

MINUTES REGULAR SELECT BOARD MEETING
6:00 P.M. THURSDAY, April 16, 2026
HARDWICK MEMORIAL BUILDING
20 CHURCH ST. 3rd FLOOR AND VIA ZOOM

Select Board

Ceilidh Galloway-Kane, Chair
Shari Cornish, Vice Chair
Tim Ricciardello
Larry Fliegelman
Derek Richardson

Others Present

Amanda Fecteau, Payroll Administrator
Tonia Chase, Town Clerk
Tom Fadden, Road Foreman
Diane Grenkow, Library Director

Others Present

Danny Hale
Will Marlier
Joe Nudell
Hannah Redmon
Dede Stabler
Peggy Henry

Regular Meeting

6:00 P.M. Ceilidh Galloway-Kane, Select Board Chair, called the meeting to order.

6:00 P.M. – Set/Adjust Agenda – None

6:00 P.M. – Communication from the audience – None

6:01 P.M. – Select Board to approve the minutes of the Regular Select Board meeting of April 2, 2026, and Special Select Board meeting minutes of April 13, 2026

Upon motion by Shari Cornish, seconded by Derek Richardson, the Select Board voted to approve the minutes of the regular Select Board meeting of April 2, 2026, and the minutes of the special Select Board meeting of April 13, 2026, as written. Tim abstained.

6:02 P.M. – 6:08 P.M. Hardwick Road Foreman Report- Given by Tom Fadden

The crew has been grading Mountain View, Hopkins Hill, Bunker Hill, West Hill, Bridgman, and Porter Brook, as well as Hardwick Farms. They have also been hauling in sand and other materials as needed.

Street sweeping is underway in the village; however, the current street sweeper has not been performing well, so another unit will be scheduled before Memorial Day. Maintenance has been completed on both the loader and grader.

There have been a few minor sewer issues, along with a water tap completed at the Swinging Bridge site. An issue at the Putnam Pump Station has been resolved, and residents now have water pressure restored.

Crosswalks will not be painted on South Main Street until construction is finished. Depending on traffic, the crosswalk near the post office may still be completed. Crosswalks on Wolcott Street, North Main Street, and near Buffalo Mountain Store are also planned to be completed.

Shari expressed concern that people are parking in the single lane, noting that the existing white lines may be giving a misleading impression that parking is allowed. She asked about the likelihood of covering the lines. Tom responded that the lines were painted yellow previously and will look further into the issue. Shari also asked whether "No Parking" signs could be placed on the jersey barriers, which Tom agreed to investigate.

Ceilidh raised concerns about pedestrian safety near the Village Diner, noting that the area presents a blind spot. Tom and David will follow up with CCS to determine what appropriate measures can be implemented to improve safety.

No Hardwick Electric Report was given.

6:09 P.M. – 6:15 P.M. Item #1 – Diane Grenkow to give a Jeudevine Memorial Library Quarterly update

Diane Grenkow, Library Director, gave a quarterly report on the Jeudevine Memorial Library (JML). Please see the attachments for further details.

Diane also stated that the library has distributed a survey to Select Board members and staff and plans to follow up with additional surveys for the Friends group and Trustees, as well as one for the general public, to gather input on how JML can improve its services.

Larry asked whether there was a fee for commercial groups. Diane stated that if a group is charging a fee, they must pay \$50; otherwise, use of the space is free, in accordance with current policy.

Ceilidh asked about the ongoing HVAC issue. The architect working at the library hired a consultant to investigate the source of the issue. The first step was to drain the coolant system, which indicated this was not the issue. They are now looking into installing a sensor. There are several moving parts involved, and no clear timeline has been established. Ceilidh also asked whether the cost is being covered by the town, and it was confirmed that it is not.

Shari mentioned the idea of moving Select Board meetings to the library. Ceilidh noted that this has not been fully discussed. Tim added that it would depend on HCTV. Ceilidh suggested either adding it as a future agenda item or discussing it further at the retreat.

6:15 P.M. – 6:16 P.M. Item #2 – Select Board to consider approving renewals of a couple liquor and tobacco licenses - *Action Needed*

Upon motion by Shari Cornish, seconded by Tim Ricciardello, the Select Board voted to approve the renewals as listed.

First Class license for: Hardwick Post No. 7 American Legion Inc.

