

MINUTES REGULAR SELECT BOARD MEETING
6:00 P.M. THURSDAY, February 19, 2026
HARDWICK MEMORIAL BUILDING
20 CHURCH ST. 3rd FLOOR AND VIA ZOOM

Select Board

Eric Remick, Chair
Ceilidh Galloway-Kane, Vice Chair
Shari Cornish
Tim Ricciardello
Danny Hale- *Absent*

Others Present

David Upson, Town Manager
Amanda Fecteau, Payroll Administrator
Tonia Chase, Town Clerk
Mike Henry, Police Chief
Kristen Leahy

Others Present

Larry Fliegelman
Andrew Gilbert
Bruce Larrow
Izaak Whitehouse

Regular Meeting

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

6:00 P.M. – Set/Adjust Agenda – Item #5 needs to be removed and added to the next agenda, and the executive session needs to be changed from a personnel matter to a potential litigation matter, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313, to include the Town Manager.

Upon motion by Ceilidh Galloway-Kane, seconded by Shari Cornish, voted to approve the amended agenda as stated.

6:02 P.M. – Communication from the audience – None

6:02 P.M. – Select Board to approve the minutes of the Regular Select Board meeting of February 5, 2026

Upon motion by Tim Ricciardello, seconded by Shari Cornish, the Select Board voted to approve the minutes of the regular Select Board meeting of February 5, 2026, as written.

6:02 P.M. – 6:06 P.M. Town Manager Report – Given by David Upson

David reported that the Union negotiations continue to move forward. Eric asked about the proposed length of the new contract, and David confirmed that the term remains set at three years.

Planning for the Spring Fest fundraiser is progressing, with the fundraising letter currently being finalized and expected to be sent out soon.

There continues to be regular meetings about the Hardwick Essential Services Complex, and they continue working on the format of fundraising and potential grants to support the project.

The Fire Station project is advancing to the next stage, with ongoing negotiations taking place with FEMA. Biweekly meetings continue to support progress and coordination.

A Select Board candidates forum is scheduled for this Saturday, February 21, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Parker Ladd Community Room located at the Jeudevine Memorial Library.

Lastly, the Health Center is evaluating options to maintain pharmacy services. The Town is actively working to assist and support these efforts.

6:06 P.M. – 6:07 P.M. Road Foreman Report – Given by David Upson

Crews have been actively managing winter operations, including moving snow and maintaining safe road conditions including salting and sanding, and performing maintenance on equipment.

The Town House was opened, and the heat has been restored.

Late last week, a sewer issue occurred on Perry Lane, which required assistance from Manosh to address and resolve the problem.

6:07 P.M. – 6:08 P.M. Police Department Report – Given by Mike Henry

Mike reported that operations have been running smoothly. One officer is currently in week three at the academy and is doing very well. In addition, officers have been actively conducting VAST patrols.

Hardwick Electric Department Report – No Hardwick report was given.

6:08 P.M. – 6:11 P.M. Item #1 – Select Board to consider approving a revised Personnel Policy- *Action needed*

See attached document to explain the changes made to the personnel policy.

Ceilidh asked for clarification regarding extra pay for covering additional work when an employee is absent. David explained that additional pay is provided hourly for the extra workload, with the amount negotiated on a case-by-case basis.

Upon motion by Tim Ricciardello, seconded by Shari Cornish, the Select Board voted to approve the revised the Personnel Policy.

6:11 P.M. – 6:12 P.M. Item #2 – Select Board to consider approving a Tier 2 Manufacturing Cannabis License renewal for The Clean Cannabis Company – *Action needed*

Upon motion by Tim Ricciardello, seconded by Ceilidh Galloway-Kane, the Select Board voted to approve a Tier 2 Manufacturing Cannabis License renewal for The Clean Cannabis Company.

6:12 P.M. – 6:13 P.M. Item #3 – Select Board to consider approving a Retail Cannabis License Renewal for The Wick Cannabis Market (Formally Known As: The Cannabis Shop)- *Action needed*

Upon motion by Tim Ricciardello, seconded by Shari Cornish, the Select Board voted to approve a Retail Cannabis License Renewal for The Wick Cannabis Market (Formally Known As: The Cannabis Shop).

