

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
June 17, 20113
MINUTES**

Call to Order

5:30pm: Chairman, Steve Barry called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Chairman Barry asked all to rise and pledge allegiance to the Flag.

Present: Steve Barry, Chairman; Alan E. O'Neal, Vice Chairman; Rebecca Hutchinson, Richard Pitman and R. Andrew Robertson, Selectmen

Also Present: Leslie A. Boswak, Town Administrator

Scheduled Appointments

Parks & Recreation Monthly Update - Joe Manzi

Joe made himself available to the Board for any followup to the reports his Department has submitted. He noted that the parking lot across the street from the GBW Building is getting rough and that the Board may want to look into this. Chairman Barry confirmed that it is being reviewed. Selectman Robertson noted that the Department concert event held last week was great.

Safety Complex Update

Fire Chief Tibbetts introduced Chris Nelson to the Board to provide an update. Mr. Nelson explained that he is a local builder who is working with David Whatmaugh on the redesign and re-pricing of the proposed Safety Complex construction project. Plans are being professional drawn up now. The revised plans have a reduced foot print, have added a second floor, and been generally simplified, reducing the anticipated cost from the previous quote of \$2.4 million to an anticipated \$1.7 million. He described that the Fire Station bays would be metal, while the office portion of the building would be stick built. Selectman Robertson reiterated the public feedback that energy efficiency is a priority. Mr. Nelson confirmed that this is being incorporated into the plans for lighting and insulation, they are still thinking about how the heating systems should work. Selectwoman Hutchinson asked for a description of how the timetable/process is expected to flow, as it will be important to have public input. The professionally drawn up plans will give the project coordinators something to present to the Town, once complete they can then begin soliciting input from the public.

Northern Pass Update - Board Statement & Correspondence

Chairman Barry read the statement drafted to express the Board's public position with regards to the Northern Pass Project.

"On March 12, 2013 the voters of the Town of Deerfield overwhelmingly voted to state its opposition to the Northern Pass Transmission project as currently proposed, which as currently proposed, will cause the significant expansion of existing power line rights-of-way; the installation of steel towers of heights up to 135 feet, well above the tree height, resulting in the further impairment of Deerfield's rural, small town character and the further degradation of Deerfield's scenic vistas and natural scenic beauty; the development of the Town in a manner inconsistent with the Deerfield Master Plan; the diminishment of the value of private property and assets for residents in proximity to the towers; the corresponding loss of property tax revenue for the Town; and the strong possibility of negative health impacts.

In addition, on the same date, the voters of the Town of Deerfield overwhelmingly voted to state its opposition to any new overhead development of alternating current and direct current high voltage transmission lines within its borders; and in turn manifest the Town's strong preference for the burial of such lines, in a manner consistent with state and federal requirements, under rights of way and power line corridors now existing or to be established. Although burial in all instances is preferred, this statement of

opposition shall not apply to distribution lines carrying electrical power and other utility lines, such as telephone and cable television, for Town residential or commercial use.

The Deerfield, NH Board of Selectmen have officially taken the position of the voters of the town and formally oppose the Northern Pass Transmission project as currently proposed. The Board of Selectmen also officially oppose any new overhead development of alternating current and direct current high voltage transmission lines within its borders."

Motion to approve the statement as read - Selectman Robertson

Second - Selectwoman Hutchinson

All in Favor - Motion Carries

Selectman Robertson noted that the Board has filed its request with the Department of Energy to be a consulting party to the Northern Pass Project. Chairman Barry read a correspondence from the Department of Energy confirming that the request is currently under evaluation. Selectwoman Hutchinson asked who the approved statement would be sent to. The Town Administrator will come up with a list of all involved parties.

Motion - Selectwoman Hutchinson moves to open the floor for public comment at this time in the meeting

Second - Selectman Robertson

All in Favor - Motion Carries

Erik Berglund feels the statement sounds good and is happy with the Board's plans for its distribution. He reviewed the 7 action items requested of the Board as relates to the Northern Pass Project and talked about prioritization of the work. Selectman Robertson noted that at a recent meeting, regarding item seven on Mr. Berglund's list, the Board agreed that it would not have the financial or professional resources to pull together an Environmental Impact Statement. In speaking further with Mr. Berglund he now understands that the group was looking for more of a generally stated opinion and he feels the Board could craft a general statement on the potential environmental impact the project would have in Deerfield. Selectman Robertson agreed to put together an initial draft.

