

**LIST OF AGENDA AMENDMENTS AND HANDOUTS**  
**VILLAGE OF ESSEX JUNCTION TRUSTEES**  
**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**  
**APRIL 14, 2020**

AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES

- 5b. Approve Resolution regarding Essex Junction COVID-19 Response
- 7d. Email from Elaine Haney re: Letter and request to Legislature for Assistance

ADDITIONAL HANDOUTS

- 5b. Memo and Resolution regarding Essex Junction COVID-19 Response
- 7b. VT Digger article: Sewage sludge spreading leads to farm groundwater PFAS contamination
- 7d. Email and attachment from Elaine Haney re: Letter and request to Legislature for Assistance

**Memorandum**

**To:** Selectboard; Evan Teich, Unified Manager  
**Cc:** Sarah Macy, Finance Director/Assistant Manager  
**From:** Greg Duggan, Deputy Manager *GSD*  
**Re:** Resolution regarding Essex COVID-19 response  
**Date:** April 13, 2020

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**Issue**

The issue is whether the Selectboard will approve a resolution regarding Essex's COVID-19 response.

**Discussion**

Winooski recently approved a resolution regarding its response to COVID-19, and is sending the resolution to state and federal elected officials. Town staff has adjusted the resolution for Essex (attached).

**Cost**

N/a

**Recommendation**

Staff recommends the Selectboard approve a resolution regarding Essex's COVID-19 response.

## **RESOLUTION**

### **Essex Junction COVID-19 Response**

**WHEREAS**, on March 7, 2020, the first case of the novel coronavirus known as COVID-19 was confirmed in the State of Vermont and the second on March 11; and

**WHEREAS**, in early March, the governor activated the State Emergency Operations Center; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, the World Health Organization declared that COVID-19 was considered a pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, Governor Phil Scott declared a State of Emergency in Vermont because of the virus and issued an Executive Order under 20 V.S.A. Chapter 1, prohibiting, among other steps, social gatherings of more than 250 people; and

**WHEREAS**, since that time, the Governor has issued additional addenda and directives related to that Executive Order, including limiting gatherings to 10 people; issuing a Stay Home, Stay Safe Order; and most recently closing schools for in-person instruction through the rest of the school year; and

**WHEREAS**, the emergency measures in place have resulted in the closing of all non-essential business operations, mass layoffs of workers, workers staying home to care for children not attending school, and other impacts resulting in lost income for many residents; and

**WHEREAS**, it is not known how long emergency measures will remain in place; and

**WHEREAS;** the residents and small businesses that make our community vibrant are short on cashflow to keep paying bills and expenses; and

**WHEREAS,** we must support the long-term vibrancy of our community by protecting our residents, businesses, and essential Village services; and

**WHEREAS,** during a public health crisis, we must protect the public health by ensuring access to safe housing and basic needs such as food, water and heat; and

**WHEREAS,** the Village of Essex Junction lacks the authority to change legislation that would provide meaningful relief to our community; and

**WHEREAS,** on March 27, 2020 the Federal Government signed into law a stimulus package allocating relief funds to the State of Vermont; now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED,** that the Board of Trustees urges the State of Vermont to take measures including additional Executive Order addenda, the passing of legislation, and other efforts to provide meaningful relief that

- Prohibits the eviction of residential and commercial tenants;
- Prohibits foreclosure on properties residential and commercial;
- Prohibits the non-renewal of leases as a way to circumvent an eviction moratorium;
- Prohibits the suspension of healthcare coverage;
- Prohibits the suspension of any utility including municipal and private services;
- Suspends interest accrual on late payment of property taxes;
- Holds harmless municipal budgets for late payment of property and education tax when delaying payments to provide relief to local taxpayers;
- Addresses lost revenue in the State Education Fund while holding municipal budgets harmless;
- Leverages federal relief funds to reimburse municipal budgets for costs incurred during COVID-19 response
- Extends any such actions not less than 60 days beyond the end of the period of emergency to allow residents and businesses time to recover their financial footing.

