

LIST OF AGENDA AMENDMENTS AND HANDOUTS
VILLAGE OF ESSEX JUNCTION TRUSTEES
TOWN OF ESSEX SELECTBOARD
JOINT MEETING AGENDA
MAY 12, 2020

AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES

-

ADDITIONAL HANDOUTS

- 5b. Ideas for assisting Village Businesses 5.10.20
- 5b. VTDigger Chambers of Commerce urge State to allow outdoor restaurants
- 5b. Location of Bars and Restaurants in Essex and Essex Junction

**Report to Essex Junction Trustees Regarding Response to Economic Impacts on Village
Businesses with Particular Restaurants** **5.11.20**

Summary

Ongoing social distancing guidelines are likely to have an exceptionally negative impact on eating and drinking establishments. Based on prevailing trends in other states, Vermont restaurants are likely to be required to give up half to two thirds of their usual seating capacity. The Village government has limited resources to help any private business, but we may be able to help local restaurants regain some of their lost seating capacity by making public spaces available for outdoor food & drink consumption or as comfortable spaces for people waiting to be seated at a nearby restaurant.

Survey – Our first step has been to reach out to all Village restaurants and bars and ask them to tell us how they're being impacted by the pandemic and how we might help. We offered several ideas for them to consider with the general focus of increasing nearby outdoor seating capacity. Every business was sent a paper letter and return envelope, but we also posted our message and ideas in the form of an online survey on Facebook pages that some business owners might visit. Robin Pierce will also reach out to some of the business owners he knows. The results of the survey are pending.

Formative Planning

While we're awaiting business owners' responses and more specific guidance from the Vermont government, Raj, Robin, Evan, and I started putting together some plans that can be quickly carried forward, amended, or abandoned as circumstances warrant.

Village ordinances inhibiting outdoor eating, drinking, seating – The trustees could suspend all such ordinances. With assistance from Terry, Robin, Susan, and Even we've identified some local ordinances that might need to be considered in this category. Within this context we'd like to include measures that ensure that prohibitions against smoking in indoor public establishments extend to outdoor seating areas as well.

Create outdoor seating at former Road Rescue site. Our long-term plan for the site is to create a pocket park with benches and landscaping. Robin is awaiting some permitting from the state and is also hoping to procure some assistance from a state agency that helps communities finance such projects. In the meantime, we could proceed with procuring the trees or shrubs we will plant in the park and keep them in large planters. These will provide shade and a physical/visual barrier from the traffic on Main and Maple streets. Within the space we can install some picnic tables for public use.

Create ‘streetseats’ – Plagiarizing an idea already underway in Burlington, we could create outdoor seating at several locations around the Village center that might look something like this:



These would need to be put in parking spaces along Village streets. Another possible location would be the ‘cut-thru’ street behind Veteran’s Park that connects Main and Lincoln.

Seating On Village Sidewalks – at strategic locations such as Main St. and Railroad Ave, the Village could work with businesses to augment their outdoor seating. We could provide picnic tables and umbrellas and physical barriers (i.e. chains, ropes, etc.) to help isolate the seating area from the sidewalk to encourage social distancing. Another possibility would be cordoning off the parking areas in front of the businesses on Railroad Ave. for seating / walking, and making it one-way outbound (from Main Street) and leaving parking only on the railroad side of the street.

Street closures or contractions: Due to drastic reductions in traffic, we suggest closing portions of roads in the village core to accommodate this plan and to allow for proper pedestrian and bicycle access with proper social distancing in mind. This will become necessary as we will likely see an increase in tables and chairs on sidewalks as mentioned above. Street sections already identified are Main Street between Five Corners and Railroad Ave., the bypass between Veteran’s Park and TD Bank, ½ of Railroad Ave (parking spaces) along business fronts. Others may be considered. Some of these, for instance the Main Street closure, could be on a schedule, for instance Friday evening to Sunday evening. These plans could easily be adjusted or simply ended as warranted.

Seating in Private Parking Lots – we could work with businesses and property owners to encourage them to increase their seating in private parking lots. Areas in mind are: Lincoln Inn/On Tap, Mark’s BBQ/Heart and Soul, Grand Buffet, Vespas, Subway, Sherpa LLC. We’ll try to make contact with the fast food franchises on Pearl St. but they tend to operate under the own rules.

