Town Forest and 3 Rivers Transportation Path which will open in mid-summer. This is an effort to make walking fun as well as exercise and maps will be available in the community at various locations as well as on NVRH & BCBS website.

A request was made to have maps available at the Welcome Center and in Town Clerk's office.

## **ELY NOTICE OF INTENT TO CONVEY REAL ESTATE**

Rust presented a letter from Town Attorney and notice of intent to convey real estate parcel of property from Town to Janice Ely, which was originally voted on by the Selectboard to transfer in 2010. Rust confirmed that the parcel will be attached to existing property and new assessment will be done and on Grand List in 2013. On a motion by Timson, seconded by Lamotte, the Board unanimously approved the publication of notice.

## **BANNERS/CVPS**

Rust gave update on banner issue and agreement with CVPS. After ordering brackets, CVPS will put them up as well as re-install all banners under the Temporary Agreement which will be done pro bono. On a motion by Oddy, seconded by Timson, the Board unanimously approved the execution of the agreement.

## **ORDINANCES – Dog & Wolf Hybrids & Loitering**

Tim Angell of the Planning Commission presented the first 2 ordinances for review and approval by Board. Dogs & Wolf Hybrids beefs up leash law as well as outlines new process to handle vicious dogs and attacks. Fee schedule also updated to include pound/kennel fees and enforcing license deadlines.

Oddy questioned section D regarding verbal control. Angell indicated that all provisions are up for discussion and this was one item debated by the Commission. There was much discussion on the leash vs. verbal control provision as well other provisions as the proposed ordinance was read in its entirety.

Al Dunn questioned the right to shoot a dog. It was confirmed that it's a violation to shoot a firearm in the Village. Tim Persons questioned the leash law that would take affect also outside the Village which may penalize those whose dogs do roam freely but do not attack. Angell confirmed that this ordinance deals mostly with dogs in public spaces. On a motion by Oddy, with exception of the leash vs. verbal control provision, seconded by Timson, the Board unanimously adopts the revised ordinance.

The proposed Loitering Ordinance was read in its entirety. Section 6 which outlines fees will be revised, as per recommendation of Chief Houde. Tim Persons inquired into the intent of the ordinance which seems to target low income residents in downtown area. On a motion by Oddy with removal of word "not" in Section IV and updated violation fees, seconded by Timson, the Board unanimously adopted the ordinance.

Angell confirmed that the ordinances will be posted on the Town's website.

## **DEER CREEK LANE/AUDETTE**

Documents to mark Deer Creek Lane as a public highway were presented. The lane (paved road only) has been maintained by the Town for the past few years. On a motion by Ruggles, seconded by Oddy, the Board unanimously approved the official marking and execution of deed for the Lane.

## **SPRING STREET WATER**

Residents of Spring Street, who are on temporary water service due to construction, are requesting relief of water bills during this time. On a motion by Lamotte, seconded by Timson, the Board approved to offer relief from usage charges; monthly hook-up fee would still be billed and due.

## **MANAGER'S OFFICE REPORT**

- a. Update on Pomerleau Building budgets were presented, including the roof budgets. Rust offered the Board options of \$200k adjustments from current General Fund budget to complete the Pomerleau renovations. On a motion by Timson, seconded by Lamotte, the Board unanimously approved to begin slate roof renovations.
- b. An agreement executed by Police Union and Town Attorney regarding Eric Hazard's request to be compensated \$342 owed due to rotational schedule change. On a motion by Oddy, seconded by Lamotte, the Board unanimously approved the Agreement and compensation to Hazard.
- c. Interfaith Festival of Compassion will be held on July 14<sup>th</sup> at North Church & being coordinated by all area houses of worship. The coordinators are requesting waiver of any permits for this event, should any be presented. Coordinators do not believe any permits will be requested. On a motion by Lamotte, seconded by Ruggles, the Board unanimously agreed to waive any permits.
- d. Police Commissions for three new part-time officers requested. On a motion by Ruggles, seconded by Oddy, the Board unanimously authorized the Chair to execute commissions.
- e. Westside Project south sidewalk was targeted for graffiti. Approximately 3k in damages was done as sidewalks will need to be pulled and re-set. Offenders will be prosecuted as unlawful mischief which may be a felony due to the expense.
- f. Biomass Meeting will take place on June 14<sup>th</sup> at the Academy and the Board is invited to attend.
- g. Arnold Park granite curb will be 17k to complete & install. Updated figures and budgets will be presented as they come into the office.
- h. A final walkthrough with merchants was done last week. They seemed to agree with the latest adjustments to the Railroad Street enhancements. Final approval to VTrans will take place.
- i. Cliff Street Drainage will need to be re-visited to re-engineer the problem.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Al Dunn confirmed that Gary Bumps, a supervisor in DPW, is currently helping to oversee the daily operations. He inquired as the Board's view of the future of the Town. Various goals were mentioned: level or decreased tax rate, improvements to public streets, new amphitheater, improved downtown to bring increased business to local merchants, transparency in local government, infrastructure projects, maintenance and updating parks and completion of lengthy projects such as the Bike Path.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION – Contract, Legal, Personnel**

At 850pm, on a motion by Oddy, seconded by Timson, the Board unanimously approved to move into executive session. Rust introduced Courtney Daniels and requested Daniels and Dawn McPhee to attend

At 1031pm, on a motion by Oddy, seconded by Timson the Board unanimously approved to move out of executive session.

On a motion by Ruggles, seconded by Lamotte, the Board unanimously approved to move on personnel issues discussed in Executive Session.

On a motion by Oddy, seconded by Timson, the Board unanimously approved to uphold the current assessment process and practice.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 1033pm, on a motion by Timson , seconded by Lamotte, the Board unanimously approve to adjourn the regular meeting of the Selectboard.