

**Board of Selectmen Meeting
Hardwick Elementary School
76 Schoolhouse Road
Gilbertville ma 01301
November 9, 2022**

In Attendance, Julie Quink, Chair, H. Robert Ruggles, Vice Chair, Kelly Kemp, Clerk, Nicole Parker, Town Administrator

Meeting is called to order at 6:30 pm

The purpose of this meeting is to acknowledge the petition submitted by over 400 residents that urged the selectmen to reconsider their no vote for a horse race facility at 228 Barre Road. The purpose of this meeting is to make a decision whether to reconsider the vote made on October 27, 2022.

Chairman Quink relayed that the meeting of Monday November 7, 2022 started to become unmanageable and is the reason for the police presence at this meeting. It was also relayed that any disruption or disrespectful behaviors anyone will to be removed from the meeting.

Devon Ruud spoke as to why the non-binding Petition went around for the Board of Selectmen to reconsider. They did this so everyone can be heard.

340 residents 420 total non-binding petition

Julie Quink went over 4 options the Board of Selectmen can make

1. Do nothing
2. Acknowledge receipt
3. Decide to reconsider our vote just needs to be majority and process starts again
the board can call non-binding election without changing our vote a referendum
Special election
4. Do not vote and continue on the process

If the Board of Selectmen votes yes to reconsider, and the yes vote is passed then this process allows 12% of registered voters to present a petition to have the board reconsider their yes vote.

(HRR) has heard from residents that they want to vote. He also asked the proponent to cover the cost of the election. process. John Stefanini, spokesperson for proponent acknowledge to HRR that they are willing to cover the cost.

John Stefani, Counsel for the Horse race facility proponents informed the Board of Selectmen that they have until Feb 2024 to purchase property from Zen Acres. The proponents could purchase property without gaming commission approval and carry all the cost of the election.

They are happy to pay any fees,

(HRR) made motion move to reconsider the vote taken on October 27th to deny the location horse race track at the property located in the town of Hardwick known as Great Meadow Brook Farm 228 Barre Road more fully described in deeds and record at Worcester South District Registry of Deed at book 66167 page 367 pursuant to General Law Section 128a Section 13A (KK) seconded

Roll call
(2:1)

HRR (Y) JQ (Y) KK (N)

Motion carries to reconsider vote

(HRR) made a Motion to approve pursuant to General law Chapter 128a section 13a that location of a horse race track at the property located in the town of Hardwick know as Great Meadowbrook Farm 228 Barre Road. More fully described in a deed recorded at the Worcester South District Register of Deeds at book 66167 page 367. Said approval shall be subject to the following conditions at execution of a host community agreement; applicant obtains all necessary local permits and approvals and agriculture land preservation committee determines that the project is consistent with the local permits and approvals and agricultural land preservation committee determines that the project is consistent with the local APR.

Julie Quink reiterated these conditions are contingent that all these conditions are met. permits and approvals need to be in place.

KK Seconded
HRR (Y) JQ (Y) KK (N)

Motion carries

Adjournment

(HRR) motion to adjourn
(KK) Seconded
Meeting adjourned 7:14