

MINUTES SELECT BOARD MEETING
6:00 P.M. Thursday, March 17, 2016
HARDWICK MEMORIAL BUILDING
3RD FLOOR MEETING ROOM

Select Board

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

Others Present

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

Others Present

Mike Bielawski-Gazette
Robin Towne, All Metals LLC

5:58 P.M. – Eric Remick, Select Board Chair, called the regular Select Board meeting to order.

5:58 P.M. – **Approval of the minutes of the regular Select Board meeting of March 3, 2016.**

Upon motion by Shari Cornish, seconded by Kory Barclay, the Select Board voted to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2016 regular Select Board meeting as written.

6:00 P.M. – **Set/Adjust Agenda** – None

6:00 P.M. - Communication from the Audience – Alberta notified everyone that dog licenses are due on April 1, 2016. She also said there would be no rabies clinic at the fire station this year, but she would be available Saturday the 19th for registrations. Alberta noted that the veterinarian next door would have open clinic hours on Saturdays during March.

6:02 P.M. – 6:22 P.M. Town Manager Report – Given by Jon Jewett

Jon reported about a FEMA meeting he attended and upcoming meetings to discuss the water meter project and the new webpage. He also reported about items including the South Main Street sidewalk project, reappraisal, USDA Rural Development Grant, Buildings and General Services Grant, Flood Mitigation, Asset Management, Storm Water upgrades, Delinquent taxes, and Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (See attached report for more details).

6:22 P.M. – 6:35 P.M. Road Foreman Report – Given by Tom Fadden

Tom reported that the backroads have gotten bad due to the rapid spring thaw. Tom outlined a few incidences that occurred during the last two weeks including a broken waterline, trucks needing repairs, road repairs including Hardwick Farms Road, Montgomery Road and Town Farm Road. He said that once the weather dries out and the frost is gone, a number of roads are going to need repairs. The gravel pile the Highway Department had set aside at the Town Garage is gone, but H.A. Manosh has opened its gravel pit and the Town is hauling staymat for the on-going repairs. Tom noted that Mikes Gravel's truck is down again for a Pump problem that keeps repeating. This has been classified as a warrantee item. Additionally, the truck that Tod Ferland drives is also down due to a bad power takeoff unit. Eric asked Tom how the previous year's road repairs have been holding up. Tom said all of the spots where the Town invested heavily in the complete rebuilds, the roads are holding up really well. Tom explained that future road costs will be going up substantially as the Town will now need to meet the requirement of the State stormwater regulations. As a result, new ditches will need to be hydroseeded and some will have to be rock lined. Jon

explained that there are grants being allocated to Towns to help them inventory and classify road conditions. Kory asked what the costs were for the hydroseeder. Tom said that the Town pays a yearly fee to be part owner of the equipment collectively with towns from Lamoille County. Kory asked if this process would make the ditches last longer. Tom said no, that the winter sand and mud will still end up in the same place, but this work will stem some erosion problems. Eric said he would like to stay positive and work towards better ditching, and Tom said it is expensive and would eventually cost \$20,000 a year for the stone and materials.

6:35 P.M. – 6:46 P.M. Police Department Report – Given by Aaron Cochran

Aaron reported there were 257 police incidents in February. He noted that there were 2 major robberies in East Hardwick and Greensboro Bend that resulted in 4 arrests. Aaron said that the flood last month came as a total surprise. Aside from the flood - problems included icing roads, people getting stuck on Town Farm Road, plugged culverts, and other problems. Aaron provided a general update including: the Governor's Highway Safety Program equipment grant for \$8,000 this year and the Police/Fire Department basketball game to be held on April 2, 2016 by donation at Hazen Union High School.

Aaron brought up the Town Meeting discussion where several residents asked to have the police officers spend more time in the community. Aaron suggested the possibility of having a morning each month where residents could have coffee with a cop or he could have another open house at the Public Safety Building. Eric mentioned that they should coordinate and have an open house with the Hardwick Senior Center side of the building.

6:47 P.M. – 6:48 P.M. Item #1, Select Board to review and approve Liquor and Tobacco License(s). Alberta Miller to present the licenses for renewal.

Alberta reported that there were no problems with any of the establishments. The liquor and tobacco licenses to approve were for the House of Pizza-Class 1, the Hardwick Village Market & the Kwik Stop, both –Class 2 licenses.

Upon motion by Shari Cornish, seconded by Elizabeth Dow, the Select Board voted to approve the Class 1 liquor license for House of Pizza on Wolcott Street.

Upon motion by Shari Cornish, seconded by Elizabeth Dow, the Select Board voted to approve the Class 2 liquor licenses for Hardwick Village Market on Mill Street and the Hardwick Kwik Stop at the corner of West Wolcott Street and Route 14 North.

