

**MINUTES SELECT BOARD MEETING  
6:00 P.M. Thursday, September 15, 2016  
HARDWICK MEMORIAL BUILDING  
3<sup>RD</sup> 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  
Aaron Cochran- Police Chief  
Tom Fadden- Road Foreman  
Mike Sullivan- Hardwick Electric

**Others Present**

Mike Bielawski-Gazette  
Rick Holton  
Coco Brown-Holton

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

**6:00 P.M. – Approval of the minutes of the regular Select Board meeting of September 1, 2016**

*Upon motion by Kathleen Hemmens, seconded by Elizabeth Dow, the Select Board voted to approve the minutes of the September 1, 2016 regular Select Board meeting as written.*

**6:01 P.M. – Set/Adjust Agenda** – Jon stated that he needed to add a Hardwick Electric Report and an item #5 to discuss the Heart of Vermont Chamber of Commerce banner.

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

**6:03 P.M. Communication from the Audience - None**

**6:03 P.M. – 6:13 P.M. Electric Department Report- Given by Mike Sullivan**

Mike reported about the office's new computer software and the new bi-directional meters for people who use net metering. He said the next step is to have CRC take over the call volume during power outages. Mike reported that the health insurance dispute ended favorably with all HED being able to join the same BCBS health plan that the Town of Hardwick staff were on. He also mentioned working on a State railroad lease in order to take down the car port and create a parking area for customers. Mike said the International truck had motor issues which were fixed and new issues since arose. He reported that Jasper Cellars were looking to expand, which would lead HED to do upgrades in Greensboro as well. Elizabeth asked for the status in the lawsuit against the accountants, and Mike said they are still in discovery so it would be a few months before any decision would be made. Eric thanked HED for completing the street light project.

**6:13 P.M. – 6:26 P.M. Town Manager Report – Given by Jon Jewett**

Jon reported about projects including the paving project, Woodbury mutual aid, financial audit, Hardwick/Greensboro police contract, fair housing training, and health officer training (See attached for more details).

**6:26 P.M. – 6:37 P.M. Road Foreman Report – Given by Tom Fadden**

Tom reported recent work including paving, installing catch basins, hauling gravel, grading roads, chloriding, and hauling sand. He reported that all equipment were running, but Mike's truck would be needing body work shortly and Tod's new truck still wasn't in. Kory asked why a sweeper for the Bobcat was purchased, and Tom responded that the old one had been down for a few years and this would save time as one guy could sweep instead of three guys shoveling by hand. Tom explained that this attachment would go onto the current machine or any new Bobcat/Toolcat they purchased.

**6:38 P.M. – 6:45 P.M. Police Department Report- Given by Aaron Cochran**

Aaron reported about the Governor's Highway Safety Program including the equipment part of the grant, with which he purchased a \$5,000 in-car camera, personal breath tests, flashlights, traffic safety vests, and fatal vision goggle kits. He further reported that the Labor Day campaign included 462 contacts, which consisted of 11 saturation patrols and one checkpoint, and no DUIs resulting. Next he warned people of the string of car break-ins in East Hardwick recently and asked people to lock their car doors. Aaron reported about the upcoming block party at Atkins Field on Saturday from 4pm-dusk. Lastly, he reported that all radar units were calibrated on Tuesday and were all in working order.

**6:46 P.M. – 7:03 P.M. Item # 1, Select Board to revisit an ordinance regulating solid waste stored on private property within the Town of Hardwick.**

Jon explained some changes he made to the draft ordinance including stating that farmers can have nonfunctional vehicles for parts so that they are not targeted throughout this change (See attached for more details). Shari recommended that during budget time, the Board should consider adding money to the Green-Up day budget for next year to allow a second day of free trash removal in Town, and Brittany suggested a new line item as Green-Up day is a Recreation budget item. Jon also mentioned the change of the penalty from 8% to 5% to lessen the burden on taxpayers, but Brittany suggested asking Alberta how and what the tax program could do as the rates may have to be the same as taxes depending on the what the program would allow. Eric suggested that the Board wait another meeting before voting on this ordinance to allow more public comments and time for Jon to discuss the rates with Alberta.

*Upon motion by Shari Cornish, seconded by Kory Barclay, the Select Board voted to amend the drafted version of the solid waste ordinance with changing the penalty and interest to coincide with the delinquent tax penalty and interest rates. This motion failed, proposing to revisit at the next meeting.*

**7:03 P.M. – 7:07 P.M. Item # 2, Select Board to address use of Town property and the need for a policy.**

Jon reported that there had been a complaint of a RV being parked behind the fire station this summer for an extended period of time and explained that without having a policy against this there was nothing the Town could do. Tom explained that the Fire Department had given this family permission to park their RV there in July while they visited family in Town and they had left and came back due to a family health situation. Kathleen said since this was one time thing, the Board should not make a policy regarding this issue. The Board took no action and moved on.

**7:07 P.M. – 7:41 P.M. Item # 3, Select Board to discuss issues with the Bobcat Skid-steer**

Eric explained that the current bobcat body is in rough shape due to the salt usage in the front. Now that the equipment is 6 years old, they have to decide whether to repair the equipment or trade for a newer version of this equipment. Kory stated he did not feel the Toolcat would be the right machine for the Town. Brittany reviewed the opinions from nearby towns (see attached sheet for more information). Tom explained that Toolcat size was the same of the current Bobcat except the length being 4 feet longer and slightly taller and explained that the value of trade-in of the current Bobcat was only \$6,500 whereas it would be at least \$5,000 to repair. Kory recommended running it until it died, and Elizabeth asked what they would do if it broke in the middle of the winter. Jon recommended that if the Board wanted to keep the current one, it should be repaired and ready for winter. Tom agreed and said he would not go into the winter with an unreliable piece of equipment so either the Select Board decided on a new one or he would fix the current one. Shari said that she would like Tom to try out a Toolcat before they voted either way to see if he felt it would work for the Town.

*Elizabeth Dow made a motion for the Select Board to vote to leave the decision up to Tom and Jon to make the most logical decision. Motion withdrawn.*

*Upon motion by Elizabeth Dow, seconded by Shari Cornish, the Select Board voted to have Tom try out the Toolcat and return with a recommendation .*

**7:41 P.M. – 7:43 P.M. Item # 4, Select Board to consider declaring Karmic Loop (looping off from Town Farm Road) , a Private Road.**

Brittany explained that currently this is a driveway, but needed to be voted on as an official private road for E9-1-1 purposes.

Upon motion by Kathleen Hemmens, seconded by Shari Cornish, the Select Board voted to designate the road off Town Farm Road as a private road and name it Karmic Loop.

**7:43 P.M. – 7:46 P.M. Item # 5, Select Board to consider allowing the Chamber of Commerce to hang their banner for the craft fair on the swinging bridge for one year.**

Shari explained that the new banner the Chamber purchased had broken when being hung on the electric lines and with there not being time enough to buy a new one, they asked to hang it on the swinging bridge for this year only.

Upon motion by Elizabeth Dow, seconded by Shari Cornish, the Select Board voted to allow the Chamber of Commerce to hang their banner on the hanging bridge until after the craft fair was over.

**Select Board Reports-** Eric reported that the Pumpkin Walk would be October 9<sup>th</sup> on the trails, 6pm.

**New Business -** None

**Old Business –** None

**7:46 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