Pop-Up Seating – Brad and Aly have suggested having a roving pop-up entourage that moves to different locations around the town and village. This would include picnic tables, umbrellas, etc. and might also include live music performances to provide an inviting ambience.

Small Grants to Help Create or Enhance Outdoor Seating: We could make grants available (i.e. up to \$2000 or \$2500) to restaurants in the downtown core to apply for funding to help them establish or expand their outdoor seating capacity (tables, chairs, umbrellas, planters, etc.) We could have a very brief, simple application and review process with minimal questions:

Example:

- How will this funding help you establish or expand your outdoor seating capacity?
- What will you purchase?
- How much will your current outdoor capacity increase due to this funding?
- How will you promote physical distancing with this added outdoor seating?
- What support(s) do you need from the municipality to make this happen (i.e. taking up parking spaces, etc.)?

Resources

Funds – The Village has economic development funds that are supposed to be restricted to purchase property, landscaping, etc. for the Village center district, but under the circumstances we could perhaps bend the rules a bit. The Town does not have specific economic development funds but under present circumstances with other departmental expenditures curtailed there might be surplus funds available.

Picnic tables – EJRP might spare a few tables but probably not enough to meet all needs. CVE can provide many tables but they're meant for indoors and would need to be moved inside at night.

Purchasing Outdoor tables – We can purchase durable, metal table/seat assemblies for about \$500 - \$700 apiece, such as these:



I recommend metal obviously because they're more durable than wood or plastic, but also the metal-mesh stays relatively clean because food junk and liquid just drops right through it.

Purchasing umbrellas – We can purchase sturdy, metal pole, thick vinyl umbrellas for the tables for about \$140-\$160 apiece. They would need to be mono-color. Multicolor are more expensive. But having the same mono-color umbrellas at different locations around the village would provide a bit of identity branding for us.