6:13 P.M. – 6:14 P.M. Item #4– Select Board to consider approving a liquor and tobacco license for Tops Market, LLC – *Action Needed*

Upon motion by Tim Ricciardello, seconded by Shari Cornish, the Select Board voted to approve a liquor and tobacco license for Tops Market, LLC.

Item #5 – Select Board to consider approving the final version of the Mill Street Scoping study – *This item was removed.*

6:14 P.M. – 6:17 P.M. Item #6 – Select Board to consider approving the proposal from NEK Comfort LLC for the cellulose insulation MERP projects (grant funded) in the amount of \$100,920 and authorize the Town Manager to execute a contract – *Action needed*

Shari stated that there was insulation that was placed in the Town House recently and asked if that new insulation was going to be removed. David said yes. Shari felt concerned that it was a waste of money, but David mentioned that the company wants it to all be the same insulation grade.

Upon motion by Ceilidh Galloway-Kane, seconded by Tim Ricciardello, the Select Board voted to approve the proposal from NEK Comfort LLC for the cellulose insulation MERP projects (grant funded) in the amount of \$100,920 and authorized the Town Manager to execute a contract.

6:17 P.M. – 6:19 P.M. Item #7 – Review change of job title from Zoning Administrator to Zoning & Floodplain Administrator/ Resilience & Adaptation Coordinator and consider approving the updated job description – *Action needed*

David explained that Kristen has been doing both jobs since the 2023 Flood, so the Town should honor the change.

Upon motion by Tim Ricciardello, seconded by Shari Cornish, the Select Board voted to change the job title from Zoning Administrator to Zoning & Floodplain Administrator/ Resilience & Adaptation Coordinator and approved the updated job description.

6:19 P.M. – 6:21 P.M. Item #8 Select Board to consider providing a letter of support for AWARE for the Vermont Women’s Fund grant, and authorize the Town Manager to sign the letter (sample letter provided)- *Action needed*

Ceilidh asked what the funds are going for and David confirmed operations.

Shari asked about the grant application and David stated that a grant application is only needed if the Town is the one applying. In this case, the Town is not the one applying, the Town is only doing a letter of support.

Upon motion by Tim Ricciardello, seconded by Shari Cornish, the Select Board voted to provide a letter of support for AWARE for the Vermont Women’s Fund grant, and authorize the Town Manager to sign the letter.

6:21 P.M. – 6:25 P.M. Item #9 Select Board to consider 0.01 miles for the small cut through between Moulton Ln and Richardson Road to be added to the Town Highway Map- *Action Needed*

This was brought to our attention by the state as they are trying to catch the minor cut throughs that have been missed in the past. There are no issues with this particular cut through.

Upon motion by Tim Ricciardello, seconded by Ceilidh Galloway-Kane, the Select Board voted to add 0.01 miles for the small cut through between Moulton Ln and Richardson Road to the Town Highway Map.

Select Board Reports: None

New Business: Ceilidh wanted to express the Town's appreciation to Eric for being on the Select Board for the past 14 years. Eric has given so much dedication to this Town.

Old Business: Ceilidh encouraged residents to come to Town Meeting. Tim encouraged residents to come to the Select Board Forum this coming Saturday. Shari mentioned that Maya McCoy wrote an article in the Hardwick Gazette this past week regarding Town Meeting and encouraged residents to read it as it has valuable information.

6:25 P.M. *Upon motion by Ceilidh Galloway -Kane seconded by Tim Ricciardello, the Select Board voted to enter Executive Session pursuant to 1 VSA 313 for potential litigation to include the Town Manager.*

6:44 P.M. *Upon motion by Shari Cornish, seconded by Tim Ricciardello, the Select Board voted to exit Executive Session. No action taken.*

6:44 P.M. Eric Remick, Select Board Chair, adjourned the meeting.

Minutes taken by: _____
Amanda Fecteau, Payroll Administrator

Minutes approved by: _____
The Select Board Chair