

# TOWN OF ELMORE, VT

## Monthly Select Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes – prepared by G. Schwartz  
Status: Approved

**Meeting Date:** March 11, 2020

**Start Time:** 6:00 pm **Adjourn:** 7:15 pm

**Meeting Attendees:** See attached sign in sheet

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### **Meeting Minutes Approval:**

The minutes of the February 12, 2020 Select Board Meetings were approved.

1. SPECIAL TOPICS:

- a. **Appointment** of town officers, election of SB chairman and clerk.

**Notes:** The attached list of appointed officials were approved by the Select Board. In addition, Caroline DeVore was re-elected Select Board Chair, Robb Wills- Select Board Chair backup and Glenn Schwartz- Select Board Clerk

- b. **Discussion:** Town signage refurbishment plan including Town Office sign, Elmore School sign, Town sign at lakefront

**Notes:** Replacement of a total of 5 signs were discussed. The signs are beginning to show wear. G. Schwartz to look into getting prices to replace the two entry signs, the lake sign, school sign and Town office.

- c. **Review:** Use of Town Hall in 2020 including Lake Association, ad hoc meetings, public fitness program

**Notes:** A discussion was held regarding the charging for the use of the town hall. The following issues were addressed;

- The charge for the use of the Town hall was included in the grant application for the public fitness program
- The lake association made a presentation regarding their use of the Hall (copy attached)
- The Select Board will review the existing fee schedule at the next Select Board Meeting

- d. **Discussion:** Bottle return bin beside Town Hall. Options: relocation, removal

**Notes:** Concerns about the return bin include liability (since it is on Town Property, It is an eye sore, no maintenance has been performed over the years and the Town should not have one organization benefiting from Town property. A motion was made to have the bin removed. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote and will have to be removed by May 1, 2020.

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e. **Discussion:** VLCT and HLV Commercial Cannabis LOT resolution

**Notes:** The attached Resolution supporting municipal authority in a commercial cannabis system was discussed and approved by the Select Board. This resolution has been recommended by Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) and Healthy Lamoille Valley (HLV). This resolution will allow the Town of Elmore to participate in a tax benefit if and when the state approves a tax and regulate system for marijuana in Vermont.

2. ACTIVE ITEMS:

a. **DISCUSSION:** Town Garage: Updates and next steps following Town Meeting.

**Notes:** J. Magoon presented information regarding the following items;

- The City of Barre is looking into building a similar town garage. They have recommended three design build companies that they have had conversations with. They are EF Wall, Pizzagalli and Lajeunesse.
- Jim visited the Cabot Town garage that was recently constructed. (Photo attached) this similar design was also used in Stannard VT, Chelsea VT and Greensboro VT.

A committee will be formed to further develop a plan and investigate all options available.

b. **UPDATE:** Passage of 1% Local Option Tax. Submissions to State Legislature.

**Notes:** The 1% Local Option Tax passed 254 to 90.

The following procedures must now be performed prior to the 1% options tax becoming law.

**Town clerk prior to 10 days following the election must:**

- Announce and post voting results immediately after the vote is counted;
- Certify to the secretary of state each proposal within 10 days following the day of the election showing:
  - The facts as to its origin; and
  - The procedure followed.

**The secretary of state must file the certificate and deliver copies to:**

- The attorney general;
- Clerk of the house of representatives;
- Secretary of the senate; and
- Chair people of the committees concerned with town charters to both houses of the general assembly.

## **TOWN OF ELMORE, VT**

### **Monthly Select Board Meeting**

3. CONTINUING ACTIVE ITEMS: (Update status by principle owner):

- a. **UPDATE:** Road Commissioner's Report – Lacasse

**Notes:** The Road Commissioner reported that they plowed, winged back snow and dealt with 2 ice storms over the past month. They are now dealing with the beginning of mud season.

a. **COMPLETED/INACTIVE ITEMS:** (Update status)

- a. Review Action Item List

**Notes:** The action list was not reviewed at this meeting

**5. NON AGENDA/OTHER ITEMS:** (Time Available)

**6. EXECUTIVE OR DELIBERATIVE SESSION AS NEEDED**

The Select Board voted to enter Executive Session at 7:15 pm  
No Minutes were taken during this session  
Executive Session ended at 7:30 pm



Town of Elmore, VT

Resolution Supporting Municipal Authority in a Commercial Cannabis System

Whereas a regulated and taxed recreational cannabis marketplace will affect communities across Vermont;

Whereas the 2019-2020 VLCT Municipal Policy calls for any legislation legalizing commercial cannabis to address the impacts on municipalities, school populations, first responders, municipal regulations, and budgets;

Whereas states that currently have a commercial cannabis market have guaranteed municipal governments' local regulatory, taxation authority, and revenue sharing, and Vermont cities and towns need, at a minimum, those same guaranteed powers;

