

MINUTES REGULAR SELECT BOARD MEETING
6:00 P.M. THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2023
MEMORIAL BUILDING
20 CHURCH ST. 3RD FLOOR AND VIA ZOOM

Select Board

Eric Remick, Chair
Ceilidh Galloway-Kane
Elizabeth Dow
Shari Cornish
Danny Hale

Others Present

David Upson Jr., Town Manager
Amanda Fecteau, Payroll Administrator
Tom Fadden, Road Foreman
Mike Henry, Police Chief
Joseph Rossi, Police Officer

Others Present

Ken Wetherell
Roger Prevot, HED

Regular Meeting

6:00 P.M. – Eric Remick, Select Board Chair, called the meeting to order.

6:01 P.M. – Set/Adjust Agenda- Item #6 Select Board to review the SE Group Proposal and authorize the Town Manager to acknowledge and accept Pedestrian Bridge and Park Phase 2.

Upon motion by Danny Hale, seconded by Elizabeth Dow, the Select Board voted unanimously to approve the adjusted agenda as stated.

6:02 P.M. – Communication from the audience – Ken Wetherell stated that a section of the Rail Trail behind the Yellow Barn on Route 15 is shut down. Ken presented to the Select Board an application to allow users to temporarily use Route 15 from Wright Farm Road to the Rail Trail intersection just past Log Yard Drive.

Upon motion by Elizabeth Dow, seconded by Shari Cornish, the Select Board voted 4-0 to authorize Eric Remick to sign the application. Danny Hale abstained from voting.

6:08 P.M. – Select Board to approve the minutes of the Regular Select Board meeting of May 4, 2023

Upon motion by Ceilidh Galloway-Kane, seconded by Elizabeth Dow, the Select Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the Regular Select Board meeting of May 4, 2023.

6:08 P.M. – 6:14 P.M. Town Manager Report- Given by Eric Remick

Eric reported the Vermont Drinking Water Source Revolving Fund application was submitted, electrical service for the Library is in process, the sidewalks on West Church and North Main Streets will be closed during the Library construction this summer. Please take caution and avoid that area. He also reported that Truline Land Survey reached out to survey the Town's property on Carey Road. The Select Board unanimously agreed to have the Town Manager move forward with this survey. Next, the Community Development Coordinator and the Town Manager will be meeting with the SE Group on May 24. See the Town Manager's report for more information.

The Select Board requested that the Library attend a future meeting to talk about the expansion project. Tom reported that he met with Gravel Construction, and electrical personnel about the Library, and the project will

start after Memorial Day.

6:14 P.M. – 6:19 P.M. Road Foreman Report – Given by Tom Fadden

Tom reported that they have been grading, line painting, hauling winter sand, hanging up the banners and American Flags throughout downtown, and taking care of a few water and sewer issues that have occurred. He also reported that street sweeping and brush cutting will begin Monday, May 22. The new excavator will also arrive on Monday May 22, and he reported that the new F550 is in the process of being built.

Eric asked about the sidewalks near Brickhouse Road in East Hardwick. Tom mentioned that the Town Manager is working on this currently.

Lastly, Tom mentioned that Hardwick Fire Department responded to a house fire on Brush Street recently. He wanted to thank Chief Henry and the Hardwick Police Officers that helped that night. Chief Henry was able to have an officer stay throughout the night with Tom to secure the building, and Tom really appreciated the help. Mike responded that he also wanted to thank Tom and the fire personnel that assisted that night. Mike stated that the fire departments did a phenomenal job, and they were able to put the fire out quickly. The teamwork was great that night!

6:19 P.M. – 6:28 P.M. Hardwick Police Department Report - Given by Police Chief Mike Henry

Officer Joseph Rossi spoke first. He has been with the Hardwick Police Department for about three years. Officer Rossi often visited the schools while on duty and had lunch with the students. He made a huge impact on the students, and the students made an impact on him as well. He stated that Hardwick is a nice little Town, and it has been a pleasure to work for this community. Unfortunately, due to some injuries he received while serving our country, he must retire and leave the department. He took a moment to thank Chief Henry and stated that he had done a magnificent job. The Select Board thanked Officer Rossi for his time and dedication. Officer Rossi will be missed, and we all wish him nothing but the best in his future. Chief Henry also thanked Officer Rossi for his service and dedication.

Chief Henry reported that Officer Barnard has been working on computer crimes and is currently working on an international investigation that has around three hundred victims.

The Hardwick Police Department has ordered their electric bike. They have been patrolling the Village and the Rail Trail.

