

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
January 8, 2018
MINUTES**

Call to Order:

5:30 pm – Chairman Barry called the meeting to order

Present: Stephen Barry, Chairman; Richard Pitman, Vice Chairman; Fred McGarry, Andrew Robertson and Jeff Shute, Selectmen.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag:

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

Chairman Barry recessed the Board of Selectmen’s Meeting to open a public hearing under RSA 31:95-B.

Chairman Barry read the notice of the public hearing regarding accepting public input regarding the acceptance of unanticipated donations of over \$10,000.00 to the town of Deerfield to support the Martston Farm Conservation Project to the Deerfield Conservation Fund.

There were no comments from the floor and Chairman Barry closed the public hearing and reconvened the Board of Selectmen’s Meeting.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to accept the donation

Second: Selectman Robertson

Discussion: None

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

Regular Business:

Review of Outstanding Minutes of 12/28/2017

Motion: Selectman Robertson moves to accept the minutes of 12/28/2017 as presented

Second: Selectman Shute

Discussion: None

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

Payroll Manifest - \$587.26 (gross), \$525.70 (net)

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve

Second: Selectman Robertson

Discussion: None

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

Final Accounts Payable Manifest for 2017 - \$30,816.96

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion: None

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

Account Payable Manifest - 2018 - \$86,114.50

Motion: Selectman Shute moves to approve

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion: None

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

Signatures:

From the town clerk/tax collector for a property tax supplement warrant for the state of New Hampshire. The town is hereby directed to collect the property taxes committed to you amounting to the sum of \$2,246.00 and with interest at 12% per annum on all sums not paid 30 days after the bills are paid. This is for Southern New Hampshire Deerfield Elderly Housing Limited Partnership. A supplemental tax needed.

Motion: Selectman Robertson moves to approve the supplemental tax amount

Second: Selectman Shute

Discussion: Vice Chairman Pitman asked where this was located. Chairman Barry stated that it was Sherburne Woods, Map 210-9-2.

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

Chairman Barry stated that he still had the deputy fire warden letters if anyone wishes to take action. Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he wanted to wait as well as Selectman Robertson. Neither had any problems with applicants and as Selectman Robertson stated that it would help with issuing fire permits but that he would still like to hear from Matt (Fisher).

Review of Correspondence:

None

Town Administrator's Report:

Mr. Harrington stated that he had several items.

An update on the repair costs to the rescue vehicle. Matt Fisher has gotten an updated estimate from Grappone Ford in the amount of \$12,685.48. This is for the head gasket repair and that they are fairly confident that this will be the final bill and that it will be back in service.

Mr. Fisher had also asked for the Tahoe to have a front to end review of service needs. There was approximately \$2,250.00 worth of repairs that needed to be done on the Tahoe to get it back into working order.

Selectman Robertson asked what year the Tahoe was and it was commented that it was a 2004. Chairman Barry stated that it was supposed to be replaced four years ago.

Mr. Harrington continued because of the repairs between the two vehicles is in the amount of \$14,935.00, the Chief has asked if it could be presented to the Board to use funds from the Fire Department Vehicle Equipment Expendable Trust Fund. If not, it will use a good chunk of the maintenance budget.

Chairman Barry stated that the chief wanted \$15,000.00 from the fund. Mr. Harrington added that there was \$14,797.00 as of September which was the last report that he had received from the Trustee of the Trust Funds so it should cover most of it but not all of it.

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to approve use of the Fire Department Vehicle Equipment Expendable Trust Fund to cover the cost of repairs of the fire department Tahoe and Rescue 2.

Second: Selectman Robertson

Discussion:

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

Mr. Harrington stated that on that same subject, the Chief has also asked if the Board would raise the amount of the warrant article which is usually \$10,000.00 each year to \$20,000.00 given the age of the vehicles that the fire department has.

Chairman Barry asked if that was for the Fire Department Vehicle Equipment Expendable Trust Fund. That was confirmed as being Article 6.

Motion: Selectman Robertson moves to change the trust fund amount in Warrant Article 6 from \$10,000.00 to \$20,000.00.

Second: Vice Chairman Pitman

Discussion: Vice Chairman Pitman asked if it would automatically go back down to \$10,000.00 next year to which Chairman Barry stated that the Board would have to decide that.