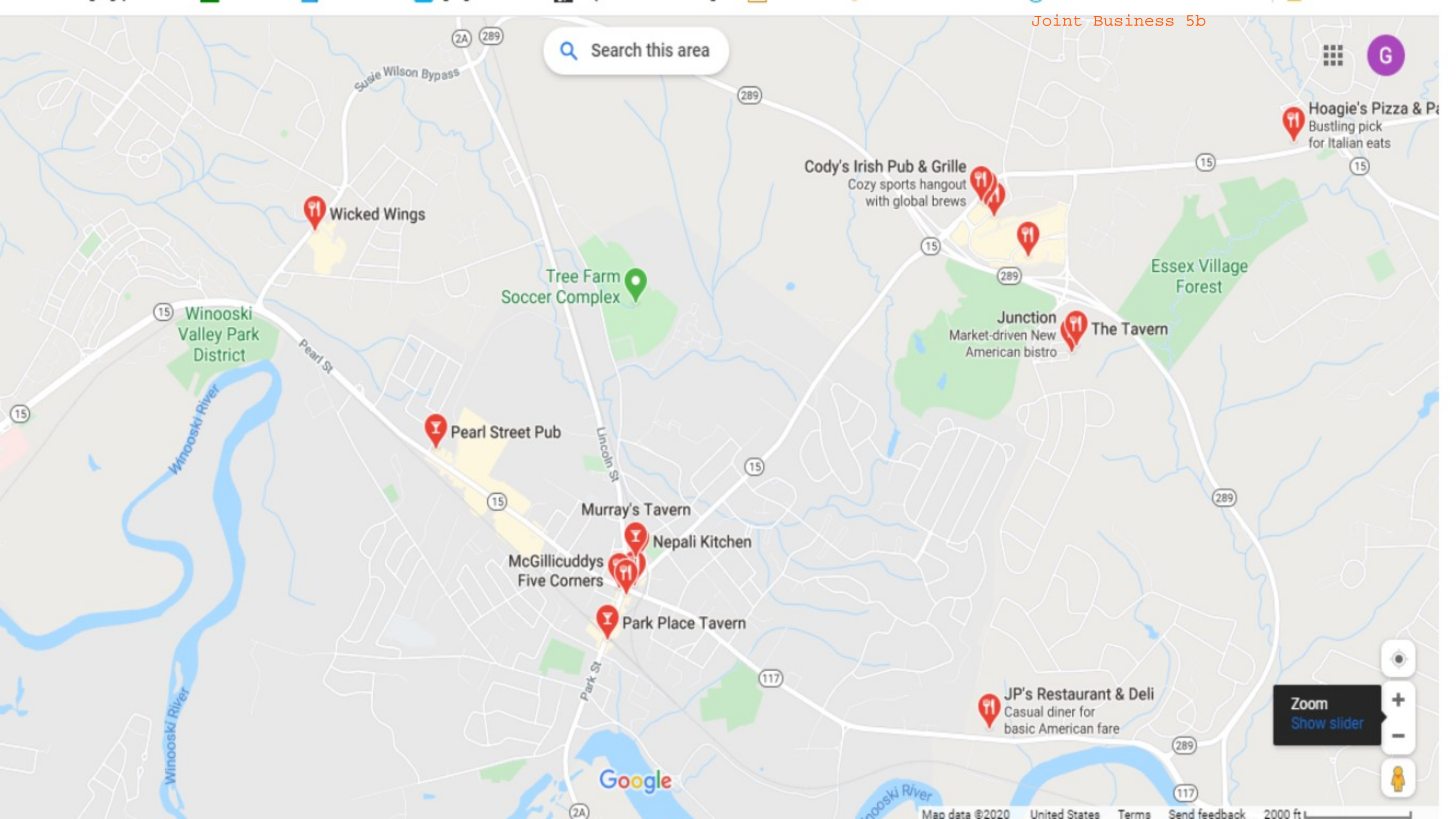


Also – if we did a bulk purchase of umbrellas and picnic tables (20 of each for example) and used 10 for our RR site and StreetSeats, we could loan out the other ten to local businesses to augment their sidewalk/parking lot seating.

Example of costs:

- \$12K for 20 picnic tables
- \$3K for 20 umbrellas
- \$10K for trees/plantings around former RR property

Search this area



Wicked Wings

Tree Farm Soccer Complex

Winooski Valley Park District

Pearl Street Pub

Murray's Tavern

Nepali Kitchen

McGillicuddys Five Corners

Park Place Tavern

Cody's Irish Pub & Grille
Cozy sports hangout with global brews

Junction
Market-driven New American bistro

The Tavern

Hoagie's Pizza & Pa
Bustling pick for Italian eats

JP's Restaurant & Deli
Casual diner for basic American fare

Zoom
Show slider



<https://vtdigger.org/2020/05/08/chambers-of-commerce-urge-state-to-allow-outdoor-restaurant-dining/>

BUSINESS & ECONOMY

Chambers of commerce urge state to allow outdoor restaurant dining

By **Xander Landen**

May 8 2020 |



The Three Penny Taproom in Montpelier is among restaurants and bars closed during the coronavirus pandemic. Photo by Cate Chant/VTDigger

VTDigger posts regular coronavirus updates on [this page](#). You can also [subscribe here](#) for daily coronavirus news. Please send your Covid-19 questions to coronavirus@vtdigger.org.

The Lake Champlain Chamber of Commerce is asking state officials to allow restaurants to open for outdoor seating of customers later this month.

In a memo sent Thursday, the chamber urged officials at the Agency of Commerce and Community Development to allow restaurants to reopen with outdoor dining options beginning May 22.

If approved, the restaurants would provide outdoor service “with proper accommodations for social distancing and other best practices,” according to the memo.

The chamber wants the state to provide \$50,000 grants for restaurants to facilitate outdoor dining. It also wants officials to provide guidance to municipalities to ease local zoning regulations to make it easier for restaurants that don’t already offer outdoor service.

Austin Davis, a lobbyist with the chamber, said outdoor dining could provide some restaurants relief after they’ve been forced to remain closed, or offering only takeout or delivery options, for nearly two months.

“I think it comes down to you’ve got to do something,” he said. “And this first round of something, outdoor dining, can help some people.”

He acknowledged not all restaurants would benefit.

“For some folks, their business model is they need to have their entire floor plan occupied, or they don’t make their margin,” he said.

The Vermont Chamber of Commerce also believes that outdoor dining would be a “positive first step” for restaurants as the state looks to lift restrictions for businesses in the service industry.

“Outdoor dining is a wonderful fit to meet the need of space and safety and it’s a great way for restaurants to start that first quarter-turn of the spigot,” said Amy Spear, the vice president of tourism at the Vermont Chamber.

During his press conference Friday, Gov. Phil Scott said he wasn’t sure when restaurants would be allowed to resume partial business, but said the administration is considering allowing restaurants with outdoor tables to reopen.

“We want to open up the restaurants eventually,” Scott said.

