

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
June 16, 2014
MINUTES**

Call to Order

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

Present: Steve Barry, Chairman; Richard Pitman, Vice Chairman; Rebecca Hutchinson, R. Andrew Robertson and Jeff Shute Selectmen

Also Present: Michael Wright, Town Administrator; Jan Foisy, Finance Director

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Vice Chairman Pitman asked all to rise and pledge allegiance to the Flag.

Scheduled Appointments

Howard Pearl – Senate District 17 Candidate

Mr. Pearl introduced himself as candidate for the State Senate District 17. He provided a brief personal and professional background. He resides in Loudon, NH where he manages a 450 acre farm. He serves as treasurer for the NH Farm Bureau, is the Vice President of Speedway Children’s Charities and is a member of the Loudon ZBA among other various boards and positions. When elected he would propose hosting regular Town Hall-type sessions with the Town of Deerfield where voters have a public forum to discuss issues and ask questions on his standpoints. Chairman Barry opened the floor to any questions from those in attendance. Selectwoman Hutchinson asked if Mr. Pearl might identify where he would like to see “big Government” cut, Mr. Pearl responded that he did not have any specific areas in mind to cut, but that he would want to work to create efficiencies among all State Departments, just as he has to do on a daily basis in his business. He expressed concern with the excessive regulations placed on business in New Hampshire along with the business taxes and lack of insurance competition.

Selectman Robertson commented that he sees the lack of revenue being returned to local communities to be an important issue, he is frustrated that the Towns are no longer supported by the State in funding road and infrastructure work. Selectwoman Hutchinson asked what is Mr. Pearl’s stance on the gas tax, he responded that he was not in favor of it the way it was passed. Harriet Cady spoke of the amount of waste she sees happening in all agencies of Government and asked whether Mr. Pearl would support a work study of all areas. Mr. Pearl responded that he supports reaching out to the agencies to engage all employees in promoting good business practices and achieving efficiencies. When Selectwoman Hutchinson asked his stance on the Northern Pass Project, Mr. Pearl indicated that he feels he is not familiar enough with the current project details to formulate a worthwhile position.

Open Bids – Boat/Trailer

Chairman Barry received two bids for the surplus Boat and Trailer, Carl Oehler - \$200; and Jim Deeley - \$100. Selectman Robertson suggested that the Town speak with Harding Metals to determine the scrap value of the boat and trailer to see if more money could be obtained through scrapping. Otherwise, the BOS would accept Mr. Oehler’s bid. The Board agreed.

Open Bids – Float Raft

Chairman Barry received one bid for the float raft from Janet Anderson of Pembroke in the amount of \$125.

Motion – Selectman Robertson moves to surplus the float raft to Janet Anderson for the price of \$125

Second – Selectwoman Hutchinson

Vote – Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Gary Duquette – New Police Chief

M. Wright stated that the Town has reviewed completed the background check on Gary Duquette for the position of Chief of Police, as well as polygraph, psychological, and other tests have been passed. Mr. Duquette will be subject to a probation period and his continued service as the Chief is contingent on completing the standards of training requirements, however Mr. Duquette was recommended for appointment to Police Chief at this time. Staff are prepared to hold a formal public

presentation of the new Chief at the June 30th meeting in the new downstairs Conference room.

Motion – Vice Chairman Pitman moves to appoint Gary Duquette as Chief of Police

Second – Selectman Robertson

Vote – Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Mr. Duquette was sworn in as Chief of Police by Chairman Barry. The Board will post a formal press release to include details of the public presentation on June 30th.

Regular Business

-Minutes of June 2, 2014

Motion – Vice Chairman Pitman moves the minutes as written

Second – Selectwoman Hutchinson

Vote to approve – Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 1 – Motion Carries

-Accounts Payable - \$35,600.35

Motion – Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve

Second – Selectman Robertson

Vote – Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

-2014 Dog Warrant

Motion – Selectman Robertson moves to approve and sign the Warrant

Second – Selectwoman Hutchinson

Vote – Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

-Notice of Abatement – Request from Northern New England Telephone Operations

Motion – Selectman Robertson moves to deny the request as recommended by the Utility Appraiser

Second – Vice Chairman Pitman

Vote – Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

-Notice of Abatement – Request from NH Electrical Co-Op

Motion – Selectman Robertson moves to deny the request as recommended by the Utility Appraiser

Second – Vice Chairman Pitman

Vote – Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

-Timber Tax Levy - \$2,820.66 to the Mathis Family Limited Partnership and Robert A & Jane Miller

Motion – Selectman Robertson moves to approve

Second – Vice Chairman Pitman

Vote – Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

-Timber Tax Levy - \$4,016.98 to Antimo Dimatteo and Donald & Ethel Baker

Motion – Selectman Robertson moves to approve

Second – Selectwoman Hutchinson

Vote – Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

-Timber Tax Levy - \$851.26 to Garland Lumber and Regional Services and Education Center

Motion – Selectman Robertson moves to approve

Second – Selectman Shute

Vote – Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

-Cemetery Commission – Appointment of Temporary Trustees

It has come to the Board's attention that the Cemetery Commission needs to be elected, not appointed, individuals.