Adopted this 14th day of April 2020 by the Essex Junction Board of Trustees.

**Village of Essex Junction Board of Trustees**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Andrew Brown, President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Kerin

\_\_\_\_\_  
George Tyler, Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Amber Thibault

\_\_\_\_\_  
Raj Chawla

# Sewage sludge spreading leads to farm groundwater PFAS contamination

By [Elizabeth Gribkoff](#) (Vermont Digger article)

Apr 12 2020 | 20 reader footnotes

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farm truck spreads manure on a field. Photo\_by Ben Gabos/Vermont Department of Agriculture  
The long-standing practice of spreading treated sewage sludge and septage on farm fields has contaminated groundwater in some areas with PFAS, recent sampling shows.

The discovery has prompted a state agriculture official to say that a prohibition on harvesting feed and crops from those fields may be needed, And it has led a coalition of environmental groups to call on the state to test for PFAS levels in biosolids before they are spread on fields.

After seven out of 34 land application sites in Vermont were found to have PFAS levels above state groundwater standards, the state Department of Environmental Conservation is considering measures to prevent future contamination.

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Vermont wastewater treatment plant operators and septic companies must dispose of the residual end products somewhere, and their options are limited. With tight capacity at southern New England incinerators, they can send it to a landfill or to a [processing plant in New York](#), or spread it on fields as fertilizer.

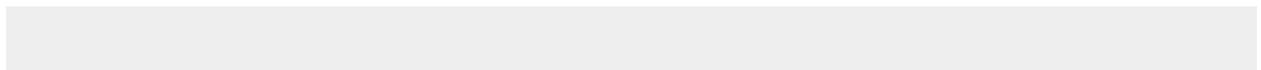
Sludge and septage to be spread on fields must be treated to EPA standards to reduce pathogens and limit heavy metals, and are called “biosolids.” Critics have argued those standards do not address the thousands of chemicals that now show up in human waste, like [pharmaceuticals](#) and PFAS.

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or “PFAS,” gained notoriety in Vermont after the state discovered in 2016 that a particularly toxic form of the chemical had [contaminated hundreds of drinking water wells](#) around two former ChemFab factories in Bennington. That discovery prompted the DEC to start widespread sampling to better understand other potential sources of PFAS drinking water contamination.

Last fall the state began requiring wastewater plants and septic companies to test soil and groundwater for PFAS levels at fields where biosolids are spread.

“We found a couple fields were fine, and we found a couple that were pretty high,” Chuck Schwer, director of the waste management and prevention division for DEC, said of the initial sampling. “So we felt it was prudent to then require all the permittees to sample their fields.”

The “really good news” from the expanded testing is that no drinking water wells within a quarter mile radius of the fields have elevated PFAS levels, Schwer said.



But the municipalities of Bradford, Essex Junction, St. Johnsbury, Woodstock, and private company P&P Septic Services, all had had one or groundwater samples at fields where they spread biosolids come back with elevated PFAS levels. (Vermont's groundwater enforcement standard for PFAS is a combined 20 parts per trillion for five of the compounds.) Those entities will now have to pay for further sampling to determine the extent of the contamination and if cleanup work is needed, said Schwer.

Schwer hopes that Vermont's [lawsuit against DuPont, 3M and other PFAS manufacturers](#) will result in some funding that could help municipalities pay for this kind of work.

“But that’s a long way down the road, and there’s no guarantee we’ll be successful,” he added.

The soil samples taken at the fields where biosolids are spread had low to moderate PFAS levels, said Schwer. The state Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets has been working with farmers who have contaminated soils to determine whether they need to only harvest part of their crop, Cary Giguere, public health and agriculture resource management director for the state Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, told lawmakers on Tuesday.

One farm that had higher than background levels of PFOS chose to only harvest corn ears last fall as that chemical does not get taken up in that part of the crop, he said in an email.