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

Mr. Harrington stated that he had one last item from the fire chief. There is currently an old generator in what they call the generator room in the back of the fire house that is not currently used. They have a Kohler generator that is mounted outside purchased from a FEMA grant or other grant money. Matt (Fisher) would like to either find another purpose for it or to sell it or dispose of it in some other way so that he can have that space for other uses.

Motion: Selectman Robertson moves to allow the fire chief to find another use or surplus the unused generator.

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion: Selectman McGarry asked what the size of the generator was. Mr. Harrington stated that he had not seen it but by the description it sounded to him like a portable generator that someone took off the frame and mounted it onto a permanent frame and somehow affixed in that room. There are louvers in the back room that allow it to exhaust out the back wall.

Chairman Barry asked the maker of the motion to modify the motion to add “find another use”

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if the fire chief would get back to the Board once that has been done. Mr. Harrington stated that he could do that.

Selectman McGarry asked if the generator outside could run the whole building to which it was answered yes.

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

Chairman Barry asked if anyone had anything for the town administrator to which no one did.

Unfinished Business:

Selectman Robertson stated that there was a little difficulty in the scheduling of the MBC meeting/work session on Saturday. It got posted by the MBC chair as being held at 9:30 p.m. as opposed to 9:30 a.m. The posting stated p.m. not a.m.

The MBC chair asked Selectman Robertson for his advice and as it was posted in three places like it was that Selectman Robertson didn't feel that Chair Dill could progress with the meeting and the group agreed.

Without having a meeting, Selectman Robertson stated that it was mentioned that they should still have a meeting at 9:30 p.m. as posted and he made an administrative decision that neither he nor the town administrator would be attending should that happen.

Selectman Robertson stated that he believes that the MBC is going to meet Tuesday and Saturday to finalize the budget.

New or Other Business:

Chairman Barry stated that he had two other proposed warrant articles.

The first is:

“See if the town will adopt the noise ordinance proposed by the Board of Selectmen, copies available at the town clerk’s office and on the town’s web site.”

Chairman Barry stated that this would be the noise ordinance that Selectman McGarry and Mr. Harrington had worked on.

Motion: Selectman Robertson moves to put the noise ordinance proposed by the Board of Selectmen on the warrant

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion: Vice Chairman Pitman asked on two of six regarding prohibition, time restrictions, 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m., loading, unloading, opening, closing, boxes, crates, containers, materials, trash, picking up of dumpsters, does that apply to residents? Because then it goes on to say that on Sunday’s, not before 10:00 a.m. I could see the use of bulldozers and graders but is 10:00 a.m. necessary and suggested maybe 8:00 a.m.

Selectman Robertson stated that there would actually have to be a complaint generated in order for any of this to be acted on.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that the other question that was brought to his attention and not having studied this, is there anything in here that would affect the four days of the fair going until 11:00 pm., not by choice it has happened.

Selectman McGarry remarked that there was something, number 5 on page 3 which are the exceptions in which the town administrator can grant in the ordinance if it is requested to do so. Certainly, the fair would be a good reason for an exception to be granted.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated as long as there is an out. It is usually one of the four nights but it could be two.

Chairman Barry added that the nights of the fireworks could also be waived.

Selectman Robertson stated that there have been complaints regarding some uses of the fairgrounds and this Board would actually have to grant the exception. It can’t be just a simple request.

Chairman Barry stated that he didn’t think it was anyone’s intention on the Board to shut down the fair and have it be quiet.

Selectman Robertson stated that the town administrator doesn't have the authority to waive a town ordinance. He didn't know if it needed to be changed or possibly by accepting this we are giving the administrator the authority on the Board's behalf. He thought that that was a little bit of a slippery slope.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if it was possible to change the Sunday hour from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.

Chairman Barry asked the rest of the Board if they were good with that change. All were in agreement. The change is on Page 2 of 6, line Va2.

Chairman Barry stated that the change would read on Sunday it would be 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Chairman Barry asked the Board if everyone was comfortable with having the town administrator make exception from relief?

Selectman Robertson stated that the only reason that he brings it up is that we could get into a situation where someone would state that the town administrator doesn't have the authority to waive a town ordinance.