“I would say those with outdoor seating would be probably, from a commonsense standpoint, would be the first to be able to do that because we know that being outside is better than being in a confined space,” the governor said.

The proposal has drawn a mixed response from restaurants.

Matt Willey, the owner of Ramunto’s and The Avocado Pit in Bennington, said outdoor dining would help some restaurants like his pizzeria, which have outdoor seating space.

But Willey, who is also the vice president of the Bennington Chamber of Commerce, said it would disadvantage others — like the restaurant across the street from him — that lack it.

“For me it’s great, I mean I do have a little bit of outside space,” Willey said. “But for some people they’re going to get buried because of that.”

Willey also worries that it might be difficult to get employees to return to work when many of them are now making more on unemployment benefits than they were at his restaurant.

He’s already had some trouble getting employees back to work at Ramunto’s, which is offering takeout and delivery.

“The first two people I tried to call back said no,” he said. “I mean they’re making \$1,100 staying home. Why would they come back for \$800 a week if they can sit home and make \$1,100 a week?”

Mark Frier, the owner of three restaurants — The Reservoir in Waterbury and Tres Amigos and The Bench, both in Stowe — said he doesn’t think opening his restaurants up to outdoor dining alone would generate enough business.

“To try to say that we could survive just on that and takeout in just our normal fixed-cost scenario is probably unlikely,” Frier said.

He added that many restaurants without outdoor space wouldn’t be able to benefit from the change.

“I feel like that’s not necessarily leveling the playing field for the dine-in restaurant owner community,” Frier said.



Many restaurants on the Church Street Marketplace in downtown Burlington offer outdoor seating. File photo

When the state does decide it's safe for restaurants to resume business, Frier said he would prefer that establishments have the ability to offer limited in-door dining, which would give "more businesses a shot at reopening."

And when the restrictions are lifted, Frier also hopes the state will provide financial assistance to help with their accumulating expenses.

"If the state wants to make that decision, we hope that the state would come behind with some kind of understanding that we're going to need some help to carry our fixed costs through that time period when we're basically going to be suppressed in our ability to do business," he said.

Rep. Matthew Birong, D-Vergennes, who owns 3 Squares Cafe, said that allowing restaurants to first offer outdoor dining is a "logical step."

But he said that it's important that the state provide grants to restaurants that aren't already set up to offer outdoor seating, so that they can also generate revenue.

He suggested that restaurants should be able to set up tents in their parking lots, and work with municipalities to offer seating in parking spots, or public spaces.

“Everybody’s got to get creative with the next year or two,” Birong said. “Because traditional formats aren’t going to work.”

Restaurants are [hoping the state will be able to provide relief dollars](#), and that federal requirements for aid they have received through the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) will change.

Right now, loans through the program can be forgiven, but only if businesses rehire their employees within two months.

That poses a problem for restaurants that have received PPP loans, but have been unable to open up.

The Lake Champlain and Vermont Chambers of Commerce are pushing the state to provide financial assistance for restaurants from the \$1.25 billion the state received from the federal CARES Act to respond to Covid-19.

The Vermont Chamber is lobbying for a grants program for restaurants. It also wants restaurants to not have pay the state the rooms and meals taxes they collected in February and March before they shut down. Due dates for those payments had already been pushed back to July 15.

In its Thursday memo, the Lake Champlain chamber pitched a program to state officials that would give restaurants grants equal to what they paid in rooms and meals taxes for six months of 2019.

“Investment to keep these businesses alive today will be repaid in future rooms and meals tax revenue for years to come,” the memo says.



VILLAGE OF ESSEX JUNCTION TRUSTEES
TOWN OF ESSEX SELECTBOARD
MEETING AGENDA

Online
Essex Junction, VT 05452
Tuesday, May 12, 2020
7:00 PM

E-mail: manager@essex.org

www.essexjunction.org
www.essexvt.org

Phone: (802) 878-1341
(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: 684 051 95#
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.

