

**RSA 658:31 Counting Ballots
Accu-Vote Test and Set-Up
2004 Presidential Primary
January 21, 2004**

10:00AM Assembled for the counting of the 2004 Presidential Primary ballots and the testing of the Accu-Vote Machine were: Assistant Moderators, James Alexander and James County; Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Cynthia E. Heon; Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Jeanette L. Foisy; Registered Voter, Melissa Bemis.

10:00AM Counting of Accu-Vote Ballots Began

10:15AM Assistant Moderators James Alexander and James County ran the pre-election test per the Secretary of States Office for the ballot machine

11:45AM Counting of Ballots Ended

Results of Counting Accu-Vote Ballots

1000 Republican Ballots
800 Democratic Ballots
69 Sample Ballots

11:59AM Sealed Box

A True Record,
Attest:

Jeanette L. Foisy, Deputy
Town Clerk/Tax Collector

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE TOWN OF DEERFIELD, in the County of Rockingham, in said State, qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Historic Town Hall in said Deerfield, on Tuesday, the ninth day of March, next at 7 of the clock in the forenoon, to act upon the following subjects:

1. To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.
2. By Petition, Pursuant to RSA 40:14, shall we adopt the provision of RSA 40:13 to allow voting by official ballot on all issues before the Town of Deerfield. (3/5 vote required)

THE POLLS ARE OPEN AT 7:00AM AND WILL CLOSE NOT EARLIER THAN 7:00PM.

THE BUSINESS PORTION OF THE TOWN MEETING WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, MARCH 13TH, TWO THOUSAND AND FOUR AT THE DEERFIELD COMMUNITY SCHOOL BEGINNING AT 9AM.

Given under our hands and seal, this 23rd day of February, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Four.

R. Andrew Robertson, Chairman
Frances L. Menard, Vice-Chairman
Joseph E. Stone
Paul P. Dinneen
Stephen R. Barry

**Deerfield Board
of Selectmen**

A True Copy,
Attest:

R. Andrew Robertson, Chairman
Frances L. Menard, Vice-Chairman
Joseph E. Stone
Paul P. Dinneen
Stephen R. Barry

**Deerfield Board
of Selectmen**

In accordance with the American Disabilities Act, if you need or prefer an alternate format of communication please contact us.

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE TOWN OF DEERFIELD, in the County of Rockingham, in said State, qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Deerfield Community School in said Deerfield, on Saturday, the thirteenth day of March, next at nine of the clock in the forenoon, to act upon the following subjects:

Article 1

- a. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,800,000) (gross budget) for the construction and original equipping of a new Safety Services Complex (Police/Fire/Rescue/Emergency Management); and
- b. To authorize the issuance of not more than One Million Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,800,000) of bonds and notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and amendments thereto enabling for the purpose of defraying the costs of the foregoing and to authorize the municipal officials to determine the time and place of payment and the rate of interest on such notes or bonds and to take such other actions as may be necessary to effect the issuance and sale of such bonds and notes; and
- c. To authorize the Selectmen to apply for, negotiate, contract for, seek and do all other things necessary to obtain such Federal and State grant-in-aid, contributions and assistance as may be available for the construction of the Safety Services Complex (Police/Fire/Rescue/Emergency Management), and to adopt any vote relating thereto; and
- d. To authorize the Selectmen to do all things necessary or convenient to carry the foregoing into effect, including, without limitations, the employment of engineers and the execution in the name of the Town of a contract or contracts for the construction of the Safety Services Complex (Police/Fire/Rescue/Emergency Management).

2/3 Ballot Vote Required

This is a Special Warrant Article

Recommended by the Selectmen

Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee

Article 2

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,500,000) for the permanent protection of open space to help stabilize taxes and protect the rural character of the Town by acquisition of conservation easements or purchase of land (including any buildings and structures incidental thereto); said funds to be raised through the issuance of Bonds; and to authorize the Selectmen and the Conservation Commission, to act on behalf of the Town with respect to such acquisitions of land or conservation easements pursuant to NH RSA 36-A, provided, however, that such bonding authority shall expire at the conclusion of Fiscal Year 2008; and to authorize the Selectmen to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver such bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (NH RSA Chapter 33) and to determine the maturity date thereof, provided, however, that no such bonds shall be issued with a term of maturity of less than fifteen (15) years.

2/3 Ballot Vote Required

This is a Special Warrant Article

Recommended by the Selectmen

Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee

Article 3

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Six Thousand Six Hundred Dollars (\$36,600) for the purpose of purchasing one 2004 model year Chevrolet 1500, all wheel drive, Express Cargo Van. Purchase to include all necessary shelving, storage cabinets and emergency safety equipment. Vehicle to be used as a first response support vehicle for the Deerfield Rescue Squad.

Recommended by the Selectmen

Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee

Article 4

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Six Thousand Six Hundred Twenty Three Dollars (\$26,623) for the purchase of a new Police Cruiser.

Recommended by the Selectmen

Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee

Article 5

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a three year lease agreement for Twenty Five Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Three Dollars (\$25,533) for the purpose of leasing a Highway Department Truck, and to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Thousand Five Hundred Eleven Dollars (\$8,511) for the first year's payment for that purpose. This lease agreement contains an escape clause.

Recommended by the Selectmen

Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee

Article 6

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Four Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty Six Dollars (\$24,826) for the purchase of a 2004 Chevrolet Tahoe for the Deerfield Volunteer Fire Department.

Recommended by the Selectmen

Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee

Article 7

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eighteen Thousand Three Hundred Fifty Two Dollars (\$18,352) for equipment to be purchased through the Homeland Security Grant. The funds will be 100% offset by the Department of Safety, Office of Homeland Security in Concord, NH and Washington DC.

Recommended by the Selectmen

Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee

Article 8

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) for the purpose of hiring a part-time Town Planner. The planner will be shared with the Town of Northwood with equal time between the two communities. This article is contingent upon passage of a similar article in the Town of Northwood. This article is designed as a special warrant article.

Recommended by the Selectmen

Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee

Article 9

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty Nine Dollars (\$15,869) for the purpose of Town employee raises for salaries and wages (This represents a 2.6% cost of living increase for all full time and part time employees.).

Recommended by the Selectmen

Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee

Article 10

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) for the purpose of reimbursing the Deerfield Volunteer Fire Department for work done to replace the 1,000 gallon tank on the 1980 Fire Department apparatus.

Recommended by the Selectmen

Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee

Article 11

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$6,200) for the purchase of a computer server and installation for the Police Department.

Recommended by the Selectmen

Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee

Article 12

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) to purchase a laptop computer for the Police Department.

Recommended by the Selectmen

Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee

Article 13

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) for the purpose of constructing a concrete slab for compactors at the Transfer Station.

Recommended by the Selectmen

Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee

Article 14

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) for the purchase of one trash containment unit, previously rented, to be housed at the Transfer Station.

Recommended by the Selectmen

Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee

Article 15

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$3,500) to provide a Motorcycle Patrol Unit and to accept a grant from the New Hampshire Highway Safety Agency in the amount of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500) in partial offsetting funds, Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000) to be raised through taxation.

Recommended by the Selectmen

Not Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee

Article 16

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Two Hundred Eighty Dollars (\$3,280) for the purpose of fireproofing a renovated storage space, in the cafeteria section of the G. B. White Building, to store Town records (\$800 Fire Code Sheetrock; \$500 Fireproof Door; \$480 Labor). Shelving (\$900), File Cabinets (\$600), Hanging Files and Hardware are included.

Recommended by the Selectmen

Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee

Article 17

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Dollars (\$2,530) for the purpose of purchasing a Digital Camera (\$300), Video Camera (\$600), Microphone (\$90), Tripod (\$20), three Audio Recording Devices (\$40 each) and two PC Computers (\$700 each). This includes upgrades to the replaced computers, which will be used by Parks and Recreation Department and Election Officials.

Recommended by the Selectmen

Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee

Article 18

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Five Dollars (\$2,495) to purchase a computer workstation and printer for the Police Department.

Recommended by the Selectmen

Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee

Article 19

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy Five Dollars (\$1,975) for the purchase of a Moving Radar Unit.

Recommended by the Selectmen

Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee

Article 20

The residents of Mountain Road request the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) needed for the reconstructing of Mountain Road, from the beginning of the road to the end. The residents are asking for culvert repairs, under road drains, road widening, and a built up road base (as recommended by Keach Nordstrom Engineers), or a road base built to the specifications of the New Hampshire Department of Transportation.

The residents are also requesting that the Selectmen move forward with necessary easements required to continue the reconstruction to the end of Mountain Road. (By Petition)

This is a Special Warrant Article

Not Recommended by the Selectmen/Not Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee

Article 21

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the Municipal Budget Committee sum of \$2,687,440 for general municipal operations; The Selectmen recommend \$2,687,440. This article does not include appropriations voted in other Warrant Articles.

Article 22

To see if the Town will vote to change the position of Highway Agent from an elected official to a position appointed by the Selectmen under the provisions of RSA 231:62. (If a majority vote in favor of this article, the Selectmen elected at the next annual meeting shall appoint a Highway Agent.)

Article 23

To see if the Town will vote to advise the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board to develop a comprehensive Class VI Roads Policy before approving upgrade of any Class VI Road to a Class V Road. The Class VI Roads Policy should be developed with input from:

- (1) A committee made up of a cross-section of Deerfield residents who will work with the Boards to develop the policy and update the Town's Master Plan.
- (2) A fiscal impact study to clarify the short and long term costs to the Town of development on Class VI Roads.
- (3) The development of design and performance regulations that will preserve the natural and cultural resources provided by our Class VI Road system.

The Class VI Roads Policy should be developed by February 2005 and be voted on at the 2005 Town Meeting. (By Petition)

Article 24

To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Given our hands and seal, this 23rd day of February, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Four.

R. Andrew Robertson, Chairman
 Frances L. Menard, Vice-Chairman
 Joseph E. Stone
 Paul P. Dinneen
 Stephen R. Barry

**Deerfield Board
 of Selectmen**

A True Copy,
 Attest:

R. Andrew Robertson, Chairman
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 of Selectmen**

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MS-7 Budget - Town of Deerfield FY 2004

ACCT. #	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3.V)	Warr. Art. #	2003		2004		2004		2004		2004	
			3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
			Appropriations		Actual		SELECTMEN'S APPROPRIATIONS		BUDGET COMMITTEE'S APPROPRIATIONS			
			Prior Year As	Approved DRA	Expenditures	(Recommended)	Ensuig Fiscal Year	(Not Recommended)	Ensuig Fiscal Year	Recommended	Ensuig Fiscal Year	Not Recommended
GENERAL GOVERNMENT												
4130-4139	Executive		254,779.00		239,020.00	261,521.00			261,521.00			
4140-4149	Election, Reg & Vital Statistics		7,050.00		4,763.00	10,479.00			10,479.00			
4150-4151	Financial Administration		23,001.00		17,508.00	16,322.00			16,322.00			
4152	Revaluation of Property		31,100.00		29,425.00	31,100.00			31,100.00			
4153	Legal Expense		20,000.00		12,027.00	20,000.00			20,000.00			
4155-4159	Personnel Administration		36,796.00		45,753.00	47,839.00			47,839.00			
4191-4193	Planning & Zoning		31,334.00		20,831.00	32,635.00			32,635.00			
4194	General Government Buildings		124,094.00		119,620.00	135,938.00			135,938.00			
4195	Cemeteries		9,000.00		8,938.00	9,300.00			9,300.00			
4196	Insurance		219,986.00		208,432.00	248,475.00			248,475.00			
4197	Advertising & Regional Assoc.		2,440.00		2,440.00	2,667.00			2,667.00			
4199	Other General Government											
PUBLIC SAFETY												
4210-4214	Police		404,283.00		430,238.00	427,018.00			427,018.00			
4215-4219	Ambulance		5,500.00		5,500.00	5,500.00			5,500.00			
4220-4229	Fire		48,452.00		43,507.00	51,067.00			51,067.00			
4240-4249	Building Inspection		60,973.00		80,774.00	85,549.00			85,549.00			
4290-4298	Emergency Management		6,501.00		6,439.00	10,520.00			10,520.00			
4299	Other (Including Communications)											
AIRPORT/AVIATION CENTER												
4301-4309	Airport Operations											
HIGHWAYS & STREETS												
4311	Administration		131,497.00		118,907.00	144,320.00			144,320.00			
4312	Highways & Streets		499,247.00		494,243.00	522,281.00			522,281.00			
4313	Bridges		22,371.00		0.00	15,365.00			15,365.00			

MS-7 Budget - Town of Deerfield FY 2004

ACCT. #	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3,V)	Warr. Art. #	2003		2004		2004		2004		2004
			Appropriations Prior Year As Approved DRA	Actual Expenditures Prior Year	SELECTION'S APPROPRIATIONS Ensuig Fiscal Year (Recommended)	SELECTION'S APPROPRIATIONS Ensuig Fiscal Year (Not Recommended)	BUDGET COMMITTEE'S APPROPRIATIONS Ensuig Fiscal Year Recommended	BUDGET COMMITTEE'S APPROPRIATIONS Ensuig Fiscal Year Not Recommended			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
	CULTURE & RECREATION		XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
4520-4529	Parks & Recreation		108,782.00	92,837.00	115,002.00		115,002.00		115,002.00		
4550-4559	Library		55,605.00	54,945.00	62,473.00		62,473.00		62,473.00		
4583	Patriotic Purposes - Memorial Day		300.00	300.00	300.00		300.00		300.00		
4589	Other Culture & Recreation - Heritage		1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00		1,000.00		1,000.00		
	CONSERVATION		XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
4611-4612	Admin & Purch. of Nat. Resources		3,677.00	1,111.00	4,183.00		4,183.00		4,183.00		
4619	Other Conservation		500.00								
4631-4632	REDEVELOPMENT & HOUSING										
4651-4659	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT										
	DEBT SERVICE		XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
4711	Princ.-Long Term Bonds & Notes		100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00		100,000.00		100,000.00		
4721	Interest-Long Term Bonds & Notes		22,500.00	22,500.00	16,875.00		16,875.00		16,875.00		
4723	Int. on Tax Anticipation Notes		3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00		3,000.00		3,000.00		
4790-4799	Other Debt Service		12,000.00	3,632.00	13,000.00		13,000.00		13,000.00		
	CAPITAL OUTLAY		XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
4901	Land										
4902	Machinery, Vehicles & Equipment										
4903	Buildings										
4909	Improvements Other Than Bldgs.										
	OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT		XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
4912	To Special Revenue Fund										
4913	To Capital Projects Fund										
4914	To Enterprise Fund										
	Sewer-										
	Water-										

MS-7 Budget - Town of Deerfield FY 2004

ACCT. #	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3.V)	Warr. Art. #	2003		Actual Expenditures Prior Year	2004		2004		BUDGET COMMITTEE'S APPROPRIATIONS Ensuing Fiscal Year Recommended	2004 8	2004 9
			Appropriations Prior Year As Approved DRA	3		4	5	6	7			
OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT continued												
	Electric-											
	Airport-											
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund											
4916	To Exp Tr Fund except #4917											
4917	To Health Maintenance Trust Fund											
4918	To Nonexpendable Trust Fund											
4919	To Agency Funds											
	Subtotal 1		2,523,923.00		2,432,978.00	2,687,440.00			2,687,440.00			

If you have a line item of appropriations from more than one warrant article, please use the space below to identify the make-up of the line total for the ensuing year.

MS-7 Budget - Town of Deerfield FY 2003

2004 **SPECIAL WARRANT ARTICLES**

2004 **SPECIAL WARRANT ARTICLES**

"Special" warrant articles are defined in RSA 32:3, VI, as appropriations: 1) in petitioned warrant articles; 2) appropriations raised by bonds or notes; 3) appropriations to a separate fund created pursuant to law, such as capital reserve funds or trust funds; or 4) an appropriation designated on the warrant as a special article or as a nonlapsing or nontransferable article.

ACCT. #	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3.V)	Warr. Art. #	Appropriations		Actual Expenditures Prior Year	SELECTMEN'S APPROPRIATIONS		BUDGET COMMITTEE'S APPROPRIATIONS	
			Prior Year As Approved DRA	Prior Year As Expenditures		(Recommended)	(Not Recommended)	Ensuing Fiscal Year	Ensuing Fiscal Year
	Safety Services Complex	1				1,800,000.00		1,800,000.00	
	Open Space/Land Acquisition	2				2,500,000.00		2,500,000.00	
4191-4193	Planner	8				20,000.00		20,000.00	
	Mt Rd Reconstruction Petition	20				0.00	200,000.00	0.00	200,000.00
SUBTOTAL			XXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX		4,320,000.00	XXXXXXX	4,320,000.00	XXXXXXX

2004 **INDIVIDUAL WARRANT ARTICLES**

"Individual" warrant articles are not necessarily the same as "Special Warrant Articles." An example of an individual warrant article might be negotiated cost items for labor agreements, leases or items of a one time nature you wish to address individually.

ACCT. #	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3.V)	Warr. Art. #	Appropriations		Actual Expenditures Prior Year	SELECTMEN'S APPROPRIATIONS		BUDGET COMMITTEE'S APPROPRIATIONS	
			Prior Year As Approved DRA	Prior Year As Expenditures		(Recommended)	(Not Recommended)	Ensuing Fiscal Year	Ensuing Fiscal Year
	Rescue Vehicle	3				36,600.00		36,600.00	
	Police Cruiser	4				26,623.00		26,623.00	
	Highway Department Truck	5				8,511.00		8,511.00	
	Fire Department Vehicle	6				24,826.00		24,826.00	
4210&4220	Homeland Security Grant	7				18,352.00		18,352.00	
4155-4159	Employee COLA Increases	9				15,869.00		15,869.00	
4220-4229	Fire Department Replace Tank	10				10,000.00		10,000.00	
4902	Police Dept Computer Server	11				6,200.00		6,200.00	
4210-4214	Police Dept Laptop Computer	12				2,500.00		2,500.00	
4909	Transfer Station - Slab	13				5,000.00		5,000.00	
4902	Transfer Station - Container	14				5,000.00		5,000.00	
4210-4214	Motorcycle Patrol	15				3,500.00		0.00	3,500.00
4909	Fireproof Storage - TA	16				3,280.00		3,280.00	
4902	Technology	17				2,530.00		2,530.00	
4210-4214	Police Dept Computer Workstation	18				2,495.00		2,495.00	
4902	Moving Radar	19				1,975.00		1,975.00	
SUBTOTAL			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX		173,261.00		169,761.00	XXXXXXX

6A

MS-7

Budget - Town of Deerfield

FY 2004

1	2	3	4	5	6
ACCT. #	SOURCE OF REVENUE	Warr. Art. #	2003 Estimated Revenues Prior Year	Actual Revenues Prior Year	Estimated Revenues Ensuing Year
	TAXES		XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3120	Land Use Change Taxes				
3180	Resident Taxes				
3185	Timber Taxes		10,000.00	20,961.99	25,000.00
3186	Payment in Lieu of Taxes				
3189	Other Taxes				
3190	Interest & Penalties on Delinquent Taxes		45,000.00	40,102.86	30,000.00
	Inventory Penalties				
3187	Excavation Tax (\$.02 cents per cu yd)		400.00	1,245.30	400.00
3188	Excavation Activity Tax				
	LICENSES, PERMITS & FEES		XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3210	Business Licenses & Permits		20,000.00	29,615.33	20,000.00
3220	Motor Vehicle Permit Fees		600,000.00	673,955.75	650,000.00
3230	Building Permits		25,000.00	22,125.58	25,000.00
3290	Other Licenses, Permits & Fees		11,000.00	16,177.21	13,000.00
3311-3319	FROM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT			2,999.25	18,352.00
	FROM STATE		XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3351	Shared Revenues		19,859.00	39,719.00	19,859.00
3352	Meals & Rooms Tax Distribution		80,000.00	120,487.77	100,000.00
3353	Highway Block Grant		109,122.00	109,122.35	110,747.00
3354	Water Pollution Grant				
3355	Housing & Community Development				
3356	State & Federal Forest Land Reimbursement		3,600.00	3,486.18	3,480.00
3357	Flood Control Reimbursement				
3359	Other (Including Railroad Tax)		41,000.00	16,884.24	41,500.00
3379	FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS		7,000.00	8,984.10	9,000.00
	CHARGES FOR SERVICES		XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3401-3406	Income from Departments		95,000.00	101,841.21	95,000.00
3409	Other Charges				
	MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES		XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3501	Sale of Municipal Property				
3502	Interest on Investments		45,000.00	36,765.37	35,000.00
3503-3509	Other		49,000.00	90,412.88	65,000.00
	INTERFUND OPERATING TRANSFERS IN		XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3912	From Special Revenue Funds		27,337.00	33,247.46	26,000.00
3913	From Capital Projects Funds				

1	2	3	4	5	6
ACCT. #	SOURCE OF REVENUE	Warr. Art. #	2003 Estimated Revenues Prior Year	Actual Revenues Prior Year	Estimated Revenues Ensuing Year
INTERFUND OPERATING TRANSFERS IN cont.					
3914	From Enterprise Funds				
	Sewer - (Offset)				
	Water - (Offset)				
	Electric - (Offset)				
	Airport - (Offset)				
3915	From Capital Reserve Funds				
3916	From Trust & Agency Funds		8,800.00	9,125.50	8,938.00
	OTHER FINANCING SOURCES		XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3934	Proc. from Long Term Bonds & Notes				
	Amts VOTED from F/B ("Surplus")				
	Fund Balance ("Surplus") to Reduce Taxes				
	TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUE & CREDITS		1,197,118.00	1,377,259.33	1,296,276.00

****BUDGET SUMMARY****

	Prior Year Adopted Budget	Selectmen's Recommended Budget	Budget Committee's Recommended Budget
SUBTOTAL 1 Appropriations Recommended (from pg. 5)	2,523,923.00	2,687,440.00	2,687,440.00
SUBTOTAL 2 Special Warrant Articles Recommended (from pg. 6&6A)	30,000.00	4,320,000.00	4,320,000.00
SUBTOTAL 3 "Individual" Warrant Articles Recommended (from pg. 6&6A)	154,553.00	173,261.00	169,761.00
TOTAL Appropriations Recommended	2,708,476.00	7,180,701.00	7,177,201.00
Less: Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits (from above)	1,197,118.00	1,296,276.00	1,296,276.00
Estimated Amount of Taxes to be Raised	1,511,358.00	5,884,425.00	5,880,925.00

Maximum Allowable Increase to Budget Committee's Recommended Budget per RSA 32:18: _____
 (See Supplemental Schedule with 10% Calculation)

TOWN OF DEERFIELD
Town Meeting--
Election Portion
March 9, 2004

Moderator, Jonathan Hutchinson, gave instructions and made the following announcements: The Checklist was in place, Ballot Clerks present, Sample Ballots posted, Absentee Ballots to be cast at 1:00PM, procedures for voting and registering on Election Day, no electioneering within the prescribed areas.

