

**TOWN OF WILLISTON
SELECTBOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING
September 19, 2017**

DRAFT

MEMBERS PRESENT: Terry Macaig (Chair); Jeff Fehrs, Ted Kenney, Joy Limoge, Theresa Zittritsch.
ADMINISTRATION: Rick McGuire, Town Manager; Jennifer Kennelly, Finance Director; Matt Boulanger, Senior Planner, Melinda Scott, Conservation Planner.
OTHERS PRESENT: Bill Keogh, J. Jeff Munger, Bob McEwing, Scott Pavek, Karen Paul, Ginny Lyons, Eric Covey, Domebera Somda, Thomas Chittenden, Jessie Baker, Paula Cope, Kim Jennings, Kevin Dorn, Donna Roeser, Sam Handy, Chapin Kaynor, Jason Starr (Williston Observer), Scott Moody (Channel 17).

[Note: Minutes reflect the order of the published agenda.]

1. Call to Order

Chairman Terry Macaig called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

2. Minutes

September 5, 2017

MOTION by Ted Kenney, SECOND by Joy Limoge, to approve the September 5, 2017 minutes with the following correction(s)/clarification(s):

- **Page 1 - correct the spelling of “personnel”.**
- **Page 2, Item #5, Airport Governance, 1st sentence – change “facts” to “information”.**

VOTING: 4 ayes, one abstention (Joy Limoge); motion carried.

3. Public Comment – General Issues

Ginny Lyons

Ginny Lyons, resident and Senator for Chittenden County, spoke in support of the resolution on the governance structure of the airport because having a government structure represented by municipalities affected by the airport is worthy of discussion. The matter should not go to the legislature without prior discussion.

Donna Roeser

Donna Roeser, resident, asked if the Selectboard will discuss the article in the newspaper about the member of the DRB and conflict of interest. Terry Macaig said the Selectboard has no authority to remove a member of the DRB. If someone feels there is a conflict of interest with a member then a complaint should be filed with the Board of Civil Authority. It is the understanding that the DRB member did recuse himself and admitted he did not explain why, but will do so going forward.

4. Liquor License Application

Sam Handy, owner of Agave Taco and Tequila Casa, 28 Walnut Street, Maple Tree Place (former location of Mexicali), explained the focus of the restaurant on higher end Mexican food and tequila based beverages. Mr. Handy said all staff complete Department of Liquor Control certification and training, every ID is reviewed for people up to 50 years old, and there are monthly reminders and training for staff. Mr. Handy said this is also the practice at Grazers which he owns.

The Selectboard cautioned against over serving patrons.

MOTION by Joy Limoge, SECOND by Ted Kenney, to approve a First Class Liquor License and Outdoor Consumption Permit for TCO, LLC, d/b/a Agave Taco and Tequila Casa at 28 Walnut Street. VOTING: unanimous (5-0); motion carried.

5. Personnel Policy Revisions

Finance Director, Jennifer Kennelly, reported the suggested changes to the personnel policy have been incorporated. Staff researched holidays granted by other municipalities, the state, and federal government and felt the town's holidays are fair and consistent so no changes are recommended.

MOTION by Jeff Fehrs, SECOND by Joy Limoge, to adopt the proposed revisions to the town's personnel policy. VOTING: unanimous (5-0); motion carried.

6. Village Center Designation

Senior Planner, Matt Boulanger, explained the request for approval of the application for village center designation. The designation will provide tax incentives for maintenance/restoration of historic buildings in the designated boundary as well as providing other considerations including grant applications. Mr. Boulanger discussed the proposed boundary of the village center. There are plans to better advertise available benefits of the designation.

MOTION by Ted Kenney, SECOND by Joy Limoge, to authorize the application for "Designated Village Center" status as provided for under state law and the Williston Comprehensive Plan. VOTING: unanimous (5-0); motion carried.

7. Jacob Property Donation

Conservation Planner, Melinda Scott, explained the proposed donation of approximately 29 acres of forested land in the northwest portion of town off Route 2A behind Morgan Circle. The land is by the Winooski River with only a small portion touching the river (Green Mountain Power owns most of the land along the river for flood protection). There is a well-used and maintained north-south trail on the property, but no access from a public road. The Conservation Commission recommends the town accept the donation of land, investigate access, and do a Phase 1 environmental assessment.

The consensus of the Selectboard is to move forward with exploring the donation of land.

8. Airport Governance Resolution

The following individuals spoke on the airport governance resolution:

- Thomas Chittenden, South Burlington City Council
- Kevin Dorn, South Burlington City Manager
- Jessie Baker, Winooski City Manager
- Eric Covey, Winooski City Council
- J. Jeff Munger, Chair of the Airport Commission
- Bill Keogh, Vice Chair of the Airport Commission, former state legislator and former Burlington city councilor
- Karen Paul, Burlington City Council and former co-chair of the Strategic Planning Committee in 2013 that looked at the long term financial strength of the airport
- Robert McEwing, retired Director of Airport Engineering and Planning and FAA Airport Planning and Design
- Paula Cope, Williston resident

MOTION by Joy Limoge, SECOND by Jeff Fehrs, to request staff to prepare a resolution for consideration concerning the regional governance of Burlington International Airport.

DISCUSSION:

- **Jeff Fehrs spoke in support of the resolution in part because of the apparent dysfunctional relationship between the airport and South Burlington. The resolution is about learning and understanding what is going on and seeing if there is something better.**
- **Joy Limoge echoed support of the resolution which will open the door to further discussion.**
- **Ted Kenney spoke against the resolution which cites economic impact and development as the issue, but is not clear that is the focus. Mr. Kenney mentioned items that impact Williston, but which the town has no control over nor wants control over, such as the interstate or UVM. He suggested there is a problem with ownership versus authority. The town should not expend energy on this matter.**
- **Theresa Zittritsch stated the issue is between Burlington, South Burlington and Winooski. The resolution as worded cannot be supported. The stake Williston has in the matter is not clear.**

VOTING: 2 ayes, 3 nays (Ted Kenney, Theresa Zittritsch, Terry Macaig); motion did not carry.

9. Town Manager's Report

Rick McGuire reported:

- The finance report has been provided to the Board.
- The Assistant Manager recruitment process yielded 101 applications. The first round of interviews are scheduled.
- The new Police Chief will be sworn into office on October 16, 2017 at 10 AM. Invitations and a press release will be sent out.

- The two firefighters who went to Houston to assist with hurricane relief have returned.
- The town's paramedic service received certification and the Fire Department is hiring another firefighter.
- A letter was received from Airport Director, Gene Richards, asking if the town wanted a representative on the Airport Noise Compatibility Program Committee.

10. Other Business

None.

11. Adjournment

With no further business and without objection the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

RScty: M.E.Riordan