The Selectboard and Trustees meet together to discuss and act on joint business. Each board votes separately on action items.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER [7:00 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. Update on COVID-19
b. Discuss how to help local businesses during pandemic
c. *Discuss personnel issues
6. CONSENT ITEMS
a. Approve minutes: April 28, 2020 - (Trustees and Selectboard)
b. Appoint CSWD representatives
c. Approve updated Joint meeting schedule
7. READING FILE
a. Board Member Comments
b. Email from Patricia Allard re: Masks and Safe Distancing
c. Town of Essex/Village of Essex Junction 2019 Progress on Implementation of All-Hazards Mitigation Plan
d. Memo from James Jutras re: UVM Coronavirus Research
e. Email from Dan Logan re: Channel 17 Changes
8. EXECUTIVE SESSION
a. *An executive session is anticipated to discuss employment of public employees/labor relations with employees
9. ADJOURN

Members of the public are encouraged to speak during the Public to Be Heard agenda item, during a Public Hearing, or, when recognized by the Chair or President, during consideration of a specific agenda item. The public will not be permitted to participate when a motion is being discussed except when specifically requested by the Chair or President. This agenda is available in alternative formats upon request. Meetings, like all programs and activities of the Village of Essex Junction and the Town of Essex, are accessible to people with disabilities. For information on accessibility or this agenda, call the Unified Manager's office at 878-1341 TTY: 7-1-1 or (800) 253-0191.

Certification: 05/08/2020 [Signature]

SELECTBOARD & TRUSTEES

**VILLAGE OF ESSEX JUNCTION TRUSTEES
TOWN OF ESSEX SELECTBOARD
JOINT MEETING ITEMS MINUTES
Tuesday May 12, 2020**

SELECTBOARD: Elaine Haney, Chair; Vince Franco; Patrick Murray; Andy Watts.

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

ADMINISTRATION and STAFF: Evan Teich, Unified Manager; Greg Duggan, Deputy Manager; Sarah Macy, Assistant Manager/Finance Director; Rick Garey, Chief of Police; Tammy Getchell, Assistant to the Manager; Rick Jones, Public Works Superintendent; Dennis Lutz, Public Works Director; Owiso Makuku, Essex Community Development Director; Robin Pierce, Essex Junction Community Development Director; Travis Sabataso, HR Director.

OTHERS PRESENT: Annie Cooper; Kara Janaro; Stephanie Meunier; Rob Reardon; Ken Signorello; Margaret Smith; Irene Wrenner.

1. CALL TO ORDER SELECTBOARD & TRUSTEES

Elaine Haney called the meeting of the Town of Essex Selectboard to order to enter into joint business with the Village of Essex Junction Board of Trustees at 7:16 PM.

Andrew Brown called the meeting of the Village of Essex Junction Board of Trustees back to order from recess, to enter into joint business with the Essex Selectboard at 7:16 PM.

2. AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES

Mr. Duggan provided additional materials to go with agenda Item 5b (Discuss how to help local businesses during pandemic):

- Ideas for assisting Village Businesses 5.10.20
- Location of Bars and Restaurants in Essex and Essex Junction
- VTDigger: Chambers of Commerce urge State to allow outdoor restaurants

Elaine Haney requested that item 6b (Appoint CSWD representative) be pulled from the Consent Agenda and included as Business Item 5d. Mr. Watts requested that Item 6c (Approve updated Joint meeting schedule) be pulled from the consent agenda and included as Business Item 5e.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

ANDY WATTS made a motion, seconded by **PATRICK MURRAY**, that the Selectboard approve the agenda as amended. The motion passed 4-0.

ANDREW BROWN made a motion, seconded by **GEORGE TYLER**, that the Trustees approve the agenda as amended. The motion passed 5-0.

4. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

There were no comments from the public at this time.

5. BUSINESS ITEMS

a. Update on COVID-19

Mr. Teich updated the boards on municipal services during recent weeks of the COVID-19 pandemic. He said all disinfectant, distancing and mask-wearing precautions are being followed

53 and there have been no positive cases amongst Village or Town staff. He talked about the
54 libraries continuing with curbside pick-up and drop-off of materials; and the June 1 start date of
55 Essex Junction Recreation and Parks daycare services. He said Public Works received a good
56 bid for the Lamoille Street project, despite business closures, and the municipalities are
57 exploring ways to reduce costs in anticipation of a decline in tax revenue.
58

59 Mr. Tyler wondered if the State of Vermont is receiving feedback from towns about COVID-19
60 re-openings. Mr. Teich said they are taking suggestions and Ms. Haney explained her role on
61 Vermont's Economic Mitigation Task Force. She said the state's Resource Recovery Center
62 can be accessed at www.ACCD.vt.gov/covid19.
63

64 Mr. Watts clarified with Mr. Teich that the reason Indian Brook Park is currently requiring dogs
65 be leashed is based on guidance from the CDC.
66