6:55AM The Accuvote Ballot Box was opened, examined by the election officers and shown to be empty. It was then locked.

Moderator, Jonathan Hutchinson, stated that citizens who are residents of Deerfield who had not previously registered to vote could do so by approaching the Supervisors of the Checklist.

Moderator, Jonathan Hutchinson, stated if a ballot is spoiled return the ballot to the Ballot Clerks for a new ballot.

Election Officials present were: Moderator, Jonathan Hutchinson, Assistant Moderators, James County and James Alexander; Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Cynthia E. Heon; Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Jeanette L. Foisy; Inspectors of Elections, Barbara Daley, Ella Sawyer, Irene Shores and Suzanne P. Sherburne; Supervisors of the Checklist, Cherie Sanborn -Chairman, Kathayrn Williams and Diane Valade; Board of Selectmen, R. Andrew Robertson-Chairman; Frances Menard-Vice Chairman, Joseph E. Stone, Paul P. Dinneen, and Stephen R. Barry; School District Clerk, Kevin J. Barry.

Gatekeeper for this Election was Police Chief, Robert Wunderlich.

7:00AM The Moderator declared the Polls open and balloting began.

1:00PM Processing the Absentee Ballots Began

1:36PM All Absentee Ballots received, to this point, were processed

2:28PM Petition by Harriet Cady was received by Town Clerk/Tax Collector & Chairman of the Board of Selectmen

4:45PM Channel 9 WMUR News arrived to broadcast live from Deerfield Historic Town Hall

5:04PM Absentee Ballots received in day's mail processed

5:08PM Absentee Ballots completed

6:03PM Harriet Cady, Deerfield Resident, filmed the activity at the polls

7:00PM Moderator, Jonathan Hutchinson, declared the polls closed.

The counting of the Ballots began immediately.

Serving as Inspectors of Elections to count ballots were: Joseph M. Dubiansky, Judith Hartgen, Roger P. Hartgen, George Keech, and Ralph Knoettner.

The Moderator announced the following dates of importance:

March 12	Last Day to Request a Recount
March 13	Town Meeting--Business Portion 9:00AM Deerfield Community School
March 16	Last Day to Request a Recount of a Ballot Question
March 20	School District Meeting 9:00AM Deerfield Community School

March 9, 2004 Election Statistics

2900	Registered Voters
969	Regular Ballots Cast
210	Absentee Ballots Cast
2	Spoiled
33%	Voter Turnout

7:07PM Moderator Jonathan Hutchinson read the unofficial results of the Election for the Officers. The unofficial results were posted in the hall.

For Selectmen for Three Years (Vote for Not More than Two)

Paul P. Dinneen	514
R. Andrew Robertson	591
James A. Spillane	293

For Town Moderator for Two Years (Vote for Not More than One)

Jonathan W. "Jack" Hutchinson	802
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For Trustee of the Trust Funds for Three Years (Vote for Not More than One)

Write-In

Dwight Barnes	10
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For Trustee of the Trust Funds for Two Years (Vote for Not More than One)

Write-Ins

Dwight Barnes	4
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For Trustee of The Philbrick James Library for Three Years

(Vote for Not More than Three)

Ruth N. Kletnick	486
Claudia C. Libis	374
Lizabeth M. MacDonald	493
Maureen Riordan Mann	348

For Water Commissioner for Three Years (Vote for Not More than One)

Donald Nedeau	353
Waldo H. Twombly, Jr.	428

For Supervisors of the Checklist for Six Years (Vote for Not More than One)

Cherie A. Sanborn	766
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For Supervisors of the Checklist for Two Years (Vote for Not More than One)

Diane A. Valade	720
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For Planning Board for Three Years (Vote for Not More than One)

David A. Gattuso	211
David G. Morse	436

For Highway Agent for One Year (Vote for Not More than One)

Alex E. Cote	607
David F. O'Neal	234
David P. Twombly	97

For Municipal Budget Committee for Three Years (Vote for Not More than Three)

Bonita A. Beaubien	605
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For Municipal Budget Committee for One Years (Vote for Not More than One)

Christopher D. Roberge	604
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For Overseer of Welfare for One Year (Vote for Not More than One)

Write-In

Elizabeth Wunderlich	9
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TOWN BALLOT QUESTION

BY PETITION, PURSUANT TO RSA 40:14, SHALL WE ADOPT THE PROVISION OF RSA 40:13 TO ALLOW VOTING BY OFFICIAL BALLOT ON ALL ISSUES BEFORE THE TOWN DEERFIELD. (3/5 Vote Required)

Yes	460	No	453
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For School Board Member for Three Years (Vote for Not More than One)

Kevin J. Barry 727

For School District Moderator for One Year (Vote for Not More than One)

Douglas Leavitt 715

For School District Clerk for One Year (Vote for Not More than One)

Write-Ins

Harriet Cady 4

For School District Treasurer for One Year (Vote for Not More than One)

Cynthia E. Tomilson 794

School Ballot Question

BY PETITION, PURSUANT TO RSA 40:14, SHALL WE ADOPT THE PROVISION OF RSA 40:13 TO ALLOW VOTING BY OFFICIAL BALLOT ON ALL ISSUES BEFORE THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE TOWN OF DEERFIELD. (3/5 Vote Required)

Yes 464 **No** 460

8:00PM The Town Ballot Box was sealed. The Moderator declared the Meeting Adjourned.

A True Record,
Attest:

Cynthia E. Heon
Town Clerk/Tax Collector

TOWN OF DEERFIELD
TOWN MEETING-BUSINESS PORTION
March 13, 2004
MINUTES

At 9:00AM, on Saturday, March 13, 2004, Town Moderator, Jonathan Hutchinson welcomed everyone to the Business Portion of the Town Meeting. Moderator Hutchinson advised voters there is no smoking allowed on the premises. The emergency exits were pointed out.

The Moderator asked the Honor Guard to come forward and post the colors. The Deerfield Volunteer Fire Department Honor Guard posted the colors followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The officials seated before the meeting were introduced as follows: Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, R. Andrew Robertson; Vice Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, Frances L. Menard; Selectmen Joseph E. Stone and Paul P. Dinneen; Assistant Moderator, James T. Alexander; Assistant Moderator on the Floor, Douglas Leavitt; Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Cynthia E. Heon; Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Jeanette L. Foisy; Assistant to the Clerk, Donna Cisewski.

Other officials present were: Chairman of the Supervisors of the Checklist, Cherie Sanborn; Supervisors Diane Valade and Katherine Williams; Ballot Clerks Irene Shores and Barbara Daley assisted by Ella Sawyer, Suzanne Sherburne, Judy Hartgen and Debra Clark; Inspectors of Elections, Karen Mailhot, George Clark, Kevin Barry, Roger Hartgen, George Keech and Rebecca Hutchinson.

On Tuesday March 9, 2004 the election of Town Officials was held. The local public offices require a lot of time, and attention, and the work is sometimes thankless and often criticized. Their willingness to serve is appreciated and the newly elected officials should come forward immediately following the adjournment of this meeting. Once sworn in they will officially assume their positions. The Moderator read the list of officials elected on March 9, 2004 noting some of the write-in candidates had not officially accepted, or declined, some of the positions. On the ballot was the question of adopting voting by official ballot (SB2), which was defeated.

Moment of Silence

Since the townspeople last met in this forum, members of the community have passed away. Moderator Hutchinson recognized their accomplishments. Reading from the Town Report Dedication Moderator Hutchinson quoted; "The Deerfield Board of Selectmen would like to dedicate this edition of the Annual Town Report to the memory of five individuals that have helped shape the character of Deerfield with their dedication and love for the Community; Steven J. Cruikshank, Roger C. King, William "Bill" O'Neal, Rodney P. Swanson and Thomas L. Fowke." The Moderator added a sixth, George W. Owen. The Moderator requested a Moment of Silence to remember them.

Conduct of the Meeting

The Moderator reviewed the rules of the meeting. He noted it is important members have access to the meeting and the right to express their thoughts within the bounds of propriety. Discussion should stay on the topic, or topics of choice, as ruled appropriate by the Moderator.

Registered voters wishing to vote, at this meeting, should have checked in with the Ballot Clerks, received a Blue Voting Card and a sheet of Blue Yes/No Ballots. All individuals present who are not registered voters of the Town of Deerfield must be seated in the area designated to the left of the Moderator and are permitted to participate in debate but not to vote.

Roberts Rules of Order, as modified by the Moderator, in accordance with the laws of the State of New Hampshire will govern this meeting. The Moderator will read each article in the Town Warrant and seek a motion and a second. The maker of the motion will speak first and then the floor will be opened to all.

Members wishing to speak must approach a microphone and will be recognized in turn. All remarks are recorded to assist the Clerk in making an accurate record of this Meeting.

Remarks must be confined to the merits of the pending question or the questions of order, or privilege, and must be addressed to the Moderator. Members are asked to state their name prior to speaking. Each speaker will be allowed three minutes. All members must have a first turn before anyone has a second turn. The overriding principal is fairness. Remarks must be directed to the pending question but no one can address a question and move the question in the same turn. A Secret Ballot can be conducted by a written request of five members prior to a hand vote. Such a request must be for a specific vote not all votes in this meeting or all amendments. The Secret Ballot provision is intended for secrecy and not a tactic for delay.

In general, voting will be by a show of voting cards. If the Moderator cannot judge a clear majority, he will move to a division. If a member is not satisfied the result as announced by the Moderator is correct, the member should request a division. A division is a count of the raised cards.

Seven members who question any result of any non-ballot vote immediately after it is announced may request a written ballot vote. If the margin of the vote by division is narrow, the Moderator may also move to a ballot vote. Five voters may request a recount of a ballot vote providing that the vote margin is not more than 10% of the total vote cast. The recount takes place immediately following the announcement of that vote.

If there is something a member wishes to accomplish but is uncertain how to proceed, they should ask. If something is unclear, members should rise to a Point of inquiry. The role of the Moderator is to fairly organize and regulate the meeting with rules agreeable to the members. Parliamentary rulings of the Moderator are subject to appeal by any member. An appeal must immediately follow the ruling and a second is required. The members would vote to sustain or reverse the ruling.

The Moderator directed everyone to the business of the day, the Warrant.

Article 1

- a. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,800,000) (gross budget) for the construction and original equipping of a new Safety Services Complex (Police/Fire/Rescue/Emergency Management); and
- b. To authorize the issuance of not more than One Million Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,800,000) of bonds and notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and amendments thereto enabling for the purpose of defraying the costs of the foregoing and to authorize the municipal officials to determine the time and place of payment and the rate of interest on such notes or bonds and to take such other actions as may be necessary to effect the issuance and sale of such bonds and notes; and
- c. To authorize the Selectmen to apply for, negotiate, contract for, seek and do all other things necessary to obtain such Federal and State grant-in-aid, contributions and assistance as may be available for the construction of the Safety Services Complex (Police/Fire/Rescue/Emergency Management), and to adopt any vote relating thereto; and
- d. To authorize the Selectmen to do all things necessary or convenient to carry the foregoing into effect, including, without limitations, the employment of engineers and the execution in the name of the Town of a contract or contracts for the construction of the Safety Services Complex (Police/Fire/Rescue/Emergency Management).

Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, R. Andrew Robertson moved Article 1 as written. Seconded by Selectman Joe Stone. Chairman Robertson deferred to James Alexander, Chairman of the Safety Services Committee.

Mr. Alexander said that last year the Safety Services Committee discussed the messages received at last year's Town Meeting: (1) Yes, there is a need for the facility. (2) No, not at that price because the taxpayers could not afford \$2,500,000.

To obtain more information, the Committee mailed a survey to all residents. The Committee looked at what was proposed last year and went forward changing to a design build concept and working directly with the contractor. This is a major savings in costs by eliminating one tier of expense. The Committee was referred to the firm that constructed the Deerfield's Senior Housing. The Committee met with Project Manager, Kelley Lineberry, of Chicoine Construction, who is available today for questions.

Because the building is on one floor, with a slightly larger footprint, the elevator could be eliminated along with a great deal of site work. This pulled the price down by another \$100,000. Each department gave up some space by sharing areas they could use commonly. This resulted in a further price decrease.

The final result is a much simpler design that is more in harmony with Deerfield's architecture and close to \$1,000,000 less in costs. Approximately .80 cents would be added to the tax rate for the first year, which is the worst year. Each succeeding year, as the tax base continues to grow and the principal payment on the bond is reduced, the cost would be less. There are handouts available, which provide further detail as well as the plans for the building.

The Moderator recognized Chief of Police, Robert Wunderlich who described the Police Department's needs for this facility.

The Police Department is currently located in an old classroom at the G. B. White Building. The total space is 2,500 square feet if hallways are included. Interviews cannot be conducted with any confidentiality. The evidence room is directly across from the daycare and creates the situation of having to walk, with firearms or drugs, in and amongst the children in the hallways.

Major incidents draw a lot of news media. An example is the tragic shootings in December, which totally affected the way the Town Offices tried to operate that day. Whenever there are prisoners, and they need to use the restroom, they are marched down the hallway. During business hours the Town Offices are affected. Last Tuesday night following elections, late at night, the employees were leaving and as they stepped into the hallway they were confronted with one of the Officers bringing a prisoner to the restroom.

Chief Wunderlich summed up his statement that there is Officer safety issues, and safety issues for the public, combined with not having the room to operate.

To speak on behalf of the Deerfield Volunteer Fire Department (DVFD), Fire Chief, Mark Tibbetts was recognized. He stated that over the years he has served on this Committee because it is his job to look at the current problems and find solutions to correct them. Whatever the problems are the DVFD members have done, and always do, their jobs.

The mirrors on the fire trucks clear by one inch on each side. The height of the trucks leaves little clearance in the bays. When new apparatus is ordered, care must be taken to make sure it will fit in the Fire Station. To repack hoses, on top of the fire trucks, firefighters almost have to be on their stomachs to accomplish the task.

When mutual aid, from other communities, is required the visiting town must leave their vehicles outside the station because they do not fit inside the Fire Station. Chief Tibbetts told of an incident where a resident complained because a truck ran all night. There was little that could be done as the truck had to run to keep the water circulating.

In addition to the above issues, there is no good way to clear the exhaust from vehicles out of the Fire Station even though it is an OSHA regulation. Tight quarters make it difficult to get into compartments of the trucks and also to service the trucks. The building itself is showing signs of being in need of repairs.

The proposed facility would be adequate for the DVFD for the next 20 years. The volunteers would appreciate the facility and continue doing a good job for the community.

When the Deerfield Community School (DCS) is evacuated, two buildings are used; the G. B. White Building and the Historic Town Hall. This facility would house the entire population of the DCS. The Fire Department is aware the Police Department is in a worse shape than the DVFD but it is cost effective to put all of the emergency services together in one facility.

Chief Tibbetts stated it is the right time given the interest rates on bonds. No matter how the people vote today, the DVFD will continue to give the community the best possible service. There was a round of applause.

Chairman Robertson shared other reasons why the Board of Selectmen supported this article. The first reason being it is the optimal time combined with optimal interest rates. The second reason is the Selectmen recognize, and appreciate, everything that is done for the community by the volunteers in this community and by the Police Department. The Selectmen consider the matter of morale and a matter of pride that would come from having a facility that is usable.

Elbert Bicknell, Chairman of the Municipal Budget Committee (MBC) addressed the action of the MBC on Article 1. The actual vote was No-1; Yes-8; Abstentions-1. Mr. Bicknell echoed some of what Chairman Robertson said which is the building is needed. Last year, Mr. Bicknell was against the building and spoke against it and voted against it. This year, he favors the facility as interest rates are right and Mr. Alexander, and the Committee, have done a good job bringing everything into focus for \$1,800,000. There is more in this Safety Complex for \$1,800,000 than the one for \$2,500,000. Mr. Bicknell toured the Police Department and indicated it was clear to him the Town is a call away from a civil lawsuit. Mr. Bicknell urged the voters to provide the Town, the Police Department and Fire Department with what they need by voting in favor of Article 1.

With no further questions or comments on Article 1, Moderator Hutchinson explained the voting process, for Article 1, as more formal because it falls under a separate law governing bonds. Voters will pass through a separate checklist and receive a special ballot for this bond article. Voting booths are available and also a table for voters to mark their ballot. From there, voters will drop their ballots in the ballot box. After most have voted, the meeting will take up other business. Because it is a bond article, the polls will remain open for one hour. The Ballot Box was shown to be empty.

ARTICLE 1-POLLS OPEN

9:25AM Moderator Jonathan Hutchinson re-read Article 1 and **DECLARED THE POLLS OPEN** for voting on **ARTICLE 1**.

Point of Order

Moderator Hutchinson stated there was a request not to take up Article 2 until the results from Article 1 were known. He asked for a motion to suspend the rules and take up Article 3 out of order.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES: Gary Roberge made a motion to **SUSPEND THE RULES** and **TAKE** up **ARTICLE 3 OUT OF ORDER**. The motion was seconded.

Mr. Roberge stated the purpose of requesting Article 3 be taken out of order is to obtain the results of Article 1 to learn what level of bonding the Town would be at before voting on Article 2.

VOTE: The Moderator called for the vote to suspend the rules and take up Article 3. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **AFFIRMATIVE**. **SUSPENSION OF THE RULES IS ADOPTED**. Article 3 will be taken up at this time.

Article 3

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Six Thousand Six Hundred Dollars (\$36,600) for the purpose of purchasing one 2004 model year Chevrolet 1500, all wheel drive, Express Cargo Van. Purchase to include all necessary shelving, storage cabinets and emergency safety equipment. Vehicle to be used as a first response support vehicle for the Deerfield Rescue Squad.

Chairman of the Board, R. Andrew Robertson moved Article 3 as written. Seconded by Selectman Joe Stone. Chairman Robertson deferred to Barbie Raymond, President of the Rescue Squad.

Ms. Raymond said the Deerfield Rescue Squad believed it was time to replace the 1998 Jeep, Rescue 1. The Jeep has served the Rescue Squad well but is in need of costly repairs to insure its dependability. Several years ago the Rescue Squad established a truck committee to consider all options from new vehicles such as ambulances to vehicles that could be purchased from State Surplus. It seemed that as much time was spent working on the Jeep as helping people.

The Rescue Squad, with help from Firefighter Warren Billings, designed a van. The low cost, all wheel drive vehicle was chosen to replace the Jeep. Raymond Ambulance transports the majority of the Rescue Squad's patients to surrounding hospitals and has said the service will continue as long as needed. The Deerfield Rescue Squad is a volunteer service of 12 members who, last year, answered 164 calls. The Rescue Squad is requesting a vehicle that is safe and reliable not only for their equipment but also for the members. The new van will allow for new medications to be kept in double locked compartments and fluids that must be kept warm. Ms. Raymond hoped the voters would act favorably on the purchase of the vehicle.

ARTICLE 3

VOTE: There was no discussion. The Moderator re-read Article 3 and called for the vote. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **AFFIRMATIVE** and so declared. The motion carries and Article 3 is adopted in the amount of **\$36,600**.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES: Richard Boisvert made a motion to **SUSPEND THE RULES** and delay taking up Article 2 until the results of Article 1 are announced. Seconded by Gary Roberge.

VOTE: The Moderator called for the vote. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **AFFIRMATIVE**. **SUSPENSION OF THE RULES IS ADOPTED.**

Article 4

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Six Thousand Six Hundred Twenty Three Dollars (\$26,623) for the purchase of a new Police Cruiser.

Chairman of the Board, R. Andrew Robertson moved Article 4 as written. Seconded by Selectman Paul Dinneen. Chairman Robertson deferred to Chief of Police, Robert Wunderlich.

