

A regular meeting of the Hardwick Select Board was held on Thursday, January 26, 2006 at 6:00 P.M. in the 3rd floor meeting room of the Hardwick Memorial Building.

Members Present:
M. Tod Delaricheliere
Patricia Coultas
Brad Ferland

Others Present:
Daniel Hill, Lynda Brochu
Nathan Menuer, Roger LeCours,
Robin Grant, George Wood,
Chris Cafferky

6:01 P.M. M. Tod Delaricheliere called the meeting called to order.

6:01 P.M. Patricia Coultas moved to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting of January 12, 2006.

Brad Ferland seconded
Motion passed unanimously

Communications from audience: None

Approval of Agenda: Dan Hill told the Board that he had one more liquor license to add to the agenda. Dan told the Board that Tom Fadden and Mike Hall were on their way to Alabama to pick up the new Quint truck. Dan told the Board that agenda item #6 wouldn't happen this evening as the grant funds did not fund regional police studies.

6:03 P.M. Brad moved to approve the agenda as amended.

Patti seconded
Motion passed unanimously

Manager's Report:

Request for Town Meeting Article

Dan told the Board that enclosed in their packets was a request from the VT League of Cites and Towns for the Board to add a nonbinding article to the Warning for Town Meeting. It is to request that education funding not be used for other purposes. The Board decided to take no action with this request.

Adoption of the Warning

Dan told the Board that he had brought an up to date Warning for Town Meeting. The final budget number, agreed to at the last meeting, has been entered as well as article #6 question authorizing the Town Clerk to acquire and use a voting machine and article #32 asking for a \$500 appropriation for the Senior Trotters program. The Board discussed the impact of the appropriations.

6:07 P.M. Patti moved to accept the warning as presented.

Brad seconded
Motion passed unanimously

Policing Policy Question

Chris Cafferky came to the Board to question the Town's policy on responding to complaints about domestic abuse. Dan Hill quickly reviewed the policy. He wants to know if the Select Board supports the procedures of the police department. Chris asked the Board whether they had his complaint. Chris told the Board that he is working on changing the law, making dispatchers legally required to report any instances of abuse. Dan said that this incident was a family matter and had been fully investigated. Chris kept asking the Board whether they felt the Chief followed the policy. The Board couldn't answer his question, because the complaint they had was not in reference to the Chief of police. Chris asked the Board, "does the Board believe abuse complaints should be investigated?" Dan and the Board told Chris he needed to put his complaint, against the chief, in writing, as they were prepared to discuss an entirely different complaint that Chris had filed.

Dog Kennel Discussion

Dan told the Board that Kevin Rich, the town's animal control officer, has proposed that the Town pay the \$1,200 appropriation we now give to North Country Animal League to him. Kevin would build a bigger kennel at his home and handle all of our stray dogs himself including adoption or putting away if they are sick or unadoptable. The Board discussed this proposal and decided that even though it is too late to change anything this year, they would like to continue this discussion with Kevin.

Review of Current Revenues and Expenses

Dan reminded the Board that included in their packets were the revenue and expense summary through December. We are halfway through our fiscal year 2006 budget. Dan said he has concerns with the highway budget - especially with rising diesel cost. He is also concerned that we cannot afford any large equipment break downs.

Liquor License Request

6:41 P.M. Patti moved to approve a second class license for Hardwick Kwik Stop and Deli.

Brad seconded
Motion passed unanimously

6:42 P.M. Brad moved to approve a first class license for the American Legion, Post #7, Inc.

Patti seconded
Motion passed unanimously

Dan reminded the Board they needed to complete his formal review. Dan also reminded the Board that there was a public hearing next Thursday to discuss the Bert Smith Australian Ballot article.

Select Board Reports: None

New Business: None

Old Business: Brad told the Board that he wanted to clarify something that occurred at the last Select Board meeting. The Library budget request was cut, but the Board was still allowing a 10% increase over last year's budget request.

6:45 P.M. Patti moved to adjourn the meeting.

Brad seconded
Motion passed unanimously

Minutes approved by:

M. Tod Delaricheliere, Chair

Minutes taken by: Lynda N. Brochu