

DRAFT

Regular meeting of the Hardwick Select Board at 6:00 P.M., March 25, 2004, in the 3rd floor meeting room at the Memorial Building.

Members Present:

Todd Deuso  
Tod Delaricheliere  
Patty Coultas  
Kristina Michelsen

Others Present:

Dan Hill	Joyce Chase
Rogers Lecours	Lisa Sammet
Dan Hale	David Hale
Anne Batten	Cecile Dyke
Eleanor McGuillin	Jim Dziobek
Lewis Shattuck	Alan May
Bob Moulton	Gary Bellavance
Kris Camara	Bob Mayhew
Nathan Meunier	Larry Patoine

6:02 P. M. Meeting called to order.

Tod Delaricheliere moved to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2004 meeting.

Patty - Seconded  
Motion passed unanimously

Re: Lisa Sammet and three of the library trustees were present to discuss their ten year plan for the building.

Lisa spoke on behalf of the trustees. She explained that ADA needs to be addressed, a plan has to be developed. Lisa feels that it will probably end up being a five year plan rather than a ten year plan. The new access they plan on the building would be in the back of the building. They also want to redo their floors. Dan said that we will be looking at our Capital Plan. Starting in 2007, \$10,000.00 will be put toward the library annually as the plan now reads..

Lisa also requested that the tree in front of the library be removed because it is dead. Dan said that the road crew will take care of the removal of the tree.

Lisa requested that a member of the Select Board member be appointed to the library Building Committee.

Lisa brought up that Dawn Dreschler has resigned. Jerry Schneider has said that he would like

to be appointed to fill her position until the end of her term.

Tod Delaricheliere moved and Patty seconded to appoint Jerry Schneider to fill the vacant spot on the library Board of Trustees. This will be until Town Meeting 2005.

Motion passed unanimously

Page 2

March 25, 2004

Patty moved and Tod Delaricheliere seconded to appoint Kristina Michelsen to be on the Library Building Committee.

Motion passed unanimously

Cecile wanted to have it known that she is very much in agreement that the library needs to be expanded.

## 2. All Terrain Travelers:

Dan Hale and David Hale were present to ask permission to use Buffalo Mountain Road and Wright Farm Road.

Dan spoke up that the snow machine club have permission to use these two roads until April 15, 2004.

Dan Hale stated that the snow machine trails are no longer being groomed. He is looking for permission to use these two roads prior to the April 15th date to have 4 to 5 people from the ATV club access their trails so that they can work on them.

Dan Hill said that he had received a call from a representative of the snow machine club who expressed concerns of too much ATV use on their trails prior to the April 15th date.

There was discussion that there were no complaints received about the ATV clubs use of these roads from the past year.

Tod Delaricheliere made the motion and Patty seconded to allow the ATV club use of Buffalo Mountain Road and the Wright Farm Road for the period April 15, 2004 through December 15, 2004.

Dan Hale reassured Kristina when she asked that the ATV users would not use the roads during regular mud season.

Dan Hale said that the ATV club is hoping not to have to ask to run on any class 3 roads in the future.

Chief Dziobek said that the ATV club gave him no problems and that they did a good job.

Motion passed unanimously

Dan informed the Board that the Woodbury/Hardwick railroad issue involving approval with Swenson Granite is moving forward.

Page 3  
March 25, 2004

Re: Update on Construction Projects:

- The new box culvert for Smith Farm Road will be going out for bid as soon as the State commits funding.
- We have a verbal okay from the State to put in the Gabian Basket on Bunker Hill. We will go to bid as soon as we get a Stream Alteration Permit.

Re: Fast Trash Depot:

Dan attended a Zoning meeting on March 23, 2004 . The result of that meeting was that we received a Conditional Use Permit to Operate.

Re: Training Schedules:

Dan informed the board of the training's that the road crew members would be attending. He wanted to add to what he had typed in his Managers Report that Val Kinsey would be working toward her Sewer Certification.

Re: Town Meeting Issues:

Agreement with Police Officers: Dan handed a copy of the Town of Hartfords\_ Employment Agreement to the board. He said that this agreement looks like it would fit our needs. This may require Union negotiation.

Jim expressed his opinion that improvements need to be ongoing. He feels that we need to keep in mind what draws employees to another department. Morale issues are very important.

He feels that we have a good sharp crew now. As far as solving issues that were brought up at Town Meeting, We need to continue to do the best we can, and we need to accommodate the best we can. When our full timers are back from the Police Academy in eight weeks, things will be able to be addressed better. He also added that the Reparative, Restorative Justice group that we are involved with will be assigning individual officers to their own neighborhood to take care of issues.

Jim informed the board that on June 1st another Citizens Police Academy will be starting up. This lasts for a period of ten weeks. The purpose of this is to educate citizens as to what Police Officers do and why, and what's real and what isn't.

Todd Deuso said that he wants us to proceed with the employment agreement as soon as possible.

This would be in place for future officers who will be attending the Police Academy. Dan and Jim will check into using this agreement.

Page 4  
March 25, 2004

Todd Deuso asked Jim if he would add the number of hours that the officers do foot patrol on the bottom of his monthly activity report. He is not interested in details, just total of hours.

Tod Delaricheliere said that he feels that the Police Department has improved in the past three to four years and he is receiving positive feedback.

