

SPECIAL SELECT BOARD MEETING
10:00 A.M. January 26, 2018
HARDWICK MEMORIAL BUILDING, Town Manager's Office

Select Board

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

Others Present

Jon Jewett, Town Manager
Sarah Waring, Executive Director CAE

Others Present

10:03 A.M. – Select Board Chair Eric Remick called the special meeting to order.

10:04 A.M. – No minutes were approved

10:06 A.M. – Set/Adjust Agenda – the Select Board voted to add an “Executive Session Legal” to discuss options relating to Town owned property located at 415 VT RT14 South in the Town of Hardwick.

10:08 A.M. – Communication from the Audience - none

10:09 A.M. Item #1, Select Board to consider a grant of funds from the Town's economic development fund to the Yellow Barn project, that is a joint venture between the Town of Hardwick, the Center for an Agricultural Economy (CAE), and the Northeast Vermont Development Association (NVDA). The grant will help the Town and the CAE leverage up to \$100,000 worth of USDA Rural Business Development funds to help perform further planning on the Yellow Barn Business Expansion facility.

Sarah Waring gave an overview of the Yellow Barn project, describing what it might look like, explaining the feasibility study and efforts to bring the right business partners into the project to help ensure its success. She described the various steps of the process and team members' efforts to secure the property and plan for funding of the project's different stages.

Eric discussed funding and the overall effort of the project team to find the most appropriate economic development project/area and explained the need for the Town to continue its economic development efforts to help the Town improve the number of available jobs and boost the Town's Grand List.

Jon gave a highly informative overview of the Town's overall economic development efforts and discussed funding plans for the Yellow Barn. He also included future (preliminary) plans to work on the property the Town owns on RT14 on the south side of Hardwick. Jon asked the Select Board to consider approving a grant of \$25,000 to match a request of federal money from the USDA Rural Business Development program. There was some additional discussion among Board members.

Upon Motion by Elizabeth Dow, seconded by Danny Hale, the Select Board voted to unanimously to approve granting \$25,000 from the Town's Economic Development fund to support the Town's application for funding with the USDA Rural Business Development program.

10:35 A.M. Upon motion by Danny Hale, seconded by Shari Cornish, the Hardwick Select Board voted to go into Executive Session, Legal, to discuss legal details relating to tax sale property to include the Town Manager.

10:47 A.M., Out of Executive Session - no decision was made.

10:48 A.M., Eric adjourned the special meeting of the Hardwick Select Board.

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

Minutes taken by: _____
Jon Jewett, Town Manager