

A regular meeting of the Hardwick Select Board was held on Thursday, June 23, 2005 at 6:00 P.M. in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor meeting room of the Hardwick Memorial Building.

Members Present:

Patricia Coultas  
Brad Ferland  
M. Tod Delaricheliere  
Charles Volk  
Todd Deuso

Others Present:

Daniel Hill, Lynda Brochu  
Judy Nudd, Roger LeCours,  
Toni May, Phyllis Zechinelli,  
Evan Detrick, Al Pratt, June Cook,  
Duane Wells, Sandy Howard,  
Anne Batten, Burt Bellavance,  
Aaron Hill, Greg Parkhurst, Paul Cillo,  
Laurent Bellavance, Richard Brochu,  
Patricia and Ken Williams, Mike Miller,  
Dave Merrill, Gary Richardson

6:00 P.M. M. Tod Delaricheliere called the meeting called to order.

6:00 P.M. Brad Ferland moved to approve the regular Select Board minutes of June 9, 2005

Patricia Coultas seconded  
M. Tod - Yes  
Brad - Yes  
Patti - Yes  
Charles Volk - Yes  
Todd Deuso - Abstained

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: Dan added four items to the agenda: two notes to be signed, one for the Fire Truck (approved at Town Meeting) and a Line of Credit, new infrastructure limits for GASB and setting a July meeting schedule. Todd asked to add a discussion concerning the Hardwick Gazette headline in reference to the story about the Board decision not to take action concerning the petition for Australian Ballot voting for appropriation requests.

6:02 P.M. Charles moved to accept the additions to the agenda as presented.

Todd seconded  
Motion passed unanimously

COMMUNICATIONS FROM AUDIENCE: None

MANAGER'S REPORT

Bike Path Presentation

Evan Detrick from DuBois & King was present to discuss the proposed new path leading from the swinging bridge to the community garden. Evan introduced himself

and gave a background of the proposed project. Evan explained that 80% of the project's cost would be coming from Federal Funds through the VTrans. Evan reviewed the steps needed to develop this project. He explained that much work was needed this year in order to start construction next year. He reviewed the bridge repairs, discussed how the crushed stone path would follow Daniels Road, follow Highland Avenue, cross West Church Street and end at the Community Garden. This part of the path is considered phase 1. Evan discussed the sign age needed, trees being removed and different widths of the path. Evan spoke about the benefits of the project. Dan explained to the Board and the people in the room that because the cost estimate was completed two - three years ago, the town plans on starting the project at the swinging bridge and going as far as they can with the money that has already been set aside. Evan explained that one of the next steps would be obtaining an up to date cost estimate. The Board asked questions concerning the easement process and impact for river ice removal.

Judy Nudd asked about the Right of Way going across her family's property by the Cottage Street bridge. She had concerns about where the actual ROW was located and wanted this issue cleared up prior to construction. Dan and Al Pratt, from VTrans, agreed that ROW clearance, including title searches, would also be one of the next steps before too much money was invested in the path. Duane Wells asked that the 8 trees that were being considered for removal be marked or flagged so that he could see which ones they were. Duane also asked Dan when Daniels's Road was being paved. Dan said he would be revisiting the three year paving schedule this Fall, but it would not be taking place within the next year. Brad asked about maintaining the path. Evan explained that it would wash out occasionally, but that the crushed stone solidifies pretty well and maintenance would be approximately every two years. Dan said that he wants the adjoining land owners happy before we go any further. Al Pratt warned Dan, the Board and the people in the room that the Town could discuss the property, but could not negotiate with the land owners - unless the landowners were willing to donate the easement.

#### Library Update

Anne Batten was present to update the Board on the fund raising efforts taking place and to recommend Patricia Laggis be approved to fill the Library Trustee position vacated by Jerry Schneider.

6:59 P.M. Patti moved to appoint Patricia Laggis to the Jeudevine Library Board of Trustees to serve the remainder of Jerry Schneider's term, which ends at Town Meeting 2006.

Brad seconded  
Motion passed unanimously

The Board signed the \$220,000 note with Union Bank to purchase an Aerial Ladder Truck as voted on at Town Meeting. The rate is 5% and the term is ten years.

The Board signed the \$25,000 note with Union Bank to purchase a tractor/brush mower as voted on at Town Meeting. The rate is 3.75% and the term is three years.

Dan presented the Board with a line of credit request. Every year the town opens a line of credit in case of cash flow constraints, before tax money starts coming in to the Town Clerk's office.