Gary Bellavance said that it would look good if an officer could be at the Elementary School in the morning at crossing time.

It was discussed and decided to have the board continue checking into the possibility of Regional Policing and to have the board hold public meetings when the information is pulled together, particularly financial information.

Todd Deuso asked Jim what could be done to increase morale in the Police Department. Jim expressed his opinion that it needs to be made clear that all the officers are innocent bystanders involving the alleged allegations that are now being dealt with.

. Jim extended an invitation to the board members to visit the police department, meet with the officers, and also to go on patrol with them .

Bob Moulton asked the board if they would take a look at where we stand on costs for the police department.

Todd Deuso asked the reporters that were present from the Hardwick Gazette and the Caledonian Record to print in their papers that the officers have nothing to do with the present allegations.

Re: Road Issues:

Alan was in attendance to talk about issues that were raised at Town Meeting concerning the Highway Department. He explained what happened to his truck on January 12, 2004 involving tire problems on his truck. He explained that at no time did his tires fly off; he did have to have a wrecker service tow his truck back to the garage which was the correct thing to do.

Alan explained that the town has a list of roads that are Salt roads. This list was developed several years ago. This year Mackville Road was added to that list.

Alan also explained that he prioritizes what jobs need to be done and sometimes there isn't enough time to complete everything that people want to see done.

Page 5  
March 25, 2004

There was a discussion on the Towns\_ loader situation. Alan feels that we need two loaders to work efficiently. Gary Bellavance expressed his opinion that he also feels that the town needs to have two working loaders. One of the towns loaders is old and not currently working.

It would cost between \$12,000. To \$16,000 to have the transmission repaired. As this piece of equipment is 20 years old it has been decided not to fix it.

Gary Bellavance did say that Center Road was in the best condition that he has seen it in years. Dan said that a conscience decision was made to salt Center Road when appropriate..

In summary:

- Most of the past summer we were down two people.
- We also have two new people to train.
- We also have three firemen on our crew that are allowed to leave work to go on any and all fire calls.
- Choices are made dependent on the budget; we have to prioritize and live within our means.
- We are responsible for the water department and the sewer department, not just roads.
- It was recommended that we keep a man in the grader on a full time basis.
- Dan will be looking into having our salt purchases put out for bid.
- Work on projects that we have planned to do, weather dependent, vacations, injuries, etc.
- Continue to fill out daily maintenance logs for the vehicles.

Lew Shattuck suggested that it become a standard format at Town Meeting to have the Chief of Police and the Road Foreman give a speech to let people know what they have been doing throughout the year. Lew also said that he feels that Alan and his crew do an excellent job. He expressed his opinion that Alan is a fantastic road foreman.

Todd Deuso would like to see this discussion continue at a meeting in May. He would like to put on the table considering having a sub committee established to set criteria for the road crew.

Re: Liquor Licenses:

Tod moved and Patty seconded to approve a 1st Class liquor license for the Old Inn Restaurant.  
Motion passed unanimously

Page 6  
March 25, 2004

Tod moved and Patty seconded to approve a 2nd Class liquor license for Hay\_s Convenience Store.

Motion passed unanimously

Tod moved and Patty seconded to approve a 2nd class liquor license for Halls Handy Mart.  
Motion passed unanimously

RE: Bayley Hazen Road:

Dan has had conversations with all of the property owners on the Bayley Hazen road as well as Dennis Michaud who utilizes the road a great deal. These people do not want any major projects done on this road. Our original plans for this road will be scaled down.

RE: Zoning By-Laws:

Kristina moved and Tod seconded to hold a public hearing at 6:30 P. M. On April 22, 2004 to make amendments to the Zoning By-Laws.

Motion passed unanimously

RE: Traffic Study: Dan informed the board that there is a traffic study being conducted on Route 15 from Hardwick to Chittenden County. It encompasses traffic lights, ditching, etc.

RE: Dan informed the board that he has received a copy of Denis Michauds State Recertification document for land application of sewage on his property for the towns\_ review.

RE: Calvin Maskell is in the process of opening a gravel pit on the Dusty Swamp Road. He is now in the ACT 250 permit process. The town will be purchasing some gravel from this pit on a limited basis.

Re: Meeting Schedule:

The next two meetings will be April 8, 2004 and April 22, 2004. May meetings will begin at 7:00 P. M.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Select Board Reports: None.

Page 7

March 25, 2004

7:50 P. M. Tod moved and Patty seconded to go into Executive Session to discuss Revolving Loans, to include Town Manager, Daniel Hill.

Motion passed unanimously

7:55 P. M. Open Session.

Tod moved and Patty seconded to loan an additional \$4,000.00 to Robin LeBlanc from the Revolving Loan Fund.

Motion passed unanimously

7:56 P. M. Tod moved and Patty seconded to go into Executive Session to discuss Litigation, to include Town Manager, Daniel Hill.

Motion passed unanimously

8:13 P. M. Open Session: No action taken.

8:14 P. M. Tod moved and Patty seconded to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel, to include, Town Manager, Daniel Hill.

Motion passed unanimously

9:04 P. M.. Open Session.

9:04 P. M. Tod moved to adjourn the meeting. Patty seconded.

Motion passed unanimously

Minutes approved by:

---

Todd Deuso, Chair

Minutes taken by: Joyce Chase