

**MINUTES
TOWN OF ST. ALBANS
SELECTMEN MEETING
MONDAY, January 06, 2020**

6:00 P.M.

Present: Horam Weymouth, Chairman
 Todd Brown, Vice Chairman (arrived at 6:15 P.M.)
 Peter Denbow
 Richard Fisher, Town Manager

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance was Recited

Appointment and Confirmation of Fire Chief

Manager Fisher affirmed the appointment of the Fire Chief.

Old Business

Manager Fisher advised that he is in receipt of correspondence between the owners and the credit attorneys

Resignation of Animal Control Officer (ACO)

Manager Fisher explained that the current ACO, Dave Huff is retiring due to health issues. There is a person interested in the job and she met with the manager. *Peter Denbow made a motion to advertise the position. Seconded by Hiram Weymouth. 2-0*

Fire Department Report

Chief Tim Kuespert reported that they had a meeting on January 2nd and they have received 6 applications for firefighters. Chief Tim Kuespert advised the Board that he wanted to bring a person in from Charleston to assist. He would join the Department and do paperwork, but would not fight fires. There was a general discussion of membership and distance and out of town applicants. Dennis Smith explained the process of how an applicant is approved.

Manager Fisher asked whether the prior Chief is still a member. Chief Kuespert explained the current status of all equipment still in Jason's possession and the status of the items still in Jason's possession. Chief Kuespert confirmed that Jason is still a member of the fire department.

Chief Kuespert asked about the regulation that only allows 10% of the squad as out of town residents. He would like to change that or remove that requirement. Dennis Smith agreed that the rule should be amended to allow non-residents but all officers would have to be residents. Peter Denbow explained his discomfort over members who live 30 miles away unless they work in the town. He feels they should live reasonably close to the town.

Chief Kuespert was directed to make the changes he feels he needs to improve the Fire Department and the Selectmen will review it. Next meeting is on Tuesday, the 7th at 630 pm.

Treasurer's Report

Manager Fisher reported the following year end balances as per the Trio accounting software year end close out and bank statements:

Fund Balances as of 12/31/19, subject to audit later this month

Cash Balance	\$1,299,619.86	General Fund
Certificates of Deposit	308,040.34	Capital Reserve – Designated Accounts
Bank Account Balances	306,417.97	Capital Reserve – Designated Accounts
Certificates of Deposit	192,127.06	Capital Reserve – Designated Trust Funds
Bank Account Balances	<u>57,691.76</u>	Capital Reserve – Designated Trust Funds
	\$2,163,896.99	

Manager Fisher reviewed the year's reconciliation numbers with the Selectmen.

Budget Report

Manager Fisher provided new copies with changes as per the December 30th meeting and also he made the salary adjustments, he also made one adjustment on Manager's salary back to 3% as that is the maximum the manager can propose.

The budget is within .3% of last year.

Manager Fisher reviewed the changes proposed at the December 30th meeting. He also lowered Special Road Projects to \$40,000 to help balance the budget.

Todd Brown motion to approve the revised budget as submitted for review to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Peter Denbow. Vote: 3-0

A copy for the budget cover page is attached to the minutes.

Peter Denbow motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Hiram Weymouth. Vote: 3-0

Hiram Weymouth, Chairman

Todd Brown, Vice Chairman

Peter Denbow, Selectman