

**Town of Deerfield
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
May 4, 2015**

MINUTES

Call to Order

5:30p: 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/Town Administrator, Penny Touchette, Finance Director/HR, Serita Frey, Conservation Commission Chair

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

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

Scheduled Appointments

Maureen Mann - Candidate for District 32 Representative

Ms. Mann is a candidate for the open District 32 Representative seat to be filled by Special Election on May 19th. She asked the Board whether it had any specific concerns or questions around where she stands on issues. Selectwoman Hutchinson asked Ms. Mann to respond to some of the criticism that has been written about tax increases that she has supported. Ms. Mann responded that she was in support of the 4.2% increase to the gas tax. She supported the tax because, at the time, it was to be dedicated to three specific things, the bonding to finish the Route 93 project on time, transportation districts around the State and Municipal Road work, for example routes 43 and 107 in Deerfield. With regards to the Route 93 work, Ms. Mann explained that if the project is not finished on time there will be a series of environmental permits that will expire, requiring that the State return to court and renew at a further cost. Additionally, she spoke that VT and ME are both taking on infrastructure improvements recently, putting increased demand on the labor market. As a result, any crews that leave NH may be difficult to entice back. She described that the funds that were to be used for the transportation districts and municipal roads have since been diverted to the general fund. But generally, she spoke that Communication and Transportation are two of the biggest things that companies want in coming to NH to do conduct their business. Selectman Shute asked that Ms. Mann further explain the diversion of money to the general fund. Ms. Mann responded that, in the case of the gas tax, money that was supposedly dedicated was re-diverted allowing State Representatives to claim that they had cut taxes from the General Fund. By doing so, the burden for providing various services previously covered by the State has been shifted down to the local Towns.

Bid Award - Paving Pleasant Hill Road

	Paving	Handwork	Reclaim
Broxx Industries	\$67.67/ton	\$1.15/sq yard	\$0.67/sq yard

Advance Paving	\$70.00/ton (total \$80,500)		\$0.75/sq yard
Pike Industries	\$67.90/ton (total \$78,085)		\$0.68/sq yard
R&D Paving*	\$68.90/ton	\$1.15/ton	\$0.69

*The R&D bid included language that the Town will be responsible for fine grading and providing traffic control. All bids were forwarded to the Road Agent for review and recommendation.

Bid Award - Winter Sand

Brox Industries - \$17.50/ton
 Plourde - \$6.41/ton + \$3.75/ton delivery - total cost of \$10.16/ton
 Merrill Construction - \$7.55/ton delivered
 Northeast Earth Mechanics - \$8.43/ton delivered

Bids were forwarded to the Road Agent for review and recommendation.

Bid Award - Roadside Mowing

Sanborn Industries of Deerfield - \$6,800
 Bennett Homes of Rye Beach - \$6,324

Bids were forwarded to the Road Agent for review and recommendation.

Bid Award - Road Reconstruction Materials

All Prices are per ton () indicates delivered costs	Broxx Industries	Deerfield Sand & Gravel	Plourde	NE Earth Mechanics	Merrill
Gravel	\$7.00 (\$11.75)	-	\$5.88 (\$9.63)	(\$11.00)	-
1 ½" Gravel	-	\$7.45 (\$10.20)	\$6.35 (\$10.10)	(\$10.88)	(\$11.98)
¾ " Gravel	\$6.1075	\$7.45 (\$10.20)	\$6.35 (\$10.10)	(\$11.88)	(\$11.98)
3" Minus Gravel	-	\$7.45 (\$10.50)	-	(\$9.88)	(\$9.48)
Erosion Stone	\$9.50 (\$14.25)	-	-	-	(\$15.00)
1 ½" Stone	\$9.00 (\$13.75)	\$10.00 (\$12.00)	\$7.00 (\$10.75)	-	(\$13.98)
¾" Stone	\$9.00 (\$13.75)	\$10.00 (\$12.00)	\$7.25 (\$11.00)	-	(\$13.98)
6" Minus Stone	-	\$10.25 (\$12.25)	\$7.25 (\$11.00)	-	-

Bids were forwarded to the Road Agent for review and recommendation.

Serita Frey - Conservation Commission

Ms. Serita Frey with the Conservation Commission was present, along with members Erik Berglund and Kate Hartnett, to provide the Board with a Q1 2015 Update. The Town Forests are now under Conservation Easements and the Commission has been working with the Forestry Commission and Town Forester Charlie Marino to put management plans in place. One harvest, at the Dowst Cate Forest, was completed yielding approximately \$25,000 in revenue and the harvest on Brown Road has begun.