Second Class Licenses for: Global Montello Group, Corp. d/b/a Jiffy Mart #457

Third Class Licenses for: Hardwick Post No. 7 American Legion Inc.

Outside Consumption Permit for: Hardwick Post No. 7 American Legion Inc.

Tobacco License: Global Montello Group, Corp. d/b/a Jiffy Mart #457

Tobacco Substitute Endorsement: Global Montello Group, Corp. d/b/a Jiffy Mart #457

6:16 P.M. – 6:19 P.M. Item #3 – Select Board to consider approving a banner application for Hardwick's Annual Springfest– *Action needed*

Upon motion by Tim Ricciardello, seconded by Larry Fliegelman, the Select Board voted to approve the banner application for Hardwick's Annual Springfest.

The location was discussed due to the construction project, and David and Tom will work with CCS and HED to determine exact location.

6:20 P.M. – 6: 21 P.M. Item #4 – Select Board to complete the PM-1 Grant Agreement resolution for the CDBG-DR planning grant through VCDP which authorizes the Town Manager to sign the grant agreement – *Action needed*

This was discussed at a previous Select Board meeting, but the grant agreement needs to be signed.

Upon motion by Tim Ricciardello, seconded by Larry Fliegelman, the Select Board voted to approve the PM-1 Grant Agreement resolution for the CDBG-DR planning grant through VCDP, which authorizes the Town Manager to sign the grant agreement.

6:21 P.M. – 6:56 P.M. Item #5 – Select Board to review and consider approving the Landowner Permission Form to support the Orleans County Natural Resources Conservation District in applying for and administering grant funding for the design and implementation of the clean water project at Caspian Beach (Town of Hardwick). – *Action needed*

Will gave a presentation. Please see attachments for more details.

On page 6, Ceilidh asked if the 148lbs figure is specific to the 34-site area and Will clarified yes, that it does not include the beach. Shari asked whether there are active plans to move forward with the 34 sites, and Will confirmed that there are, noting he is currently managing at least three projects on different scales.

Discussion on page 12 focused on the proposed walking path. Shari asked about the material, and Will indicated it would be wood. Shari questioned why wood was being chosen over alternatives like stamatt or other non-slip materials, expressing concern about slickness and long-term durability. Will responded that treads would be added and that other solutions could be considered if needed. Ceilidh also asked about the granite blocks, noting they appear tight and asked for more clarity on the design and overall vision, including whether Will is seeking Board feedback. Will stated he is open to feedback in any form, including email. Dana has mentioned holding a charrette to further refine the design. Will added that while some granite blocks may

be moved, most will remain in place. Shari also asked whether the Beach Committee has been involved, and Will confirmed that they have.

On page 13, Larry expressed concern about the proposed shrubs between the sand and grass, noting that many people currently sit on the granite blocks to watch the water, children, and sunsets. He questioned whether the design could be adjusted to preserve that experience. Will responded that adjustments can be made but noted that the plantings are part of the recommended, fundable lakeshore buffer practices. He has consulted with the state about possibly using lower-growing shrubs or flowering plants, though species selection may impact project outcomes. Derek suggested that maple trees might be a better option.

On page 15, Ceilidh confirmed that the grant would not create a financial obligation for the Town which Will confirmed that it is not mandatory. Larry emphasized the importance of a design that improves water quality without creating a significant visual or functional change for the community. Will noted that this has been a guiding principle throughout discussions, with a focus on keeping the project minimally invasive. The anticipated cost to the Town of Hardwick is minimal, limited primarily to permitting, which is expected to be under \$1,000 depending on requirements.

Upon motion by Tim Ricciardello, seconded by Shari Cornish, the Select Board voted to approve the Landowner Permission Form to support the Orleans County Natural Resources Conservation District in applying for and administering grant funding for the design and implementation of the clean water project at Caspian Beach.

Ceilidh added that if the grant is approved, it should return to the Board to discuss strategies for community engagement. Will noted that if the grant is not awarded, they will pursue another round of funding. He also stated that he will continue coordinating with David and Ceilidh as the project moves forward.

6:56 P.M. – 7:16 P.M. Item #6 – Select Board to discuss and finalize the Buffalo Mountain Forest Steering Committee Creation & Governance draft. – *Action needed*

Ceilidh reviewed the draft, outlining key components including the 17-member structure, scope of work, project timeline, expectations of members, and the community review process.

