

A regular meeting of the Hardwick Select Board was held on Thursday, August 5, 2004 at 6:00 P.M. in the 3rd floor meeting room of the Hardwick Memorial Building.

Members Present: Others Present:
Charles Volk Daniel Hill, Lynda Brochu
Patricia Coultas Roger LeCours, Nathan Meunier,
Todd Deuso Ed Keene, Tami Fleury, Sandra Howard
Kristina Michelsen

6:03 P.M. Todd called the meeting to order.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM AUDIENCE: None

MANAGERS REPORT

Wastewater Permit Renewal Challenges

Dan told the Board that the Town of Hardwick wastewater discharge permit expires at the end of this year. He said that his office has received the draft of the proposed new 5 year permit. It includes a major new requirement. Hardwick will have to comply with the new regulations concerning phosphorous removal by December 31, 2007. The initial capital costs of implementing the infrastructure to deal with phosphorous will be paid by the State. It is expected the legislature will appropriate the funding for these initial costs in FY '05. If they do not, Hardwick's compliance requirements will be adjusted. Dan said that while it is helpful for the State to assume the startup costs, Hardwick's ongoing operating costs will be increased significantly once we deal with phosphorous. Dan estimated the cost to be \$35,000 to \$40,000 in additional money after the initial upgrade. We will have to purchase additional chemicals and Ken will have additional work to do. The big factor though is that by removing phosphorous from the outflow, it will remain in our lagoons. This will reduce the effectiveness of the microorganisms that currently help to dissolve the sludge so we will produce more sludge and have to clean out our lagoons more often. Dan said he would push to clean out our lagoons with government money and upgrade our aeration system. The Board discussed the new wastewater changes.

6:09 P.M. Kristina Michelsen arrived

Dan told the Board that he has spoken with Rural Development about potential funds to fix the Wolcott Street sewer line. Unfortunately, this money will have to come from the users as any grant money was contingent upon our user fees being higher than they are.

Police Department Appointment

Dan said that James Wells has been hired as a new Special Police Officer. The Board discussed why the police department would need Specials in the department.

6:11 P.M. Patricia Coultas moved to appoint James Wells as a Special Police Officer.

Kristina seconded
Motion passed

unanimously
Audit Agreement

Dan had a new agreement with Sullivan & Powers to perform Hardwick's auditing for the next year. Their price is \$8,300.00. Dan said that if acceptable, the Board needs to authorize and sign. This is \$600.00 more than last year but less than the \$9,240.00 his office had budgeted. Dan and Lynda Brochu both recommended signing the agreement with Sullivan Powers and Company.

6:14 P.M. Charles Volk moved to sign the audit agreement with Sullivan, Powers & Co.

Patti seconded
Motion passed

unanimously
Winter Sand Bid Award

Dan told the Board that he has the bid results for our winter sand. Dennis Demers Trucking Sand and Gravel bid \$2.45 per cubic yard and Davis Contracting Service bid \$2.45 per cubic yard. Dan recommended awarding each business one half of the contract.

6:15 P.M. Kristina moved to authorize Dennis Demers Trucking Sand and Gravel and Davis Contracting Service each provide one half of our sand needs for the coming year.

Patti seconded
Motion passed

unanimously
Heating Fuel Bid Award

Dan told the Board that we received two bids for our winter heating fuel. Ultramar Energy bid \$.17 per gallon markup over bidder's cost and Bourne's Fuel bid \$.069 per gallon markup over bidder's cost.

6:17 P.M. Patti moved to accept the bid of Bourne's Fuel in the amount of \$.069 per gallon markup over bidder's cost.

Hardwick Electric Line of Credit

Dan had the Hardwick Electric Departments annual Line of Credit note in the amount of \$300,000.00. It has already been signed by the electric commissioners.

6:18 P.M. Patti moved to sign the Hardwick Electric Department line of credit in the amount of \$300,000.

**The Board discussed the line of credit.
unanimously**

**Kristina seconded
Motion passed**

Hardwick Electric Report

Dan told the Board that they had received is the latest monthly Hardwick Electric report from Eric Werner to the electric commissioners in their Board packets.

Hardwick Police Report

Dan told the Board that they had also received, in their packet, the June Police Activity report.

6:19 P.M. Charles moved to approve the regular Select Board minutes of July 15, 2004.

**Kristina seconded
Todd - Yes
Charles - Yes
Kristina - Yes
Patti - Abstained**

Dan told the Board that he has an updated Vermont Rapid Response Plan for the Board to sign. NVDA is in the process of updating all the surrounding area towns.

6:20 P.M. Patti moved to accept the updated Vermont Rapid Response Plan.

unanimously

**Charles seconded
Motion passed**

Dan told the Board that Bernard Shatney will be leaving the road crew effective September 1st. Todd Deuso had requested Dan look into hiring a company to cut road side brush. Dan said he could scrape together the money if the Board wanted to consider hiring an outside contractor to perform this service, rather than our road crew. The Board discussed this idea. They asked Dan to meet with the contractor and bring the Board more details.

Dan told the Board that the Gabion Basket project on Bunker hill had begun and that the road would be closed at least another week. He also told the Board that there would be a traffic counter on Brown Farm road next week. He advised the Board that he would be on vacation starting Monday, August 9th for one week.

Interviews for the Planning/Zoning Board

Ed Keene, Tammy Fleury and Sandra Howard asked to be considered for the open position on the Planning/Zoning Board. This position is to replace Joel Behrsing whose term ended June 30th. This term will last for 4 years ending on June 30, 2008. The Board interviewed Sandra Howard first, then Tami Fleury and then Ed Keene. The interviews wrapped up at 7:10 P.M.

Results of Hydrant Flushing

Dan told the Board that last week the town completed a very successful and long awaited flushing of our water system. It was completed in about 4 days instead of the planned 5 days, thereby reducing the inconvenience to most customers. The Board discussed the hydrant flushing.

7:18 P.M. Kristina moved to go into Executive Session for deliberations to include Dan Hill, Town Manager, and Lynda Brochu, Administrative Asst.

**Patti seconded
Motion passed**

**unanimously
7:25 P.M. Open session**

7:25 P.M. Kristina moved to appoint Ed Keene to the Planning/Zoning Board for a four year term ending on June 30, 2008.

Patti seconded

Motion passed

unanimously

7:26 P.M. Kristina moved to go into Executive Session to discuss the Revolving Loan Fund to include Dan Hill, Town Manager and Lynda Brochu, Administrative Asst.

**Patti seconded
Motion passed**

unanimously

7:50 P.M. Out of Executive Session - No action taken

8:55 P.M. Patti moved to adjourn the meeting.

**Kristina seconded
Motion passed unanimously**

Minutes approved by:

Todd Deuso, Chair
Minutes taken by: Lynda N. Brochu