

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
February 9, 2015**

MINUTES

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**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:** Jan Foisy, Town Finance Director/Interim Town Administrator; Penny Touchette, Bookkeeper Assessing Supervisor

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

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

**Scheduled Appointments**

**AVATAR Associates Start Up Meeting**

Representatives from AVATAR were on hand to ensure that the Board and their team are on the same page regarding the Property Revaluation work to be completed this year. They presented a general timeline of the revaluation and were available to answer any associated questions. Field work has been completed and AVATAR will be taking copy of the Town's database to begin data entry in the coming week. In April list letters will be generated for Properties not seen. The team has already begun to analyze sales data and expects to report preliminary findings in May. The contract also includes for the valuation of the Town's Utilities. AVATAR expects for notices to those entities to go out in June, hearings to be scheduled in July and the process to be finalized in August. Lionel MacEachern from the Department of Revenue will be following AVATARS work closely and overseeing the process. The Board thanked the Representatives for the information presented.

**Regular Business & Signatures**

- **Minutes of January 26, 2015**
  - Motion** – Vice Chairman Pitman moves the minutes as written
  - Second** – Selectman Robertson
  - Vote to approve – Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries**
- **Accounts Payable - \$573,075.57 (\$500,000 transferred to the School)**
  - Motion** – Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve
  - Second** – Selectman Robertson
  - Vote – Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries**
- **Timber Tax Levy - Alden & Catherine Dill, Griffin Rd - \$2,889.28**
  - Motion** – Selectman Robertson moves to collect
  - Second** – Vice Chairman Pitman
  - Vote – Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries**
- **Timber Harvest Right of Way Agreement - Babb Rd**
  - As the Board has not yet received the DVD or Bond laid out in the conditions it will postpone approval
- **Notice of Abatement - Marie Bolster, Map 422-Lot 15 - \$640.44 and \$1,234.40 for the 2013 Tax Bills**
  - Motion** – Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve
  - Second** – Selectman Robertson
  - Vote – Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries**
- **Non – Contemporaneous Business – 1/29, 1/30 and 2/2 – 4 Members Signing**
  - Payroll Manifest - \$51,019.08 (\$38,079.81 net)**

**Correspondence**

The Town has received a letter from Valerie Britton of 138 North Road describing issues with the setup of the residential address. There have been several instances of confusion with deliveries and the resident expresses concern with the ability to be properly located in the case of an emergency. Addresses used include 138a North Rd and Smith Lane. The letter was also delivered to Mark Tibbetts and Mark Young, the Board agreed to wait on recommendation from those individuals.

The Board has received a Notice to Voters that there will be a Special Election held on March 31st from 7a to 7p for the election of a State Representative for District 32. Notice has also been received from the NH Department of State indicating that the filing period has ended for this State House seat. There are three candidates Yvonne Bailey (R), Brian J. Stone (R), and Maureen Mann (D). A Primary will be held on March 31st with the election on May 19, 2015.

The Town has received numerous emails from a resident expressing concern with the old Sharon home, the Board asked that Rick Pelletier perform an inspection and advise.

A bill for the Engineering work associated with the Timber Harvest (totaling \$709.08) has been submitted to Mr. Burgess for payment.

The Town is in receipt of State Highway Block Funds from Q3 totaling \$24,844.64.

It has been suggested that the Town and School Deliberative Sessions be held on the same day. The Board asked that J. Foisy verify with the School Board their interest in doing so and to then check with the Town Moderator to confirm this would be acceptable.

A check has been received from Charlie Marino totaling \$8,776.51 for the Dowst Cate Timber Harvest.

Communication from Eversource (PSNH) has been received, notifying residents that work to the G146 line upgrade has begun and will run for 7-10 days.

Rockingham County Commissioner Kevin Coyle has given notice that he is available to meet with the Board to discuss any of the County Budget Hearings.

#### **Town Administrator's Report**

J. Foisy reported that the Road Agent has been experiencing some difficulty in getting salt from vendors. An arrangement with Northwood and Candia has been made so that Deerfield can access their supplies and replace when delivery is received. Mark Young has asked for permission to pursue a contract with a third salt vendor, the Board had no objections. The Highway Department will be working to clear intersections and push back snow banks along the roads as soon as the storms have stopped.

There have been some instances of vandalism in the hallway near the Parks & Recreation department and J. Foisy asked the Board's permission to look into the cost of a security camera. There were no objections.

J. Foisy, together with Denise Greig, Mark Young and Penny Touchette are looking into pursuing FEMA funds for the winter storm that impacted the Town January 26 - 28th at a cost of \$25,900.

Employees will be working to shovel off the George B. White Building roof in the coming days and Mark Tibbetts has invited members to visit the ladies room on the lower level of the building to see the completed work.

J. Foisy asked which member will be drafting explanations for the voter's guide, Selectman Robertson volunteered to provide language for next week. It was noted that Candidates Night will be held February 17th in the DCS Library.

**Unfinished Business**      None

#### **New Business**

Selectwoman Hutchinson spoke that she has been approached by residents asking for an update from the Police Chief on the PSSG recommendations. Chief Duquette was agreeable to the request and the Board had no objection to putting the topic on an upcoming agenda.

Selectwoman Hutchinson reported that she has been attending the 250th Anniversary Committee meetings and asked whether the Board would be willing to host a beard growing contest as has been done at Anniversaries in the past. There were no objections.

Selectman Robertson spoke that, following the Deliberative Session, he feels the Board should appoint the land owner to maintain gates/bars on the Class VI Road that is the subject of the Town Warrant Article. Stipulations include that the gates are not permanent and that the Town is provided a key for access, but Selectman Robertson believes this would be a good compromise while further research on the matter is done. The Board agreed.

**Recess – Select Board Meeting - 6:00**

**Open Public Hearing Regarding Muzzling & Restraining Dogs**

There was no public comment at this time.

**Close Public Hearing**

**Reconvene Select Board Meeting**

**Recess - Non Public Session RSA 91A:3,II**

**Reconvene**

Chairman Barry noted for the record that no action was taken during the Non-Public Session.

**Motion** - Vice Chairman Pitman moves to seal the minutes

**Second** - Selectwoman Hutchinson

**Vote - Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries**

**Citizens Comments**

Harriet Cady asked why there has been a white SUV parked at the George B. White building at all hours of the day. P. Touchette spoke that she drives a white SUV, but it was not immediately clear if that was the vehicle Ms. Cady saw at a given time of day.

**Recess – Select Board Meeting - 6:30**

**Open Public Hearing Regarding the Adoption of RSA 40-14B to Delegate the Responsibility of Determining the School and Town Default Budgets to the MBC**

There was no public comment at this time.

**Close Public Hearing**

**Reconvene Select Board Meeting**

**Adjournment – 6:35p**

**Motion:** Selectman Robertson moves to adjourn the meeting of February 23rd

**Second:** Vice Chairman Pitman

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

**Next Meeting Monday, February 23rd @ 5:30p**

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