A trails club has been established as a sub-committee under the Conservation Commission by a group of volunteers interested in maintaining the Town's trails. Mr. Jim Deely is spearheading the group and its first public meeting was held in April and the Town can expect to hear more. Additionally, the Commission has become aware of and is working to address the phragmites plant beginning to invade a number of wetlands in Town. Ms. Hartnett described that the plant is one of the most aggressive grasses on the planet and has been spreading South to North. The Commission has asked the Road Agent to attend a meeting this Thursday to learn more about the plant and management strategies. The meeting will be at 8p at 140 Mtn. View Road for anyone interested in attending. The Commission is also monitoring the Japanese Knot weed spread. Chairman Barry reminded that anyone serving on the Trails Sub-Committee who is not also a member of the Commission will need to complete an Oath form with the Town Clerk.

Ms. Jean Menard spoke to the recent request for information on Town Conservation Projects from the Northern Pass. Going forward she noted the Town will have the opportunities for a lot of interaction and information with regards to the Northern Pass Site Evaluation Committee and she welcomed open dialog with the Board. She stressed the importance that everyone be on the same page as a lot of decisions will need to be made very quickly. She has received a letter from the NH Preservation Alliance inviting the Conservation Commission to host a meeting for informational purposes with various State and Federal groups and she is happy to coordinate. Selectman Robertson spoke that, going forward, it will be helpful for the Board to know exactly whom it is being addressed by, i.e. the Commission, the Northern Pass Committee, or some other ad hoc group.

Chairman Barry asked if there was anything the Commission needed from the Select Board at this time, Ms. Frey responded no, not at this time.

Ms. Hartnett closed by echoing Ms. Menard's comments on the importance of communication in Town. She spoke that the Town is about to be inundated with requests for information and that there will be a lot of players, Federal, Regional, State and Local parties, who will be competing for input. She stressed the importance of keeping communications clear and open in the coming months.

The Board thanked the members of the Commission for coming in.

Regular Business & Signatures

- **Minutes of April 20, 2015**

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves the minutes as written

Second: Selectman Robertson

Discussion: Selectman Shute noted that the minutes indicate \$3,000 was to be taken from the equipment line, but that M. Tibbetts had divided the expense across two lines, J. Foisy confirmed and will add with the appropriate detail.

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

- **Accounts Payable - \$111,566.70**

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve

Second: Selectman Robertson

Discussion: Chairman Barry noted that the amount includes the annual payment for the Fire Truck.

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

- **Workers Compensation Contract - \$33,706.20 (current year) & \$37,076.82 est. (next year)**

Motion: Selectman Robertson moves to authorize the Chair to sign

Second: Vice Chairman Pitman

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

- **Contract, Lisa Rick, Independent Prosecutor for the Police Department - \$12,000/year**

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve

Second: Selectman Shute

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

- **Intent to Cut Wood or Timber - Town of Deerfield, Brown Road**

Signatures Executed

- **Timber Tax Levy - \$1,526 - Town of Deerfield, Brown Road**

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to collect

Second: Selectman Robertson

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

- **Tax Abatement - \$1,526 - Town of Deerfield, Brown Road Timber Harvest**

Motion: Selectman Robertson moves to abate

Second: Vice Chairman Pitman

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

- **Timber Tax Levy of \$2,758.94 - Thomas Welch**

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to collect

Second: Selectman Robertson

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

- **Application for Current Use - Alden & Catherine Dill, 3.0 Acres at 45 Griffin Rd**

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to accept the application

Second: Selectman Shute

Discussion: P. Touchette noted that the parcel is contiguous with the current house lot that is in current use.

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 1 - Motion Carries

- **Application for Current Use - Gloria Riel, 11 Acres at 205 Raymond Rd**

Motion: Selectman Robertson moves to accept the application

Second: Vice Chairman Pitman

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

- **Heritage Commission - Appointment of Alice Martha Smith to a term through 4/30/18**

Motion: Selectman Robertson moves to approve

Second: Vice Chairman Pitman

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

- **Independent Contractors Agreement - Deerfield Rescue Squad & NH Trail Horse Show - Services @ \$150/day**

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to authorize the Chair's signature

