



## Public Informational Meeting Minutes

March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Present :        Stephen Finneron, Chairman  
                      Jim Haff  
                      Chris Karr

                      Chet Hagenbarth, Town Manager

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Approval of Meeting Minutes
4. Selectboard Member Concerns
5. Citizens Input
6. Representative Jim Harrison
7. Ballot Articles
8. Town Report 2022 and FYE 2024 Budget
9. Board of Liquor Control
10. Other Business
11. Executive Session, if necessary
12. Adjourn

### 1. Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm.

### 2. Approval of the Agenda

- SB Haff request Art. 8 (Board of Liquor Control) be moved to Art. 3 and for Art. 5 (Representative Jim Harrison) to be moved to Art. 4
- A motion was made to approve the Agenda as amended. It was unanimously approved.

### 3. Board of Liquor Control

- Chris Karr abstained from the following votes for Art. 3 as related to the Board of Liquor Control.
- Lucrecia Wonsor, Town Clerk, presented a Special Events permit for the Killington Resort's Vermont Speciality Food Day on March 12<sup>th</sup> at the Snowshed Lodge. SB Haff

made a motion for the Town Clerk to move forward with the Killington Resort's Special Events permit request. It was unanimously approved.

- Wonsor presented the Lookout Bar and Grill's request for a 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and outside consumption permit. SB Haff made a motion for the Town Clerk to move forward with the Lookout Bar and Grill's request. It was unanimously approved.
- Wonsor presented Choices Restaurant's request for a 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and outside consumption permit. SB Haff made a motion for the Town Clerk to move forward with Choices Restaurant's request. It was unanimously approved.
- Wonsor presented the Inn at Long Trail's request for a 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> class liquor license. SB Haff made a motion for the Town Clerk to move forward with the Inn at Long Trail's request. It was unanimously approved.

#### **4. Representative Jim Harrison**

Jim Harrison spoke to the Selectboard and Killington residents on several topics including difference in political opinions between local and state politics, childcare, clean energy, and more.

#### **5. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

There were no Meeting Minutes to be approved.

#### **6. Selectboard Member Concerns**

There were no concerns.

#### **7. Citizens Input**

There were no concerns.

#### **8. Ballot Articles**

Paul Buhler introduced the ballot articles for Town Meeting Day on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Buhler read through each ballot articles and opened the floor for Killington residents to ask questions.

#### **9. Town Report 2022 and FYE 2024 Budget**

- TM Hagenbarth presented the Town Report for 2022 and the FYE 2024 Budget.
- Highlights from FY 2022 included:
  - o The Town met the requirements and was approved for a TIF District
  - o Online and remote access to Town meetings allows increased participation
  - o Voters approved an article to create a Municipal Fire Department which included both paid staff and volunteers
  - o The Barrow Town Road large culvert was replaced and reconstruction was completed
  - o Home values saw unprecedented growth leading to the necessity for a town-wide reappraisal
  - o The Town took initiative to ensure Workforce Housing would be possible with the construction of the new water system

- The Town's upcoming Budget goals for FYE 2024 included:
  - o Maintain level tax rate exclusive of inflation
  - o Implement pay rate plan to ensure competitiveness with market and the \$15 minimum in 2024
  - o Strive to grow the reserve fund through diligence with meeting budget expenses along with continued non-tax revenue growth
  - o Continue to implement efficiencies in operations budget
  - o Maintain sustainable capital budget funding plan for equipment, infrastructure, roads, and facilities
  - o Continue long term capital funding plan within current debt services levels
  - o Continue overall master planning for future projects
  - o Continue long range capital plan for GMNGC now that Brown Golf has stabilized and improved overall financial performance along with picking up some debt service responsibilities
- The Town's Operations Budget highlights for FY 2022 included:
  - o Incorporated better than expected carryover funds
  - o Increased non-property tax revenue from golf operations, option tax, and zoning fees
  - o Bonded indebtedness remained stable including the addition of debt related to the new Town Hall
  - o Capital Budget decreased this year related to the reallocation of funds anticipating the infrastructure projects related to the Killington Forward Project
  - o Budget expense increases due to inflation and additional staff offset by revenue increases
  - o Significant increase in employee benefits cost
- The Town's Operations Budget was \$3,624,927 for FY23 and will be \$4,580,075 for FY24.
- The Town's Capital Budget was \$1,526,351 for FY23 and will be \$1,158,116 for FY24.
- The Town's Debt Service was \$795,120 for FY23 and will be \$671,563 for FY24.
- The main take-aways from this presentation included:
  - o The proposed sustainable budget tax rate of .5472 is virtually flat including the new Town Hall.
  - o The Town Hall purchase will save significant expense to the budget.
  - o Carryover amount of \$378,945 due to options tax and refinancing help keep tax rate flat.
  - o TIF bond will not result in additional taxes to taxpayers.

## **10. Other Business**

There was none.

## **11. Executive Session, if necessary**

No Executive Session was held.

## **12. Adjourn**

The Meeting was called to adjournment at 9:41 pm.