Whereas all cannabis establishments that cultivate, process, manufacture or sell cannabis will be wholly located in our cities and towns, and voters in cities and towns must be granted the right to "opt-in" to hosting cannabis establishments within their community;

Whereas all duly adopted ordinances and land use policies and regulations adopted by municipalities pursuant to 24 V.S.A. Chapter 117 and 24 V.S.A. § 2291 must be upheld in any commercial cannabis system;

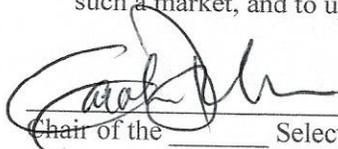
Whereas local cannabis control commissions must be given the same level of authority as local control commissions that administer licenses and permits for the establishments that furnish alcohol;

Whereas cities and towns must be granted authority to assess licensing and permitting fees for cannabis establishments; and

Whereas all cities and towns that host cannabis establishments should share in a local cannabis tax, not just those with retail establishments generating tax revenues; now, therefore, be it

**Resolved, by the Town/City of Elmore,**

1. that the town/city only supports legislation legalizing a taxed and regulated cannabis market that adequately addresses all aforementioned local considerations and concerns;
2. that the town/city supports a local cannabis tax of five-percent, with seventy-percent of the revenues derived from the local cannabis tax retained by the host community of a retail establishment, and thirty-percent pooled and redistributed to municipalities that do not host retail establishments; and
3. that the town/city calls upon the state administration and legislature to provide communities adequate time and clarity in law for local officials and community members to discuss the local implications of such a market, and to update, clarify and establish local regulations and policies accordingly.

  
Chair of the \_\_\_\_\_ Selectboard/City Council

3/11/2020  
Date

Dear Lamoille Valley Municipality:

Healthy Lamoille Valley (HLV) is sending this letter in response to the Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) resolution. The resolution was sent to all Vermont towns regarding the proposal for a tax and regulate system for marijuana in Vermont. Some Lamoille Valley municipalities have already signed on to the resolution.

VLCT's proposal aligns with the best possible public health model under current circumstances, based on lessons learned and recommendations from states that have gone down the path of commercial cannabis. For this reason, public health coalitions across Vermont fully support towns signing the VLCT resolution without changes.

- As written, VLCT's opt-in model allows each Vermont community to decide if commercial marijuana markets align with the community's vision and values. It allows an opportunity for residents to weigh in on the issue.

The VLCT's proposal asks towns/cities who opt-in to commercial cannabis to implement a local cannabis tax of five percent. Seventy percent of revenues derived from this tax would be retained by the host community of a retail establishment, and 30 percent would be pooled and redistributed to municipalities that do not host retail establishments.

- We agree with the shared tax model VLCT proposes: Other states with commercialized marijuana markets are grappling with social issues including road safety, health care, and mental health service needs—at high costs to the state. In Vermont, surrounding towns and systems will be impacted by commercial cannabis, regardless of where stores are located.

Decisions related to commercial cannabis markets will affect communities far into Vermont's future. We ask that towns and citizens take their time to review the VLCT proposal in order to make an informed decision that reflects their values. HLV and other public health coalitions across Vermont are available for consultation on this topic.

If you would like to have a coalition member facilitate a community dialogue or attend a selectboard meeting, please use contact information below or email:  
[alison@healthylamoillevalley.org](mailto:alison@healthylamoillevalley.org)

## Elmore Lake Association use of Town Hall

1. History
  - a) The Lake Association has been using the Town hall at no cost for over 30 years.
  - b) Other organizations have use of the Town hall including but not limited to the Elmore School, Boy Scouts and the Elmore Fire Department at no cost.
  
2. Events held at Town Hall by the Lake Association
  - a) Bingo Fundraiser held weekly July 2 – August 13<sup>th</sup>
  - b) Pancake breakfast Fundraiser held monthly June, July and August
  - c) LEA Craft fair Fundraiser September 5<sup>th</sup>
  - d) Pie Social – Community Event
  - e) Holiday Sing along – Community Event
  
3. Benefits of allowing the Lake Association to use the Town Hall at no cost.
  - a) An intermission is held at every bingo to allow people the opportunity to go to the Elmore store and purchase something. Thereby stimulating local business
  - b) Fundraisers generate money that goes directly to the maintenance of the lake. Thus reducing the amount required by the Town of Elmore.
  - c) The LEA has made several electrical upgrades to the Town Hall over the years at no cost to the Town
  - d) All events create a sense of community that separates Elmore from other small towns. Thus giving us a chance to increase rentals and our newly approved 1% options tax
  - e) Many of our events are multi-generational and are enjoyed by people of all ages.
  - f) State funding continues to decrease, which puts a greater need on fundraising to keep the lake clean and maintain the beauty spot of Vermont.
  - g) The Lake Association paid for the chairs and tables that are used for town events in the Town Hall

70' x 100' • 7,000 SF

Cabot Town Garage