“Until we can get this contamination piece under control, I do believe a prohibition on land that’s used for food or feed would be appropriate,” Giguere told members of the House Agriculture and Forestry Committee on Tuesday, adding that this would leave “the Agency of Natural Resources with a problem of where does it go, and who deals with that problem. It might make it expensive for municipalities, which is why we’ve ended up where we are.”

A South Burlington farmer dumped milk after discovering in 2016 that his cows had been drinking from a well contaminated with fire fighting foam laden-runoff [from the Vermont Air National Guard base](#). The milk did not have detectable levels of PFAS after a treatment system was installed at the well. But the agriculture agency is looking for funding for additional testing at other farms, Giguere said, adding that he did not expect to detect elevated PFAS levels in milk based on similar studies in other states.

Eamon Twohig, head of the DEC’s residuals management program, said “there’s no question” that losing biosolid application as a disposal option would cost municipalities, and consequently

ratepayers, as well as septic companies more money. He also has broader concerns about what some municipalities would do with sludge if it couldn't be land applied.

“It makes me nervous to think that a small Vermont wastewater treatment plant would generate sludge, put it in a roll off container, try to find a place to take that roll container” and be told no one will accept it, he said.

Jackie Folsom, legislative director for the Vermont Farm Bureau, said that she has not heard from any members on this issue, noting that biosolids are spread on a small portion of agricultural fields in the state.

“But I think that farmers want to play by the rules and they want to do things that make them good stewards of the environment. And they're caught in the middle — there's no standards for this in land application,” she said in an interview Wednesday, adding “I would suspect that probably fewer and fewer of them will be allowing this on their land, and that's probably a good thing.”

A coalition of five environmental groups, including the Conservation Law Foundation, has called for just such a standard. In comments filed Tuesday on DEC's proposed solid waste rules, the groups ask that the state require applicants test for PFAS levels in biosolids before spreading, as they have to do for certain heavy metals, and routinely test biosolids spreading sites.

Elena Mihaly, senior attorney at CLF, said they see this as part of a broader request for ANR to develop a “comprehensive” approach to limiting Vermonters exposure to PFAS.

In the case of biosolids, “we have these wastes we're trying to get rid of, we're spreading them on fields we know they contain PFAS,” she said. “It's about time that we develop a standard screening level that tells us...when it is and when it isn't safe to be land applying this stuff.”

She added that environmental advocates have also been pushing for [S.295](#), a bill that would limit PFAS levels in items like carpeting and food packaging, [where it is commonly found](#).

“The source of PFAS is the consumer products that get landfilled in the first place or go down our drains at home,” Mihaly said. “So the more we can limit and put bans on the sale and manufacture of those consumer products, the better.”

**From:** Elaine Haney <[ehaney@essex.org](mailto:ehaney@essex.org)>

**Sent:** Monday, April 13, 2020 11:47 AM

**To:** [tashe@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:tashe@leg.state.vt.us); [CPearson@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:CPearson@leg.state.vt.us); [msirotkin@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:msirotkin@leg.state.vt.us); Ginny Lyons <[velyons@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:velyons@leg.state.vt.us)>; [DIngram@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:DIngram@leg.state.vt.us); Philip Baruth <[PBaruth@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:PBaruth@leg.state.vt.us)>

**Cc:** Evan Teich <[eteich@essex.org](mailto:eteich@essex.org)>; Gregory Duggan <[gduggan@ESSEX.ORG](mailto:gduggan@ESSEX.ORG)>; Andrew Brown <[abrown@essexjunction.org](mailto:abrown@essexjunction.org)>

**Subject:** FW: Letter and request to Legislature for Assistance

Dear Chittenden County Senators,

Below is a communication from VLCT to House Ways & Means, Senate Finance, and both Government Operations committees regarding municipalities' concerns about property tax penalties. Both the Town of Essex and the Village of Essex Junction (via me and Village President Andrew Brown) agree with the attached letter from the Town of Colchester.

