

**TOWN OF WILLISTON
SELECTBOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING
December 4, 2018**

DRAFT

MEMBERS PRESENT: Terry Macaig (Chair); Jeff Fehrs, Joy Limoge, Ted Kenney. (Theresa Zittritsch was absent.)
ADMINISTRATION: Rick McGuire, Town Manager; Erik Wells, Assistant to the Town Manager; Jennifer Kennelly, Finance Director; Ken Morton, Fire Chief.
OTHERS PRESENT: Jeff Atwood, Tom Torti, Dan Batsie, Tony Simanski, fire department members and family, Jason Starr (Williston Observer), Scott Moody (Channel 17).

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

1. Call to Order

Chair, Terry Macaig, called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

2. Minutes

November 20, 2018

MOTION by Ted Kenney, SECOND by Jeff Fehrs, to approve the November 20, 2018 minutes with the following correction(s)/clarification(s):

- **Item 10, Manager's Report, 2nd bullet – replace “will be leaving Williston” with “will be leaving her position in Williston”.**

VOTING: 3 ayes, one abstention (Joy Limoge); motion carried.

3. Public Comment – General Issues

Jeff Atwood spoke of the lack of affordable housing in the Williston growth center and challenged the town to ensure affordable housing gets built so people, especially young people and those who have served their country, have the opportunity to live in town.

4. Ambulance Service Award

Dan Batsie with the Department of Health presented the Ambulance Service Award to the Williston Fire Department for ambulance service to the community. Fire Chief Morton recognized the service of the members of the Fire Department.

5. Interview(s)/Appointment(s)

Social Organizations Committee

MOTION by Joy Limoge, SECOND by Ted Kenney, to appoint Jim Thornton to the Social Organizations Committee. VOTING: unanimous (4-0); motion carried.

6. Lake Champlain Chamber of Commerce

Tom Torti reviewed activities by the Chamber in support of economic development in the region and state, the young professionals and leadership programs, accelerate program for small businesses, business associations in the state, advocacy, conventions, and other

initiatives. The Chamber is trying to let people know Vermont is a place to visit and locate a business. There are some challenges including the high cost of doing business in the state, the tax structure, housing stock shortages and the availability of affordable daycare.

7. Hurricane Lane Discontinuance

MOTION by Joy Limoge, SECOND by Ted Kenney, to adopt the resolution on discontinuance and notice of inspection and hearing for a segment of Hurricane Lane as presented. VOTING: unanimous (4-0); motion carried.

8. Errors & Omissions Addendum

MOTION by Joy Limoge, SECOND by Ted Kenney, to approve the addendum to the corrections of the 2018 Grand List as proposed by the Listers. VOTING: unanimous (4-0); motion carried.

9. Traffic Calming Policy

MOTION by Joy Limoge, SECOND by Ted Kenney, to approve the traffic calming policy with the recommendation to strike the sentence pertaining to needing authorization from the Selectboard to do studies from Sections 5.5 and 8.2 and Appendix B. VOTING: unanimous (4-0); motion carried.

10. Budget Review FY2020

The following was highlighted for the proposed budget for fiscal year 2020:

- Proposed budget is \$11,482,345, an increase of \$371,310 or 3.3% due to population growth, increased demand for services and increased cost of personnel and goods and services purchased by the Town.
- Major cost factors are wages and benefits, open space, capital projects and debt service. Over half of the budget expenditure (55%) is for public safety which includes the Highway Department, Police, and Fire.
- Major revenue issues are interest rates, local options tax, highway revenues, planning and zoning fees, and fund balance use. The fund balance is \$3.7 million so some will be used to get closer to a balance in the range of \$1.1 million to \$2.3 million.
- The Grand List is 57% residential, 27% commercial, and the balance is farm, utilities, industrial, miscellaneous and seasonal properties.
- A projected \$3,438,685 is to be raised by taxes for an estimated tax rate of \$0.2724 per \$100,000 in value. Current tax rate is \$0.2665 per \$100,000 in value.
- Williston has the second lowest municipal tax rate in Chittenden County.

11. Manager's Report

Rick McGuire reported:

- Next Selectboard meeting is December 11, 2018 at Williston Woods beginning at 6 PM. The FY2020 budget is the only agenda item
- Recruitment for a new Finance Director continues. One member of the Selectboard was asked to participate in the interview process. [Joy Limoge volunteered.]

- Department of Public Works is fully staffed, but not all members are fully trained as yet. Retired members of the department are assisting the town.
- The closing on the Catamount property is at the end of January 2019.

12. Other Business

None.

13. Adjournment

With no further business and without objection the meeting was adjourned at 8:38 PM.

RScty by tape: MERiordan