

MINUTES SELECT BOARD MEETING
6:00 P.M. Thursday, January 19, 2017
HARDWICK MEMORIAL BUILDING
3RD FLOOR MEETING ROOM

Select Board

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

Others Present

Jon Jewett, Town Manager
Brittany Currie, Business Manager
Alberta Miller- Town Clerk
Aaron Cochran, Police Chief
Danny Hale, VASA
Mary Bartlett
Randi Hall
Doug Ronne

Others Present

Sean Thomas
Howard Allen
Dale Allen
Hunter Bourdeau
Jami Paquette
Joe & Sue Rivard
Tim Hall

6:00 P.M. – Select Board Chair to call regular Select Board meeting to order

6:00 P.M. – Select Board to consider approval of the minutes for its regular Select Board meeting of January 5, 2017

Upon motion by Elizabeth Dow, seconded by Kathleen Hemmens, the Select Board voted to approve the minutes of the regular Select Board meeting of January 5, 2017 with one change to the communication from the audience.

6:01 P.M. – Set/Adjust Agenda- None 6:01 P.M. – Communication from the Audience - None

6:01 P.M. – 6:09 P.M. Town Manager Report – Given by Jon Jewett

Jon reported about the Creamery Road building fire, Federal Economic Development Administration Grant, Town Audit, Ice Excavation, Town Report, High School Intern, and Road Name Request (See attached report for more information).

6:09 P.M. – 6:14 P.M. Road Foreman Report – Given by Jon Jewett

Jon reported about road work, equipment repair/maintenance, water system support, wastewater system support, and village support (See attached report for more information).

6:14 P.M. – 6:20 P.M Police Chief Report – Given by Aaron Cochran

Aaron reported about receiving the E-Ticket grant which would put the E-Ticket system into 3 cruisers. He reported about the upcoming event, Coffee with a Cop, where people can go and have a cup of coffee and a conversation with a cop. The first one will be on February 15th from 9-11 am at Connie's Kitchen and the second date will be announced and take place at the Village Diner. Eric suggested doing an earlier time the second time in order to catch people who go to work early. Aaron reminded people about the Open House on January 26th from 6-8pm at the Police Station. He also reported about NEKHS installing the teleconference in the Public Safety Building, although active it was not operating quite yet. He mentioned the drug dropbox was installed as well.

6:20 P.M. – 6:26 P.M 2nd Quarter Financial Update - Given by Brittany Currie

Brittany reported the 2nd quarter financials (See attached for more details).

6:26 P.M. – 7:10 P.M. Item # 1, Select Board to discuss concerns of VAST local snowmobile club and VASA, the ATV club about deep water bars allegedly cut into Buffalo Mountain Trail, encroachment on the right of way, improper signage on the Trail by a property owner.

Eric explained that the trail named Buffalo Mountain Trail, is a public trail, with a 3 rod-wide right-of-way and was used by a number of user groups such as ATVs, snowmobiles, and there is also someone who lives on the trail as well.

Timothy Hall, president of the local snowmobile club, stated there had been issues on that trail for a number of years and the current year there had been water bars put in after the groomer had gone through. He explained that this created safety issues for the snowmobilers and the club was responsible for the people's safety once the trails are declared open. He further explained that when the trails get disrupted, the liability then falls on to the person performing the action. Timothy said that since the ice is being bailed from the river, they closed that trail resulting in Buffalo Mountain Trail becoming the main trail and will have a lot of traffic, therefore the club felt the Town needed to step in and do something. The landowner also had placed No Trespassing signs and Trail Closed signs, which are illegal to place on a public trail. Additionally, the landowner had built his sugarhouse in the middle of the Town's right-of-way, according to a survey VASA had done.

Danny Hale, president of VASA, explained that he had gone up to put in a culvert to avoid the waterbars and there was no trespass signs up and a new stone wall approaching in the right-of way, causing the trail to be further moved onto someone else's property. He explained that it was uncomfortable to try and deal with the landowner as a single organization and felt it was time the Town stepped in. When Eric asked for a proposal, Danny requested the Town designate the right-of-way and stop the harassment from the landowner.

Sue Rivard, owner of Buffalo Mountain Powersports, said she constantly hears complaints from people trying to use the trail and being told they are not allowed. Jon suggested recommending people file a statement with the police, so they can build a criminal case. He also mentioned he was drafting a permit to allow Patten to do appropriate work to the trail, and nothing more.

Joe Rivard, owner of Buffalo Mountain Powersports, said the people who are complaining are not always locals and did not want to deal with filing statements, rather they would avoid the area which would result in a loss of income for local businesses. Sue added that locals who complain do not want to file statements as they are scared of Patten.