Chief Wunderlich said the new cruiser would replace the 1996 vehicle, which was previously rebuilt. The 1996 vehicle has an estimated 300,000 miles on it and just barely passed inspection a few weeks ago.

ARTICLE 4

VOTE: There was no discussion. The Moderator re-read Article 4 and called for the vote. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **AFFIRMATIVE** and so declared. The motion carries and Article 4 is adopted in the amount of **\$26,623**.

Article 5

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a three year lease agreement for Twenty Five Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Three Dollars (\$25,533) for the purpose of leasing a Highway Department Truck, and to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Thousand Five Hundred Eleven Dollars (\$8,511) for the first year's payment for that purpose. This lease agreement contains an escape clause.

Selectman Joe Stone moved Article 5 as written. Seconded by Selectman Paul Dinneen. Selectman Stone deferred to Highway Agent, Alex Cote.

Mr. Cote explained vehicles/equipment purchased at the White Farm are a good thing if the vehicles/equipment are to see limited use. Because Mr. Cote got stuck on several occasions, he thought it more fitting to look for a 4-wheel drive vehicle.

Mr. Cote looked at the White Farm where some used vehicles fit the need. The vehicles ranged from 1995-1997 models, mileage in excess of 140,000 and a price range of \$5,500 to \$7,500. All vehicles at the White Farm are sold, as is, with no warranties and have generally been turned in for a reason.

Mr. Cote then went to Grappone Ford who has been awarded the bid for some of the State vehicles. Ford Motor Company offers programs to municipalities through the State process. Mr. Cote obtained the specifications on a 2004 Ford, F250, 3/4 Ton Pickup, with an 8-foot Fisher Plow. This option adds another plow truck, replaces the current vehicle issued to the Highway Agent, could handle smaller roads, remove snow from dangerous intersections and support Fire, Rescue and Police Departments during storms. The cost options were to buy the truck outright for \$23,947 or lease the vehicle for \$8,510 per year. Leasing costs \$1,056 more than if the vehicle is purchased outright and is slightly more than a vehicle purchased at the White Farm. Mr. Cote recommended the lease option to the Board of Selectmen and to the Municipal Budget Committee (MBC).

The shortcomings of the current Highway Department patrol truck were described to the meeting. Mr. Cote also explained the escape clause included in the lease agreement kept the Town from being bound to the total price if a future Town Meeting did not support the appropriation.

The buyout is \$1.

Joe Sears asked if the vehicle came equipped with a sander. Mr. Cote answered no.

ARTICLE 5

VOTE: Seeing no further discussion, the Moderator re-read Article 5 and called for the vote. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **AFFIRMATIVE** and so declared. The motion carries and Article 5 is adopted in the amount of **\$8,511**.

ARTICLE 1-POLLS CLOSED

10:29AM Moderator Jonathan Hutchinson stated the Polls for voting on Article 1- the Safety Services Complex, Bond Authorization, had been open for one hour and asked anyone to come forward who wished to vote and had not done so yet. No one came forward. The **POLLS** were **DECLARED CLOSED** for voting on Article 1. The counting of ballots began immediately.

Article 6

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Four Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty Six Dollars (\$24,826) for the purchase of a 2004 Chevrolet Tahoe for the Deerfield Volunteer Fire Department.

Chairman of the Board, R. Andrew Robertson moved Article 6 as written. Seconded by Selectman Paul Dinneen. Chairman Robertson deferred to Fire Chief, Mark Tibbetts.

The 1993 Ford Taurus, used by Chief Tibbetts, for the past six years, has been costly to keep up and has been towed back to the Fire Station on several occasions. It is not expected to be on the road much longer. The vehicle is used to do inspections, go to meetings and to the Fire Marshals Office. Over the years, the vehicle has cost the Fire Department and Chief Tibbetts a lot of money.

Chief Tibbetts considered a vehicle from the White Farm, with over 100,000 miles, which cost \$5,000 and an additional \$3,000 is required to equip it. When the request came before the Municipal Budget Committee (MBC), the suggestion was to look for something that would last and had a warranty. Chief Tibbetts researched used vehicles that priced out at \$16,000 for model years 2002 and 2003. Hilltop Chevrolet, who has the State bid, quoted \$24,826 for a 2004 Chevrolet Tahoe, which included a warranty. Chief Tibbetts sought the meetings support for the Tahoe, as the vehicle would serve the Fire Department for 10 years.

ARTICLE 6

VOTE: There was no discussion. The Moderator re-read Article 6 and called for the vote. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **AFFIRMATIVE** and so declared. The motion carries and Article 6 is adopted in the amount of **\$24,826**.

Article 7

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eighteen Thousand Three Hundred Fifty Two Dollars (\$18,352) for equipment to be purchased through the Homeland Security Grant. The funds will be 100% offset by the Department of Safety, Office of Homeland Security in Concord, NH and Washington DC.

Chairman of the Board, R. Andrew Robertson moved Article 7 as written. Seconded by Selectman Paul Dinneen. Chairman Robertson deferred to Fire Chief, Mark Tibbetts.

In 2003, almost every community in the State of New Hampshire was awarded Homeland Security Grants. Chief Tibbetts said Deerfield was awarded two such grants totaling \$18,352. There was a list of approved equipment that could be purchased. The State of New Hampshire and Washington DC approved the items Deerfield chose. In order to complete the grant requirements, the Town must put the money up first and then it will be 100% reimbursed.

Frank Mitchell request the list of items be read to the meeting. Chief Tibbetts read the list as follows:

(1) Photo ID Machine (2) Astro Digital Base Set (3) Astro Digital Portable-including Charger and Carrying Case (4) NTN1168 Rapid 110SVC (5) H4TT ALT Astro (6) Carrying Case (7) Portable Honda Generator - 500 watts (8) Portable Honda Generator - 650 watts (9) Plastic Turtle Tile & Cribbing

Harriet Cady pointed out that everyone was hearing about free money, 100% match, but this is really funded by income tax money, which means the taxpayer pays for the purchases either way.

When Mrs. Cady attended the Public Hearing she spoke vigorously against the photo ID machine of \$4,500 used for 100 employees. The Deerfield Community School (DCS) does ID's every time they take photo's so the school children would not have to be done. It is not something the Town has to do. If the cost per ID were distributed among 100 employees the ID's would cost \$45 per person. If voters are to look at efficiency and saving money in government, the employees should have their picture taken when they get their license because it is only an extra \$10 per ID.

Mrs. Cady explained that every time free money is voted into the budget, the tax rate is added to. The following year the budget doesn't go

back to zero but it would be stated the budget only went up 3%. This is 3% with all the add-ons, which are not used again, but the money is raised in taxes.

Harriet Cady urged the voters to carefully remember that it is not free and to vote no on Article 7. She remarked the taxpayer will pay here, or they will pay there, but will pay and it isn't something the Town needs.

Paul Royal urged the voters to vote in favor of Article 7 and confirm the expertise of those who have looked at this rather than use this as a guideline for improving overall Federal efficiency, which can't be accomplished today.

ARTICLE 7

VOTE: Discussion ended and the Moderator re-read Article 7 and called for the vote. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **AFFIRMATIVE** and so declared. The motion carries and Article 7 is adopted in the amount of **\$18,352**.

Article 8

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) for the purpose of hiring a part-time Town Planner. The planner will be shared with the Town of Northwood with equal time between the two communities. This article is contingent upon passage of a similar article in the Town of Northwood. This article is designed as a special warrant article.

Chairman of the Board, R. Andrew Robertson stated the Selectmen would take no action on Article 8 and deferred to Fred McGarry, Chairman of the Planning Board for the explanation.

Mr. McGarry informed everyone the Town of Northwood did not present the proposal to their voters. The Planning Board did not find it appropriate to proceed with Article 8 but will return during the Planning Board Budget to address the issue.

ARTICLE 8-WITHDRAWN

ARTICLE 1-BALLOT VOTE

Town Moderator, Jonathan Hutchinson announced the results of the Ballot Vote on Article 1, the Bond Article for the Safety Services Complex. **YES 237 NO 162**

There were a total of 399 ballots cast and one unmarked ballot. For Article 1 to pass a two thirds vote (264 affirmative votes) is required. Moderator Hutchinson declared Article 1 did not receive a two-thirds majority vote and was **DEFEATED**. The motion did not carry.

Article 2

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,500,000) for the permanent protection of open space to help stabilize taxes and protect the rural character of the Town by acquisition of conservation easements or purchase of land (including any buildings and structures incidental thereto); said funds to be raised through the issuance of Bonds; and to authorize the Selectmen and the Conservation Commission, to act on behalf of the Town with respect to such acquisitions of land or conservation easements pursuant to NH RSA 36-A, provided, however, that such bonding authority shall expire at the conclusion of Fiscal Year 2008; and to authorize the Selectmen to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver such bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (NH RSA Chapter 33) and to determine the maturity date thereof, provided, however, that no such bonds shall be issued with a term of maturity of less than fifteen (15) years.

Chairman of the Board, R. Andrew Robertson moved Article 2 as written. Seconded by Selectman Paul Dinneen.

Before Chairman Robertson deferred to Erick Berglund of the Deerfield Opens Space Committee (DOSC) and the Deerfield Conservation Commission (DCC), he stated that the Selectmen did support Article 2. There wasn't total agreement regarding the amount but the Selectmen saw the hard work that had gone into Article 2 and it deserved to come to the floor, of this meeting, with the Selectmen's recommendation. Chairman Robertson deferred to Erick Berglund.

Erick Berglund came before the meeting as a member of the DOSC and the DCC. Information was provided to the voters in a handout, which Mr. Berglund encouraged everyone to pick up.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES

Erick Berglund moved to Suspend the Rules, for Article 2, to be allowed to speak longer than three minutes but no more than 15 minutes. Seconded by Barbara Mathews.

VOTE: The Moderator called for the vote to **SUSPEND THE RULES** and allow for a 15-minute presentation. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **AFFIRMATIVE** and so declared.

The motion carries.

Mr. Berglund spoke of the choice being presented to the voters today by the DOSC and DCC. The choice is about the future of Deerfield in the form of a question. Will you choose open space protection to preserve Deerfield's rural character, natural resources, woodlands, air and water quality, scenic areas and wildlife?

In a 1996 survey of Deerfield citizens published in the 1999 Master Plan, over 340 respondents painted the vision of Deerfield as being the small, quaint, quiet, rural, country community that was to be preserved as such. The most treasured feature of Deerfield was the character of a small, rural New England Town. Other attributes identified were scenery, open spaces, clean air and water, forests and lands, farms, parks, Town Forests, historic character and a sense of community.

Today significant growth is occurring and concentrated in Southern New Hampshire. Between the years of 1990 and 2000, the State's population has increased 11.4% and 46,000 single family homes have been built. In Deerfield, the population has increased 18%. The strong growth trend is expected to continue. Over the next 20 years, it is anticipated 85% of that growth will be in Rockingham, Hillsborough, Strafford and Merrimack Counties. Planned expansion of I-93, to eight lanes, will accelerate the growth. The average number of new homes each year, for the past five years, has been 45. In 2004, a major increase in residential development will occur as there are 89 new house lots proposed.

Mr. Berglund asked the meeting to fast forward to 20 years from now and imagine what Deerfield would be like. The community of Deerfield can influence the future outcome. Mr. Berglund quoted from Edward McMahon, of the Conservation Fund; "Growth is evitable, and desirable, but destruction of community character is not. The question is not whether your part of the world is going to change; the question is how." Mr. Berglund posed the question to the meeting of how the voters could influence the future of Deerfield. While growth cannot be stopped, and that would not be desirable, a choice could be to permanently protect some of Deerfield's open, undeveloped space that could be threatened by development going forward.

The proposed open space bond authorization will enable Deerfield to take action now to permanently protect some of Deerfield's special places. Erick Berglund deferred to Erik Gross for an explanation of how the bond authorization works.

Erik Gross, a DOSC member, began by saying that many towns in New Hampshire have attempted to pass articles similar to the one before Deerfield voters with some successes and some failures.

Describing the major difference between this bond authorization and those typically seen is the money is not received all at once for a specific project such as a school or an emergency services building. The \$2.5 million before the voters is a projection of what would be required for conservation projects that come forward, or are sought out, over the next several years. Some conservation projects are in the pipeline but others are not known. The authorization would expire in 2008.

Erik Gross directed voters to page 2 of the handout and explained the tax impact of this bond authorization. The first few years the tax impact is relatively small. The illustration broke out the \$2.5 million into even increments to provide an example. In the first few years, there would be interim bond financing called Bond Anticipation notes (BAN's). Initially only the interest is paid. In two or three years, based on the laws, the notes would be turned over into a full bond. There are transaction costs for BAN's and much larger transaction costs with a full bond. The transaction costs do not show in the illustration because they are small compared to the bond.

At the end of the five years, if projects were located, and bonds in place, then repayment of the bond, principal and interest, would begin. In the illustration year seven or eight reflects the highest tax impact of \$.88 and declines over time. If monies were not spent by the year 2008, the authority under Article 2 will lapse and funds not spent go away. Mr. Gross reminded everyone the money is not borrowed up front but as needed.

Erick Berglund stated the DOSC and the DCC are ready to move forward with land protection. They have formulated an approach for valuation of potential properties based on established conservation criteria. Actions today could enhance the quality of life for Deerfield for all of us, our children and for generations to come.

Four questions have come forward quite frequently that Mr. Berglund wished to cover before the floor was opened to comments or questions.

Question: What is the advantage to a bond authorization such as what is proposed?

Answer: The funds are available when needed and only pay for the amount used lessening the tax impact in any given year. The Town could take advantage of any matching fund opportunities from the State or Federal government.

Question: Why do we need the bond issue now?

Answer: Deerfield's open space is being converted to development at an alarming rate. The bonding authority satisfies the need to be prepared, to act promptly, respond to emerging opportunities and compete with developers to preserve open space.

Question: Will there be public access to these properties?

Answer: Expect some form of access on a portion of any property where public funds are used to buy development rights.

Question: Will hunting be allowed?

Answer: The landowner has the right to allow or limit hunting just as they do today.

Elbert Bicknell, Chairman of the Municipal Budget Committee (MBC) explained why the MBC recommended Article 2. It wasn't because they were all in favor of Article 2 or all against Article 2. The MBC, as did the Board of Selectmen, believed it should be up to the voters of the Town.

Speaking of his own views, Mr. Bicknell stated he was not against conservation. He has serious reservations on the \$2.5 million of bond money because whenever the funding is used, during the five-year period, the interest rates will not be at today's rates. He asked voters to consider that at some point in time the Town of Deerfield will be looking for a safety complex, an increase in space for the Deerfield Community School or a new school. He thought voters should think about what bonding \$2.5 million might mean to those projects.

Joanne Wasson stated if she is being asked to contribute tax money to a \$2.5 million fund, she wanted to know where it was going to go. There have been a lot of conservation easements in the Town of Deerfield to this point. Some of them have been worthwhile and others are backlands, rocky or steep slopes. Ms. Wasson preferred a provision that the easement would come to the voters on each particular acquisition. There is precious little farmland left in Deerfield and some could be protected. She believed voters would be delighted about the easement and more than likely to dig down in their pocketbooks to support such a purchase. In her mind, Article 2 is buying the preverbal pig in the poke, as it is not known what will be done with it. A round of applause.

Denise Fahey wanted to think that passage of this proposal would alleviate the need for the Safety Complex and buy time to research what to do about a high school. Mrs. Fahey asked what projects were in the pipeline and if this proposal supported conservation of open space through cluster development.

Erick Berglund indicated there were three projects in various stages and preferred not to disclose the names. When questioned as to the confidentiality, Mr. Berglund stated the projects are being negotiated.

One that he could share is the Rosenfield-Malette Easement involving property at the end of Nottingham Road. It is in Nottingham and Deerfield and abuts Pawtuckaway State Park. This is a joint venture between the Town of Deerfield, the Town of Nottingham and Bear Paw Regional Greenways, a land trust, of which Deerfield is a member.

Another property, that speaks to what Joanne Wasson mentioned previously, is an 80-acre parcel near center of Deerfield known as the Clifford property. Of that, 40 acres are prime agricultural land. The owner is interested in protecting the land and the DOSC and DCC will continue to work with the landowner. Grants will be sought through the Farmland Protection Program.

Kate Hartnett, Planning Board Vice Chair, Deerfield Open Space Committee (DOSC) Co-Chair and member of the Deerfield Conservation Commission (DCC) spoke to the relationship between this concept and cluster development. Ms. Hartnett stated Article 2 is just for conservation easements for land protection. As to how land is subdivided, or cluster development considered, this is accomplished through the Planning Board and subdivision requirements. They are entirely separate activities but very much connected.

Nancy Gross favored Article 2 as she grew up in Southern New Hampshire on the border of Massachusetts. She moved to Deerfield because she wanted her children to grow up in a town similar to the one she grew up in. The town she grew up in doesn't exist anymore, most fields have homes in them and no vistas remain. Mrs. Gross described the kind of Deerfield she wanted for her family; that being, a place children could play in the woods, run in the fields, swim in the ponds and not a town of 10,000 people.

Guy Daniels thanked the DOSC and DCC for the work they do. Mr. Daniels was all for conservation, preserving Deerfield and agreed with the projections for growth in Southern New Hampshire. The only part he did not agree with was the \$2.5 million. Mr. Daniels looked at the future and saw the need for school issues to be resolved and a Safety Services Complex.

Thoughts Mr. Daniels shared as possible solutions were: (1) In a conversation with Selectman Joe Stone, Mr. Daniels learned there are funds from taking land out of Current Use and go to the DCC, a practice that should continue. (2) Perhaps increase the minimum lot size from three to five acres. (3) Fiscal responsibility in terms of curbing the vicious cycle that most towns in this area are faced with.

In the two years Mr. Daniels has lived in Deerfield, his taxes have increased 16% whereas annual earnings have barely kept up with inflation. Consequently, large landowners sell off parcels of land. The need is for people to act fiscally responsible so as not to force others to sell their land, subdivide and put more school aged children in the system.

Gary Roberge questioned what dollar amount was in the Conservation Commission's Fund from the Land Use Change Tax and how the DOSC and DCC would determine what to spend for development rights. Chairman Robertson answered to the value, of the fund, from the Land Use Change Tax, as being a little over \$307,000. In response to Mr. Roberge's second question, Mr. Berglund referred everyone to question number eleven in the handout. A recommendation would be based on standard criteria, public hearings would be held and the Board of Selectmen would have final approval. The DOSC and DCC have and will continue to receive help from the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension. With the current projects in the pipeline, the money in the fund will be gone. The DOSC and DCC have always said they would not come before the Town requesting funds without purpose.

John Richards mentioned walking in the area of the Deerfield Parade frequently and he was pleased to say that he rarely encountered a traffic jam. Not wanting to find State Route 107 looking like South Willow Street in Manchester, Mr. Richards supported this article. He further commented that the meeting could quibble all day but "the problem ain't going away and it ain't going to get any better." A round of applause.

MOTION TO CLOSE DEBATE

Timothy Godbois made a motion to Close Debate and move the Question. Seconded by Steve Rollins. The Moderator noted there were six

people waiting to speak.

VOTE: Moderator Hutchinson called for the vote to **CLOSE DEBATE AND MOVE THE QUESTION.** The result of **HAND VOTE** was in the **NEGATIVE** and so declared. **DEBATE ON ARTICLE 2 REMAINS OPEN.**

REQUEST FOR DIVISION OF THE HOUSE

Selectman Joe Stone requested a Division of the House. The Moderator moved to a Division of the House. The Inspectors of Elections began the count.

VOTE: The Moderator read the results of the **COUNTED HAND VOTE.**

The Vote was: **YES 180 NO 159.**

There were 339 votes counted. The two-thirds majority was not achieved and the Moderator declared the **MOTION TO CLOSE DEBATE AND MOVE THE QUESTION IS DEFEATED.**

Bob Davitt wanted to know if the funds, from Article 2, would be used to purchase development rights or the property itself. Erick Berglund said the preferred tool was purchasing development rights through conservation easements. The owner continues to live on the property and they get a tax break.

Listening to peoples concerns over higher taxes, Bob Davitt saw passage of Article 2 as achieving lower taxes. The Federal Government is cutting back on what they give the states and the towns, which drives the local taxes up. A way to lower taxes is to preserve open space. Mr. Davitt drew on his expertise gained from serving on the Pelham Conservation Commission, for five years, as Chairman.

Bob Davitt commented that the squirrels and the deer don't require taxpayer's services but people in houses do. With growth, comes the need for more schools, police, fire and larger municipal buildings. Voting for Article 2 would permanently keep property from being developed. Mr. Davitt reiterated Mr. Berglund's statement that upon the purchase of development rights the original owner can live on the property, sell it or pass on the property to heirs, but the property cannot be developed. The property is not taken off the tax rolls. Mr. Davitt remarked there isn't a way to make more land and while this process will not stop growth, it will slow it down. There was a round of applause.

Paul Royal stated it was more than appropriate to thank the DOSC and DCC for looking out for this Town and being forward thinking. There was a round of applause.