Motion – Selectman Pitman moves to appoint Donald Watts, Fran Menard and Donald Tordoff as Cemetery Trustees until the March Election

Second – Selectman Robertson

Vote – Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

-Non- Contemporaneous Business – June 6, 2014 – 3 Members Present

- Accounts Payable - \$488,749.46 – with \$462,070 transferred to the school

- **Payroll Manifest - \$70,344.27 (net \$55,886.45)**

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-Intent to Cut Wood or Timber – Carolyn Hoague – Mountain View Rd

Signatures Executed

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Signatures Executed

-Cartographics Technology Contract – Tax Map Maintenance through March 13, 2015 - \$2,950

Motion – Selectman Robertson moves to approve the contract

Second – Selectwoman Hutchinson

Vote to approve – Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

-Notice to State of NH DRA that Deerfield will not be using Form PA2A for 2015

Signatures Executed

-Cemetery Deed – Plot of Old Center Cemetery sold for \$800 to Susan M. Reed Trustee of the Susan M. Reed Trust

Motion – Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the sale

Second – Selectman Robertson

Vote to approve – Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

-Utility Appraisal Contract Annual Renewal – George San Soucy & Associates - \$8,000

Motion – Selectman Robertson moves to approve the contract

Second – Vice Chairman Pitman

Vote to approve – Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

-Filling of Vacant Full Time Officer Position

Officer in Charge Deyermond spoke that the candidate identified has passed all background, psychological, written and physical assessments necessary for hire and is scheduled to take a polygraph on June 17th. Pending the positive outcome of that polygraph he would recommend bringing the officer on board beginning the week of June 23rd.

Motion – Selectman Robertson moves to authorize Officer in Charge Deyermond and/or Chief Duquette to hire the individual subject to his passing the polygraph test

Second – Vice Chairman Pitman

Discussion – Selectwoman Hutchinson asked whether the new Chief was aware of the candidate and comfortable with the hire. Chief Duquette responded that though he came in at the tail end of the hiring process, he trusts Officer In Charge Deyermond's judgment and is comfortable with the hire.

Vote to approve – Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

In closing Regular Business Chairman Barry thanked Officer in Charge Daniel Deyermond for his service to the Department during the period of transition. The Board and attendees joined Chairman Barry in a round of applause to recognize OIC Deyermond.

Correspondence

The Town has been notified as an abutter of Map 411 Lot 15 on Mt. Delight Rd that the landowner plans to build a new home on the lot.

Town Administrators Report

M. Wright presented the Board with a new written policy for the rental and/or lease of Town Employee Equipment including provisions that would apply specifically to equipment owned by the Road Agent.

Motion – Selectwoman Hutchinson moves to accept the policy as presented

Second – Selectman Robertson

Vote to approve – Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Vice Chairman Pitman spoke that he had been asked to visit the Town Pit to review the work that has been done in stock piling gravel there. He witnessed a 3,000 yard pile of gravel that cost the Town \$4,500 in machine time to prepare. This represents a cost savings of \$29,000 had they purchased this material from an outside vendor.

M. Wright asked that the record reflect that Eric Berglund spoke with the Board of Selectman about the May 4th information

session regarding the Site Evaluation Committee for the Northern Pass. Information on the Site Evaluation Committee and its process has been made available to the Board. General background on the matter is available at the Town office. Additional information on the Committee is available through Eric Berglund for anyone who is interested.

M. Wright has been contacted by a resident at the corner of Candia and Peterson Roads who would like to speak with the Board about changing their street name. The Board asked that M. Wright schedule a public hearing and time to meet with the resident to hear his suggestions during the July 14th Board meeting.

Regarding the Cemetery Commission Trustees, March 2015 Elections will be for three positions including a 3 year, 2 year and 1 year term. M. Wright described the election structure to take place in March.

The Town had already tax deeded property at 278 South Rd and now the prior owner has passed. The Town is obligated to maintain a three year period where the prior owner has the first right of redemption, that right transfers to the prior owner's estate upon their passing. The Town had received some inquiries and would like to make known that the property is not likely to be offered for sale by auction until after the three years have passed, the original transition occurred in November 2013. Vice Chairman Pitman asked whether the Town would be allowed to dispose of the trailer on the property if there was a confirmed Health Issue, M. Wright answered yes, that after a 30 day posting, if a Health Officer has determined there is a Health Issue, the building can be torn down.

Selectwoman Hutchinson asked whether any progress had been made in having representatives from the Northern Pass in to speak with citizens in an open Town Hall setting. M. Wright answered that representatives from PSNH have indicated they are willing to work with the Town in that manner. There are several things expected to occur later this year and into next, it was agreed to target a September or October meeting date.

J. Foisy updated the Board that at the January 27, 2014 Select Board meeting they approved the Highway Agent's request to purchase a new plow. Mark Young has purchased that equipment along with a snow shield for the \$2,500 approved and expects it to arrive at the Department soon.

Scheduled Appointments Continued

Concord Hospital Trust – Rescue Squad

Members of the Concord Hospital Trust presented the LUKAS Chest Compression Machine to the Town and specifically the Rescue Squad. This is the 29th machine allocated to communities. In 2013 Concord Hospital Trust provided 23 Deerfield residents with Charitable Care with a cost of over \$300,000. A number of those instances were cardiac care in the Emergency Department. A brief overview and demonstration of the machine in action was given. Chairman Barry thanked the Concord Hospital Trust for their helping the Deerfield Community afford the important piece of equipment and recognized Vice Chairman Pitman for coordinating the connection. Vice Chairman Pitman introduced Tom Brown, a past President and founder of the Trust who has been a Summer resident of Deerfield for more than twenty years. There was substantial turnout by the Rescue Squad. Squad members received training from Hospital Staff on use of the new machine following the meeting.

Other Business None

Unfinished Business None

New Business None

Citizens Comments

Adjournment - 6:37p

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to adjourn the meeting of June 16, 2014

Second: Selectman Robertson

Vote: Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Next Meeting Monday, June 30th @ 5:30p – New Conference Room

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