While there was an average amount of delinquency in Essex property taxes collected this past March 15<sup>th</sup>, we do not expect that to be the case when the September 15<sup>th</sup> payment comes due. As our legislative delegation, anything you can do to ensure that the Legislature understands the pressure on municipalities when faced with a significant property tax shortfall would be much appreciated.

Thank you so much for the hard work you are doing to make sure our residents are able to manage during this crisis.

Best,

Elaine

Elaine Haney (she / her)  
Chair, Town of Essex Selectboard

**From:** Karen Horn [<mailto:khorn@vlct.org>]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 13, 2020 11:29 AM  
**Subject:** Letter and request to Legislature for Assistance

Good morning,

Last evening, I sent an email to the House Ways and Means and Senate Finance Committees, and this morning to both Government Operations committees. We are going to put this request in our Monday email to members. We urge you to contact your legislators to make sure they are aware of their need to take action to support cities and towns. Please note in particular Item 4.

Please see the message below.:

Please find attached to this email a letter from the Town Manager in Colchester, Aaron Frank. He is urging the state to borrow the amount of unpaid education property tax dollars that are necessary to make the education fund whole, instead of individual municipalities. We strongly support this initiative and ask you to urge your legislators to:

1. Authorize local legislative bodies to vote to waive interest and penalties on property tax payments that are due from resident and non-resident property taxpayers who pay their taxes late during the COVID emergency in spite of penalties that may have been adopted by the voters or are in charters. Some communities will waive those penalties and interest on a case by case basis, and some will make the determination that penalties and interest need to be waived for a certain amount of time across the board.
2. Authorize local legislative bodies to lower current tax rates in the face of potentially reduced municipal spending, which would relieve some pressure on taxpayers.
3. Enact legislation that eliminates the severe penalties that would ordinarily accrue to towns which make incomplete education fund property tax payments to the school district or education fund. The reason that cities and towns would make incomplete education fund payments in 2020 is that people have no capacity to pay.
4. Require the state to borrow the dollars that are needed to make the Education Fund whole on the dates in 2020 upon which payments from towns are due, if need be. The Treasurer informed the Ways and Means Committee on April 10, that the state has the capacity to make an interfund loan to itself as no interest cost. If the state had to go out to the market for a short-term loan, the interest rate will likely be lower and the ability to secure a loan stronger than for any individual community.



**Colchester**  
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[www.colchestervt.gov](http://www.colchestervt.gov)

April 11, 2020

VIA EMAIL

Karen Horn  
Vermont League of Cities & Towns  
89 Main St, Suite 4  
Montpelier, VT 05602

**Re: Fiscal Year 20-21 State Education Taxes Collected by Cities and Towns**

*1) 8% City/Town Penalty on Late Payments for State Education Taxes*

*2) Required Borrowing to Pay State Education Taxes*

Dear Karen:

I'm writing to ask that VLCT assist with information sharing about two significant issues related to Property Taxes Collected to Pay State Education Taxes for FY 2020-2021 (July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021). I would participate in the process personally but I am generally functioning as Emergency Management Director vs. my typical role as Town Manager.

The Town of Colchester and other cities and towns are required to pay to the State Education Taxes to School Districts REGARDLESS of whether we collect the taxes.

In addition to having to pay out the State Education Taxes regardless of whether we collect them, municipalities are:

a) Charged, by the State of Vermont, a daily penalty in the amount of an annual rate of 8%. This is required under [32 VSA § 5409 \(1\)](#) and [16 V.S.A. § 426](#).

b) Subject to withholding of State funds due to the Town for any purpose, presumably even fees for service and State provided federal funds as per [32 VSA § 5409 \(1\)](#).

Colchester collects \$3 in State Education Taxes for every \$1 in Town taxes for municipal services. In the current COVID-19 emergency with record numbers of people out of work and many businesses not producing goods and services, we are concerned about our ability to collect from taxpayers and in turn pay out the State Education Tax for FY 20-21.