However, Mr. Royal found himself in a moment where he never thought he would be and that is in total agreement with the Honorable Mr. Bicknell. Mr. Royal didn't want voters to under-estimate the impact of the proposed bond. He favored conservation but not in favor of the kind of latitude the DCC is asking for. The thought that if Town growth were slowed down, the Town would not need a Safety Services Complex was not, in Mr. Royal's opinion, true. To Mr. Royal, the Safety Services Complex was overdue and would only increase in price.

Point of Order

Moderator Jonathan Hutchinson asked that Mr. Royal speak only to Article 2.

Paul Royal pointed out that because some of the indebtedness was taken away by not voting in favor of the Safety Services Complex it should be easier to work with the \$2.5 million but it isn't. It isn't because the indebtedness will come. Mr. Royal stated he is new to Deerfield, which by definition is having resided here less than 20 years. He would not want to see Deerfield to be overgrown but the Town is a long way from being South Willow Street. He quoted Oliver Wendell Holmes who once said; "Taxes are the price we pay for living in a civilized society."

Chairman Robertson remarked that many had asked him how he, as a Selectman, could support this. He has qualms about the dollar amount but sees essentially two ways that a community can preserve open space. One is through ordinances and regulations, which in his opinion takes away peoples rights through things like growth moratoriums and larger lot sizes.

Chairman Robertson commented Article 2 is a much more honest approach for a community to go after. If the community values open space, they pay for it and not take it through excess regulation.

Richard Boisvert shared the cost of one child's education from kindergarten through eighth grade as being \$80,000. It will not take many new homes, with added students, to hit the cost of this bond article. The cost is immediate as the family moves here and the children go to school. While he saw the value to Article 2, he also saw friends, neighbors and himself concerned about the amount of money.

AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 2

Richard Boisvert moved to amend Article 2, the bond for open space acquisition, to **DECREASE** the amount **FROM \$2,500,000 TO \$1,250,000.** Seconded by Fred McGarry.

Richard Boisvert's reason for proposing the amendment was he saw this as more acceptable to the community. The unfortunate defeat of Article 1, for the Safety Services Complex, led him to believe that he could not see asking taxpayers to spend \$2,500,000, for open space, even though there are economic, environmental and living benefits. Mr. Boisvert did not bring the amendment forward as a procedural game. It is simply his idea.

VOTE: There was no further discussion on the Amendment. The Moderator went directly to the vote on the **AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE**

2 to **DECREASE** the amount from **\$2,500,000 TO \$1,250,000**. The **HAND VOTE** was in the **AFFIRMATIVE** and so declared. Article 2 is amended to **\$1,250,000**.

to the main motion, Article 2, as amended, in the amount of \$1,250,000.

Denise Greig spoke of this being the time and urged voters to take the opportunity. If put off, in five years landscape will be very different. She suggested voters think about what they want for Deerfield because the longer the delay the more difficult it will become.

When the DOSC and DCC came to the Selectmen and presented the article, Selectman Stone voted in favor because he wanted Article 2 discussed at Town Meeting. Today, he will vote no and for the following reasons: (1) Selectman Stone believed when this was first presented to the Board, and even more so now, that it is the wrong time because the Selectmen were trying to get something that was desperately needed, the Safety Services Complex. (2) Three years ago, the Town voted to give the money acquired from land coming out of Current Use to the DCC. Each year, the funds have been turned over to the DCC and now total \$307,000. (3) Selectman Stone is a strong believer in conservation. However, with the Safety Service Complex most likely returning next year, he wanted to protect the Town's ability to secure a bond.

Frank Mitchell spoke in favor the Article 2 finding it one of the most cost effective investments the Town could make. Every residential property loses money for the Town annually. Investing in conservation now prevents that on the properties involved. More importantly it will help protect the places in Deerfield that people have come to love and that make this Town special. The DOSC and DCC have done an exceptional job in putting together a process they will use to select properties, which will give the Town the most results for their money. Mr. Mitchell found it unfortunate that an open space bond is seen as working against some of the Town services costs that the community faces. One is the result of growth and the other, at least in part, is the solution. Mr. Mitchell urged voters to support Article 2 as a means of looking out for the financial future, of Deerfield, through this investment and preserving the character of the Town. There was a round of applause.

Warren Billings thanked the DOSC and DCC. He wished he could get his arms around the proposal and support it but he could not. Mr. Billings hasn't lived here all his life yet, but he is a native. He loved Deerfield 30 years ago but if this discussion were held then, most of the people involved in this discussion would not be here. It bothers him, more than just a little bit, because people come to this community because it is a fine community, offers a great education system and has good volunteer support. As soon as they arrive, the issue is to limit the growth. Mr. Billings wished growth could be limited in a more productive manner. He wished voters would commit to changing the Governor's Office so there is a taxation program more conducive to elderly people keeping large parcels of land. Mr. Billings considers this a Band-Aid approach. He loves open space, understands the concept and realizes Deerfield's squirrels don't pay taxes.

Fifteen years ago, Mr. Billings built a home 500 yards from where he was born. If there was a moratorium, or such at that time, he may, or may not, have been able to do that which he resents. Deerfield is an open community, a welcoming community but Deerfield has reached a point where a young couple, with two children, have to pay between \$300,000-\$400,000 to procure property to build a home. This, to Mr. Billings, is shameful. Cheers and applause rose from the audience.

If woodlands and rural character are that important to Deerfield, Patrice Kilham wanted to know what had already been done by the powers to be, such as the Planning Board or Zoning Board, to encourage retaining the rural character. What monetary break in taxation is offered for a working farm to remain agricultural? Reserving open space, as open space, and not agricultural, isn't the same.

The primary thing that is offered, as stated by Chairman Robertson, is not done so by a local board but through State Statutes, which is Current Use. This provides a two-tiered break for landowners with more than 10 acres of land that comply with the conforming uses under the law. The second tier provides for a larger break if the landowner agrees to not post their land but leave it open for recreational use. Chairman Robertson directed Mrs. Kilham to the Town Report where lands owned by the Town and State are listed. Conservation Easements are also reflected in the DCC's Annual Report.

Patrice Kilham asked if there was a 5, 10 or 20-year plan developed for things such as the Safety Services Complex. Chairman Robertson said there is a Master Plan, which does need to be updated. For specifics, Chairman Robertson deferred to Kate Hartnett, Vice Chair of the Planning Board. Ms. Hartnett explained that the Master Plan was completed in 1999 and should be updated every five years. Regarding fiscal responsibility, this is addressed through the Capital Improvements Plan. The last Capital Improvements Plan is dated 1987. This year, the Planning Board, and the Board of Selectmen, will be working on updating, and recreating, the Capital Improvement Plan.

MOTION TO CLOSE DEBATE

Jonathan Winslow made a motion to Close Debate and Move the Question. Seconded by Donald Gorman. There was one speaker at the microphones.

VOTE: The Moderator called for the vote to **CLOSE DEBATE AND MOVE THE QUESTION**. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **AFFIRMATIVE** and so declared.

The Moderator went immediately to the vote on Article 2, as amended in the amount of \$1,250,000. He explained the voting process, for Article 2, the open space acquisition bond, as amended-\$1,250,000. This process being the same as the voting process for Article 1. The Moderator changed from a ballot with the original Article 2 printed on it to a ballot that designated Article 2, a bond article. The change was made because the dollar amount of Article 2 had changed.

ARTICLE 2-AS AMENDED/POLLS OPEN

11:48 AM Moderator Jonathan Hutchinson re-read Article 2, as amended, in the amount of \$1,250,000 and **DECLARED THE POLLS OPEN** for voting on **ARTICLE 2, AS AMENDED, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,250,000**. The Moderator declared the polls would remain open for one hour.

11:52PM Harriet Cady challenged the Ballot used for Article 2 because there wasn't an amount of the Bond shown on the ballot. Mrs. Cady spoke with the Moderator concerning this.

12:30PM The Moderator stated the polls would remain open another 20 minutes for voting on Article 2, a bond article, for the acquisition of open space land. He indicated the Meeting would continue through the Warrant taking Article 9 out of order at this time.

Article 9

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty Nine Dollars (\$15,869) for the purpose of Town employee raises for salaries and wages (This represents a 2.6% cost of living increase for all full time and part time employees.).

Chairman of the Board, R. Andrew Robertson moved Article 9 as written. Seconded by Selectman Paul Dinneen.

Addressing Article 9, Chairman Robertson quoted from the North Eastern Index, which reflect average percentage increases of between 1% and 3.4%. The 2.6% chosen for wage and salary increases was considered, by the Selectmen, to be reasonable.

Having heard earlier the concerns about the morale of Town employees, Mr. Lenehan thought 2.6% was low in terms of a raise and thought it should be increased to send a message to employees.

AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 9

Gary Lenehan moved to amend Article 9 **FROM \$15,869 TO \$21,362** and to replace **2.6% WITH 3.5%**. Seconded by Terressa Roberge. **VOTE:** There was no discussion. The Moderator called for the Vote. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **AFFIRMATIVE** and so declared. Article 9 is amended to **\$21,362**.

Back to the Main Motion, Article 9 as amended.

Erik Gross, who was familiar with the Boston area CIP index, noted 3.5% is closer to percentages for that area.

ARTICLE 9, AS AMENDED

VOTE: Moderator Hutchinson called for the vote on Article 9, as amended, **FROM \$15,869 TO \$21,362**. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **AFFIRMATIVE** and so declared. Article 9, as amended, carries in the amount of **\$21,362**.

Article 10

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) for the purpose of reimbursing the Deerfield Volunteer Fire Department for work done to replace the 1,000 gallon tank on the 1980 Fire Department apparatus.

Chairman of the Board, R. Andrew Robertson moved Article 10 as written. Seconded by Selectman Paul Dinneen. Chairman Robertson deferred to Fire Chief, Mark Tibbetts.

Last summer, a tar like substance came out of the nozzles, of the fire hose, until they were so badly plugged up not enough water could come out. Chief Tibbetts explained the old tank, on the 1980 Fire Truck had a liner, which disintegrated. Because there were no funds budgeted, the Deerfield Volunteer Fire Department Association paid for the replacement tank and then asked the Selectmen reimburse the Fire Department. The new poly tank has a lifetime warranty.

ARTICLE 10

VOTE: There was no discussion. The Moderator re-read Article 10 and called for the Vote. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **AFFIRMATIVE** and so declared. Article 10 is adopted in the amount of **\$10,000**.

Article 11

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$6,200) for the purchase of a computer server and installation for the Police Department.

Chairman of the Board, R. Andrew Robertson moved Article 11 as written. Seconded by Vice Chairman Frances Menard. Chairman Robertson deferred to Chief of Police, Robert Wunderlich for the explanation.

Following a vote of Town Meeting last year, a new file server was purchased for the Town Offices. Chief Wunderlich said at that time the Police Department was to remain on the older file server. The older file server failed and the Police Department shared the new file server with the Town Offices. This purchase will enable the Police Department to acquire their own file server.

Point of Inquiry

Donald Gorman directed a question to the Selectmen. Articles 11, 12, 15 and 18 are all items for the Police Department, which he thought, should have been placed inside the Police Department Budget and not as separate Warrant Articles. He wondered if the Municipal Budget Committee (MBC) agreed with this process.

Chairman Robertson responded to the inquiry pointing out the MBC did see the Warrant Articles and it was not an attempt, on the part of the Board of Selectmen, to circumvent the MBC. Typically, the Town has taken a great interest in computer equipment and vehicles. The Selectmen have long debated this but in the interest of full public disclosure of major purchases, the Selectmen sent the Warrant Articles forward. It would be to the Selectmen's benefit, for expediency, to roll them into the budget but the Selectmen chose not to.

AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 11

Walter Hooker moved to amend Article 11 **FROM \$6,200 TO \$7,400**. Seconded by Deborah Boisvert.

As an IT Director for the State, Mr. Hooker has purchased a file server for 7,400. He believes a similar model would be better suited to the needs of the Police Department. He did not believe the file server under consideration would be adequate and recommended the amount be increased to \$7,400.

VOTE: The Moderator called for the vote to amend to Article 11 **FROM \$6,200 TO \$7,400**. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **NEGATIVE** as so declared. The amendment to Article 11 does not carry.

ARTICLE 11

VOTE: Moderator Hutchinson re-read Article 11 and called for the vote. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **AFFIRMATIVE**. Article 11 is adopted in the amount of **\$6,200**.

Article 12

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) to purchase a laptop computer for the Police Department.

Chairman of the Board, R. Andrew Robertson moved Article 12 as written. Seconded by Vice Chairman, Frances Menard. Chairman Robertson deferred to Chief of Police, Robert Wunderlich.

Chief Wunderlich stated he originally requested a little over \$5,000 to purchase a Panasonic Tough Books Laptop, a laptop built for Police Department use. The Gateway Laptops, while well made, could not withstand the winter cold, summer heat and the bouncing around inside the cruiser. Another reason for the reduction was the Town was awarded a grant through the University of New Hampshire (UNH), which is tied to Project 54. Project 54 equips a cruiser, free of charge, with voice-activated equipment and includes a computer. The grant is not expected until sometime after September of this year. There are four cruisers and Project 54 will not equip cruisers that are older than model year 2000. The laptop requested would be used in the older cruisers.

Elbert Bicknell asked Chief Wunderlich if it wasn't the intent of the Police Department, the Board of Selectmen and the MBC to replace the older cruisers in the next few years. Chief Wunderlich replied that while that is a true statement Project 54 could not guarantee grant funding for future new cruisers.

Addressing Article 12 Mr. Bicknell, speaking as Chairman of the Municipal Budget Committee (MBC), said the MBC originally looked at a Warrant Article for \$5,200. The MBC determined that a computer a year could be purchased with the \$5,200. Regarding Project 54, the MBC thought the Police Department could get by with one computer for six months.

Gary Roberge saw this as a possibility of wasting money. Chief Wunderlich requested a laptop that is designed to be in the cruisers. In his line of work, Mr. Roberge uses laptops in vehicles and he is also looking at the Panasonic Tough Book Laptop.

Chairman Robertson said the cost of the Tough Book Laptop was around \$5,000 or slightly more. Chairman Robertson recalled part of the discussion with the MBC was that the \$2,500 would include a warranty. Chief Wunderlich pointed out that laptops in Police Cruisers, bouncing around, would not be considered normal use and would not be covered under a warranty.

AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 12

Gary Roberge moved to amend Article 12 **FROM \$2,500 TO \$5,000**. Seconded by Terressa Roberge.

Mr. Roberge didn't want to pay more taxes than anyone else. In his mind, placing a laptop not designed for use in a Police Cruiser was more a waste of money.

Walter Hooker spoke of the Dell Warranty that he provided to the MBC of which he is a member. He read the warranty and remarked that this warranty would cover a large percentage of any repairs that would be necessary.

Paul Royal commented that while the Dell Warranty was good, Dell generally has a problem with down time. Mr. Royal thought down time

may be something the Police Department would not want.

VOTE: The Moderator called for the vote on the **AMENDMENT to ARTICLE 12 to INCREASE** the amount **FROM \$2,500 TO \$5,000**. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **AFFIRMATIVE** as so declared. Article 12 is amended to the amount of **\$5,000**.

Back to the Main Motion Article 12, as amended.

Joe Sears requested Chief Wunderlich describe his experience using laptops and the benefits. Chief Wunderlich said in 1998 four laptops were purchased. Police Officers were able to stay out on the road longer because they could do their paperwork while on patrol and at a motor vehicle stop access the history of an individual. When the laptops no longer worked, more time has been spent in the office doing paperwork.

ARTICLE 12, AS AMENDED

VOTE: Seeing no further discussion, Moderator Hutchinson re-read Article 12, as amended, and called for the vote. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **AFFIRMATIVE** Article 12, as amended, is adopted in the amount of **\$5,000**.

POLLS CLOSED ON ARTICLE 2/OPEN SPACE BOND

1:00PM The Moderator noted the Polls for voting on Article 2, the bond article for the acquisition of open space land, had been open for over one hour. If there is anyone in the hall that had not voted, he asked they come forward at this time. No voters came forward. The Moderator declared the Polls closed for voting on Article 2. The counting of ballots began immediately.

Article 13

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) for the purpose of constructing a concrete slab for compactors at the Transfer Station.

Selectman Paul Dinneen moved Article 13 as written. Seconded by Selectman Joe Stone.

Selectman Dinneen explained the funds would be used to construct concrete pads at the Transfer Station. Concrete, material and forms will be purchased and friends of the Transfer Station will perform labor.

The Moderator particularly liked the statement "Friends of the Transfer Station" as he thought that was what Deerfield was truly about.

Erik Gross questioned what the concrete pads were for. Selectman Dinneen said the containers used at the Transfer Station are not designed to sit in the mud. The concrete pads will make it easier for the trucks to pick up and drop off containers.

There were two things Elbert Bicknell wanted to share with the meeting. The first was to praise Eugene "Gino" Edwards, Transfer Station Manager, for the great job Mr. Edwards and his people do. There were cheers and a round of applause. Secondly, Mr. Bicknell was in 100% agreement with Article 13 because it went along with the proposal of purchasing containers to sit on the pads, which is cost effective.

Point of Order

Margo Dearbhail requested that when Mr. Bicknell spoke to clearly identify if he was speaking on behalf of the Municipal Budget Committee (MBC) or as an individual. Moderator Hutchinson stated that it was clear to him that Mr. Bicknell was speaking as an individual in this last instance. Mr. Bicknell added that if he were speaking for the MBC he would so state it.

ARTICLE 13

VOTE: The Moderator re-read Article 13 and called for the vote. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **AFFIRMATIVE** and so declared. Article 13 is adopted in the amount of **\$5,000**.

Article 14

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) for the purchase of one trash containment unit, previously rented, to be housed at the Transfer Station.

Selectman Paul Dinneen moved Article 14 as written. Seconded by Selectman Joe Stone. Selectman Dinneen deferred to Eugene "Gino" Edwards, Transfer Station Manager.

Mr. Edwards described this purchase as part of an on-going process of purchasing the containers instead of renting them.

ARTICLE 14

VOTE: The Moderator re-read Article 14 and called for the vote. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **AFFIRMATIVE** and so declared. Article 14 is adopted in the amount of **\$5,000**.

Article 15

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$3,500) to provide a Motorcycle Patrol Unit and to accept a grant from the New Hampshire Highway Safety Agency in the amount of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500)

in partial offsetting funds. Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000) to be raised through taxation.

Chairman of the Board, R. Andrew Robertson moved Article 15 as written. Seconded by Selectman Paul Dinneen. Chairman Robertson said he would defer to Sergeant Steve Turner for the details of Article 15 following a brief statement.

Chairman Robertson mentioned the Selectmen didn't find a motorcycle patrol a necessity but given the price tag, grant money and possibility of using the motorcycle instead of a cruiser, the proposal made some sense to the Board.

In the year 2002, the Police Department surveyed citizens to find out what they expected of the Police Department. Sergeant Turner said of those who responded the majority wanted more police visibility on Town roads. That was accomplished, in part, through the community policing approach. At a Police Department meeting, there was mention of a motorcycle patrol. Sergeant Turner applied for a grant through Highway Safety for this purpose. The motorcycle will not be owned by Deerfield, but leased, and will arrive completely equipped. It is a one-year experiment for the Town. The motorcycle patrol is a way for the Deerfield Police Department to get closer to the citizens, a tool to slow people down and lessen burglaries, and in general, better serve the citizens of Deerfield.

Denise Fahey opposed Article 14 because the Town is comprised of 27 miles of gravel roads and using a motorcycle on those roads didn't seem practical.

Erick Berglund asked if the Police Department had considered a more cost effective solution, using bicycles. The comment drew laughter, cheers and applause. Sergeant Turner stated the idea had been considered but the response time from Cottonwood Estates to the Northwood line isn't acceptable. While the voters enjoyed the humorous aside, Mr. Berglund asked them to consider the suggestion, seriously, in terms of community policing. Sergeant Turner assured Mr. Berglund a bicycle patrol had been discussed.

Sergeant Turner returned to the discussion of the motorcycle patrol. The motorcycle can only be used when two officers are on duty, as placing a prisoner on the back of a motorcycle will not work. A patrol car would be on duty and the motorcycle used for community policing. Another thought was to utilize the motorcycle during the Deerfield Fair weekend.

Gary Roberge pointed out motorcycles are seasonable and have a higher rate of accidents or injury. For the first time in his life, Mr. Roberge agreed with the Municipal Budget Committee (MBC).

Elbert Bicknell, rose as the Chairman of the MBC stating the vote was a tie, 5-5. Mr. Bicknell stated that he, personally, was not in favor of Article 15.

ARTICLE 15

VOTE: The Moderator re-read Article 15 and called for the vote. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **NEGATIVE** and so declared. Article 15 is **DEFEATED** in the amount of **\$3,500**.

ARTICLE 2, AS AMENDED

RESULTS OF SECRET BALLOT VOTE

The Moderator stated the results of the ballot vote on Article 2, as amended were complete. This is the bond article for the acquisition of open space land. To pass a two thirds majority must be achieved.

The Moderator read the results: **YES 198 NO 191**

There were 389 ballots cast. The vote did not receive the necessary two-thirds vote.

ARTICLE 2, AS AMENDED in the amount of **\$1,250,000** is **DEFEATED**.

ARTICLE 1

MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION

Having voted on the prevailing side, Donald Gorman moved for Reconsideration of Article 1. Seconded by Dianne Kimball.