Second: Selectman Robertson

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

- **Independent Contractors Agreement - Deerfield Rescue Squad & Granite State Morgan Horse Show - \$450 for the 3-day show**
Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to authorize the Chair's signature
Second: Selectman Robertson
Vote: Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries
- **Cemetery Plot Purchase Request - Rosalee & Sean O'Connell, Wolfboro, NH - Old Center Cemetery**
Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve
Second: Selectman Robertson
Vote: Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries
- **Non-Contemporaneous Business - 3 Members Signing**
April 24th - Accounts Payable - \$533, 393, 37 (\$500,000 transferred to the School)
April 24th & 27th - Payroll Manifest - \$44,721.99 (\$33,397.98 net)
- **Steve Jamele - Request to surplus various pieces of IT equipment**
Motion: Selectman Robertson moves to accept the recommendation and approve the surplus
Second: Selectwoman Hutchinson
Vote: Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries
- **Warrant to the State to hold a Special Election on May 19th**
Motion: Selectman Shute moves to approve
Second: Selectwoman Hutchinson
Vote: Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries
- **Letter to the Deerfield Fair Association to request the Select Board be copied on the engineering study and associate work**
Signatures executed
- **Letter to Katherine Alexander, thanking her for volunteering to serve on the Zoning Board of Adjustments**
Signatures executed
- **Notice of Intent to Excavate - with the right to rescind approval if the Town at any point believes all RSAs are not being following**
Signatures executed
- **Intent to Cut Wood or Timber - Christopher & Rebecca Gagnon - 242 Middle Rd**
Signatures executed
- **Intent to Cut Wood or Timber - Keith Rollins - Peterson Rd**
Signatures executed
- **Intent to Cut Wood or Timber - Chris Stillbach - Map 424 Lots 23 and 23-3**
Signatures executed
- **Intent to Cut Wood or Timber - Melinda Geddes Trust - Nottingham Rd**
Signatures executed
- **Intent to Cut Wood or Timber - Margaret Curry - Bean Hill/Cate Rd**
Signatures executed
- **Intent to Cut Wood or Timber - Thomas Welch - Blakes Hill Rd**
Signatures executed
- **Veteran's Tax Credit - Holly & Stephen Boisson - Renewed Address**
Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve
Second: Selectman Robertson
Vote: Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries

Correspondence

The Town has received a letter from the Zoning Board of Adjustments Chairman regarding the Select Board's recent appointments. The Chair expresses concern with the Select Board's lack of confidence in the Chair and the Board and its nominations and offers his resignation should the Board so desire.

Motion: Selectman Pitman moves to refuse the resignation

Second: Selectman Robertson

Discussion: Selectwoman Hutchinson encouraged the Chair to come in and speak with the Board directly if he would like to further discuss its actions with regard to the nominations.

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

Chairman Barry noted that the check for the property at 4 Quarry Road has been received and the parcel is now back on the tax rolls. Additionally the Town has received \$25,991.82 from a Highway Block Grant and \$1,367.02 from the Department of Forest and Land for a reimbursement.

The Town has received notice from the DRA that its equalized values for the Utilities is \$505,462,934.

The State Attorney General will be putting on training for various Trustee positions.

The State DOT has communicated its list of red list bridges, Deerfield has one bridge on the list.

The Southern NH Planning Commission has asked that Deerfield sign a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") for participation in the effort to achieve lower cost energy rates. The Board agreed to take formal action when the final MOU is available at the next meeting.

Applications for the open Bookkeeper position have been received and will be reviewed by the Board for discussion at the next meeting. J. Foisy will expand the posting in the coming week(s).

Town Administrator Report

J. Foisy informed the Board that she and P. Touchette have met with FEMA regarding the winter storm reimbursement and the Town was unable to apply for reimbursement on the cost of clearing the GBW Building roof. The School was however eligible for Federal reimbursement through the SAU.

There is a logger who is seeking a temporary driveway permit off Harvey Rd, the Road Agent has no objections, J. Foisy asks the Board's pleasure. There were no objections.

J. Foisy will look to hold the next Department Head meeting on May 14th at 9a.

The Town Offices will be closed for a short period of time tomorrow as staffing appointments and later arrivals have created a gap in availability.

Unfinished Business None

Other Business None

New Business

Selectman Robertson has been contacted recently about the condition of some dead trees at the cemetery near the Fairgrounds. The Board asked that the Road Agent look into the matter and collect cost estimates to take the trees out.

Selectman Shute was contacted by someone looking to rename the road at the School after the late Mary Mahoney and inquiring about the process to do so. Chairman Barry asked that the School Board submit a formal request.

Citizens Comments

Harriet Cady voiced her displeasure with the tax abatements that were taken up by the Board two weeks ago. She was the representative on both properties that were denied abatement and was never contacted by AVATAR. She doesn't understand how the company can make a recommendation without ever having visited the property. She disagrees with the way that AVATAR conducts business and feels they are lazy in their approach. She would ask that the Town get bids from other firms to do the Town assessing work. Secondly, Ms. Cady suggested that Deerfield get on the list to have its red list bridge addressed as she has found that the process with the DOT can take an extended period of time. Third, Ms. Cady asks why the Workers Compensation rate has increased as much as it has, is it attributable to accidents with employees? If so, the work of the Safety Committee would seem to be failing. Finally, Ms. Cady spoke to Ms. Mann's comments about diversion of State funds. She finds the ongoing bait and switch by the parties at the State House to be misleading and infuriating.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to adjourn the meeting of May 4, 2015

Second: Selectman Robertson

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

Next Meeting Monday, May 18th @ 5:30p

*The Minutes were transcribed and respectfully submitted by Katherine A. Libby, Recording Secretary.
Pending approval by the Board of Selectmen.*