

MINUTES SELECT BOARD MEETING
6:00 P.M. Thursday, July 27, 2017
HARDWICK MEMORIAL BUILDING
3RD FLOOR MEETING ROOM

Select Board

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

Others Present

Jon Jewett, Town Manager
Amanda Atwood, Payroll Administrator
Tom Fadden, Road Foreman
Aaron Cochran, Police Chief
Mike Sullivan, Hardwick Electric

Others Present

Lois Picker

6:03 P.M. – Danny Hale, Select Board Vice-Chair, called the regular Select Board meeting to order

6:03 P.M. – Select Board to consider approval of the minutes for its regular Select Board meeting of June 15, 2017

Upon motion by Elizabeth Dow, seconded by Kory Barclay, the Select Board voted to approve the minutes of the regular Select Board meeting of June 15, 2017 as written.

6:04 P.M. – Set/Adjust Agenda- Danny asked for item #1 to be moved to an executive session, in the fall, due to the specific dollar value of the museum artifacts.

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

6:05 P.M. – Communication from the Audience - None

6:05 P.M. – 6:19 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, Buffalo Mountain agreement updates, Economic Development Coordinator job description, Economic Development grant, Water Sanitary Survey, and the Section house (See attached report for more details).

6:19 P.M. – 6:26 P.M. Road Foreman Report – Given by Tom Fadden

Tom reported that winter sand samples have been taken and sent to VTRANS for gradation testing. He also reported that the highway department has been working on Town Farm Road due to a wash out. They have installed several culverts, crushed stone, hauled gravel, and repaired catch basins. Truck number 2 (chloride/salt truck) is down, but is being fixed, and should be returned the first week of August. Tom reported on water and wastewater system support. Lastly, Tom met with the state relating to the new storm water standards, and also had an inspection with VOSHA (See attached report for more details).

6:26 P.M. – 6:30 P.M. Police Chief Report- Given by Aaron Cochran

Aaron reported that they have picked up the new police car. After fixing the radios, and getting the car lettered, the car is now out on the road. The Police Department has received the E-ticketing program, which is now installed in the new car. The officers will have the opportunity to print out the tickets instead of hand writing them. This system is also set up to send the information to the court systems electronically, as necessary. Aaron also reported that there has been a recent burglary on Route 15 in which several thousand dollars of equipment was stolen. The COPS grant has been submitted and the Town won't know the results until September. Lastly, Aaron reported that the police department stopped a car which contained crack cocaine.

6:30 P.M. – 6:39 P.M. Hardwick Electric Report – Given by Mike Sullivan

Mike reported that the Wolcott hydro plant has generated almost a full years power so far due to the maintenance and upgrades, and will be a record year. Next, he reported that Hardwick Electric has been working on the Solar Development project and H11 project, and making changes as needed. With the Solar Development plan there will be a 3% increase in the cost in January 2019 and a 4% increase in cost in July of 2021. Hardwick Electric's new bucket truck will be arriving the first week in August. Finally, Mike reported that HED is 7% over budget in revenues and 8% under in operational expenses.

6:40 P.M. – 6:48 P.M. Item # 2, Complaint by a Hardwick Resident that the Village parking lot is being used as a roadway and that people are traveling at high rates of speed through the parking lot to avoid the traffic light. This resident wants something done about it to reduce the speed or stop the drive through traffic. Select Board to discuss options.

Hardwick Resident, Lois Picker, stated that the Village Diner parking lot is being used as a roadway to avoid the red light. She's had personal experiences where she's had to leap out the way to avoid cars traveling at high rates of speed. Thankfully she was not injured, but she is concerned that someone will get seriously injured, if this doesn't stop. Shari mentioned that there has been previous discussions and there should be a barrier put in place. Kory asked, if there is a barrier put in place, what would happen when the town crew had to plow. Danny mentioned that his biggest concern is safety. Kory suggested that the Town use the Bobcat to plow the driveway instead of a truck, that way the barrier can stay there year round. Aaron stated that this is a year round issue and he noted that the Police Department couldn't enforce it without an updated Traffic Ordinance.

Upon motion by Shari Cornish, seconded by Elizabeth Dow, the Select Board voted to authorize Jon and Tom to put a structure in the South Main Street driveway to stop traffic from entering.

6:48 P.M. – 6:50 P.M. Item # 3 Select Board to finalize 2018 Coin drop schedule. Action necessary.
Danny read the 5 requests that came in for the 2018 coin drop schedule. No drawing was needed.

Upon motion by Elizabeth Dow, seconded by Shari Cornish, the Select Board voted to accept the 5 coin drops for 2018 according to their requests.

6:50 P.M. – 6:51 P.M. Item # 4, Select Board to review and consider approval of water and sewer applications for Gabrielle Hopkins located at 181 VT RTE 14 South and for adding a bedroom to current home. Action necessary.

Upon motion by Shari Cornish, seconded by Elizabeth Dow, the Select Board voted to approve the water and sewer application for service for Gabrielle Hopkins' property on 181 VT RTE 14 South in Hardwick.

6:51P.M. – 6:52 P.M. Item # 5, Select Board to review and consider approval of water and sewer applications for Robert and Trina Henry – installing a mobile home on Caspian Avenue. This is a standard residential home connection for water and sewer. Action necessary.

Upon motion by Elizabeth Dow, seconded by Kory Barclay, the Select Board voted to approve the water and sewer application for service for Robert and Trina Henry's property on Caspian Ave in Hardwick, given the pending funds are approved.

6:52 P.M. – 6:58 P.M. Item # 6, Select Board to hear request from Mike Brochu to have the Town enter his property at 22 South Main to stabilize the Lamoille River bank to prevent damage to his garage.

Mike Brochu stated that with previous hurricanes and hard rain, the Lamoille River is deteriorating the

retaining wall causing cracks, damage, and shifting in the bank. He is concerned that this could affect his garage, and many other properties in the future. Rip rap rock could potentially be put in place to stop the bank from eroding. Danny mentioned that the Town would look at the river/wall to determine what the next step should be to fix this issue. Danny stated that he thought an engineer should evaluate the site and asked the Town Manager to look into it.

Select Board Reports - None

New Business – None

Old Business – Danny asked for an update on Delinquent Economic Loans, due to the concern of new businesses going into town. Jon reported that there he's going to be sending out a demand letter to the appropriate person.

Kory asked for an update on the insurance regarding the Town Garage, and what the timeline is. Jon stated that the Town has until October to get the project bid, and as of tonight, there has not been any action by the committee established to deal with it. Danny stated that taking the money is a real option at this point, but would like the committee to sit down to formalize the layout, design and the final process.

7:05 P.M. - Danny Hale, Select Board Vice-Chair, adjourned the meeting.

Minutes approved by: _____
Danny Hale, Vice- Chair of the Select Board

Minutes taken by: _____
Amanda Atwood, Payroll Administrator