The Moderator stated that Reconsideration should not be used because the outcome of the vote was not favorable and the voters want to vote again. Reconsideration should only be done when new information has emerged, or an individual, who voted on the prevailing side (against it), wished to bring forward new information because it could change the outcome of the vote.

Moderator Jonathan Hutchinson asked if the explanation was consistent with the Motion for Reconsideration that Mr. Gorman was requesting. Mr. Gorman replied it was.

The Moderator described the process quoting RSA 338-A:4. Reconsideration of a bond article cannot be done at this meeting. Seven days minimum must elapse. Another Town Meeting would be held and a hearing prior to that. Notice of time and place of the location of the meeting must be published in a newspaper of general circulation two days prior to Reconsideration.

If Reconsideration is voted, in the affirmative, it would set aside the vote taken on Article 1 and Article 1 will be considered at another date and time. The Motion to Reconsider is open to debate and subject to a simple majority vote to pass or fail.

Donald Gorman stated he didn't move to reconsider Article 1 just for grins and chuckles. The basis for Reconsideration lies in the fact new evidence was provided that wasn't available at the time the vote was taken. Mr. Gorman saw the new evidence as the defeat of Article 2, open space land acquisition, to be a significant new development. He also pointed out the vote was close-somewhere between 20-23 votes shy of a two-thirds majority vote. Because of the defeat of Article 2, Mr. Gorman believed Article 1 should.

Moderator Hutchinson emphasized Reconsideration is not about "we don't like the outcome, we want to vote again". This would be a precedent for Deerfield, something that has not occurred here. He explained further that if the voters sense was there is new information that would cause a different vote that would be the argument appropriate for Reconsideration.

Erik Gross asked for some judgment on the part of the Moderator, or the Board of Selectmen, whether the new information, the nay vote on Article 2, has anything at all to do with Article 1. In his opinion, new information would have to do solely with Article 1. Article 1 was presented first and Article 2 delayed until the outcome of Article 1 was known.

Moderator Hutchinson explained that is a judgment that Mr. Gross would make when voting but not a judgment the Moderator or Selectmen would make. The Motion to Reconsider is legitimate and the Moderator did not see the motion as out of order.

Carol Richards asked if there was Reconsideration of Article 1 could it be held at the same time as the School Meeting because it is difficult to get people to meetings. The Moderator determined there would need to be seven clear days, which would rule out Mrs. Richard's request.

Guy Daniels didn't believe the new information was related to Article 1. With regards to precedent, the voters could go back and forth through all the warrant articles requesting reconsideration whether it is a \$2,000 item or a \$2,000,000 item.

Phil Bilodeau found himself agreeing with Mr. Gorman. The argument was made earlier that Article 2, and the \$2,500,000, might impact future needs such as a school building or safety services complex. Because Article 2 (open space land acquisition) did not pass, he believed that was sufficient new information to Reconsider Article 1.

Gary Roberge said he would love to see reconsideration of the Safety Services Complex. Mr. Roberge stated a vote was taken and Article 1 was defeated. The meeting could have voted to pass Article 1 and voted down Article 2. To Mr. Roberge, what is right is right. There was a round of applause.

Paul Royal found himself at a crossroads. He was on a fence about the conservation land, when the Safety Services Complex was voted down. At that point, he couldn't vote for the conservation land. It is new information because like it, or not, at some point a Safety Services Complex will be needed. He asked that voters think about their insurance rates. The price, and interest rates on the bond, for the complex will only increase. There is a direct affect on the other vote even if Reconsideration is requested on Article 2.

RECONSIDERATION OF ARTICLE 1 SECRET BALLOT VOTE

Discussion on the Motion to Reconsider Article 1 ended. At the call of the Moderator, Jonathan Hutchinson, a Secret Ballot Vote will be conducted. The Moderator designated **BALLOT "A"** as the ballot to use for this vote. The Moderator re-stated the purpose of Reconsideration for the voters. Instructions were given to the Inspectors of Elections. Balloting began.

The Moderator read the results of the **SECRET BALLOT VOTE, BALLOT "A"**, for **RECONSIDERATION OF ARTICLE 1** were:
YES 105 NO 176

Reconsideration of Article 1 is **DEFEATED** and so declared.
There was a round of applause.

Article 16

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Two Hundred Eighty Dollars (\$3,280) for the purpose of fireproofing a renovated storage space, in the cafeteria section of the G. B. White Building, to store Town records (\$800 Fire Code Sheetrock; \$500 Fireproof Door; \$480 Labor). Shelving (\$900), File Cabinets (\$600), Hanging Files and Hardware are included.

Chairman of the Board, R. Andrew Robertson moved Article 16 as written. Seconded by Vice Chairman Frances Menard. Chairman Robertson deferred to Mark Tibbetts, Building Maintenance.

Mr. Tibbetts described the rooms in the cafeteria area of the G. B. White Building constructed last summer. Sheetrock will be installed on the walls and ceilings, of a storage room, to provide a safer place to store Town records. This would provide a one to two hour fire rating.

Speaking for two boards, Joe Sears, Co-Chair of the Deerfield Conservation Commission (DCC) and member of the Heritage Commission, indicated records are kept in homes out of concern they are not safe in the Town Offices. They would be more willing to leave the documents in the Town Offices if there were to be a more fire resistant space.

ARTICLE 16

VOTE: The Moderator re-read Article 16 and called for the vote. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **AFFIRMATIVE** and so declared. Article 16 is adopted in the amount of **\$3,280**.

Article 17

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Dollars (\$2,530) for the purpose of purchasing a Digital Camera (\$300), Video Camera (\$600), Microphone (\$90), Tripod (\$20), three Audio Recording Devices (\$40 each) and two PC Computers (\$700 each). This includes upgrades to the replaced computers, which will be used by Parks and Recreation Department and Election Officials.

Chairman of the Board, R. Andrew Robertson moved Article 17 as printed. Seconded by Vice Chairman Frances Menard.

Chairman Robertson explained the items included in Article 17 could have been spread throughout the budget but it represents a departure from what has been done at the meetings particularly in regard to the video camera. The digital camera could be used by the Code Enforcement Officer or the Selectmen to identify things being considered at meetings or violations. With regard to the video camera and microphone, this would allow the Selectmen to have their meetings aired on Community television. The equipment would further provide an exact record of important meetings. Another concern the Selectmen have is they are regularly recorded or videotaped by other people not members of the Board. Chairman Robertson has frequently been challenged with, "I have a video record or audio record of what you said". It is important for the Town to have a similar record at its disposal.

Elbert Bicknell, speaking as a citizen, asked Chairman Robertson if the audio and visual devices could be shared with other boards such as the Planning Board, MBC or others. Chairman Robertson stated the use of the equipment would not be limited to the Board of Selectmen.

AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 17

Walter Hooker made a motion to amend Article 17 to add **\$200** for PC Computers for a total of **\$2,730**. The motion was seconded.

Drawing on his knowledge of State pricing, Mr. Hooker explained the State has standard pricing for PC components, one being a Dell Computer, which would meet the needs of the Town. By purchasing a Dell through the State, the Town would receive a better price.

Cheryl Sims understood the amounts set forth in the Warrant Articles have been researched. Chairman Robertson explained that multiple sources are looked at when purchasing computer equipment. At least three bids are solicited. If the amount was short \$20-\$40, the Selectmen would look else where in the budget to cover the shortfall.

Elbert Bicknell made it known to the voters that when it comes to computers, laptops or items such as that, the person he would look to is Walter Hooker because he not only works in it but he lives, eats and sleeps it. If Mr. Hooker thought a \$200 increase was needed, then it must be needed.

AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 17

VOTE: The Moderator called for the vote on the amendment to Article 17 to increase the amount **FROM \$200 TO \$2,730**. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **NEGATIVE** and so declared. The amendment to Article 17 is **DEFEATED**.

Back to the Main Motion, Article 17, as written.

Anthony DiMauro, Zoning Board of Adjustment Chairman asked if approved, would all boards be required to use the equipment or would it be at the discretion of the Chair of each Board. Chairman Robertson replied that at the present time the policy for video, or audio, recording had not been developed. The Selectmen would no doubt seek input from the various boards, committees and commissions.

ARTICLE 17

VOTE: The Moderator re-read Article 17, as written and called for the vote. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **AFFIRMATIVE** and so declared. Article 17 in the amount of **\$2,530** is adopted.

Article 18

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Five Dollars (\$2,495) to purchase a computer workstation and printer for the Police Department.

Chairman of the Board, R. Andrew Robertson moved Article 18 as written. Seconded by Selectman Paul Dinneen. Chairman Robertson deferred to Chief of Police, Robert Wunderlich.

In 1998, a computer network system was obtained through a COPS Grant. The computers have deteriorated and some no longer work. The Chief's computer is made up of two PC's. The new software coming in, for records management, will only run on one workstation. Chief Wunderlich stated PC's generally have a 3-5 year lifespan. The computers being replaced are now 6 years old.

Point of Information

Richard Boisvert didn't question the money would be spent wisely but thought the voters time should also be spent wisely. Placing small items in Warrant Articles has cost a lot of time and the voters have not addressed the budget yet. He did not see the value to small money amounts in Warrant Articles and would like to see the process handled more expeditiously in the future.

Walter Hooker compared the amount in the Warrant Article to State pricing and found it to be \$1,000 too high.

AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 18

Walter Hooker moved to amend Article 18 to read the purchase of "two computer workstations".
There was no second

AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 18

Walter Hooker moved to amend Article 18 to **DECREASE** the amount from **\$2,495 to \$1,500**.
The motion was seconded.

Erik Gross wanted to know how Chief Wunderlich arrived at the original amount of \$2,495. Chief Wunderlich arrived at the amount when submitting his budget request last year. Mr. Hooker having pointed out prices have dropped, Chief Wunderlich did not have a problem with the \$1,500 if it was sufficient to purchase a PC that would suit the Police Department's needs.

VOTE: The Moderator called for the Vote on the amendment to Article 18 to decrease the amount **FROM \$2,495 to \$1,500**. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **AFFIRMATIVE** and so declared. Article 18 is amended to **\$1,500**.

Back to the Main Motion, Article 18, as amended.

ARTICLE 18, AS AMENDED

VOTE: Discussed ended and the Moderator re-read Article 18, as amended, and called for the vote. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **AFFIRMATIVE** and so declared. Article 18 is adopted, as amended, in the amount of **\$1,500**.

Article 19

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy Five Dollars (\$1,975) for the purchase of a Moving Radar Unit.

Chairman of the Board, R. Andrew Robertson moved Article 19 as written. Seconded by Selectman Paul Dinneen. Chairman Robertson deferred to Sergeant Steve Turner.

Sergeant Turner explained that in the past grants from New Hampshire Highway Safety have been relied on to purchase moving radar. The grants are no longer available. Radar units date back to 1983 and 1985 and are no longer operational. Currently there is one cruiser without a moving radar unit. For several years, Town Meeting has voted against the moving radar. Sergeant Turner pointed out that a cruiser, without moving radar, defeats the purpose of patrolling. To respond to the community's needs, the Police Department requires the technology as Officers eyes are not calibrated. If Article 19 is approved, Sergeant Turner said all the cruisers would have the same equipment.

ARTICLE 19

VOTE: The Moderator re-read Article 19 and called for the vote. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **AFFIRMATIVE** and so declared. Article 19 carries in the amount of **\$1,975**.

Article 20

The residents of Mountain Road request the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) needed for the reconstructing of Mountain Road, from the beginning of the road to the end. The residents are asking for culvert repairs, under road drains, road widening, and a built up road base (as recommended by Keach-Nordstrom Engineers), or a road base built to the specifications of the New Hampshire Department of Transportation.

The residents are also requesting that the Selectmen move forward with necessary easements required to continue the reconstruction to the end of Mountain Road. (By Petition)

Petitioner Denise Fahey moved Article 20 as written. Seconded by Angela Balukas.

Denise Fahey acknowledged Alex Cote and Keith Rollins for doing the best they could to maintain Mountain Road. A round of applause.

Mrs. Fahey mentioned that in last year's budget supposedly \$40,000 was set aside for the repair of Mountain Road. Other projects came up and the money was reallocated. The petitioners brought the article forward so that if approved the monies would go towards Mountain Road. The petitioners met with the Selectmen filling the conference room with 35 people, which to the petitioners shows a concern. Another point

raised is a safety issue where multiple times the school bus has gone off the road and once tipped on the side. The children were not injured but the concern is there. There have been numerous accidents in the past year. With ten proposed lots on Mountain Road, the use of the road will increase. In addition, there is a cost of repairs to vehicles. Being a gravel road, there is mud season. Because the road isn't graded for trucks at a time, or the culverts not cleaned, or ditching isn't done, it is sometimes barely passable.

Angela Balukas encouraged a vote in favor of Article 20. Mrs. Balukas has lived on Mountain Road for fifteen years and seen the school bus go off the road several times. During inclement weather, and mud season, the Highway Agent follows the school bus. To insure the safety of the children, Mrs. Balukas saw the adoption of Article 20 as necessary.

Last mud season, which lasted two and a half weeks, the children were continuously late for school. The affect is not only on the children who reside on Mountain Road but all the children who ride the bus. The existing road cannot handle the amount of traffic that current travels on it and future development concerns her further. The Highway Agent has submitted a proposal for reconstruction of Mountain Road. If Article 20 passed, Mrs. Balukas stated there would still not be enough money to cover the costs.

Rebecca Hutchinson requested further clarification regarding a sum of \$40,000 that was appropriated, but not spent, on Mountain Road.

Chairman Robertson explained the money was appropriated. It was a difficult year for managing roads as there was a mid-term replacement of the Highway Agent. Once Keach-Nordstrom Engineers looked at Mountain Road, the Town learned they seriously under-budgeted the scope of the work. There was a shift in the thought process of paving the lower section of Mountain Road because of serious problems with the under-pinning of the road and residents concerns with the severity of corners and speed. It made no sense to the Board of Selectmen to spend \$40,000. Since then, a long-term engineering plan has been developed and the Selectmen are in the process of seeking easements. This year road conditions are considerably better. The primary concern of the Selectmen was not to waste money on a band-aid approach but to do the appropriate engineering, under-pinning, drainage and culvert work.

A follow-up question from Rebecca Hutchinson was if Article 20 isn't passed was the Board of Selectmen anticipating work on Mountain Road in the context of the Highway Budget. Chairman Robertson deferred to Alex Cote Highway Agent to describe a comprehensive plan for work on Mountain Road.

Alex Cote, Highway Agent agreed with a prior statement that an insufficient amount of money was budgeted for the work to be accomplished on Mountain Road. The plans from Keach-Nordstrom were not completed until the end of June. There was a substantial shortfall, of \$40,000, to do the work outlined in the plans. It was Mr. Cote's recommendation to the Selectmen, and based on the meeting with the residents

of Mountain Road, to hold the money aside instead of placing a band-aid on the lower section of the road. A plan was formulated to utilize the \$38,500 on other portions of Mountain Road and address the other problems spots residents were concerned with. The work continued until the fall freeze up using approximately \$15,000 of the \$38,500. The remainder of the funds were encumbered. Within the Highway Department Budget, there is approximately \$192,000 for the engineered work. The original cost of \$220,000, for the engineered work, was reduced by having some of the work completed by the Highway Department.

Elbert Bicknell, speaking as Chairman of the Municipal Budget Committee (MBC) stated the MBC did not recommend Article 20. The rationale was the Selectmen placed \$192,000 in the Highway Department Budget, which was earmarked for improvements to Mountain Road.

Deborah Boisvert understood that if Article 20 did not pass the problems would be addressed with this year's budget provided the budget passed. Chairman Robertson agreed that the Highway Department Budget did contain \$192,000 intended for Mountain Road.

Rebecca Hutchinson spoke as a member of the MBC. She voted against Article 20 because she believed individuals should bring their suggestions for their road, or other roads, to the Highway Agent and have it be part of the whole highway budget rather than their specific road. To Mrs. Hutchinson, the Board of Selectmen and Highway Agent are dealing with Mountain Road concerns within the context of other highway projects.

Anthony DiMauro requested clarification on what the \$192,000 covered-one third of Mountain Road, the first half, or what section. He believed Article 20 was to complete the whole road and be done with it. Alex Cote, Highway Agent, explained the \$192,204, in the Highway Department Budget, is to reconstruct Mountain Road from the beginning, at Nottingham Road, to the Aubrey residence, at 55 Mountain Road. Article 20 is additional money, which he understood would complete Mountain Road from the Aubrey residence to the end of the road.

Selectman Joe Stone followed up on Mr. Cote's comments. The amount in Article 20 is not a good figure for completion of reconstructing all of Mountain Road. He did not find fault with the petitioner's request but after having met with Mr. Cote, the additional amount needed to complete all the work from beginning to end is \$408,385. With the \$192,000 in the budget, the total cost for the entire road is around \$600,385.

As a Selectmen, Chairman Robertson did not support Article 20. In defense of the petitioners, in particular two that he spoke with, they were aware \$200,000 would not cover all the reconstruction costs. The number was created to work with Town budgeting and provide a more

presentable number to Town Meeting.

Waddy Winslow, Jr. saw Article 20 as a representation of frustration from people who live on Town roads. It sends the message residents must take things into their own hands to request their road be worked on. Mr. Winslow spoke of living on Griffin Road and a section that was finally redone last fall hadn't been touched for 50 years. That section of Griffin Road was one of the first roads paved in Deerfield. Mr. Winslow thought the Town should have a policy for residents to look at that would indicate when their road would be worked on. With so many bad roads, a ten-year plan made sense to Mr. Winslow rather than stage a revolution to get funds. There was a round of applause.

Jeanne Menard shared her perspective on reconstructing Mountain Road. Personally, she liked the gravel road but is also concerned about the condition of the road. She saw the value in Mr. Winslow's suggestion for long term planning. Ms. Menard suggested considering paving the end of Mountain Road, where it is desired, instead of where the section slated for paving.

Having heard there are sections of Mountain Road that are dangerous and prone to accidents, Joe Sears wanted to know if those areas shouldn't be worked on and not the first third of the road. Chairman Robertson stated the Selectmen identified the hill and curve as the problem areas. Alex Cote, Highway Agent, said he did test borings to establish what the base of Mountain Road was comprised of. He addressed the problems areas and sections of concern during mud season. Other than potholes, Mr. Cote believed Mountain Road has held up well. Joe Sears followed up wanting to know if \$192,000 would take care of everything. Mr. Cote replied no.

Denise Fahey clarified the petition was not favoring paving the road but improvements, culverts and ditching. If Article 20 were approved, the petitioners would want the money to go towards improvements for Mountain Road from the beginning to the end.

Anthony DiMauro said he would be personally grateful if the first part of the road was done because the first third is the dangerous section. While more work would be good, reducing the safety hazard was more important to Mr. DiMauro.

Selectman Joe Stone addressed long range planning. The Town recently finished a five-year plan to address main carrier roads through Deerfield. What Selectmen Stone heard the voters say was they wanted to see another five year plan. He assured the voters he would address that at a Selectmen's Meeting.

ARTICLE 20 (By Petition)

VOTE: Jonathan Winslow motioned to Close Debate and Move the Question. The Moderator declared he would go directly to the vote because there were no speakers at the microphones. Moderator Hutchinson re-read Article 20, By Petition, in the amount of \$200,000 and called for the vote. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **NEGATIVE**. The motion did not carry.

Point of Order

Moderator Jonathan Hutchinson announced Article 21, the Town's Operating Budget, would be the next order of business. The Chairman of the Municipal Budget Committee (MBC), Elbert Bicknell will join the Selectmen for presentation of Article 21. The Moderator advised voters a handout is available that provides the details of the budget and a shorter version is included in the Town Report.

Article 21

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the Municipal Budget Committee sum of \$2,687,440 for general municipal operations; The Selectmen recommend \$2,687,440. This article does not include appropriations voted in other Warrant Articles.

Elbert Bicknell, Chairman of the Municipal Budget Committee moved Article 21, the Town's Operating Budget, in the MBC's recommended amount of \$2,687,440. Seconded by Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, R. Andrew Robertson.

Mr. Bicknell described the process the MBC, and Selectmen, went through to arrive at \$2,687,400, which is believed to be an appropriate sum of money for the Town to run on efficiently.

Moderator Hutchinson explained that for many years the budget was reviewed section by section. In recent years, the process has been to open the entire budget for comments, questions or to offer any motions.

AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 21

Planning and Zoning/4191-4193

Planning Board/Line 01-4191.10-311/Contract

Fred McGarry, Chairman of the Planning Board moved to amend Planning and Zoning **FROM \$32,635 TO \$52,635**, an increase of \$20,000. Seconded by Vice Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, Frances Menard.

Mr. McGarry explained the Planning Board meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month for three to four hours. Pressures from development are causing appointments to be booked into August. The Commercial and Industrial Overlay District adopted by the Town several years ago has seen some activity. Although the goals are admirable, the actual process itself is very difficult. There is an inordinate amount of time taken up on items such as this and also the general review of applications and plans. One prospective developer, who wanted to buy the hardware store, and wanted to make revisions to the building, in finding out how long the wait was for an appointment, left.

