

**MINUTES
TOWN OF ST. ALBANS
SELECTMEN MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020**

6:00 P.M.

Present: Hiram Weymouth, Chairman
Todd Brown, Vice Chairman
Peter Denbow
Richard Fisher, Town Manager

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance was Recited

1. Minutes for Selectmen's Meeting Held on Monday, January 27, 2020

Motion by Todd Brown to approve the minutes of the Selectmen's meeting held on Monday, January 27, 2020. Seconded by Hiram Weymouth Vote 3-0

2. Old Business

a. Town Warrant

Manager Fisher advised that the warrant just needs a review by Peter Denbow, and that he (Fisher) did not get the final copy to Mr. Denbow prior to tonight's meeting. The warrant was approved on January 27th with some minor changes and conditional upon Peter Denbow's typographical review. No further action required.

b. 2019 Audit

Manager Fisher reported that the auditor was in the office that same day and was wrapping up the audit. However, the Auditor will not have his report completed by our final publishing deadline for the Town Report and we will have to print this as a supplemental report.

c. King Property Fire Damage -179 Hartland Rd.

Manager Fisher reported that the buyer who was going to assume the cleanup has backed out of the property sale after Capital One, the lien holder refused to release their lien. There has not been a probate, the owner has passed away, that the property is worth less than the lien placed upon it, taxes are only 1 year behind. There was a general discussion on probate, wills, asbestos, and the daughter who wanted to gain possession and sell the property. None of this is coming to fruition. Manager Fisher recommended that they get a legal opinion on the Town's options in this matter. The Selectmen each agreed that we should determine whether the Town can hold the mortgage holder to account. Peter Denbow made a motion to consult with an attorney to get a legal opinion to determine what options are available to the town to enforce cleanup of the property and to determine whether we can hold the bank responsible. Seconded by Hiram Weymouth. 3-0 All in Favor.

d. Animal Control Officer

Manager Fisher recommended that the Selectmen appoint Joe Glidden as Acting Animal Control Officer until the applications are closed and the Board has an opportunity to review all applications. Peter Denbow made a motion to appoint Joe Glidden as "Acting Animal Control Officer" Seconded by Todd Brown Vote: 3-0 All in Favor.

3. New Business

a. Certificates of Deposit

The CD's are about to expire and the Bank is recommending the 5 month CD with an interest rate of 1.65%. For example the current 9 month CD for Fire Hall Reserve is collecting 1.1% in interest. We would also be moving the \$100,000 moved into the Fire Hall Reserve last year into a 5-month CD. Manager Fisher and the Auditor Costello also updated their respective copies of the Fund Balances to show current CD balances. Hiram made a motion at authorize the Treasurer to convert monies transferred into savings accounts- \$100,000 from fire hall reserve and \$35,000 in public Equipment into 5 month CDS along with the expiring 9-month CD's into 5-month CD's. Seconded by Todd Brown Vote: 3-0

b. **Gasoline-Oil Bidding**

Manager Fisher received some excellent information from Scott Curtis about the current trends of fuel and Scott's suggestion is that we bid it out again. Unfortunately, our contract is not over until July. Manager Fisher also pointed out that Fabian Oil is not following the contract and that he has been in discussions with Fabian and that the towns could terminate for cause. Hiram Weymouth expressed concern about terminating for cause. The Selectmen agreed that we should revisit this in March.

c. **Annual Report**

Manager Fisher represented that the book is nearly finished but the Audit will not make it in. There are only a few charts remaining and a few reports still outstanding.

d. **Courier Service**

At his request, the bank has located a courier service that we would utilize, especially at tax time when we personally carrying a deposit bag with over 10,000 in cash. The courier, Uniship Courier Services, will charge \$15.00 per delivery. By comparison, it takes an hour for us to make the trip to deposit the money and costs the town \$15.80 in mileage for using our personal vehicles. Manager Fisher read the details of the service. We will use as needed.

e. **Donation of Framed Photographs**

Manager Fisher will write a letter to Fay thanking her for her donation.

4. **Committee Items**

Fire Company SAR

Manager Fisher provided copies of the revised SAR for the Selectmen to review. Dennis Smith reported that there are now at least 16 members and 4 more applications. Mr. Smith stated he is very pleased with the new Fire Chief. They have received a schedule for training, they have cleaned out the upstairs and the back room. Manager Fisher provided the Selectmen with the new roster. The Board agreed to try to review the document in the next two weeks.

Staff items

There was a short discussion on snow plowing.

Selectmen's Items – No items

Town Manager's Items

Manager Fisher reported that he met with a solar company and operations company for Seth Snowman's property behind the quarry. They are researching installing 30 acres of solar panels. There was a general discussion. Current Maine law places assessment in the hands of the State and the town would receive only 50% of the lost tax income.

Manager Fisher will get the website updated within the next week.

Adjournment

Motion by Peter Denbow to Adjourn, Seconded by Todd Brown Vote: 3-0

Meeting ended at 6:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Richard Fisher, Town Manager

Date

Hiram Weymouth, Chairman

Todd Brown, Vice-Chairman

Peter Denbow, Selectman