The remedies the Town of Colchester is left with for non-payment of State Education Taxes are to:

- a) Not pay out State Education Taxes we do not have and be charged 8% penalty, and have State and Federal Funds withheld from the Town at a difficult time
- b) Tax sale our residents and businesses, potentially in large numbers, thus emptying the Town of the good people who make up the Town
- c) Borrow from the bank, potentially for years, triple what we would have to borrow to cover our annual municipal service costs.

Option a) makes no sense fiscally. Option b) makes no sense as a community. Option c) seems patently unfair as the Town does not determine education costs, education funding, or education tax mechanisms.

The Town of Colchester is prepared to reduce spending and/or borrow to cover the unbudgeted cost of covering unpaid municipal taxes. However, we have no capacity to do this for the State Education Tax which is three times (\$32M annually) the amount of the municipal tax (\$12M annually) other than to pledge the sale of the homes and businesses in our community. This places the municipality alone in an impossible situation.

We are requesting that the State of Vermont:

- 1) Eliminate the 8% municipal penalty and withholding of State provided funds for non-payment of uncollected State Education Funds;
- 2) Take the responsibility of borrowing to pay unpaid State Education Taxes until the economic emergency created by COVID-19 is over and the vast majority of taxpayers are able to repay unpaid education taxes; interest charges to taxpayers should match the rate the State is able to arrange for a statewide borrowing for the Statewide Education Tax, which is much less than the compounded rate the towns are forced to charge.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,



Aaron Frank  
Colchester Town Manager



Julie Greater  
Colchester Clerk/Treasurer





VILLAGE OF ESSEX JUNCTION  
TRUSTEES  
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Online  
Essex Junction, VT 05452  
Tuesday, April 14, 2020  
6:30 PM

E-mail: [manager@essexjunction.org](mailto:manager@essexjunction.org)

[www.essexjunction.org](http://www.essexjunction.org)

Phone: (802) 878-6951

COVID-19 UPDATE: Due to the Covid-19/coronavirus pandemic, **this meeting will be held remotely**. Available options to watch or join the meeting:

- The meeting will be live-streamed on [Channel 17's YouTube channel](#).
- [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#) Depending on your browser, you may need to call in for audio (below).
- Join via conference call (*audio only*): (802) 377-3784 | Conference ID: 235 213 189#
- For the purpose of recording minutes, you will be asked to provide your first and last name.
- When listening to the meeting, please keep your phone or computer on "mute" as to prevent interruptions during the meeting. For agenda items when it is appropriate for the public to speak, please unmute your phone or computer and introduce yourself before requesting the floor from the Chair/President.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** [6:30 PM]
2. **AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES**
3. **APPROVE AGENDA**
4. **PUBLIC TO BE HEARD**
  - a. Comments from Public on Items Not on Agenda
5. **BUSINESS ITEMS**
  - a. Approval of two parking agreements and update on Village Center development
6. **CONSENT ITEMS**
  - a. Approve banner application for KidSafe Community Yard Sale August 8-9
  - b. Approve street vending permit for Mr. Ding-A-Ling Ice Cream
  - c. Approve minutes: March 24, 2020; April 2, 2020;
  - d. Check Warrant #17191—03/21/2020; #17192—03/27/2020; #17193—04/03/2020; #17194—04/10/2020
7. **READING FILE**
  - a. Board Member Comments
  - b. Memo from James Jutras re: UPDATE More details on PFAS testing of Farm soil and Groundwater
  - c. Upcoming meeting schedule
8. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**
  - a. An executive session is not anticipated
9. **ADJOURN**

This agenda is available in alternative formats upon request. Meetings of the Trustees, like all programs and activities of the Village of Essex Junction, are accessible to people with disabilities. For information on accessibility or this agenda, call the Unified Manager's office at 878-6951.