6:28 P.M. – 6:42 P.M. Hardwick Electric Department Report - Given by Roger Prevot

Roger Prevot reported that Hardwick Electric Department (HED) will be putting an EV charging station located at the HED's main building on North Main Street. This will be installed in the first week of June.

Roger also reported about Purchased Power and how the revenue is below budget due to the hard winter; however, they are now starting to save power again. Wolcott Hydro and the H11 project are starting to produce more power. The winter months reflect the budget differently than the spring and summer months, and this is something that HED is trying to work on and balance.

Next, they are outsourcing the installation of the Fiber.

HED had a Natural Resource inspection done, and the inspection went well.

Lastly, Roger stated that Hardwick Electric Commissioners meetings are public meetings, and anyone is welcome to come. There is an in-person and a zoom option. The meetings are also on their website.

6:43 P.M. – 6:45 P.M. Item #1 Select Board to approve a change to the Traffic ordinance specifically Article VII Speed Regulations and Article VIII Penalties

Mike would like to make a minor change. Glenside should be 25mph, not 30mph, and should be placed in the Urban Compact section. The public hearing will be held June 15 at 5:30 P.M.

Upon motion by Danny Hale, seconded by Elizabeth Dow, the Select Board voted unanimously to approve the changes, including the change that was mentioned today.

6:46 P.M. – 6:47 P.M. Item #2 Select Board to review and approve the Service Line Inventory Loan Application for the VT Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (to be 100% forgiven after project is complete)

Upon motion by Danny Hale, seconded by Elizabeth Dow, the Select Board voted unanimously to approve the Service Line Inventory Loan Application for the VT Drinking Water State Revolving Fund.

6:47 P.M. – 6:49 P.M. Item #3 Select Board to review and agree to the terms and conditions of the Municipal Policies and Codes (MP-1) for the library's VCDP grant

Upon motion by Ceilidh Galloway-Kane, seconded by Danny Hale, the Select Board voted unanimously to approve the terms and conditions for the Municipal Policies and Codes for the Library's VCDP grant.

6:49 P.M. – 6:54 P.M. Item #4 Select Board to review paving bids received and select a Contractor to use for our summer paving project and authorize Town Manager to execute contract

North Main Street and Vermont Ave are the roads that are scheduled to be paved this year. However, due to the Library project, Tom would like to see the paving project start in August or September.

Upon motion by Danny Hale, seconded by Elizabeth Dow, the Select Board voted unanimously to approve J. Hutchins for our summer paving, and authorize the Town Manager to execute the contract.

6:54 P.M. – 6:55 P.M. Item #5 Select Board to approve the FY24 Lamoille County Sheriff's Department dispatch contract for police and fire departments

Upon motion by Ceilidh Galloway-Kane, seconded by Elizabeth Dow, the Select Board voted unanimously to approve the FY24 Lamoille County Sheriff's Department dispatch contract.

6:55 P.M. – 6:58 P.M. Item #6 Select Board to review the SE Group proposal

The Town Manager and the Community Development Coordinator will meet with the SE Group and further discuss the proposal.

Upon motion by Shari Cornish, seconded by Elizabeth Dow, the Select Board voted unanimously to authorize the Town Manager to acknowledge and accept the Pedestrian Bridge and Park phase 2 project including any changes that occur during the meeting.

Select Board Reports:

- Eric Remick reported that the Yellow Barn New Market Tax Credit (NMTC) closing is scheduled for May 25, 2023. As soon as the closing happens, a notice to proceed will hopefully be issued and the project can move forward.
- Elizabeth Dow reported that the Historical Society is considered a trail head for the Rail Trail, and she would like the Town to provide some picnic tables, bike racks, porta potty's and stamatt. The Town Manager said that the ordering of some of the supplies will have to wait until the new fiscal year in July. However, he mentioned that the Community Development Coordinator is also working on this project. Michael Renaud is going to remove some dangerous trees and clean up some brush in that area as well.
- Shari reported that she, Tracy Martin, and Elizabeth Dow attended an Outdoor Recreation and Historic Preservation event last week in Grand Isle. They discovered that there will be more VOREC grants available.

New Business:

- David mentioned that the Varsity Baseball team has a game on Monday, May 22 in Montpelier. This is a night game, under the lights, at the Montpelier Recreation Field. This is where the Vermont Mountaineers play. Tuesday, May 23 is their last home game, and it is Senior Night.
- Tom reported that Monday, May 22, Hardwick Fire and Rescue will be doing a mock accident on the Rail Trail. Please be advised.

Old Business: None

7:15 P.M. Eric Remick, Select Board Chair, adjourned the meeting.

Minutes taken by: _____
Amanda Fecteau, Payroll Administrator

Minutes approved by: _____
Eric Remick, Select Board Chair