At the MBC Public Hearing, an individual, who heard Mr. McGarry's presentation on how long the wait was to book an appointment, made the statement that this might be good, as it would slow development. The Statutes require that the Planning Board take up applications submitted to them within 30 days. Currently they cannot do that without special meetings. Thus far, no applicant has invoked this portion of the Statute.

Mr. McGarry said the Planning Board voted the \$20,000 increase last Wednesday evening. The purpose is to hire a part time planner or utilize Southern New Hampshire Planning Services (SNHPS). Services provided by SNHPS would consist of reviewing plans and applications submitted to the Planning Board and pointing out any discrepancies between the Subdivision Regulations and the Zoning Ordinances. A recommendation would come to the Planning Board with any discrepancies pointed out. The Planning Board would handle abutters concerns. The Planning Board is very concerned at least \$20,000 would be spent in court, on defense, if the matter were not addressed.

As the Selectmen's Representative to the Planning Board, Selectman Frances Menard strongly recommended the funds be appropriated as the Planning Board is badly in need of assistance.

Elbert Bicknell, Chairman of the MBC, pointed out to the voters that a typographical error existed in the Town Report, on Page 7, under Article for the Planner. It states the MBC recommended the Article and they did not. In fairness to the Planning Board, it was another contentious article with a tie vote of 5 to 5.

VOTE ON THE AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 21/PLANNING AND ZONING

The Moderator called for the vote on the Amendment to Article 21 **TO INCREASE** Planning and Zoning, **4191-4193 (Planning Board/Line 01-4191.10-311/Contract)** by **\$20,000**. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **AFFIRMATIVE** and so declared. The motion carries.

Back to the Main Motion, Article 21, the Town Operating Budget in the amount of \$2,707,440.

Point of Inquiry

Anthony DiMauro questioned if the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) Budget went over would it be covered, for approximately \$250, out of the General Fund. If not, should he propose an amendment. Mr. DiMauro's concerns lay with Line 01-4191.30-320/Legal. Chairman Robertson responded to the question noting that if a department incurred further legal expenses, the Selectmen will look elsewhere in the budget for the money. It is something the Selectmen do not like to do but would in a situation such as Mr. DiMauro has mentioned.

ARTICLE 21, AS AMENDED - OPERATING BUDGET

VOTE: There was no further discussion on Article 21, the Town's Operating Budget, as amended to the amount of \$2,707,440. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **AFFIRMATIVE** and so declared. Article 21 is adopted in the amount of **\$2,707,440**

Article 22

To see if the Town will vote to change the position of Highway Agent from an elected official to a position appointed by the Selectmen under the provisions of RSA 231:62. (If a majority vote in favor of this article, the Selectmen elected at the next annual meeting shall appoint a Highway Agent.)

Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, R. Andrew Robertson moved article 22 as printed. Seconded by Selectman Joe Stone.

Since Chairman Robertson has been a Selectmen, the Board has dealt with a number of Highway Agents. The past two, possibly three, have left mid-term. Regardless of the reasons, the Town is left in a precarious situation. Essentially what happens is the Highway Agent presents a budget, a plan for the roads and long range planning has been discussed. It is exceedingly difficult to put together and fund a long-range plan if Highway Agents do not last for a year or half a year. The last several Highway Agents have been appointed by the Selectmen. The Board of Selectmen sees being able to appoint the Highway Agent as a very necessary step to insure continuity, appropriate budgeting and particularly development of a long-range plan with regard to Town roads.

Chairman Robertson referenced an article in The Union Leader, which appeared on March 9, 2004. He read the last few sentences as follows: "Elected Road Agents have mostly gone the way of buggy whips and rolling, as opposed to plowing, snow. Time was people tended to be more mechanically inclined than we are today. Towns could reasonably expect to have enough qualified potential Road Agents who were interested in the job. Today that expertise is less widely found and most New Hampshire towns have shifted to filling the position by appointment as tending to a town's valuable infrastructure is too important to leave to politicians."

Chairman Robertson noted the word politician could extend beyond just Road Agent's position. He found it critically important the Board of Selectmen be able to appoint the people who oversee the roads because it is a valuable infrastructure and a huge part of the Town's budget.

David Twombly, former Highway Agent from 1980 to 1989 stated that no Selectmen hired him, as they would not have thought he was the appropriate person for the job. Mr. Twombly has talked to Road Agents in other communities and they don't like this piece of literature either. Mr. Twombly spoke of those fighting in Iraq, and around the world, for freedom to allow people to make a choice. He did not see why, in New Hampshire, where the motto is "Live Free or Die", the choice should be taken away from the voters. There was a round of applause.

Don Gorman found appointing a Highway Agent to be a terrible idea. There is little interest in running for other Town positions such as Selectmen, School Board, Budget Committee but many run for the position of Highway Agent. Everyone with a dump truck runs for Highway

Agent. They come up to you shake your hand, pat you on the back, kiss the babies, put signs on your lawn and take down the other guy's signs. This to Mr. Gorman is real politics. The voters enjoyed a laugh after hearing the description of a true politician. Mr. Gorman concluded begged the voters not to allow the Selectmen to appoint a Highway Agent.

Erik Gross asked in lieu of the election process, what process would the Selectmen follow. Chairman Robertson envisioned the process to include interviewing for qualified applicants for Highway Agent and setting a period of time the Selectmen would contract for such as is done with the Police Chief.

David O'Neal remarked that whether elected or appointed it would not prevent a Highway Agent from quitting mid-term.

Richard Boisvert saw the advantage to an appointed person is that there can be anticipation of continuity over time. If someone started a project, that takes more than a year, then you could look forward to having the person there. It also gives the Selectmen the opportunity to choose someone who is not a Deerfield resident.

ARTICLE 22

VOTE: The Moderator re-read Article 22 and called for the vote. It was a **HAND VOTE**. The vote being **UNCLEAR** to the Moderator asked for the vote to be counted.

HAND VOTE COUNTED: The Moderator called for raised cards to be counted.
The results of the Hand Vote were: **YES 92 NO 122**
The vote is in the negative. **ARTICLE 22 is DEFEATED.**

Article 23

To see if the Town will vote to advise the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board to develop a comprehensive Class VI Roads Policy before approving upgrade of any Class VI Road to a Class V Road.

The Class VI Roads Policy should be developed with input from:

- (1) A committee made up of a cross-section of Deerfield residents who will work with the Boards to develop the policy and update the Town's Master Plan.
- (2) A fiscal impact study to clarify the short and long term costs to the Town of development on Class VI Roads.
- (3) The development of design and performance regulations that will preserve the natural and cultural resources provided by our Class VI Road system.

The Class VI Roads Policy should be developed by February 2005 and be voted on at the 2005 Town Meeting. (By Petition)

Petitioner Racheal Stuart moved Article 23 as written. Seconded by Kate Hartnett.

Racheal Stuart explained the Petition was circulated at the suggestion of the Board of Selectmen after working hard on a Class VI Road issue at the end of 2003. She remarked that the Selectmen earned their stripes on that issue for sure. Historically, Class VI Roads have been considered undevelopable. With the growth occurring, and the Town running out of existing Class V Road frontage, the Class VI Roads are now considered very developable. Class VI Roads have been places that are culturally, historically, recreationally and environmentally important to Deerfield. Warrant Article 23 asks the Board of Selectmen and the Planning Board to appoint a committee from a broad cross section of residents that would develop a policy to assist in considering future requests for Class VI Road development. It is advisory, doesn't cost a cent, gives the Town a chance to have a good discussion and heads off some of the issues and tension between growth and conservation. It creates a win-win situation.

Chairman Robertson picked up on the word advisory. It is an advisory Warrant Article. To take it a step further, recommendations of any such committee that is appointed would also be advisory. The Board of Selectmen would certainly use Town position in regard to considerations for Class VI Roads but State Statutes clearly allows anyone, with an interest, to petition local Board of Selectmen for Driveway Permits on a Class VI Road or the layout of a Class VI Road to a higher-grade road. By law, the Board of Selectmen does indeed have to consider the petitions, and make a decision, and can make a decision yes or no, and would be able to, regardless of a Town Plan for Class VI Roads. Chairman Robertson thought that future Boards of Selectmen may want to try to abide by what is perceived as the Town sentiment with regards to the roads but it doesn't provide a means by which to close Class VI Roads to development and use. The Board of Selectmen informally discussed the limitation of property rights, and value of property in the event that Class VI Roads were closed, and that is something the Selectmen also weigh against conservation arguments.

Walter Hooker asked for a definition of a Class VI Road and a Class V Road. He asked if the Town has a list of the Roads and how many miles of each. Chairman Robertson said by definition a Class VI Road is a road that has been discontinued Subject to Gates and Bars and still retains ownership of. A Class V road is any road above and beyond that which the Town maintains. Most Class V Roads in Deerfield are paved. Chairman Robertson deferred to Highway Agent, Alex Cote to answer the question on mileage.

Highway Agent. Alex Cote did not have the number of miles but thought if Keith Rollins was still at the meeting, he may have an answer.

Racheal Stuart commented Class VI Roads make up 20% of the road frontage in Deerfield. She named several roads that might help voters familiarize themselves with Class VI Roads: Tin Pot Road, Babb Road, Thurston Pond Road (a.k.a Ridge Road), Tandy Road and Blakes Hill Road.

Keith Rollins, former Highway Agent stated there are 64 miles of Town Roads, 25 miles of gravel roads and once a long time ago there were 90 miles of Class VI Roads.

Reading from the 1999 Master Plan, Kate Hartnett stated there were 57 miles of roads, 10 miles of which are Class VI Roads.

Waddy Winslow, Jr. was in a catch 22 situation regarding Class VI Roads. What it mainly related to was trying to subdivide a portion of a family owned parcel of land on a portion of a Class V and Class VI Road. It took a year and a half to get through the process mainly because it related to the Class VI dilemma.

ARTICLE 23

VOTE: Discussion ended. The Moderator re-read the Article 23 and called for the vote. It was a **HAND VOTE** in the **AFFIRMATIVE** and declared adopted as printed.

Article 24

To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

3:45PM On the motion of George Keech to Adjourn, seconded by Colleen Guardia, Moderator Jonathan Hutchinson called for the vote. It was a **VOICE VOTE** in the **AFFIRMATIVE** and so declared. The March 13, 2004 Town Meeting-Business Portion is adjourned.

A True Record,
Attest:

Cynthia E. Heon
Town Clerk/Tax Collector



Note 1:
Number of Registered Voters 2900
Voters Present at this Meeting 420

Note 2:
Immediately following the Meeting the following Officials elected on March 9, 2004 came forward and took the Oath of Office administered by Town Moderator, Jonathan Hutchinson:

Selectman	R. Andrew Robertson	Three Year Term
Selectman	Paul P. Dinneen	Three Year Term
Highway Agent	Alex Cote	One Year Term
Supervisor of the Checklist	Cherie Sanborn	Six Year Term
Supervisor of the Checklist	Diane Valade	Two Year Term
Municipal Budget Committee	Sean Beausoleil	Three Year Term
Municipal Budget Committee	Christopher D. Roberge	One Year Term



NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE PRIMARY



NOTICE TO VOTERS

THE STATE PRIMARY VOTING WILL BE HELD AT THE
FOLLOWING LOCATION Historic Town Hall
POLLING PLACE

Tuesday, September 14, 2004

Beginning at 7:00AM o'clock

Closing no earlier than 7:00PM o'clock

For the nomination of Candidates for the following Offices:

- | | |
|---|--|
| Declarations of
Candidacy to be
filed with
Secretary of State | Governor |
| | United States Senator |
| | Representative in Congress |
| | Executive Councilor |
| | State Senator |
| Declarations of
Candidacy to be
filed with Town
or City Clerks | County Officer |
| | State Representative |
| | Delegate to the Republican State Convention (Election) |

Declarations of Candidacy, Declarations of Intent and Petitions to be filed with the Secretary of State no earlier than June 2, nor later than June 11, 5 p.m.

Declarations of Candidacy and Petitions to be filed with the Town and City Clerks no earlier than June 2, nor later than June 11, 5 p.m.

Date May 20, 2004

Aprilia E. Head Clerk.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Recording fee: \$25.00

Use black print or type.

Form must be single-sided, on 8½" x 11" paper and have one inch margins on both sides. Double sided copies will not be accepted.

Form NP-1
RSA 292:2

ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT
OF
A NEW HAMPSHIRE NONPROFIT CORPORATION

THE UNDERSIGNED, BEING PERSONS OF LAWFUL AGE, ASSOCIATE UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED, CHAPTER 292 BY THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES:

FIRST: The name of the corporation shall be:

Deerfield Cooperative Preschool

SECOND: The object for which this corporation is established is:

See Article II - Mission, attached

THIRD: The provisions for establishing membership and participation in the corporation are:

See Article III - Membership, attached

FOURTH: The provisions for disposition of the corporate assets in the event of dissolution of the corporation including the prioritization of rights of shareholders and members to corporate assets are:

See Article IX - General Rules, Section X,
attached.

FIFTH: The address at which the business of this corporation is to be carried on is:

5 Old Center Rd, South
Deerfield, NH 03037

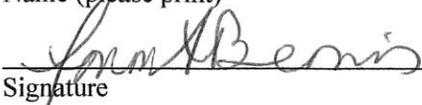
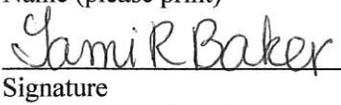
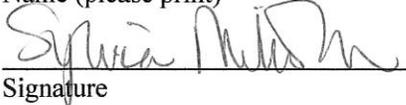
SIXTH: The amount of capital stock, if any, or the number of shares or membership certificates, if any, and provisions for retirement, reacquisition and redemption of those shares or certificates are:

Not Applicable.

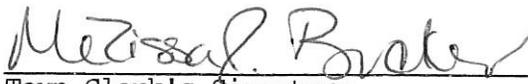
SEVENTH: Provision eliminating or limiting the personal liability of a director, an officer or both, to the corporation or its shareholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, an officer or both is: (Note 1)

See Article VII - Executive Board, Section V,
attached.

EIGHTH: Signatures and post office address of each of the persons associating together to form the corporation: (Note 2)

<u>Signature and Name</u>	<u>Post Office Address</u>
1. <u></u> Signature	<u>17 Haynes Rd., Deerfield</u> Street
<u>Christine Britos</u> Name (please print)	<u>Deerfield, New Hampshire 03037</u> City/Town State Zip
2. <u></u> Signature	<u>83 Raymond Road</u> Street
<u>Lynn Bemis</u> Name (please print)	<u>Deerfield, NH 03037</u> City/Town State Zip
3. <u></u> Signature	<u>41 Mayhew Dr.</u> Street
<u>Tami Baker</u> Name (please print)	<u>Candia, NH 03034</u> City/Town State Zip
4. <u></u> Signature	<u>11 Companion Rd</u> Street
<u>Sylvia Miholovich</u> Name (please print)	<u>Deerfield NH 03037</u> City/Town State Zip
5. <u></u> Signature	<u>43 Mt. Delight Rd</u> Street
<u>Judith Bush</u> Name (please print)	<u>Deerfield, NH 03037</u> City/Town State Zip

Town Clerk's Office, Town of Deerfield received and recorded this 25th day of August, 2004.


Town Clerk's Signature

Melissa J. Buckner
Town Clerk's Name (Please Print)

- Notes: 1. If no provision eliminating or limiting personal liability, insert "NONE".
2. At least five signatures are required.

Mail \$25.00 fee and **DUPLICATE ORIGINALS (ORIGINAL SIGNATURES ON BOTH)** to:
Corporation Division, Department of State, 107 North Main Street, Concord NH 03301-4989

Deerfield Cooperative Preschool

Constitution and Bylaws

Article I

Name and Address

SECTION I: NAME

The name of this organization is the Deerfield Cooperative Preschool (also referred to as DCP).

SECTION II: ADDRESS

The physical address of the DCP is 5 Old Center Road South, Deerfield, New Hampshire 03037.

Article II

Mission

The mission of this preschool is to provide age appropriate curriculum, meeting the needs of the whole child. To create an environment where children and families love and value learning. To succeed through parent mutual respect, collaboration and cooperation.

Article III

Membership

SECTION I: JOINING

By the act of joining this preschool cooperative, each member is bound by the following by-laws.

SECTION II: WHO MAY ENTER

A. DCP is a non-profit, inclusive group which seeks to embrace the diversity found in our community and welcomes all families regardless of their race, religion, sexual orientation, philosophy, educational background, or economic status.

B. Membership in DCP shall be open to a parent or other person, responsible for the general care and welfare of a child or children from the ages 3 to 6.

C. To be eligible for the DCP multi-age program, a child must be 2 years 11 months in age and potty trained.

SECTION III: HANDLING OF APPLICATIONS

A. Returning members may register for the upcoming school year at the March membership meeting. A waiting list for potential new members will be maintained throughout the school year. A potential new member will be placed on the waiting list upon verbal request to the vice chair. Registrations for new members will be accepted beginning after the March membership meeting should any openings remain after returning members have completed their registration process. Spots will be offered to those on the waiting list on a first-come, first-serve basis based upon when the request was received by the vice chair. Preference will be given to returning members until the annual open house. If forms/fees have not been received prior to the start of the open house, a first-come basis will be applied. Parents, as they register at the open house will be given their child's enrollment status. The registration fee is non-refundable. Qualified applicants will be entered on a waiting list if the enrollment is full and notified if and when a space becomes available.

B. A registration form, including medical information, must be completed for each child. The medical forms will be kept on file at the preschool. Parents are responsible for providing information to the preschool about their child's allergies.

SECTION IV: DEFINITION OF MEMBERS

A. Participating members are those who participate in every activity related to the school; parent-of-the-day, fundraisers, serves on a standing committee(s), has a parent job, attends membership meetings, and attends school clean-up/set-up days. Reference Parent Handbook for detailed requirements.

B. Non-participating members are those who do not participate in school related activities, except for the 8 out of the 10 membership meetings, and will pay a higher rate to compensate for all extra activities. All children placed in the preschool by the school district will be classified as non-participating and pay the higher rate. Parents are encouraged to participate in the classroom if they wish. Reference Parent Handbook for detailed requirements.

SECTION V: CLASSROOM SIZE

Full enrollment shall be 24 for the multi-age session. Non-participating members will be limited to two. Teacher/child ratio will be determined by state regulations. Current state regulations for a multi-age preschool require a minimum of 1 teacher to 8 children.

SECTION VI: DURATION OF MEMBERSHIP

A. Members shall enroll for not less than one full school year or for the balance of the current year. The school year will normally be June through May.

B. The executive board and teacher may review the membership list at any time to determine whether or not any withdrawals are necessary on the grounds of unsatisfactory participation on the part of the parent.

C. If a member must withdraw due to extenuating circumstances, he/she must notify the vice chair in writing. Withdrawal shall take effect a minimum of two weeks after the written request has been received.

D. Any member enrolling in school after the open house will receive and must sign an amended contract of commitment outlining their expected participation, e.g. an enrollment in October would have fewer membership meetings that must be attended.

**ARTICLE IV
TUITION**

SECTION I: REGISTRATION

A non-refundable registration fee is payable for each child entering preschool. This fee covers registration, starting costs and insurance.

SECTION II: TUITION

A. The amount of tuition shall be set by the executive board and approved by the membership prior to the annual open house.

B. Non-participating members shall pay a higher tuition per month. This amount shall be set by the executive board and approved by the membership. The higher fee is to compensate for their non-participating status in school-related activities, except for the 8 out of the 10 membership meetings.

SECTION III: PAYMENT OF TUITION

A. Tuition will be due on or before the monthly membership meeting. The first tuition payment will be due on or before the August meeting. Withdrawal before the beginning of school will result of forfeiture of half of the August payment. Tuition may be paid to the black treasurer's mailbox at DCP or given directly to the treasurer.

B. If a check is returned to DCP for any reason, the check will be re-deposited. The member will be required to submit payment to the treasurer for the service fee charged to DCP for the transaction. If a second check is returned for any reason, the check shall be returned to the member. Payment of that month's tuition, plus applicable bank fees, shall be made with cash, bank check or money order.

C. If a tuition payment must be delayed due to financial difficulties, the member should contact the treasurer to arrange a payment plan.

SECTION IV: WITHDRAWAL MID-TERM

Members will be reimbursed on a prorated basis for the prepaid tuition that remains after the minimum two-week written notice of withdrawal has lapsed.

ARTICLE V
MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

SECTION I: MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

A. Membership meetings shall be held once a month. The meeting day and time will be determined by the majority of the membership at the August membership meeting. Any changes in the date of the membership meeting schedule will be announced ten days in advance and posted on the bulletin board.

B. Participating members and non-participating members must attend no less than 8 of the 10 membership meetings per school year. If more than two meetings are missed, the participating member will be billed at the non-participating rate for the month of the third absence and any subsequent months that membership meetings are missed. If more than two meetings are missed by the non-participating member, the executive board may determine whether or not a withdrawal is necessary on the grounds of unsatisfactory participation on the part of the non-participating member.

C. A special meeting may be called by the Chair or 25% of the families.

SECTION II: VOTING AT MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

A. A quorum, set at 7, is required to conduct business at membership meetings. Members present at the membership meetings will vote and the majority rules. In the event of a tie, the Chair will cast the deciding vote. Each child enrolled at DCP may be represented by one vote only. Executive board members, without children enrolled, are not eligible to vote at the membership meetings.