Selectwoman Hutchinson spoke about the timing for planning Public Information sessions. She thinks that it may be best to host these in the Fall, after the Fair. Leslie suggested the week after Columbus Day and the Board agreed this scheduling will be revisited at the end of August.

It was asked that the Statement be sent to the Governor and the Board agreed to do so.

Regular Business

- Minutes of June 3, 2013

Motion to approve the minutes as written – Selectman Pitman

Second - Vice Chairman O'Neal

All in Favor - Motion Carries

- Minutes of June 10, 2013

Motion to approve the minutes as written – Selectman Pitman

Second - Selectman Robertson

Vote - 4 Yea, 0 Nay, 1 Abstention - Motion Carries

- Accounts Payable - \$499,384.12 - with \$460,957 transferred to the School (the final installment from the 2012/2013 budget year)

Motion – Vice Chairman O'Neal moves to approve

Second – Selectman Pitman

All in Favor – Motion Carries

- 2013 Dog Warrant from Animal Control Officer & Town Clerk

Motion - Vice Chairman O'Neal moves the Warrant as written

Second - Selectman Robertson

All in Favor - Motion Carries

- Notice of Abatement - Northern New England Telephone Operation, Manchester, NH

Motion – Selectman Robertson moves to deny the abatement as recommended by the Town Assessor

Second - Vice Chairman O'Neal

All in Favor - Motion Carries

- **Notice of Abatement - Northern New England Telephone Operation, Manchester, NH**
Motion – Vice Chairman O’Neal moves to deny the abatement as recommended
Second - Selectman Robertson
All in Favor - Motion Carries
- **Timber Tax Levy - \$881.23 - Richard & Nancy Potavin, Middle Rd**
Motion - Vice Chairman O’Neal
Second - Selectman Robertson
All in Favor - Motion Carries
- **Supplemental Intent to Cut Wood or Timber - Richard & Nancy Potavin, Middle Rd**
Signatures Executed

Unfinished Business

Selectwoman Hutchinson, citing the issue of the Highway Department’s backhoe, asked for a better understanding of how the decision to buy versus rent a major piece of equipment is reached. Chairman Barry indicated that as an elected official, the Road Agent, is in charge of his budget. Typically major purchases (anything over \$5,000) have all options presented to the Board, i.e. buy versus lease, and then go before the voters for final approval as part of the budgeting process.

Town Administrator’s Report

- The Library Trustees have voted and would like to keep the Library’s website as a “site within a site” on the Town Website. This will cost \$250, which they agree to pay out of their budget, and would like the Board’s approval to do so. Vice Chairman O’Neal asked if the fee was annual, L. Boswak responded that it would be a one time fee.
Motion: Selectman Robertson moves to approve the Library’s plans for its website
Second: Selectman Pitman
All in Favor - Motion Carries
- There has been delays of the road work being done on Nottingham Rd due to rain and resultant wash outs, this has delayed the work to be done on the retaining wall outside the Police Station, but if Mother Nature cooperates Leslie expects the Nottingham Rd work to be done this week.

Other Business None

New Business None

Citizens Comments

E. Berglund commented that he is pleased to see the progress that has been made on Nottingham Rd, but would anticipate when work is complete that there will be a speeding problem. What will the Town do to address? Chairman Barry agreed and believes that the response will be similar to that on Range Rd, with an increased police presence as a deterrent to speeders.

Meeting Adjourns at 6:10p

Motion - Selectman Pitman moves to adjourn
Second – Selectman Robertson
All in Favor - Motion Carries

Next Meeting Monday, June 24th @ 8:00am

*The Minutes were Transcribed and Respectfully Submitted by Katherine A. Libby, Recoding Secretary
Pending Approval by the Board of Selectmen*