

Meeting of the St Johnsbury Select board December 12, 2016 at 6:00PM-Pomerleau Building

Present- SB: Jeff Moore, Kevin Oddy, Tom Moore, Tim Angell, Jamie Murphy

Staff- Chad Whitehead, Joe Kasprzak

Press- Taylor Reed, KATV

Meeting opened at 6:00PM with the pledge of allegiance.

Public Comment:

- Dave Timson indicated that some lights on Railroad Street need new bulbs.
- Adim Belov of the St Johnsbury Academy presented a proposal to paint a mural on the Portland Street Bridge abutment at the Skateboard Park. He provided sample designs and indicated he would start in the spring. On a motion by Kevin Oddy and second by Jamie Murphy the board approved his design for the capstone project on the Portland Street Bridge at the skateboard park.

Minutes:

- On a motion by Tim Angell and second by Jamie Murphy the minutes for the November 14, 2016 Select Board meeting were approved. Kevin Oddy abstained.
- On a motion by Kevin Oddy and second by Tim Angell the minutes for the November 28, 2016 Select Board meeting were approved with the removal of “Jamie Murphy” from the attendance. Jamie Murphy abstained.

Warrants:

- On a motion by Kevin Oddy and second by Tim Angell, the Warrants were approved.

November Financial Update:

- Town Manager Chad Whitehead provided the November Financial Update.
- Jeff Moore indicated that the PILOT payments were higher than budgeted for. Chad verified this was true and indicate that the draft 2017/2018 budget accounted for this.

Tax Stabilization:

- Joe Kasprzak introduced the tax stabilization applicants and briefly explained their applications.
- Triplenet LLC:
- John Lociavo of Triplenet LLC indicated that they proposed to move the St Johnsbury Subaru dealership to the former Fed and Aubuchon Hardware Buildings. They anticipated the creation of 4-8 new Full Time Equivalents (FTEs). The business creates 6,000 visits to St Johnsbury currently and improvements are project to grow to 15,000. 73% of car purchases are from outside 20 miles.
- Jeff Moore noted that there was an increase in the value of the property and asked if it was due to renovations or new construction and John indicated that it was for the renovations.
- Kevin Oddy asked if the Tax Stabilization Committee evaluated the job creation of all the applications in front of the Select Board.

- John Goodrich of the Tax Stabilization Committee indicated that the committee did evaluate that, and looked at the Tripplenet application and Lociavo Holdings LLC applications together as they were directly related.
- Jim Brown asked if the stabilization proposed would reduce the grand list and Joe Kasprzak indicated that it would not.
- On a motion by Jamie Murphy and second by Tom Moore the Board accepted the recommendations of the Tax Stabilization Committee and approved the agreement with the complete board signature blocks.

- Lociavo Holdings LLC:
 - The application included creation of 26-64 FTE's over the next few years. The construction was anticipated to begin in the summer of 2017.
 - On a motion by Kevin Oddy and second by Tim Angell the Board accepted the recommendations of the Tax Stabilization Committee and approved the agreement with the complete board signature blocks.
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- Shippee Family Eyecare
 - The business brings approximately 12,000 visits to the community annually. They anticipate the creation of 3.5 FTE to start with up to 7 more with second floor lease options.
 - On a motion by Jamie Murphy and second by Kevin Oddy the Board accepted the recommendations of the Tax Stabilization Committee and approved the agreement with the complete board signature blocks.

Manager's Report:

The Town Manager reviewed recommendations from the Parking Committee, indicating that they would like to extend the free parking on Railroad Street so that they could complete a parking inventory and survey of number of cars parked on Railroad Street and duration of the time they are parking.

Other Business:

Dave Timson asked about the FEMA Buyout on Memorial Drive and the Town Manager indicated that the purchase was complete and the Town now has to complete the demolition.

The meeting adjourned on a motion by Tom Moore and second by Tim Angell