67 **b. Discuss how to help local businesses during pandemic**

68 Mr. Teich introduced the issue of how the Selectboard members and Trustees would like to
69 accommodate and ease reopening processes locally. For example, he asked, in response to
70 the predicted loss restaurants are facing of up to 50% of their seating to accommodate spacing
71 guidelines, would they consider implementing a strategy to help fund outdoor seating? He said
72 the Community Development Directors, along with the Parks and Recreation departments,
73 suggested this should be a joint effort between the Trustees and Selectboard.
74

75 Mr. Tyler and Mr. Chawla clarified that the Trustees have a survey out to the 30 eating and
76 drinking establishments located within the Village and are considering ways to allow
77 businesses to use public space. Mr. Chawla talked about the challenge of keeping pedestrians
78 distant if public space were to be used by businesses, and that this may be solved by changing
79 parking and street use if approval is gained by Mr. Pierce. Mr. Murray and Mr. Teich discussed
80 their willingness to guide businesses on steps for how to apply for outdoor liquor consumption
81 permits. Mr. Watts said the board members should also consider ways to support businesses
82 that are not food service establishments. He cautioned that any funding for these efforts be
83 determined within the context of possible tax shortfalls in the upcoming year. He suggested that
84 staff and the board members should look for additional ways to support businesses that do not
85 require the use of funds. Mr. Teich said he would look into possible funding for reopening
86 efforts in current operations savings.
87

88 Ms. Cooper shared her support for Mr. Watts' thought about considering this effort within the
89 possibility of limited tax flow.
90

91 **c. *Discuss personnel issues**

92 This item took place in Executive Session as item 8a.
93

94 **d. Appoint CSWD representative**

95 Mr. Duggan presented the issue of the appointment of a representative and alternates to the
96 Champlain Solid Waste District Board of Commissioners from each municipality, as current
97 terms expire on May 31, 2020. Alan Nye and Mr. Tyler served as representative and alternate,
98 respectively, for the Village of Essex Junction. Mr. Nye and Max Levy served as representative
99 and alternate, respectively, for the Town of Essex. Mr. Nye is willing to continue representing
100 the Town and the Village. With Mr. Levy not wishing to continue to serve on the CSWD Board,
101 Mr. Duggan said the Selectboard could appoint a Selectboard member or advertise the
102 opening. Mr. Murray volunteered for the position.
103

104 Mr. Tyler praised Mr. Nye for his commitment to continuing to serve as the CSWD
 105 representative for both districts. He urged new Trustees to consider volunteering for the
 106 alternate seat. He talked about what a positive experience it is and said the Board meets for
 107 two hours monthly. Ms. Thibeault volunteered for the position.
 108

109 **ANDY WATTS made a motion, seconded by VINCE FRANCO, that the Selectboard appoint**
 110 **Alan Nye as the Town of Essex representative to the CSWD Board of Commissioners with**
 111 **Patrick Murray as alternate. The motion passed 4-0.**
 112

113 **GEORGE TYLER made a motion, seconded by RAJ CHAWLA, that the Trustees approve**
 114 **Alan Nye as the representative and Amber Thibeault as the alternate for the Village of Essex**
 115 **Junction on the board of CSWD. The motion passed 5-0.**
 116

117 **e. Approve updated Joint meeting schedule**

118 Mr. Watts began a discussion of the updated joint meeting schedule's extension, which would
 119 include the Trustees' regular meeting and the Selectboard's regular meeting in the same
 120 evening as the joint meeting, for one more month, through July 2020. He proposed the
 121 Selectboard and Trustees take turns holding their regular meetings first, and that these "first
 122 meetings" could all be scheduled for 6:30 PM. The board members discussed ways to mitigate
 123 late endings of these back-to-back meeting nights. They talked about the importance of being
 124 cognizant of challenging agenda items and discussed the benefits of having a consistent
 125 meeting schedule, even for contentious items, while also considering the possibility of adding
 126 special meetings to address big items separately. The board members agreed to carefully read
 127 board packets in anticipation of upcoming meetings to plan the appropriate amount of time for
 128 discussions of challenging agenda items.
 129

130 **ANDY WATTS made a motion, seconded by VINCE FRANCO, that the Selectboard extend**
 131 **the Joint meeting schedule into the month of July with the same meeting order and with all**
 132 **meetings starting at 6:30 PM. The motion passed 4-0.**
 133