Chairman Barry thought that the town administrator would also consult with the Board before making any decisions regarding this.

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

Chairman Barry stated that Mr. Harrington was also able to find a request from Mark Tibbetts back in October asking the Board to support a warrant article to raise \$31,707.00 to repair the highway shed. It has been leaking for several years. Highway agent Mark Young asked Mr. Tibbetts to get the quote. The quote is for \$30,197.00 for the roof system and new gutters which was another \$1,510.00 which comes to \$31,707.00.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that it needs to be done.

Chairman Barry suggested that instead of a warrant article to include the amount of \$31,707.00 in the highway budget in the appropriate line because this is maintenance.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if this price was to install the roof over the roof that is currently on the building like they did at the G.B. White Building. He stated that all the insulation should come out because it was either falling out or is probably moldy.

Selectman Shute stated that they don't use pressure treated wood in the roof because the chemicals in the pressure treated wood reacts with the roof so that would need to be changed.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he didn't think that the person getting the quote wouldn't necessarily be getting the bid. It will be going out to bid but he thought that this was to get a figure to present.

Chairman Barry stated that the bottom line is that he would recommend that the Board put \$32,000.00 in the appropriate line in the budget.

Selectman Shute also stated that the quote was for a 15-year roof and do we want to get another bid for a 30-year roof before it is put into the budget.

Selectman Robertson stated that if it isn't going to be warrant article then the Board has some time to get another number.

By doing this it will have to be a line item in the budget because the cutoff for warrant articles is tomorrow.

Chairman Barry stated that even though the cutoff date for warrant articles is January 9th although he thought in the past that that was the date for public warrant articles.

Selectman Robertson stated that he didn't think so and that there still has to be public notice and such.

Everyone was in agreement of putting the number into the budget when obtained.

Other Business:

Selectman Shute stated that he would like to follow up on the fire department. He would like to propose a town hall meeting so that we can talk about where the Board stands and how we stand going forward to the fire department and listen to people to see what they recommend.

He asked that we do it on a Saturday morning, mid Sunday afternoon, maybe a week from Saturday.

Selectman Robertson stated that the only thing that he would mention about a Saturday, and that he thinks that it is a good idea and would like to definitely do it but, we have some public hearings and a budget session and also two educational forums on Saturday mornings in the next couple of weeks. He just wanted to get those out there when considering the meeting.

Chairman Barry asked if they wanted to look at the dates and conflicts and make a recommendation at the next meeting.

Both Vice Chairman Pitman and Selectman Shute stated that that would be at the end of January if we wait to do it then.

Selectman Robertson and Selectman Shute stated that even the first week in February would work.

Chairman Barry asked what was the deliberative session schedule to which it was stated that the town deliberative session was February 3rd, the first Saturday.

Selectman Robertson stated that they could try for something in January. He stated that he gave the new town budget to the committee members on Saturday and explained to the Chair that those budgets included the people that we had hired going forward. Anyone that is reading the numbers should know what is going on.

Chairman Barry stated that he thought that Selectman Shute's idea was a great one if he could come up with a day.

Selectman Shute stated that January 28th was a Sunday afternoon.

Vice Chairman Pitman added that he would like to have it before the deliberative session.

Selectman Shute stated that we could at least try one. It was he hope to have one on a Saturday and a Sunday but at least we could get in one.

Chairman Barry stated to do it on a Sunday, January 28th at the meeting room at 1:00 p.m. to talk about the fire department and anything else that might come up regarding fire/rescue merge, hiring, etc. and take questions about anything.

Selectman Shute stated that to clarify for the record, we have hired two part-timers and one on-call part-timer. There was no full-time people hired.

Chairman Barry asked the town administrator if he could publicize the meeting to which he stated he would get it out.

Chairman Barry asked if anyone else had any other business.

No need for non-public session.

Citizen's Comments:

None

Motion to Adjourn:

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to adjourn at 5:55 p.m.

Second: Selectman Robertson

Discussion:

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

Next Meeting: Monday, January 22, 2018 at 5:30 pm

*The Minutes were transcribed and respectfully submitted by Dianne L. Kimball, Recording Secretary
Pending approval by the Board of Selectmen*