Certification: 04/10/2020  
Date Posted

  
Initials

**VILLAGE OF ESSEX JUNCTION  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
April 14, 2020**

**TRUSTEES PRESENT:** Andrew Brown, President; George Tyler; Raj Chawla; Amber Thibeault; Dan Kerin.

**ADMINISTRATION and STAFF:** Evan Teich, Unified Manager; Greg Duggan, Deputy Manager; Sarah Macy, Assistant Manager/Finance Director; Rick Garey, Chief of Police; Jim Jutras, Water Quality Superintendent; Robin Pierce, Community Development Director.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Brown called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and explained how the meeting would proceed, with changes instituted to adhere to the COVID-19 state of emergency declared by Governor Scott, pursuant to addendum 6 of Executive Order 0120 and Act 92, which authorized public bodies to meet electronically. He said that Trustees would participate remotely via Microsoft Teams and invited the public to participate remotely using conference call-in information.

2. **AGENDA ADDITIONS/ CHANGES**

Mr. Duggan added item 5b to the agenda, for the Trustees to approve a resolution regarding Essex Junction's COVID-19 response, and he submitted a memo regarding this item. He also added item 7d to the agenda's reading file, an Email from Elaine Haney regarding a Letter and request to Legislature for Assistance. He submitted an additional handout for item 7b, a VT Digger article: Sewage sludge spreading leads to farm groundwater PFAS contamination. Ms. Thibeault requested that item 6b be pulled from the consent items to be addressed as Business Item 5c.

3. **APPROVE AGENDA**

**GEORGE TYLER made a motion, and DAN KERIN seconded, that the Trustees accept the amendments to the agenda. VOTING: 5-0; motion carried.**

4. **PUBLIC TO BE HEARD**

a. **Comments from public on items not on the agenda.**

There were no comments from the public at this time.

5. **BUSINESS ITEMS**

a. **Approval of two parking agreements and update on Village Center development**

Mr. Pierce provided an update on recent demolition and construction plans, approved by the Planning Commission, for a four-story building with a parking garage on Park Street. He requested that the Trustees authorize the execution of two related parking agreements.

He said the first agreement would be for temporary parking at 12 Park Street during construction at 11 Park Street.

Regarding the second agreement, he pointed out that it was originally for 33 parking spaces in the garage to be provided to the municipality as permanent parking. Once a certificate of occupancy (CO) is issued for the site, he said, in this agreement the Village would make a cash payment of \$100,000 to the property owner for a letter stating the owner donated \$420,000 worth of perpetual public parking to the Village. Mr. Pierce explained that the agreement was recently reduced to 31 spaces to achieve needed turning radii, and due to the developer giving the Village additional

sidewalk space at the front of the property, with the \$100,000 cash payment remaining the same. The Trustees discussed the decrease in parking spaces with Mr. Pierce and supported the arrangement, even with less spaces. They also talked about the possibility of increasing the number of accessible spaces, which would also decrease the total number of spaces. Mr. Peirce stated that the original MOU provided to the Village attorney was not yet been signed, although it was approved. He clarified for Mr. Chawla that the \$100,000 donation is subject to federal tax. Ms. Thibeault requested to view the agreements to be signed but they were not available.

**GEORGE TYLER made a motion, and DAN KERIN seconded, that the Trustees authorize the Village manager to execute two parking agreements, one for temporary parking at 12 Park Street and one for up to 31 permanent parking spaces at 11 Park Street, once the agreements have been approved by Village Staff, the Village attorney, and the property owners, and the property has received a certificate of occupancy.**

- Ms. Thibeault said she is not opposed to the project but would not approve someone to sign an agreement she has not seen.