134 **GEORGE TYLER made a motion, seconded by AMBER THIBEAULT, that the Trustees**
 135 **extend the Joint meeting schedule into the month of July with the same meeting order and**
 136 **with all meetings starting at 6:30 PM. The motion passed 5-0.**
 137

138 **6. CONSENT ITEMS**

139 a. Approve minutes: April 28, 2020 – (Trustees and Selectboard)

140 ~~b. Appoint CSWD representative~~

- This item was moved to become Business Item 5d

142 ~~c. Approve updated Joint meeting schedule~~

- This item was moved to become Business Item 5e

145 **VINCE FRANCO made a motion, seconded by ANDY WATTS, that the Selectboard approve**
 146 **the meeting minutes of April 28, 2020. The motion passed 4-0.**
 147

148 **DAN KERIN made a motion, seconded by RAJ CHAWLA, that the Trustees approve the**
 149 **meeting minutes of April 28, 2020. The motion passed 5-0.**
 150

151 **7. READING FILE**

152 **a. Board Member Comments**

- Mr. Murray said he will be putting ballots into envelopes on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday for the Essex Westford School District and Village of Essex Junction annual meeting votes, in preparation for the May 18 mailing to all active voters. He said he would ask if

- 156 more help is needed and will let the board members know. He suggested anyone who is not
157 sure whether they are an active voter should visit the Secretary of State's website.
- 158 ○ Raj Chawla announced that the Essex Experience will hold an all-day blood drive for the
159 public, and will be using all necessary precautions and social distancing.
 - 160 b. Email from Patricia Allard re: Masks and Safe Distancing
 - 161 c. Town of Essex/Village of Essex Junction 2019 Progress on Implementation of All-Hazards
162 Mitigation Plan
 - 163 d. Memo from James Jutras re: UVM Coronavirus Research
 - 164 e. Email from Dan Logan re: Channel 17 Changes

165 8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 166 a. *An executive session is anticipated to discuss employment of public employees/labor relations
167 with employee.

168
169
170 **GEORGE TYLER made a motion, seconded by AMBER THIBEAULT that the Trustees make**
171 **the specific finding that premature general public knowledge of the Town and Village's**
172 **position concerning labor relations agreements with employees would place the Town and**
173 **Village at a substantial disadvantage. The motion passed 5-0.**

174
175 **GEORGE TYLER made a motion, seconded by RAJ CHAWLA that the Trustees enter into**
176 **executive session to discuss employment of public employees and labor relations**
177 **agreements with employees pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3) and 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(B), to**
178 **include the Trustees/Selectboard, Unified Manager, Deputy Manager, HR Director, and the**
179 **Chief of Police. The motion passed 5-0 at 8:36 PM.**

180
181 **VINCE FRANCO made a motion, seconded by PATRICK MURRAY, that the Selectboard**
182 **make the specific finding that premature general public knowledge of the Town and**
183 **Village's position concerning labor relations agreements with employees would place the**
184 **Town and Village at a substantial disadvantage. The motion passed 4-0.**

185
186 **VINCE FRANCO made a motion, seconded by PATRICK MURRAY, that the Selectboard**
187 **enter into executive session to discuss employment of public employees and labor**
188 **relations agreements with employees pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3) and 1 V.S.A. §**
189 **313(a)(1)(B), to include the Trustees/Selectboard, Unified Manager, Deputy Manager, HR**
190 **Director, and the Chief of Police. The motion passed 4-0 at 8:36 PM.**

191
192 **VINCE FRANCO made a motion, seconded by ANDY WATTS, to exit executive session. The**
193 **motion passed 4-0 at 9:33 PM.**

194
195 **AMBER THIBEAULT made a motion, seconded by GEORGE TYLER, to exit executive**
196 **session. The motion passed 5-0 at 9:33 PM.**

197 9. ADJOURN

198
199
200 **AMBER THIBEAULT made a motion, seconded by ANDREW BROWN, to adjourn the**
201 **meeting of the Village Board of Trustees. The motion passed 5-0 at 9:35 PM.**

202
203 **Ms. Haney called the Essex Selectboard back to order to enter into its regular meeting**
204 **agenda at 9:35 PM.**

205
206 Respectfully Submitted,

SELECTBOARD & TRUSTEES

May 12, 2020

207 Cathy Ainsworth
208 Recording Secretary
209