7:02 P.M. Patti moved to approve the Union Bank line of credit in the amount of \$200,000 with an interest rate of 3.00% and a term of one year.

Charles seconded  
Motion passed unanimously

The Board and Dan discussed the inventory asset limit and agreed to increase the inventory limit for infrastructure for GASB 34 requirements to \$5,000.

7:04 P.M. Todd moved to increase the inventory asset limit, to comply with GASB 34, to \$5,000.

Patti seconded  
Motion passed unanimously

Interviews for Hardwick Electric Board of Commissioners and Hardwick Planning/Zoning Board

Bill Richardson was not present for his interview to the HED Board. Bill was the only candidate for the Hardwick Electric Board and was the incumbent.

7:05 P.M. Todd moved to appoint Bill Richardson to the Hardwick Electric Board of Commissioners for a two year term.

Brad seconded  
Motion passed unanimously

M. Tod asked the Board whether they wanted to ask the candidates not being interviewed to step out of the room. The Board agreed this was a good idea.

7:07 P.M. Richard Brochu was interviewed by the Board.

7:15 P.M. Paul Cillo sat before the Board and withdrew his application for reappointment. Paul explained that he has other commitments. He reviewed with the Select Board what has gone on over the last four years. He also advised them of upcoming legislative changes, which will require additional bylaw changes in the coming months. The Board thanked Paul for his service.

7:23 P.M. Gary Richardson was interviewed by the Board.

7:31 P.M. Mike Miller was interviewed by the Board.

7:45 P.M. M. Tod moved to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel.

Brad seconded  
Motion passed unanimously

8:07 P.M. Open Session

M. Tod thanked the candidates for both positions. He also thanked Paul Cillo for his service on the Zoning/Planning Board.

8:08 P.M. Todd moved to appoint Mike Miller and Steve Meyer to the Zoning/Planning Board.

Patti seconded  
Motion passed unanimously

The Board and Dan discussed the upcoming meeting schedule. It was decided to meet once in July on the 14<sup>th</sup> and then meet on August 5<sup>th</sup>. M. Tod asked Dan to arrange the August 5<sup>th</sup> meeting to start at the Town Garage. Todd Deuso asked that an Executive Session to discuss personnel be added to the July 14<sup>th</sup> meeting schedule.

Select Board Reports: Patti advised the Board that she sat in on a meeting with NVDA to discuss the Regional Police Study grant. Representatives from Woodbury and Greensboro were there along with herself, Dan and two NVDA representatives Walden did not send a representative. NVDA will be putting together a draft of the grant application.

Dan advised the Board that by-directional hydrant flushing will be occurring the week of July 11<sup>th</sup>.

The Board discussed fuel oil bids.

Charles updated the Board on the Hardwick/Woodbury bike trail. A survey has been completed over the contested right of way. One corner of the Willey's house is on the ROW. The Willey's do not wish to have motorized vehicles traveling so close to their home, so they are offering an alternative path. A surveyor will be looking at the alternative path and then an attorney will review the new ROW alternative. Charles said he wanted to go on the record as saying he preferred to buy out the Willey's and move them rather than go around them. He added that this is his intention in the long run.

New Business: None

Old Business: Brad asked Dan that once we comply with GASB 34, whether the town will then have an qualified opinion on it's audit. Dan said regardless because we own the electric department and they are on a calendar year, we will never have a

completely clear audit.

8:21 P.M. Todd moved to go into Executive Session to discuss legal to include Dan Hill, Town Manager.

Charles seconded  
Motion passed unanimously

8:35 P.M. Out of Executive Session - No action taken

8:36 P.M. Todd moved to go into Executive Session to discuss Union Negotiations to include Dan Hill.

Patti seconded  
Motion passed unanimously

8:54 P.M. Out of Executive Session - No action taken

8:54 P.M. Todd moved to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel to include Dan Hill.

Brad seconded  
Motion passed unanimously

9:07 P.M. Out of Executive Session

9:07 P.M. M. Tod moved that Toni May's letter, concerning Dan Hill's performance, not be placed in Dan's personnel file.

Todd seconded  
Motion passed unanimously

9:08 P.M. Todd moved to adjourn the meeting.

Patti seconded  
Motion passed unanimously

Minutes approved by:

M. Tod Delaricheliere, Chair  
Minutes taken by: Lynda N. Brochu