

MINUTES SELECT BOARD MEETING
6:00 P.M. Thursday, August 3, 2017
HARDWICK MEMORIAL BUILDING
3RD FLOOR MEETING ROOM

Select Board

Eric Remick, Chair-late
Danny Hale, Vice Chair
Kory Barclay
Shari Cornish-absent
Elizabeth Dow

Others Present

Jon Jewett, Town Manager
Amanda Atwood, Payroll Administrator
Tom Fadden, Road Foreman
Alberta Miller, Town Clerk

Others Present

Cynthia Grant
Doug Bedell
Ron & Norma Wiesen

6:00 P.M. – Danny Hale, Select Board Vice- Chair, called the regular Select Board meeting to order

6:02 P.M. – Select Board to consider approval of the minutes for its regular Select Board meeting of July 27, 2017

Upon motion by Kory Barclay, seconded by Elizabeth Dow, the Select Board voted to approve the minutes of the regular Select Board meeting of July 27, 2017 as written.

6:02 P.M. – Set/Adjust Agenda-

Jon requested to adjust the agenda by adding item #8: Select Board to review and decide on changes to the traffic ordinance that pertains restricted access into the Village parking lot from South Main Street.

Upon motion by Elizabeth Dow, seconded by Kory Barclay, the Select Board voted to adjust the agenda as stated.

Communication from the Audience - Doug Bedell, Hardwick Town resident, asked when the next vote was coming up to see if the Town keeps Greensboro in the Police contract, and Danny explained that there isn't a vote, the Slect Board authorizes a contract. Danny went on to say that Hardwick residents vote in the Select Board members at Town Meeting to have the Select Board handle the day to day operations of the Town, such as developing contracts with other towns. Doug Bedell said that he disagrees with hiring another officer, and would like to see the Hardwick Police stay in the Town of Hardwick. Eric stated that Hardwick would have to pick up the cost. Danny explained that what drives the number of officers is that the Hardwick residents want 24/7 coverage and won't accept the PD closing at midnight. Allowing Greensboro to pay for a share of the budget is an asset to the Town of Hardwick. If the Town of Hardwick failes to renew the Greensboro contract, the number of officers won't change and the Town of Hardwick will pick up the additional cost. Dann explained by saying that at this point, it is unrealistic to think that the Town would need less officers the way things are going with the opiet epidemic. Jon asked Doug what he would want to see Greensboro pay, and Doug explained that he was just wanting to getting rid of the contract and to reduce the numbe of officers so the budget would be lower.

6:02 P.M. – 6:10 P.M. Town Manager Report – Given by Jon Jewett

Jon reported on the South Main Street sidewalk project, Church Street water line project, police department union updates, Economic Development grant, and delinquent Economic Development loans (See attached report for more details).

6:10 P.M. – 6:20 P.M. Road Foreman Report – Given by Tom Fadden

Tom reported on road work, including working on Town Farm Road, graveling and grading the upper end of Bridgeman Hill, working with hot mix, fixing Ward Hill, and getting prepared for paving. Truck number 2 (chloride/salt truck) is back in service. Tom also reported on water and wastewater system support (See attached report for more details).

Danny asked the Select Board if the town had a plan to cut back brush on the side of the road, and Jon explained that there was not a plan in place, but there is money that is being set aside in the Capital budget to build a fund from year to year to support brush removal. He went on to say that if the Board decides that brush needs to be cut, a contractor will need to be hired because the Town Highway Department can't really be called on to do a lot of brush work when they have roads to maintain.

6:20 P.M. – 6:22 P.M. Item # 1, Consider appointment of Cynthia M. Grant, to fill the remaining 3 year term on the Hardwick Planning Commission.

Elizabeth Dow asked Cynthia Grant why she wanted to be part of the Hardwick Planning Commission. Cynthia said that she wants to know the town, the history, and get involved in the community.

Upon motion by Danny Hale, seconded by Elizabeth Dow, the Select Board voted to appoint Cynthia Grant to fill the remaining 3 year term on the Hardwick Planning Commission, with the term ending on June 30th, 2019.

6:23 P.M. – 6:26 P.M. Item # 2 Update on effort to construct a new cold storage shed at the Town garage site on Creamery Street.

Jon reported that the bid document from the current architect is too high, and that the Town is looking for a simpler document and less money. The Town would like to go out to bid in September in order to have a proper shed for the Town Highway and to meet the requirements of the VLCT insurance program.

6:26 P.M. – 6:37 P.M. Item # 3, Select Board to discuss a new furnace for Town garage. Select Board to consider funding and options for heat.

