

MINUTES SELECT BOARD MEETING
6:00 P.M. Thursday, April 21, 2016
HARDWICK MEMORIAL BUILDING
3RD FLOOR MEETING ROOM

Select Board

Eric Remick, Chair
Kathleen Hemmens
Kory Barclay
Shari Cornish
Elizabeth Dow

Others Present

Jon Jewett, Town Manager
Brittany Cote, Business Manager
Tom Fadden, Road Foreman

Others Present

Mike Bielawski-Gazette
Wayne Elliott- A&E

6:03 P.M. Eric Remick, Select Board Chair, called the Bond Hearing to order.

6:03 P.M. – 6:14 P.M. Bond Hearing presentation provided by Wayne Elliot, contract engineers for the Town from Aldrich and Elliott Inc.

General obligation bonds of the Town of Hardwick in the amount of Seven hundred thousand dollars, subject to reduction of available funding from state and federal grants in financing the cost of making improvements to the public waterline.

Eric went over the proposed water line project on Church Street and Wayne added that this project would be a loan with negative 3% interest rate and would not affect water rates. Jon added that this project would improve water quality and allow for better flow for hydrants. Wayne went over the information flyer (See attached). Jon mentioned that the last part of the project would be repaving the section of roads that would be affected and he expected to ask the state to allow the paving to hold off until the following spring. Kory asked about the bidding process, and Wayne explained that if bids were to come in unfavorable, the bids could be rejected and rebid in the fall.

6:14 P.M. – Eric Remick, Select Board Chair, adjourned the Bond Hearing.

6:15 P.M. – Eric Remick, Select Board Chair, called the regular Select Board meeting to order.

6:16 P.M. – Approval of the minutes of the regular Select Board meeting of April 7, 2016.

Upon motion by Kathleen Hemmens, seconded by Shari Cornish, the Select Board voted to approve the minutes of the April 7, 2016 regular Select Board meeting as written.

6:17 P.M. – Set/Adjust Agenda – Because there was no audience for questions on the Bond Hearing, Eric Remick stated they would continue with the regular meeting and that if someone came in with questions, they would adjust the agenda on the fly to take further questions.

6:19 P.M. - Communication from the Audience – None

6:19 P.M. – 6:51 P.M. Town Manager Report – Given by Jon Jewett

Jon reported about the water meters, South Main Street sidewalk project, Vermont Municipal Retirement

Municipal System, downtown grant, and pump track/skate park (See attached report for more details).

6:52 P.M. – 7:03 P.M. Road Foreman Report – Given by Tom Fadden

Tom reported recent road work including grading, which was about 90% completed, and pulling material back into the roads from this spring, flushing the hydrants, and problems with the water pumps (1 being completely fried), but a new pump would be installed the following week. Tom reported that the lift station pumps were having issues recently, shutting off in the middle of the night. Eric asked about rain washouts that had occurred on the edge of the pavement (on several areas of Mackville Road). Tom responded by saying that the hot mix plant would be open soon and he would use hot mix to repair those issues rather than using stone or gravel. Jon mentioned that paving bids were coming in, and that he hoped to have good prices and the paving completed in early spring this year. Tom stated that he hoped paving would happen before Memorial Day.

Lastly, Tom reported that Town banners were being changed for the spring colors. He reported that from his point of view, the meter project was going well, and that the road crew would be switching to summer hours the following week. Summer hours are 9 hour days with the highway department closing at 10:30 am on Fridays.

7:03 P.M. – 7:16 P.M. Planning Commission Report – Given by Dave Gross

Dave reported about the technical/easy changes that were being made to the bylaws; section 1 and 7 were completed, and section 2 and 3 were underway. They were trying to get one group of changes done now and work on more updating as they continued. He also discussed the specific changes to do with the signage in Town, considering allowing agricultural signage as the State law states. Dave explained that the 2nd group of changes would include changes having to do with river corridors and forest lands and the Planning Commission would have the option of choosing how specific to be in the Town by-laws. He explained that the Planning Commission wanted to show their progress and gather comments before they proposed an amended version of the bylaws.

7:16 P.M. – 7:24 P.M. Item # 1, Select Board to discuss and approve the amendment of the Delinquent Tax Payment Policy.

Brittany went over the amended version of the Delinquent Tax Payment Policy. Changes included interest being 1% for the first 3 months and 1.5% thereafter. The other changes were listing the criteria for abatements for clarification.

Upon motion by Elizabeth Dow, seconded by Kathleen Hemmens, the Select Board voted to adopt the Delinquent Tax Policy as amended.

7:24 P.M. – 7:56 P.M. Item # 2, Select Board to discuss and approve the water & sewer FY17 budgets

Brittany went over the proposed water and sewer budgets for FY17 (See attached reports for more details).

Upon motion by Shari Cornish, seconded by Kathleen Hemmens, the Select Board voted to approve the FY17 water and sewer budgets as proposed.

7:56 P.M. – 8:00 P.M. Item # 3, Select Board to discuss and approve Hardwick/VTrans Annual Town Highway Financial Plan

Brittany explained the annual Town highway financial plan (See attached for more information).

Upon motion by Elizabeth Dow, seconded by Shari Cornish, the Select Board voted to approve the Annual Town highway financial plan as written.

8:03 P.M. – 8:04 P.M. Item # 4, Select Board to discuss and approve a motion changing the date of adoption as it appears on the Church Street waterline upgrade project “Warning Notice”.

Brittany explained that this was to approve the change to the warning for the typo on the dates as the warning was approved on March 24, not April 24.

Upon motion by Elizabeth Dow, seconded by Kory Barclay, the Select Board voted to approve a motion changing the date of adoption from April 24 to March 24.

Select Board Reports – Shari reported about a movie at the Town House on Sunday at 1pm.

Eric reported about the Community Events booklet being out and available at the Town offices and around Town, Elizabeth suggested this be posted on the website.

New Business – Shari mentioned that she would like to talk about forgiving parking tickets if someone was shopping and received a ticket and could subsequently show proof of purchasing items, during the time of the alleged transgression.

Old Business – None

8:07 P.M. Eric Remick, Select Board Chair, adjourned the meeting.

Minutes approved by: _____
Eric Remick, Chair of the Select Board

Minutes taken by: _____
Brittany Cote, Business Manager