B. The membership reserves the right to override a decision made by the executive board. If a disagreement arises, the following protocol should be used as a guideline toward a resolution. All votes will be cast in writing.
Protocol:

1. Review Protocol.
2. Board explanation of situation including, but not limited to:
 - a. Board position on the issue.
 - b. Justification of the position.
3. Discussion period with membership and board:
 - a. Questions and answers.
 - b. Identify alternative courses of action.
4. Membership determines by vote to proceed with the following step:
 - a. Conduct vote to determine if majority wants to uphold or override the decision.
 - b. Vote.
5. If the outcome of 4a is to override the initial decision, a subsequent vote will be held to determine the new course of action.

SECTION III: AGENDA

The agenda will be determined by the presiding chair.

SECTION IV: ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP

The May membership meeting shall be designated as the annual meeting of the membership, the purpose of which is to introduce the new executive board and to adopt or rescind resolutions to the bylaws.

ARTICLE VI
FINANCES

SECTION I: Operation Finances

A. The executive board is limited to transactions under \$500.00. The only exception will be during the start up year (2004/05) for bulk supply purchases and equipment.

B. The chair, vice chair and treasurer shall be empowered to sign checks.

C. A budget for the following preschool year shall be adopted at a spring membership meeting. It may be reviewed and amended at a fall membership meeting and approved by a 2/3 vote.

D. The preschool teacher will be allotted a fixed sum of money per month to spend on supplies. Receipts from the previous month's purchases will be turned in to the treasurer by the first week of the month. Within one week of receipt, the treasurer will reimburse the teacher for the supplies that are purchased within the allotted fixed sum.

E. The preschool teacher and the purchaser are responsible for purchasing all supplies for the preschool. The preschool pays for the supplies. Expenses need to be submitted on a preschool expense request form provided by the treasurer.

F. DCP rents the preschool from the Deerfield Business Center. The preschool parents are responsible for all expenses in conjunction with the operation of the school.

G. Any funds, as determined by the executive board, not immediately needed to transact preschool business, may be deposited in a savings account or invested in a bank certificate of deposit.

H. Any remaining funds will be carried forward to the new school year.

ARTICLE VII **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

SECTION I: OFFICERS

The officers of the preschool shall be chair, vice chair, treasurer, secretary and scheduler. The membership has the option to change the structure of the executive board to include co-chairs if they so wish. The majority of the membership must be in agreement in order to execute the option. The elected chair person must be a participating member with child enrolled. The teacher will serve in an advisory role at the executive board meetings.

SECTION II: ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Nomination for the officers to the executive board should be made in writing to the chair or vice chair prior to the April membership meeting. A list of nominees will be posted on the bulletin board for review until the April membership meeting. Nominations may be made at the April membership meeting with a 2/3 approval vote of the membership present. The executive board shall be elected by majority vote of the membership present at the April membership meeting for the term of one year, but not more than three successive terms in that position. Incoming and outgoing officers will work together through the May membership meeting in order to ensure a smooth transition.

SECTION III: TERM OF EXECUTIVE BOARD/VACANCIES

The term of the executive board officers shall be from May through April. If for any reason there is a vacancy in the executive board, there shall be nominations and election at the next monthly membership meeting.

SECTION IV: MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

A. The meetings of the executive board will be held once a month. Day, time and place will be determined and posted by the current executive board. Meetings of the executive board are open to all members. Members are able to participate, but are not eligible to vote at the executive board meetings.

B. At the end of an executive board meeting, the board may vote to hold a closed session in order to discuss personnel issues. This must be approved by a majority vote of the officers present at the meeting. This portion of the meeting will be for executive board officers only and the minutes will be sealed.

C. A quorum for the executive board meetings shall be 2/3 of the board membership.

SECTION V: INDEMNIFICATION OF OFFICERS

DCP shall indemnify and hold harmless each officer of DCP from and against any and all claims and liabilities to which they be or become subject by reason of acting as an officer of DCP, or by reason of alleged acts or omission as an officer as aforesaid, and shall reimburse each officer of DCP for all legal and other expenses reasonably incurred in connection with defending against such claims or liabilities, provided, however, that no officer shall be indemnified against or reimbursed for any expenses due to negligence or willful misconduct. The foregoing rights of officers shall not be exclusive of other rights to which they may be entitled lawfully.

SECTION VI: OFFICERS DUTIES

A. CHAIR DUTIES

1. Serve as the primary channel of communication with the executive board officers, members and teacher/director.
2. Ensure that each member shall understand and carry out the purpose of the preschool and the obligations of membership.
3. Ensure that all members have copies of the constitution, by-laws and parent handbook and that they are adhered to.
4. Schedule general and executive board meetings.
5. Prepare agenda for board and membership meetings.
6. Preside over all meetings.
7. Responsible for canceling school for any reason.
8. Act as the preschool's community representative.
9. Make application for state license.
10. Prepare the annual teacher's contracts to be discussed, reviewed, and finalized (using surveys collected by the vice chair as a tool) by the executive board members in time for March registration.
11. Work with the vice chair to be sure that all paperwork is in accordance with state standards.
12. Make self available to membership.
13. Check mailbox weekly and distribute mail as necessary.
14. Write for any grants or possible income that may be presented to the school.
15. Designate and distribute fairly responsibilities to the executive board officers.
16. Advise membership at March membership meeting to review and submit revision to the current bylaws for consideration at the May membership meeting.
17. Designate executive board member to review expense and deposit records with the treasurer on a monthly basis.
18. Maintain prudent documentation of incidences with members, teachers and others.
19. Act as a liaison to the Deerfield Business Center with regards to use the building and any maintenance that may occur.
20. Work with executive board members on hiring committee if teacher position becomes vacant.

B. VICE CHAIR DUTIES

1. Assist the chair as needed.
2. In absence of the chair, act in his/her stead.
3. Act as an advisor to half the standing committees.
4. Handle publicity for DCP with assistance from the publicity committee.
5. Contact local radio stations to obtain "code word" used when calling to cancel school.
6. Act as a liaison to the Deerfield Parks and Recreation Department.
7. Work with the chair to organize annual open house and registration.
8. Accept applications and establish enrollment for the upcoming school year.
9. Keep an accurate waiting list when necessary.
10. Notify all members of the first membership meeting in August by mail or telephone.
11. Orient new members.
12. Responsible for all records being on hand before the school term begins.
13. Notify officers and teachers of any new members and any other changes in enrollment.
14. Help prepare ads for local news papers, web, Deerfield Community School communication and Deerfield Communicator to advertise annual open house, preschool openings, and teacher's vacancies.
15. Complete monthly testing of emergency equipment (exit lights, emergency lighting) in classroom, meeting room, main hallway and rear exit. Record results on log posted in classroom.
16. Responsible to produce, distribute, and collect surveys relating to the performance of the teacher by the February executive board meeting.
17. Work with executive board members on hiring committee if teacher position becomes vacant.

C. TREASURER DUTIES

1. Prepare an annual budget and proposed tuition with the assistance of the executive board. The budget should include a forecast and explanation of fundraising needs. This budget is to be presented to the membership at the May membership meeting.
2. Monitor the spending/budget throughout the year and keep the executive board informed at all times.

3. Keep accurate records of all transactions.
4. Pay the salary and fixed expenses necessary to maintain the efficient operations of the preschool.
5. Receive all money due to the school for tuition, fundraising, gifts and other sums.
6. File all state and federal forms regarding: Tax, employment, non-profit, Social Security, withholding, quarterly estimated taxes and any matching funds.
7. Prepare a monthly report to be given at the regular membership meetings.
8. Oversee the purchase of any supplies needed to further the preschool program.
9. Check annually with insurance agent and file any necessary forms to ensure adequate coverage.
10. Make monthly tax deposits.
11. Work with Executive Board members on hiring committee if teacher position becomes vacant.
12. Review expenses and deposit records with the chair or designated executive board member on a monthly basis.
13. Review work with professional Tax Consultant quarterly.
14. Checks over \$100.00 or made out to cash to the treasurer need to be co-signed by the chair.
15. Expenses submitted to the treasurer for reimbursement will be paid no more than two weeks after receiving a receipt.

D. SECRETARY DUTIES

1. Keep accurate minutes of all membership meetings. The minutes of each meeting are to be posted on the bulletin board at the school within a week of the membership meeting.
2. Keep a notebook of all minutes.
3. Have possession of a copy of the constitution and bylaws of DCP and make these and all minutes available at membership meetings.
4. Conduct all the preschool's correspondence as delegated by the chair, including the writing of thank you notes for gifts received by the school, etc.
5. Work with the teacher and vice chair to see that the file of emergency information is kept up to date.
6. Help prepare ads for local news papers, web, Deerfield Community School communication and Deerfield Communicator to advertise annual open house, preschool openings, and teacher vacancies.
7. Keeps a list of all the members with current addresses, phone numbers and email addresses.
8. Work with executive board members on hiring committee if teacher position becomes vacant.

E. SCHEDULER DUTIES

1. Make monthly work schedules for members and distribute copies to all members and the teacher, as well as post a copy on the school bulletin board, a minimum of one week prior to the start of the schedule.
2. Schedules should include cleaning duties and supplies that parents need to bring in on their assigned day.
3. Coordinate calendar with the teacher for distribution to the members.
4. Check DCP clock periodically for accuracy.
5. Coordinate the monthly cleaning of the preschool by providing the teacher with the monthly cleaning sheet one week prior to the monthly cleaning. The teacher can specify additional tasks to be done during the cleaning or remove unnecessary tasks from the list; making a schedule, notifying the member of their cleaning duty; and being the contact person for allowing admittance to the school for the cleaning.
6. Work with executive board members on hiring committee if teacher position becomes vacant.

ARTICLE VIII
TEACHER/DIRECTOR

SECTION I: TEACHER/DIRECTOR DUTIES

1. Plan the daily program of the preschool and work with the participating parents to carry out this program.
2. Post weekly curriculum on school bulletin board.
3. Coordinate calendar with the scheduler for distribution to parents.

4. Attend membership meetings.
5. Serve in an advisory role at the executive board meetings.
6. Report to the chair with any inquiries, problems, etc.
7. Attend and participate in DCP activities.
8. Participate in any outside meetings concerning children as needed.

SECTION II: PARENTS AS EMPLOYEES

If a job exists, a parent may apply for a teacher's position. This parent would still be required to fulfill the duties of a participating parent with the exception of being parent-of-the-day. This individual would not be able to vote at the executive board meetings. This individual may not vote on issues relating to the teacher's position (salary, or hourly pay, contract, leave, etc.) this individual would also be required to maintain the confidentiality and professionalism of the teacher when acting in a membership capacity.

SECTION III: INDEMNIFICATION OF THE TEACHER

DCP shall indemnify and hold harmless each teacher of DCP from and against all claims and liabilities to which they be or become subject by reason of acting as teacher of DCP, or by reason of alleged acts or omissions as teacher as aforesaid, and shall reimburse each teacher of DCP for all legal and other expenses reasonably incurred in connection with defending against such claims or liabilities, provided, however, that no teacher shall be indemnified against or reimbursed for any expenses incurred due to negligence or willful misconduct. The foregoing rights of the teacher shall not be exclusive of other rights to which they may be entitled lawfully.

ARTICLE IX GENERAL RULES

SECTION I: SCHOOL CALENDAR

The multi-age cooperative preschool shall be held Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 1 pm- September through June.

The preschool year will follow that of the Deerfield School District, observing all vacations, holidays and snow cancellation days. The only exception being DCS teacher workshops, DCP will be open on those days. A delayed opening because of weather conditions will result in cancellation of the entire day program. The first day of school will be determined by the chair and teacher and voted on by the membership at the May membership meeting. Parents shall not be expected to pay pro-rated tuition for the make-up days.

SECTION II: PARENT-OF-THE-DAY DUTY/SUBSTITUTE

A. Participating parents will serve their assigned duty days or must arrange for a substitute. Parents shall notify the teacher of any change as well as change the posted monthly work schedule. Paid substitutes may be arranged in accordance with a policy outlined in the *Parent Handbook*.

B. Parents may be granted a six week new baby leave or eight week leave if mother had a cesarean, during which time their child may attend preschool without a substitute worker. After the leave a substitute worker is required to attend with the child. Exceptions can be made on a case to case basis voted on by the board.

SECTION III: PAYMENT FOR SUBSTITUTES

In the event the teacher will be absent, he/she will inform the chair. A qualified individual will be asked to substitute and will be paid the amount of \$40 for the day.

SECTION IV: CONTAGIOUS DISEASE POLICY

Parents shall keep their child home during the contagious stage of a disease. Parents shall notify the teacher, who shall post a notice if a child has been exposed to a contagious disease. It will be the teacher's prerogative to send a child home if he/she determines a child is too sick to be in school.

SECTION V: CONCERNS/GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

Concerns and/or grievances pertaining to the administration of the preschool should be brought to the attention of the chair or vice chair. Concerns and/or grievances pertaining to the preschool program should be brought to the attention of the teacher. When a concern and/or grievance cannot be resolved by the chair, vice chair and/or the teacher, a resolution will be sought from the executive board. The entire membership will be requested to assist if necessary.

SECTION VI: DISCRIMINATION/EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYMENT POLICY

DCP prohibits discrimination based on one's race, color, sex, national origin, religion, mental or physical disability and age. This rule applies to students, teachers and members. DCP is also required to ensure that its employees and applicants for employment are accorded Equal Employment Opportunity. Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 makes it unlawful to discriminate in all practices, conditions and terms of employments because of race, color, sex, national origin or religion.

SECTION VII: SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY

Sexual harassment of any member, teacher or student at DCP by any member, teacher or student at DCP is not permissible and may be cause for dismissal.

SECTION VIII: SEXUAL ABUSE/ASSAULT POLICY

Sexual abuse or assault of any member, teacher or student at DCP by any member, teacher or student at DCP is prohibited. Investigation of this crime will be turned over to the proper authorities and the suspected adult will not be permitted on DCP grounds unless acquitted.

SECTION IX: CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY:

Any possible conflict of interest on the part of any member of the executive board, individual member or employee of the Deerfield Cooperative Preschool, shall be disclosed in writing to the executive board and made a matter of record. The minutes of the executive board meeting involving such conflict shall reflect that a disclosure was made, the abstention from voting and the actual vote itself.

SECTION X: PROVISION FOR DISSOLUTION:

Upon the dissolution of Deerfield Cooperative Preschool, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code, or corresponding section of any future tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Such actions will be taken by the governing board at the time of dissolution.

SECTION XI: MEMBER MODIFICATION/DISPENSATION OF THE BY-LAWS

If an individual member feels he/she has reasonable cause to request a modification of or dispensation from a section of the by-laws, the request must be made in writing to the chair. The request should identify the by-law under consideration and justification of the modification or dispensation. Upon receipt in writing, the request shall be considered at the next executive board meeting and may be presented to the membership for further consideration if necessary.

SECTION XII: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Revised will be the Parliamentary Authority in governing any meetings in all cases to which it is applicable.

SECTION XIII: AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS

The by-laws may be amended at the May membership meeting by a majority affirmative vote of the voting members. Any proposed amendments or revisions must be presented in writing, to the chair, by the April membership meeting and majority consent, by the voting members, must be obtained for the consideration. The written proposed amendments must include the following information:

1. By-law to amend, add or delete.
2. Resolution – new by-law stated.
3. Justification – reason for the change in bylaws.

TOWN OF DEERFIELD

Board of Selectmen
Planning Board
Tax Collector/Town Clerk

8 Raymond Road
P.O. Box 159
Deerfield, N.H. 03037
603-463-8811

Board of Adjustment
Building Inspector
Health Officer

NOTICE

The counting of the State General Election Ballots and testing the voting machine will be, Friday, September 10, 2004 in the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office at the George B. White Building at 2:30PM.

Posted: Post Office – September 8, 2004
Town Offices – September 8, 2004

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION
September 14, 2004**

Moderator, Jonathan Hutchinson opened with the following remarks: Upon approaching the Ballot Clerks, Voters should state their name, party affiliation, repeat their name and confirm their physical address. Privacy envelopes are available at the check-in for voters who request them. If a voter makes an error on a ballot, they are to return it to the Inspectors of Election to declare it "spoiled" and to re-vote. You have only three tries. If you feel your rights have been violated during this election call the Attorney General's Office at 1-866-868-3703. No electioneering will be permitted in the polling place or within a 10 foot corridor. There should be no advocacy in the No-Electioneering zone or political signage. New residents can vote today if they registered with the Supervisors of the Checklist. An Undeclared voter may change back to Undeclared status after voting by returning to the Supervisors of the Checklist.

The Ballots were delivered, counted and certified. The Sample Ballots for each Party, Instructions to the Voters and Statutes were posted. The Accuvote Voting Machine was inspected and locked. Instructions were given to the voters. Voters were instructed to place their ballot in the Voting Machine. Under RSA 664:17 no signs are to be posted in the public Right-of-Way. The Presidential Primary Warrant was read.

Election Officials present were: Moderator Jonathan Hutchinson, assisted by Assistant Moderator, James County; Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Melissa J. Buckner; Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector, R. Lynne DeVarney and Election Assistants, Barbara Sundstrom; Cynthia E. Heon; Jeannete L. Foisy; From the Inspectors of Elections, Barbara Daley, Ella Sawyer, Suzanne Sherburne; Judy Hartgen and Roger Hartgen; Supervisors of the Checklist, Cherie Sanborn, Chairman, Kathryn Williams and Diane Valade; Board of Selectmen, R. Andrew Robertson, Chariman; Joseph E. Stone; James T. Alexander and Stephen R. Barry, Selectmen.

Gatekeeper for this Election was Police Chief, Robert Wunderlich.

7:00AM The Polls were declared open by Moderator Hutchinson and the balloting began.

1:00PM Absentee Ballots were begun.

34	Absentee Ballots Mailed (Including Absentee Armed Citizen's Ballots)
10	Absentee Ballots Not Returned
17	Absentee Ballots Cast
1	Absentee Ballot Challenged
170	Republican Ballots Rec'd from State
120	Democratic Ballots Rec'd from State

2:00PM Absentee Ballots on hand were Completed.

5:00PM No New Absentee Ballots were Received.

7:00PM Moderator, Jonathan Hutchinson, declared the polls closed.

The Counting of the Ballots began Immediately.

Serving as Inspectors of Elections to count ballots were: Kevin Barry; Philip H. Bilodeau; Rebecca Hutchinson and George A. Keech.

Statistics

2940	Registered Voters (Including New Voters)
152	Regular Democratic Ballots Cast
226	Regular Republican Ballots Cast
10	Absentee Democratic Ballots Cast
7	Absentee Republican Ballots Cast
16	Newly Registered Voters
13.5%	Voter Turnout

The Moderator read the results of the New Hampshire State Primary Election.

The ballot box was sealed at 7:45PM. The Moderator declared the Meeting adjourned at 7:50PM.

A True Record,
Attest:

Melissa J. Buckner
Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Town Seal

**The Town of Deerfield
Special Town Meeting
December 11, 2004**

At 9:00am Moderator Jonathan Hutchinson called the Special Town Meeting to Order.

The Moderator announced that smoking was not permitted in the building and that the emergency exits were the 4 double blue doors to either end of the gymnasium. He then asked those present to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Moderator, Jonathan Hutchinson welcomed those assembled in the gymnasium to the Special Town Meeting. He then introduced members of the Town present: The Board of Selectmen, R. Andrew Robertson, Chairman; Frances Menard, Vice-Chairman; Joseph Stone; James Alexander and Stephen Barry; Assistant Moderator, Doug Leavitt; Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Melissa Buckner; Ballot Clerks, Barbara Daley; Ella Sawyer; Suzanne Sherburne; Judith Hartgen and Roger Hartgen.

Also present: Supervisors of the Checklist, Cheri Sanborn, Diane Valade, and Kay Williams; Ballot Counters, Kevin Barry, Richard Boisvert, George Clark, Joseph Dubiansky and George Keech; Police Chief Robert Wunderlich and Police Officer Amber Parkhurst.

Announcements

The Moderator announced that there would be an informational forum regarding a Deerfield Middle School in the gymnasium following the Special Town Meeting.

The Moderator announced that each member who wished to vote should check in with the ballot clerks to receive a voting card (blue) and a paper ballot (blue). Registered voters who were not checked in were instructed to do so. All members present who were not registered voters in the Town of Deerfield with the exception of children were instructed to be seated in the designated area to the Moderator's left. Those not registered to vote would be allowed to participate in the debate, but not the vote.

The rules of the meeting were Robert's Rule of Order Modified by the moderator in accordance to the laws of the State of New Hampshire. The Order for the day was the warrant consisting of a single article using normal meeting procedure. Questions would be recognized in order and should be directed to the Moderator. When recognized, the speaker's name would be stated. Each speaker would be allowed 3 minutes for expressing his/her views. Members of the meeting could speak as many times as they wished once all members who wished to speak had a first turn to speak. The overriding principal in call cases would be fairness.