Shari raised a question about the committee's reporting requirements to the Select Board. Tim noted that the draft states the committee reports to the Select Board; however, Shari suggested adding quarterly reporting. Larry suggested that the Board liaison provide quarterly updates to the Select Board regarding the project.

Danny asked whether any Select Board members had reviewed the conservation easement planned for the property. Ceilidh noted that she has not but encouraged everyone to read it. Hannah clarified that the conservation easement draft is currently underway and will be similar to Wolcott's conservation easement. In response to a question about timeline, Hannah stated that the lawyer has prepared a template and the draft should be available soon.

Upon motion by Tim Ricciardello, seconded by Larry Fliegelman, the Select Board voted to approve the Buffalo Mountain Forest Steering Committee Creation & Governance with the addition of quarterly reporting on page nine under Decision Structure.

The Board then discussed the job description draft. It was agreed that applicants who have already applied should receive both the interest form and the job description.

Joe Nudell asked about setting a deadline for applications. Ceilidh noted that no deadline is currently included in the document. Larry suggested aligning the deadline with when the committee is expected to begin work, while Tim proposed either setting a deadline or keeping applications open until positions are filled.

Hannah explained that in order to close on the property in 2026, a management plan must be approved. If the plan is still in progress, a 90-day extension may be granted.

Larry asked about appointing members who have already applied on May 21. A special Town Meeting is scheduled for May 19, and the Board agreed to set an application deadline of May 15 for staff to create the agenda for May 21, while still focusing on duties for the Town Meeting. Joe Nudell asked if there would be a minimum quorum required for the steering committee to conduct business, and Ceilidh said that the document did not outline a number. However, Larry said that it would default to 50% of the total number of members.

7:17 P.M. – 7:29 P.M. Item #7 – Select Board to discuss common ground rules for the May 19 Town Meeting

Derek asked whether a time limit should be set for each article. Shari responded that the Town follows Roberts Rules, and Tonia confirmed that the meeting must be run by a moderator, noting that the established rules already govern this process.

Shari proposed holding an informational Select Board meeting on the 7th at 5:30 PM, formatted similarly to an annual Town Meeting. Ceilidh suggested involving the Town Manager or Town Clerk to help clarify what the meeting will look like and to ensure residents understand what they are voting on. The Board also discussed logistical details, including refreshments and childcare. Tim stated he does not believe it's the Town's responsibility, while Larry suggested it could help increase attendance. Ceilidh proposed a small budget for refreshments, noting it may demonstrate that the Town is responding to community feedback. Shari asked if HCTV could broadcast live. Joe Nudell clarified that residents must be physically present in the room to vote, and the Board confirmed this. Derek did not agree with the budget for food. Tim will reach out to the Civic regarding childcare options, Ceilidh will contact Neighbor to neighbor for refreshment options, and Ceilidh will also reach out to Bryan at Caja Taqueria regarding a potential taco truck.

7:29 P.M. – 7:25 P.M. Item #8 - Select Board to discuss options for replacing Truck#2 in FY27

Tom's truck is on the schedule to be replaced in FY27.

Tom received three quotes:
Lamoille Valley Ford: \$63,410
McGee Cars: \$63,045
Hayes Ford: \$63,930

The platform body including the plow and wing will come from Allied Equipment for \$48,500. For an additional \$18,000 the Town will purchase a sander and sprayer from Gravel Construction, which makes the total cost of the truck around \$130,000. The Town has \$150,000 in the budget.

Tim asked about the brine system, and Tom confirmed that this truck would be able to work for the system.

Upon motion by Tim Ricciardello, seconded by Derek Richardson, the Select Board voted to authorize Tom and the Town Manager staff to purchase the truck from Lamoille Valley Ford.

Select Board Reports

- Shari reported that the Hardwick Downtown Partnership has created a Downtown construction timeline which will be hung up around the downtown business. They have also created a map for parking.

New Business – none

Old Business

- Joint Executive Session with HED May 13 6 P.M. – 8 P.M. on the third floor of the Memorial Building
- Select Board Retreat June 23 12 P.M. – 4 P.M. on the third floor of the Memorial Building
- Shari would like to discuss the Recreation Policy at a future Select Board meeting.

7:42 P.M. Ceilidh Galloway-Kane, Select Board Chair, adjourned the meeting.

Minutes taken by: _____
Amanda Fecteau, Payroll Administrator

Minutes approved by: _____
Ceilidh Galloway-Kane, Select Board Chair