

**MINUTES SELECT BOARD MEETING**  
**6:00 P.M. Thursday, January 21, 2016**  
**HARDWICK MEMORIAL BUILDING**  
**3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR MEETING ROOM**

**Select Board**

Eric Remick, Chair  
Kathleen Hemmens, Vice Chair  
Lawrence Hamel  
Shari Cornish, late  
Elizabeth Dow

**Others Present**

Jon Jewett, Town Manager  
Alberta Miller, Town Clerk  
Brittany Cote, Business Manager  
Tom Fadden, Road Foreman  
Aaron Cochran, Police Chief

**Others Present**

Mike Bielawski-Gazette  
Michelle, Breonna & Cassidy Cochran  
Judy Bellairs  
Michael Glodgett & Atos  
Chris Tetreault & Kubo

**6:05 P.M.** – Eric Remick, Select Board Chair, called the regular Select Board meeting to order.

**6:05 P.M. – Approval of the minutes of the regular Select Board meeting of January 7, 2016 & Public Hearing of January 7, 2016.**

*Upon motion by Larry Hamel, seconded by Elizabeth Dow, the Select Board voted to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2016 regular Select Board meeting as written.*

*Upon motion by Kathleen Hemmens, seconded by Elizabeth Dow, the Select Board voted to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2016 public hearing as written.*

**6:06 P.M. – Set/Adjust Agenda** – Elizabeth asked to move item #1 to item #5 as Shari was going to be late.

*Upon motion by Elizabeth Dow, seconded by Kathleen Hemmens, the Select Board voted to approve the adjustments to the agenda.*

**6:07 P.M. - Communication from the Audience** – Breonna Cochran said hello and looked forward to seeing the new K-9 dog.

**6:08 P.M. – 6:16 P.M. Town Manager Report – Given by Jon Jewett**

Jon announced the date for the next Hardwick Community visit forum to be located in Hardwick and the next Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District (CVSWMD) meeting scheduled for the 27<sup>th</sup>, at the Memorial building. He also discussed various topics such as the South Main Street Sidewalk Improvements, hiring efforts for the Payroll and Benefits Administrator position, mailings for the Hardwick community visit forum, the new payroll system improvements, and health officer updates (See attached report for more details).

**6:16 P.M. – 6:24 P.M. Police Department Report – Given by Aaron Cochran**

Aaron reported and introduced the new K-9 dog (Kubo). Kubo was accompanied by K-9 Atos, Sergeant Glodgett and Officer Tetreault.

**6:24 P.M. – 6:32 P.M. Road Foreman Report – Given by Tom Fadden**

Tom reported his department's efforts at plowing snow, numerous equipment break downs and their efforts to repair trucks. He also mentioned a broken waterline and a plugged sewer line. Jon asked Tom how the

Highway Department schedules snow removal near the Hardwick Elementary School. Tom said they snow-blow a section of the sidewalks up onto the school's lawn. Tom also talked about previous meeting comments relating to the Highway Department's efforts to clean snow up around Town: Tom was very upset about comments on their scheduling to clean the streets. Eric said he would like to leave the time to clean streets up to Tom. Larry added that he would be glad to help the Highway staff clean around Town if they would ask him. Tom commented on how dedicated the road crew is and that during storm events they work a significant number of hours. He said that cleaning snow out of parking areas in Town works better at night when people are off the streets. He said cleaning streets during the day would require traffic control and more costs.

**6:32 P.M. – 6:37 P.M. Item #2. Select Board to review and approve the bond language for the improvements to the Church Street waterline.**

Eric provided brief details about the new waterline project planned for Church Street, which will loop all the way to Vermont Avenue. He also explained that the bond interest would be a negative 3% and would make the repayment amount less than what is currently being put away annually for the project. In Hardwick, the bond is approved by all voters, but paid back by the water utility customers.

*Upon motion by Kathleen Hemmens, seconded by Larry Hamel, the Select Board voted to approve the warning for the bond language for the improvements for the Church Street waterline.*

**6:37 P.M. – 6:42 P.M. Item #3, Select Board to review and approve the 2016 Town Meeting Warning.**

Alberta presented a draft for the 2016 Town Meeting Warning. She explained that there are a few extra articles and pages to allow for the exemption of properties from taxation for a period of 5 years. This includes the Knights of Columbus and the Masonic Lodge.

*Upon motion by Elizabeth Dow, seconded by Kathleen Hemmens, the Select Board voted to accept the wording for the 2016 Town Meeting Warning.*

**6:42 P.M. – 6:58 P.M. Item #4, Brittany Cote to provide the Select Board with a quarterly update on the Town financials.**

Brittany went over the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter budget figures. The report identified some areas that were a little above 50%, where they should be. She pointed out that the overall Town budget was in good shape (slightly above 50% of budget), due to staff turnover, the lack of a hard winter so far this year. (See attached for more details).

**6:58 P.M. – 7:00 P.M. Item #5, Select Board to review and approve 2<sup>nd</sup> Class liquor and tobacco license(s).**

Alberta explained that there would be only one license to approve and it was for a Class 1 Liquor License for the local American Legion. She reported no problems with the Legion.

*Upon motion by Larry Hamel, seconded by Kathleen Hemmens, the Select Board voted to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> Class Liquor License for the American Legion.*

**7:00 P.M. – 7:03 P.M. Item #1, Select Board to review and vote on the approval of petitioned amendments to the Town's zoning bylaws.**

Eric explained that it was agreed in general that the bylaws would be changed in large batches rather than

amending the Town’s zoning bylaws one or two at a time. Jon mentioned that Kristen Leahy, the zoning administrator, recommended to the Planning Commission that it break the updates into 3 manageable sections, which they have agreed to do. Kristen recommended that the current bylaw changes be voted down as the Planning Commission will be making changes to these particular bylaws as it moves ahead with the changes it plans to make over the next year.

*Upon motion by Kathleen Hemmens, seconded by Elizabeth Dow, the Select Board voted to accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission and voted not to update the bylaws until they do further work and have a larger batch of bylaws to work with.*

**Select Board Reports** – Eric reported that the Rural Development visit went great and was a great start. Larry reported that he attended a meeting to discuss a homeless shelter location near Morrisville. The proposed location being near an existing daycare may impact the final approval of the shelter unlikely.

**New Business** – Jon read aloud a thank you letter to the Police Department and another to the Fire Department thanking them for providing exemplary service during to different emergency situations. Also, Jon reported about the installation of new higher wattage LED lighting in the Memorial building conference room, which was initiated due to a request of HCTV.

**Old Business** – None

**7:12 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