The Moderator announced to the members of the meeting that a secret ballot could be requested if it was put in writing by 5 members of the meeting and given to the Moderator prior to the vote. The request must be for a specific vote and not for all votes of the meeting. The secret vote was not permitted as a tactic of delay. Otherwise, votes would be by a set of voting cards; if the vote is not clear there will be a division of the

house, a count of raised cards, requested by a member or the Moderator; seven members who question any non-ballot vote may request a written vote immediately after the vote is announced; if the margin of the vote is narrow, the Moderator may also request a written vote; Five voters may also request a recount of written ballot vote provided the vote margin is not more than 10% of the total votes cast and the recount will take place immediately following the public announcement of that vote.

The Moderator told the members of the meeting that if there was something anyone wished to accomplish, but were unclear how to proceed to ask any time in the meeting. He requested that members who wished to speak go to a microphone. He indicated that there would be no recesses.

The Moderator explained that the rulings of the Moderator were subject to appeal by any member immediately following a ruling. A second would be required. The rules of the meeting would be explained to the members and then the decision could be sustained or reversed.

Special Town Meeting Order of Business The Warrant

After the announcements the Moderator read the Warrant as follows:

To the inhabitants of the Town of Deerfield, in the County of Rockingham, in said State, qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at Deerfield Community School on Saturday the 11th day of December, next at nine of the clock in the forenoon, to act upon the following subject:

Article 1.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) for the purpose of acquiring property located at Six Old Center Road, South and identified in the Town's tax records as Map 210 Lot 4, consisting of an .830 acre parcel of land and buildings and improvements; and to authorize the use of the December 31, 2003 fund balance in that amount for this purpose.

The Moderator asked what actions the members of the meeting wished to take on this Article.

MOVED: The Article as written was MOVED by the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, R. Andrew Robertson.

SECONDED: The motion was SECONDED by Board of Selectmen Member, Stephen Barry.

OPEN FOR DISCUSSION: Article 1 was then Open for discussion.

Opening Statement/R. Andrew Robertson, Board of Selectmen Chairman

R. Andrew Robertson began discussion on the article and welcomed the members of the meeting. He stated that the Selectmen had asked for this meeting for the Town to consider purchasing the property located on 6 Old Center Road, identified as the MacKinnon Property for a sum of \$200,000 to be taken out of the Fund Balance. The offer to sell the land came with a December 31, (2004) deadline. That is why the Board called the meeting in December instead of waiting until March.

Mr. Robertson acknowledged that a number of people may have had questions about the specifics of the property and offered that the Board would do their best to answer them. However, there were three more general topics that he wanted to address.

The First being the nature of the transaction. He pointed out that this was not the Selectmen buying a house. They were presented an opportunity which they felt was important to present to the Town. The necessary arrangements and legwork were to bring the opportunity to this meeting for the Town's consideration.

The Second was the appraisals. There were two appraisals for this property. One was for \$189,000, the other was for \$190,000. The asking price was \$200,000 firm. The Selectmen had heard much about appraising and was aware that the asking price was slightly higher than the appraisal. However, the proposal was for \$200,000. In light of other recent real estate offerings in Deerfield that seemed reasonable to the Board.

Mr. Robertson stated that earlier that morning he had looked on-line at other real estate listings for Deerfield and found that the prices ranged from \$179,000 to \$1.4 million. There were three homes with an asking price less than \$200,000. There was a 700 square foot ranch on half of an acre with an asking price of \$179,000. There was a double-wide mobile home that was under agreement with a listing of \$194,000 and another double-wide home listed at \$199,900. Everything else was marketably above \$200,000.

Thirdly, at that time the Selectmen had no specific plans for the property. They were not recommending this purchase for a new safety services complex or fire station. They would not propose any changes to the current fire station without further discussion and appropriate input from the Deerfield Volunteer Fire Department Association and Fire Chief.

With that said, Mr. Robertson indicated that the Selectmen support purchasing the MacKinnon property and hope that the meeting would recognize both the urgency of the request for action, the value of preserving the Deerfield's Historic Center and preparing for the Community's future. He then thanked the members of the meeting.

Article 1 Open for Discussion

The Moderator asked if there was further discussion of Article 1. He then recognized Walter Hooker.

Walter Hooker, as Chairman of the Budget Committee, announced that the Budget Committee voted in favor of Article 1. The vote was 7-2-2. 7 Yes, 2 No and 2 Absent.

The Moderator recognized Lisa Wolford of 14 Old Center Road South.

Ms. Wolford said she was curious about how the opportunity arose and if the Town didn't take the family up on their offer was there another party waiting in the wings. She also wanted to know what would happen if the Town didn't buy the property.

Ms. Wolford's second question was what the Town would do with the structure on the property because it looked like it needed work. Also how much was the Town was planning on spending to do that?

The Moderator recognized R. Andrew Robertson, the Board of Selectmen Chairman, to Ms. Wolford's questions.

In response to Ms. Wolford's questions, Mr. Robertson explained that many years ago community leaders had expressed interest in the property particularly because of the Plan New Hampshire Charrette which had come up with a plan and design of what the Town might do with the Center of Deerfield. The family was aware the Town had an interest in the property and at Primary Election (Sept 14, 2004), Mrs. MacKinnon came forward and told the Board of Selectmen the property was coming on the Market and that she would give the Town the first opportunity. This opportunity came with a set price and a deadline of December 31, (2004). The Selectmen believed that there were buyers interested in this property.

In regard to use of the building, the Selectmen had not nailed down a clear cut use of this property. The Selectmen had an interest in preserving the building. A number of things that had been discussed for usage were office space, Historical Society use or any number of things. There was no specific option that the Selectmen had latched onto at that point.

In regard to the condition of the building, the Selectmen had a team go through the building. As stated, there had been a couple of appraisals. The Building Inspector who was formally a contractor, gave the Board his estimates of what he thought it would take to get the building up and going. He felt for approximately \$50,000 the building could be made quite serviceable. The \$50,000 amount included the cost of a potential new leach field, septic replacement, handicapped accessibility, and other improvements to the structure.

Proposed Amendment to Article 1/David O'Neal

The Moderator recognized David O'Neal for further discussion on Article 1.

Mr. O'Neal stated that he would like to make an amendment proposal to Article 1. He wanted the article to read the property would be purchased exclusively for the expansion of the Fire Department Facility.

The Moderator asked Mr. O'Neal to clarify how his proposal would have Article 1 read. The language would be inserted as follows:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) for the purpose of acquiring property located at Six Old Center Road, South and identified in the Town's tax records as Map 210 Lot 4, consisting of an .830 acre parcel of land and buildings and improvements; and to authorize the use of the December 31, 2003 fund balance in that amount for this property exclusively purchased for the expansion of the fire department facility.

MOTION: The Moderator announced that a MOTION had been made by Mr. O'Neal.

SECONDED: The MOTION was SECONDED by a member* of the meeting.

Amendment to Article 1 Open for Discussion

The Moderator asked if there was discussion on the Amendment to Article 1. He then recognized Rachelle Burnham of 3 Old Center Road, South.

Ms. Burnham wanted to address quotes she read in the Deerfield Newsletter regarding the existing structure for the appeal of the Downtown area. She felt that the expansion of the Fire Station would greatly diminish the feeling of the Downtown by putting a parking lot or a Safety Service Complex on that 1 acre lot. When driving Downtown there would be a huge structure with no open land visible from the street to see the current buildings. According to Ms. Burnham, many times of day it is hard to get down the street because people park on the side of the road if the traffic that the firestation would demand would not benefit the Town.

The Moderator recognized R. Andrew Robertson, Chair of the Board of Selectmen to respond to Ms. Burnham's Comments.

Mr. Robertson stated that the Selectmen would be against the amendment for two reasons. He explained that he was not against expansion of the Fire Department because it is part of the Selectmen's vision. However, expansion was something that there was no discussion about nor any planning for whatsoever. The Board of Selectmen would need to take a hard look at that option before committing themselves exclusively to one particular use. Also, there may be better uses for the property and it was in the Town's best interest to give a little more flexibility on potential use.

The Moderator asked if there was further discussion on the Amendment to Article 1. He then recognized Susanna Vaara of 101 Mountain View Road.

Ms. Vaara asked if the taxes had skyrocketed in the hopes that the Town would purchase this property.

The Moderator ruled that this question was off the discussion of the amendment and asked if Ms. Vaara had another question.

Ms. Vaara then asked if this property was purchased if the property owners would be paying taxes on that property as well.

Again the Moderator ruled that the question was off the discussion of the amendment and asked Ms. Vaara to hold off on her questions until the discussion on the amendment was complete.

The Moderator asked if there was any further discussion on the Amendment before a vote. The Moderator recognized Phil Bilodeau of Nottingham Road.

Mr. Bilodeau stated that he applauded Mr. O'Neal's intentions, however the warrant article as it stood would allow for the fire department to expand if the Board of Selectmen found that to be the best use.

The Moderator recognized Frances Menard, Board of Selectmen, Vice-Chairman to speak on the Amendment proposed for Article 1.

Ms. Menard stated that if the purchase of the property passed it would be her intention to encourage continued discussion of the property as to the best use.

The Moderator again recognized David O'Neal whom moved that Article 1 to be Amended.

Mr. O'Neal stated that his intention of the amendment was mainly because he claims the Town has sold off substandard lots already. The land the Gazebo was built on was originally intended for the expansion of the whole complex. The land in question would be strictly for the expansion of the fire department.

The Moderator recognized Frank Wilson , 251 North Road to comment on the proposed Amendment to Article 1.

MOVED: Frank Wilson, requested that the Question be MOVED.

SECONDED: The Motion was SECONDED by a member* on the floor.

The Moderator looked for opposition and closing debate on the proposed Amendment. Being that there was none, debate on the Amendment was CLOSED.

The Moderator then presented to the Meeting the question of the proposed Amendment to Article 1. If adopted the Article would read:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) for the purpose of acquiring property located at Six Old Center Road, South and identified in the Town's tax records as Map 210 Lot 4, consisting of an .830 acre parcel of land and buildings and improvements; and to authorize the use of the December 31, 2003 fund balance in that amount for this property exclusively purchased for the expansion of the fire department facility.

Vote Taken by on Proposed to Amendment to Article 1

The VOTE was taken by HAND VOTE using voting cards and the Nays had it. The Amendment was not adopted for Article 1.

Discussion Back Onto Article 1

The Moderator announced that the Meeting was back onto the main Article. He then asked Susanna Vaara if she would like to ask her question on the main Article.

Ms. Vaara asked why the taxes skyrocketed this year and stated that people cannot pay their taxes now. She wanted to know if the taxes went up because the Selectmen thought the Town would vote to buy this property. Secondly, knowing that taxpayers have a hard time paying their own taxes, she wanted to know if the property owners would be paying taxes on this property if it was purchased.

The Moderator recognized R. Andrew Robertson, Board of Selectmen, Chairman to respond to Ms. Vaara's question.

Mr. Robertson explained that he could start with the answers to Ms. Vaara's question, but Mr. Alexander (Board Member) was prepared to speak about specific tax questions. According to Mr. Robertson, the money that would be used to purchase the MacKinnon property would come out of the unreserved fund balance. Unreserved fund balance is not necessarily surplus money. It is an anticipated amount hinging on if revenues are on target and other things. There was a rough idea of what will be in that unreserved fund balance.

Mr. Robertson explained that the DRA (Department of Revenue Administration) in New Hampshire recommends that towns keep between 5% and 8% of their fund balance on hand for emergency. The Selectmen have tried to keep that appropriate amounts of between that 5% and 8% on hand. They would spend the \$200,000 for this property from there. So, taxpayers would see no tax impact on this rate, the rate Ms. Vaara was speaking about that just increased or next year's tax rate.

Mr. Robertson explained that the Town does not pay taxes on Municipal property it owns. The property would come off the tax rolls if it was purchased. Mr. Robertson thanked Walter Hooker (Municipal Budget Committee Chairman) who did research on exactly what that would mean to the taxpayers if the property was purchased. According to Mr. Hooker, it would be about a penny on the tax rate.

The Moderator recognized Rebecca Whitmeyer of Raymond Road to discuss Article 1.

Ms. Whitmeyer said she was asking the question that she thought everyone wanted to know; why the taxes increased 17.1% this year. She thought before the group voted anything that costs a significant amount of money they should stop and think. She stated that many of the residents simply cannot pay the taxes or any more.

The Moderator recognized Frederick McGarry to discuss Article 1.

Mr. McGarry stated he had a question to ask in regard to the recent tax increase. He believed that the increase in taxes was due to major changes in State funding for education and a reduction in funding. That the towns had to pick-up where there was a reduction in the State Funding. He asked if that was correct.

The Moderator recognized R. Andrew Robertson, Board of Selectmen Chairman who responded to Mr. McGarry's question.

Mr. Robertson stated that there were several things that contributed to the tax increase. One, that there was a significant reduction in school money in the State Education Tax. The Town also voted to increase the Town and School Budgets at last years meetings. In addition to the lack of State Education Aid, the Town also lost revenue at the Town level. Residents didn't buy as many big trucks and registerable things as they did in prior years which was a considerable amount on the tax rate.

In addition, there hasn't been extra money that offset taxes. One of the things is a significant amount of money went to the Conservation funds. This year the amount to go to Conservation is \$113,000. In prior years, that money could be used to offset the tax rate as well. So, Mr. Robertson concluded that there was a series of things that resulted in the tax increase.

The Moderator Recognized Harriet Cady of 34 Old Center Road to discuss Article 1.

Mrs. Cady stated that she was a State Representative as was Mr. Stone (Board of Selectmen Member). She claimed that Reps were shown a figure that was giving more back to the Towns and Schools. Secondly, as a State Representative the amount the State was taxing residents went down from \$5.4 down to \$3.34. So the State in fact reduced the amount they were taking for property tax. So, to blame it on the State for not giving back more money is inaccurate. She claims that at a Selectmen's Meeting, she heard Mr. Barry (Board of Selectmen Member) say that the people voted and they knew they voted increases. She asked if it was true in fact that the 8% increases that were voted at Town/School Meetings that sent the tax rate up. In her second question, Mrs. Cady wanted to know if it was correct that in the last 5 years Deerfield's taxes have increased 68%.

The Moderator Recognized R. Andrew Robertson, Board of Selectmen Chairman, who responded to Mrs. Cady's questions.

Mr. Robertson said he could speak to Mrs. Cady's questions with general information. He offered the school tax rate break down which the School Board provided him. Mr. Robertson read aloud that \$1.77 was attributable to budget increases; \$.63 resulted from decreased state aid revenue; and \$.58 was due to less surplus being returned compared to the previous year.

Mr. Robertson went on to explain that he had the last 5 years worth of tax rates, however he didn't have any actual percentages. He offered to run through the last 5 years of tax rates and tax ratios. They were the following:

Year	Ratio	Rate
1999	111.00%	19.26
2000	99.0%	20.06
2001	99.0%	24.04
2002	86.0%	26.12
2003	73.6%	27.81
2004	64.3%	32.57

Mr. Robertson explained that the ratio needs to be considered when looking at the tax rates.

The Moderator recognized Liz Wunderlich to discuss Article 1.

Ms. Wunderlich claimed that she heard talk of the property being bulldozed right away once the house is purchased and she wanted to know if that was true. She also wanted to know as far as the use of the building, if the Community Organizations would have a chance to decide what that use would be.

The Moderator Recognized R. Andrew Robertson, Board of Selectmen Chairman to respond to Mrs. Wunderlich's questions.

Mr. Robertson stated that there was no decision made to bulldoze the property. He claimed that the Board certainly looked at all possible scenarios if the property was indeed purchased. The Selectmen's primary interest is the location of the property not necessarily the building, however, the Board wanted to do all they could to make appropriate use of the building. The Budget Committee was very clear in letting the Selectmen know that they felt the Selectmen should do all that they could to make use of the building. It was the Selectmen's intention to meet with all the organizations, departments and associations as to the use of this building if it becomes available.

The Moderator recognized Michelle Martin of Old Center Road to discuss Article 1.

Ms. Martin asked if there would be sufficient fund left to cover true emergencies if \$200,000 was used to purchase this land.

The Moderator Recognized R. Andrew Robertson, Board of Selectmen Chairman to respond to Ms. Martin's questions.

Mr. Robertson explained that even after the purchase of the property, the Fund balance would still be \$625,000 which would still be in the range recommended by the Department of Revenue Administration.

The Moderator Recognized Mark Tibbetts, Deerfield Fire Chief to speak on Article 1.

Mr. Tibbetts claimed he was reluctant to speak on the topic, but felt that he needed to. As far as the land went, he had been a big supporter of purchasing it for a long time. However, he also felt he had to look out for the welfare of the Deerfield Fire Department. He stated that many knew that for the past 8 years the Fire Department has tried to get a Safety Complex which hasn't passed. However, this property could also be used for other agencies within the Town. The property could be used as office space, storage and parking spaces are needed. There was a lot of things the property could be used for. He believed the Town should at least buy the land for the Town use and for use by the Fire Department as well.

The Moderator Recognized James Alexander, Board of Selectmen Member to speak on Article 1.

Mr. Alexander understood that there was a lot that this land could be used for. There was 8/10 of an acre there. The Selectmen had no plans to expand the firehouse, expand the town hall, put in a skating rink or anything else. It was the intention of the Selectmen to acquire the last remaining parcel to complete the ownership perception in the center of Town. The potential uses could be considered in the future. Over the years the Conservation Commission had come to the Town to ask for bonds to purchase land to protect it for the future. This was an opportunity for the residents of Deerfield to purchase a piece of property for the future; not for today or tomorrow, but for the future. The time will come that this piece of property will be very important for the Town. If the opportunity wasn't taken now, this may be an opportunity that may never present itself again.

The Moderator recognized Tom Dillon of Haynes Road to discuss Article 1.

Mr. Dillon stated firstly that the Town tax increased almost exactly 50% this year. It had nothing to do with the cost of education or how much money the State didn't send. He believed in the past the Selectmen had chosen to use money in the Fund to keep the tax rate down. He claimed he was told that this year the Selectmen would not do that. He wanted to know if that was because the Selectmen decided to purchase this land.

The Moderator recognized R. Andrew Robertson, Board of Selectmen Chairman who responded to Mr. Dillon's comment.

In response, Mr. Robertson explained that clearly that \$200,000 could have been chosen to lower the tax rate. However, to give an example, \$261,000 of expenditure roughly equals a dollar on the tax rate.

The Moderator recognized Sheila Ellis of 75 Nottingham Road to discuss Article 1.

Ms. Ellis asked the Selectmen whatever ended up happening with this building, how much will this impact the taxes. She understood that it was going to cost about \$50,000 to

repair the building or demolish it. She wanted to know who was responsible for the extra and if that was going to increase taxes as well?

The Moderator recognized R. Andrew Robertson, Board of Selectmen Chairman to respond to Ms. Ellis' question.

Mr. Robertson explained that the \$50,000 was just thrown out as a rough estimate. Even if the Town decided to repair the building it would certainly cost money and certainly have some effect on the taxpayer even if the Town chose to demolish it. As to the effect on the taxes, Mr. Robertson stated they could go back to the example of \$261,000 roughly equals a dollar on the tax rate; to calculate roughly what the cost of maintenance or the cost of demolition would be to the Town in the future.

Motion to Close Debate

The Moderator recognized Joe Dubiansky, Nottingham Road to discuss Article 1.

MOVED: Joe Dubiansky requested that Debate be CLOSED and the question MOVED.

SECONDED: The Motion was SECONDED by Fred McGarry.

The Moderator explained the request closes debate and to move the question it requires 2/3 vote. The Moderator called for a HAND VOTE with the Voter Cards.

The VOTE to stop debate was taken by raised cards. The count was too close to call. The Moderator asked that it be recounted. The results were:

In Favor of Stopping Debate	106
Opposed to Stopping Debate	50

DEBATE CLOSED: The Debate was closed with 2/3 vote in the Affirmative.

Point of Order

A request for secret ballot had been given to the Moderator at the beginning of the Meeting.

Secret Ballot Vote

9:45am The Moderator moved directly to vote on the article. For the vote, blue paper ballots were used. The Moderator read Article 1 as printed:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) for the purpose of acquiring property located at Six Old Center Road, South and identified in the Town's tax records as Map 210 Lot 4, consisting of an .830 acre parcel of land and buildings and improvements; and to authorize the use of the December 31, 2003 fund balance in that amount for this purpose.

The Moderator instructed the members of the meeting that those in favor of Article 1 to indicate it by marking "yes" on the ballot and all those opposed were to mark "no" on the blue ballot. All the ballots must be collected and counted.

Ballot Boxes Shown to be Empty

9:48am The ballot boxes were shown to be empty by counters Joe Dubiansky, Kevin Barry and Douglas Leavitt.

Ballots Collected

The ballots were collected.

Results were Announced

9:56am The Moderator announced the results:

Those in favor of the Article: 75

Those opposed to the Article: 105

The Moderator DECLARED that the Article 1 was DEFEATED.

9:58am Stephen Barry, Board of Selectmen Member made a MOTION to ADJOURN.

9:58am The MOTION to ADJOURN was SECONDED by a Member of the Meeting*.

Meeting Adjourned by Voice Vote

The Moderator asked all in favor to indicate by stating AYE. The ayes had it and the meeting was adjourned at 9:58am

A True Record,
Attest:

Melissa J. Buckner
Town Clerk/Tax Collector

** Maker of the Motion Unknown*

Registered Voters: 3212

Voter Turnout for this Meeting: 5.6%