Eric reported that the furnace at the Town garage is aging and undersized, and other options are not working out. Using wood is taking a lot of time, and not as effective as it should be. There has been discussion about new options for a fuel source, and mentioned that Tom has been actively looking, but with winter approaching he is concerned with getting the proper equipment in time. He mentioned that one option is using the current system for one more year, looking for rebate options, and taking time purchasing and setting up the new system. Elizabeth asked if it would be a possibility if the Town purchased two fuel systems. Eric answered that there is a possibility, but buying two furnaces would be costly. Danny mentioned that one option is using coal for economic purposes, but would rather take time getting the proper system. Eric mentioned that if the Town is using the current system, then the Town needs to find someone that will cut, split, and deliver firewood. Elizabeth asked Tom how many cords of wood does the Town use, and Tom explained between 18 and 21 cords. The Town Manager will develop a bid document to advertise the wood purchase.

6:37 P.M. – 6:42 P.M. Item # 4, Select Board to consider setting the FY18 Town Tax Rate. Action necessary

Alberta reported that the Grand List went up about 1.9 million dollars. The Municipal Tax rate increased will be approximately .0226 or \$22.60 per \$100,000. The local agreement decreased from 0.0096 to 0.0094. The Homestead Education rate has increased this year by \$2.76 per \$100,000. The non-residential property tax decreased slightly.

Upon motion by Danny Hale, seconded by Elizabeth Dow, the Select Board voted to set the 2017-2018 Municipal Tax Rate at 1.1806.

6:42 P.M. – 6:55 P.M. Item # 5, Select Board to review the estimate for surveying Buffalo Mountain Trail and will consider whether to go ahead with the project or not. Action necessary

Jon reported that surveying Buffalo Mountain Trail from Route 14 to the end of the trail would cost roughly \$7,200, and that is to determine the center of the right of way. Elizabeth asked when the last survey was

taken, and Jon explained that the last survey, that was record, was back in 1872. Russ Deming surveyed the land back in the 1980's, but that survey was never recorded. Danny mentioned that with the previous discussions with some of the land owners, he thought it was agreed upon that where the trail is now, is where it is staying. In discussion, it was mentioned that there hasn't been any formal agreement between the Town and the land owners on that trail. Looking at Russ Deming's survey would be a good starting point in order to save money, and not having to start from the beginning. If needed, the Town would hire another surveyor. Considering the work that has been done to the trail, Danny is concerned that Russ Deming's survey wouldn't match up on both ends. Jon mentioned that the Town has to follow State statute and determine where the road is. In order to solve disputes in the future, there needs to a survey that is recorded.

Upon motion by Elizabeth Dow, seconded by Kory Barclay, the Select Board voted to approve to give Jon the authority to look at the Deming survey and to make the final decision in regard to the survey of Buffalo Mtn. Trail.

6:55 P.M. – 7:02 P.M. Item # 6, The Trails Committee is requesting the transfer of \$3,242.00 of funds from the operations budget to the capital to act as a down payment on a new grooming snowmobile for the Hardwick Trails. Action necessary

Eric reported that the Trails Committee has two grooming snowmobiles. They are aging, and at this point the Trails Committee is looking to replace one of them. At the end of last fiscal year, there was some money remaining in the line item, and the Trails Committee is looking to transfer money to the capital to act as a down payment on a new grooming snowmobile.

Upon motion by Danny Hale, seconded by Elizabeth Dow, the Select Board voted to move up to \$3,200 of the Operational funds to the Trails Capital fund, as needed.

7:05 P.M. – 7:06 P.M. Item # 7, Select Board to consider approving a 5 K run through the Village from Hazen Union, around the elementary school, Winter Street to Cottage Street, West Church Street back to Hazen. Caitlyn Bottiggi is the organizer and the run is in memorial to Samantha Brochu. The run would September 9, 2017.

Upon motion by Danny Hale, seconded by Elizabeth Dow, the Select Board voted to approve the 5K memorial Run pending the Police Chief's approval.

7:06 P.M. - 7:11P.M. Item # 8, Select Board to review and decide on changes to the traffic ordinance that pertains restricted access into the Village parking lot from South Main Street.

Doug Bedell informed the Select Board that the sign saying no entry is being moved every day. Jon explained that the sign that is currently there is just a temporary sign, until the Town can get a more secure sign that can secured in place.

Upon motion by Danny Hale, seconded by Elizabeth Dow, the Select Board voted to adopt the changes in the traffic ordinance.

Select Board Reports - Elizabeth Dow reported that two people from New Hampshire visited the Historical Society and remarked how nice the Cemeteries looked.

New Business – Alberta Miller & Elizabeth Dow mentioned that First Friday is tomorrow, August 4th, 2017

Old Business – None

7:20 P.M. – Eric Remick, Select Board Chair, adjourned the meeting.

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

Minutes taken by: _____
Amanda Atwood, Payroll Administrator