**VOTING: 4-1; motion carried, with dissenting vote from AMBER THIBEAULT.**

**b. Approve Resolution regarding Essex Junction COVID-19 Response**

Ms. Thibeault recused herself from this item, for a potential conflict of interest. Mr. Duggan described the proposed resolution regarding Essex's COVID-19 response, noting that it is modeled after a resolution passed in Winooski. This resolution acknowledges the state and federal mandates in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and their impact on the community of Essex. He pointed out that the Resolution encourages the State of Vermont to consider relief related to tax penalties, evictions, healthcare, utility shutoffs, education funds, etc. He said it also encourages the state to leverage federal funds and extend actions for at least 60 days after the federal orders are lifted. The Trustees discussed the importance of this Resolution to assert that taxpayers should not bear the burden of State and Federal decisions regarding COVID-19. They discussed their hope to attract people to re-engage with local businesses during a "reopening Essex" strategy. Mr. Kerin suggested connecting this idea to the annual Block Party.

**RAJ CHAWLA made a motion, and DAN KERIN seconded, that the Trustees approve the resolution regarding the Essex COVID-19 Response. ROLL CALL VOTING: 4-0, Amber Thibeault recused; motion carried.**

**c. Approve street vending permit for Mr. Ding-A-Ling Ice Cream**

Ms. Thibeault proposed that the Trustees consider tabling the approval of a street vending permit for Mr. Ding-A-Ling Ice cream, while COVID-19 social distancing practices are still in place. The Trustees discussed needing more information on how food trucks are required to address social distancing. Mr. Chawla said he preferred to wait to approve the permit until after the Governor approves reopening businesses. Mr. Tyler volunteered to work with staff to communicate with the State of Vermont for more information on restaurant reopening strategies and timeline.

**GEORGE TYLER made a motion, and RAJ CHAWLA seconded, to table this item until the next meeting of the Essex Junction Board of Trustees. VOTING: 5-0; motion carried.**

**6. CONSENT ITEMS**

**DAN KERIN made a motion, seconded by GEORGE TYLER, that the Trustees approve the Consent Agenda:**

**a. Approve banner application for KidSafe Community Yard Sale August 8-9**

- Ms. Thibeault requested that Mr. Teich confirm this application included a certificate of insurance and fee.

~~**b. Approve street vending permit for Mr. Ding-A-Ling Ice Cream**~~

- This item was addressed as Business item 5c.
- c. **Approve minutes: March 24, 2020; April 2, 2020**
- d. **Check Warrant #17191—03/21/2020; #17192—03/27/2020; #17193—04/03/2020; #17194—04/10/2020**

**VOTING: 5-0; motion carried.**

**7. READING FILE**

**a. Board Member Comments**

- Mr. Brown said the Trustees and Essex Westford School District are considering rescheduling the Village Annual Meeting to June 11, and a more substantive discussion of this will take place at the next meeting of the Trustees.
  - Mr. Brown noted that there have been sound ordinance concerns regarding noisy motorcycles and said the Essex police are not staffed to enforce noise ordinance violations of vehicles at this time.
  - Mr. Brown expressed thanks to Essex Junction Recreation and Parks as well as Essex Parks and Recreation for hosting the Easter Egg Hunt.
  - Mr. Teich said the closure of municipal buildings due to COVID-19 is extended to May 15.
  - Ms. Thibeault pointed out that the Clerk's office is closed to the public as of April 10. Mr. Teich said the office is still taking phone calls about title searches, issuing marriage licenses, and issuing death certificates.
  - Mr. Thibeault said that it was her understanding that the Champlain Valley Exposition may house patients who are COVID-19 positive, even though the notification to the Trustees was that they were only housing patients who were not. Mr. Teich agreed to look into this.
- b. Memo from James Jutras re: UPDATE More details on PFAS testing of farm soil and groundwater
- c. Upcoming meeting schedule
- d. Email from Elaine Haney regarding a Letter and request to Legislature for Assistance

**8. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**a. An executive is not anticipated**

An executive session did not take place.

**9. ADJOURN**

**RAJ CHAWLA made a motion, and AMBER THIBEALT seconded, that the Trustees adjourn the meeting. VOTING: 5-0; motion carried at 7:15 PM.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cathy Ainsworth