Danny said that this had been an ongoing issue and they wanted the Select Board to act on this matter. Alberta asked about the Town's liability if someone were to get hurt. Eric said that they would look into enforcing fines. Joe recommended setting the right-of-way, and Danny explained that it had been surveyed but not actually established, but would like this done for safety of the trails and riders. Eric stated the Town would start to explore the legal actions.

7:10 P.M. – 7:31 P.M Item # 2, Select Board to discuss Greensboro plan to charter the Caspian Beach Committee as an official Town of Greensboro Committee with budget and project planning activities on Hardwick Town property.

Shawn Thompson, member of the Greensboro Select Board explained that the drafted charter was part of a larger project to create sustainability in Greensboro, and the purpose was to specify what the Greensboro side of the Beach Committee was responsible for. He said the charter would help keep up with what is supposed to happen and how to fund it. Aaron explained that the Beach Committee was originally formed to ensure the Beach stayed mowed. Jon suggested that the Beach Committee create its own federal ID number instead of operating under the Greensboro EIN, as that is how the situation came about. Shawn explained the charter would protect both Towns and specify what each were responsible for. Aaron explained that he had just recently seen the charter and said that the committee was an independent group and should not belong to either Town, and his concern was that the charter would be created from a Town that didn't even own the land. Aaron stated that the committee was working just fine the way it operated now and wished it could stay that way and asked about what the Select Board wanted. Shari recommended to keep it a dual-Town committee and Jon recommended to keep things the way they were and just have Greensboro be the fiscal agent and to have the charter just state what already happens.

7:31 P.M. – 7:36 P.M. Item # 3, Select Board to consider approval of 3 year IBEW contract for the Highway Department bargaining unit.

Jon explained the three changes in the new contract included an average 3% raise over three years in the form of a specific dollar figure, call-in time being 3 hours instead of 2, with the exception of pumpstation alarm call-outs, and the employee contribution for insurance going from 16% to 17% over the 3 year period.

Upon motion by Kathleen Hemmens, seconded by Kory Barclay, the Select Board voted to approve the 3 year IBEW contract for the Highway Department bargaining unit.

7:36 P.M. – 7:37 P.M. Item # 4, Select Board to review and approve the Certificate of Highway Mileage Year Ending February 10, 2017.

Brittany explained that this certificate basically declared any road classification changes for the year, and with no changes the Board were signing off declaring the lengths of classes of roads were the same.

Upon motion by Elizabeth Dow, seconded by Shari Cornish, the Select Board voted to approve the Certificate of Highway Mileage Year Ending February 10, 2017.

7:37 P.M. – 7:40 P.M. Item # 5, Select Board to review and approve the 2017 Town Meeting Warning, to include a separate vote on cutting and replanting the Memorial Tree in the park.

Alberta presented the 2017 Town Meeting Warning (See attached for more information).

Upon motion by Shari Cornish, seconded by Kory Barclay, the Select Board voted to approve the 2017 Town Meeting Warning to include a separate vote on cutting and replanting the Memorial Tree in the park.

7:40 P.M. – 7:41 P.M. Item # 6, Select Board to consider appointment of Shari Cornish to CVSWMD as a backup representative to Nancy Kellogg.

Upon motion by Elizabeth Dow, seconded by Kathleen Hemmens, the Select Board voted to appoint Shari Cornish to be the backup representative for the CVSWMD Board.

7:41 P.M. – 7:44 P.M. Item # 7, Select Board to review and approve liquor and tobacco license(s).

Alberta presented a Second Class Liquor License for Tops Market and First Class Liquor License and Outside Consumption Permit for the American Legion.

Upon motion by Kory Barclay, seconded by Shari Cornish, the Select Board voted to approve the Second Class Liquor License for Tops Market.

Upon motion by Elizabeth Dow, seconded by Kory Barclay, the Select Board voted to approve the First Class Liquor License and Outside Consumption Permit for the American Legion.

7:44 P.M. – 7:52 P.M. Item # 8, Select Board to discuss advertisement for Town Lister Assistant.

Eric explained that the listers would like to train an assistant prior to the 3rd lister retiring. One approach was to reach out and get locals to come in and get trained. Another approach is to hire an assessor to do more of the work and keep the listers at a smaller role with stipends instead of an hourly wage. The Board decided they would start by advertising and see what they get for interest.

Select Board Reports- None

New Business- None

Old Business- None

7:53 P.M. - Eric Remick, Select Board Chair, adjourned the meeting.

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

Minutes taken by: _____
Brittany Currie, Business Manager