6:48 P.M. – 6:52 P.M. Item #2. Select Board to consider increasing specific zoning fees for 4 Lot Subdivisions and Public Hearings for Conditional Uses and Variances.

Jon explained that the increases are \$100 in two categories for special meetings and are necessary because the advertising is expensive and the Board members get \$25 per meeting. The Town now has two Boards, the Planning Commission and the Development Review Board and the costs are substantially higher. Additionally, each hearing requires advertising and the costs there are approximately, \$75 for each advertisement in the newspaper. Shari mentioned that there are open seats on both the Planning Commission and the Development Review Board.

Upon motion by Elizabeth Dow, seconded by Shari Cornish, the Select Board voted to increase the zoning fees for 4 Lot Subdivisions and Public Hearings for Conditional Uses and Variances as stated.

6:52 P.M. – 6:54 P.M. Item #3, Select Board to review and approve All Metals Recycling Certificate of Approved Location of a Salvage Yard. This is pursuant to 24 VSA, Sections 2251 to 2256.

Eric explained that this is a 5-year permit and asked Robin Young (owner) if there were any violations of State statute or Town Ordinances. Robin said that he was not aware of any problems. Aaron said that they work very well with the Police Department relating to stolen metal and other problems.

Upon motion by Elizabeth Dow, seconded by Kory Barclay, the Select Board voted to approve the All Metals location of a Salvage Yard.

6:55 P.M. – 7:12 P.M. Item #4, Select Board to consider estimates and approve purchase of new Town Plow Truck.

Tom explained to the Board that the Town plow trucks are replaced every 8 years and the truck that is being traded is currently broken down. Tom went over the 3 options (See attached for more information) for purchasing a new truck. Some estimates included a longer term warrantee. Brittany recommended the longer warrantee as the Town has used a short warranty on another truck in the past and it is a potentially significant cost savings for the Town. Kory asked if the lowest is always what is chosen, Tom said as long as there is a 7 year warranty, he doesn't care which one is chosen as they will all break down sooner or later, but the Town normally goes with low bidder. Elizabeth asked for Tom's opinion, Tom said he would like the cheapest-the International estimate. Kory asked about past repairs, if warranties would cover them and he wanted to know what kind of mileage is on the trucks when they are traded. Tom said the mileage is 60K on Todd's but it is more important to track the hours. Town trucks are normally low mileage, but very high hours and repair cost increase dramatically after 8 years of service.

Upon motion by Elizabeth Dow, seconded by Shari Cornish, the Select Board voted to approve the purchase of the International truck that Tom recommended from the bids he received.

7:12 P.M. – 7:15 P.M. Item #5, Select Board to approve water and sewer change for Bellavance Bros Properties, LLC, to add a small apartment to an existing residential property.

Jon explained that this application is just to make a single unit to a duplex, but no new connections are needed.

Upon motion by Elizabeth Dow, seconded by Kory Barclay, the Select Board voted to approve the water and sewer change for the Bellavance Property going from a single unit to a duplex.

7:15 P.M. – 7:21 P.M. Item #6, Select Board to consider “Non Displacement Policy” for VCDP and other similar projects.

Jon explained that when there are projects (VCDP) where tenants may be dislocated temporarily due the work, the Town is responsible to rehouse them during the project. Jon explained that when developers come forward with projects such as this, the Town needs to ask up front, if the company has a budget to relocate residents before the Town agrees to accept the project. Jon explained that he talked to Jim Lovinsky and Jim did not feel this would affect the current Evergreen Manor project.

Upon motion by Shari Cornish, seconded by Elizabeth Dow, the Select Board voted to not adopt the residential anti-displacement and relocation plan.

Jon explained that before they upload this, they would make sure to have in writing that Lamoille Housing was

prepared to deal with the cost of this and not put it on the Town.

Upon motion by Elizabeth Down, seconded by Shari Cornish, the Select Board voted to adopt the non-displacement policy under the conditions that the cost of housing of people does not fall on the Town budget or Town expense.

Select Board Reports – Shari asked to have members of the Downtown Commission on the agenda for the next Select Board meeting in April to make and report to the Board.

New Business – Shari reported that the Chamber of Commerce discussed that the tourist hut should be relocated downtown. They would like the Select Board to allow it to move into the parking lot near the Clip Joint. Shari asked the Chamber for the dimensions of the building, but said that she figured it would take up one parking space. Kory asked if someone worked in there during the summer. Shari said no, but this kiosk held supplies. Kory said he was concerned about it taking up a parking spot. Elizabeth said she would like to know more details and alternatives, for its ultimate location. She suggested that it could be located across from the Village Market.

Old Business – None

7:28 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