

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
August 4, 2008
MINUTES**

Call to Order

6:00 pm Chairman Stephen Barry called the Meeting to Order.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Chairman Barry asked all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call:

Present: Stephen R. Barry, Chairman; Andrew Robertson, Vice Chairman; John Reagan, Walter Hooker and Alan O'Neal; Selectmen.

Also Present: Cindy Heon, Town Administrator, and Diane LaFrance, Recording Secretary

Opening of Bids

Chairman Barry asked Mr. Mark Tibbetts his recommendation regarding the Heating Oil Bids. Mr. Tibbetts responded the Board had not yet opened the invitations.

- Heating Oil 2008-2009 Season

Chairman Barry read the Invitation to Bid from the Town of Deerfield. Chairman Barry stated the invitations were posted in the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office, Assessing Office, Town Offices, Mr. Mikes, Post Office, and Library. Chairman Barry also stated the invitations were published in the Concord Monitor and Union Leader.

Chairman Barry then stated per request of Mr. Tibbetts, Invitations to Bid were also mailed to Fred Fuller, Dead River, Rymes, and Irving Oil. Chairman Barry stated the Bid sent to Irving Oil had been returned unopened and undeliverable.

Chairman Barry then asked if there were any persons within the room who were interested in placing a bid. There were none.

Chairman Barry stated the Board had received two bids.

- 1) Fred Fuller

Chairman Barry read the Fred Fuller bid as #2 Oil price locked in at \$4.195 per gallon. Chairman Barry stated the locked in price will be valid for the period of August 1, 2008 to April 30, 2009.

- 2) Buxton Oil

Chairman Barry stated Buxton Oil gave three options in their bid.

- a. #2 Oil locked in price of \$4.219 per gallon.
- b. #2 Oil capped price of \$4.559 per gallon and should the price drop below the capped price then the Town's price will also drop to the lower rate
- c. #2 Oil over racked price of \$0.37 over the racked price. Chairman Barry explained today's price is \$3.61, however the price changes daily and sometimes several times a day.

Chairman Barry stated the Board had only the two bids and asked the Board if they wanted to forward the bids to Mr. Tibbetts for review. Selectman Reagan responded the Board should decide being there are only two bids.

MOTION: Selectman Walter Hooker made the motion to accept the bid of Fred Fuller Oil, locked in price of \$4.195 per gallon. Seconded by Selectman John Reagan.

VOTE: Chairman Stephen Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

Opening of Bids Continued

Chairman Barry asked the Town Administrator, Mrs. Heon to please notify the bidders of the Board's decision. Mrs. Heon responded that yes she would notify the bidders.

- Propane Gas 2008-2009 Season

Chairman Barry read the Invitation to Bid from the Town of Deerfield. Chairman Barry stated the invitations were posted in the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office, Assessing Office, Town Offices, Mr. Mikes, Post Office, and Library. Chairman Barry also stated the invitations were published in the Concord Monitor and Union Leader. Chairman Barry stated per the request of Mr. Tibbetts, Invitations to Bid were mailed to D.M. Richards, Rymes, and Eastern Propane.

Chairman Barry stated the Board had not received any bids. Chairman Barry stated the Town is looking at paying market price.

Code Enforcement Officer/Richard Pelletier

Mr. Pelletier handed the Board a packet containing information pertaining to the PSNH Smart Start Program.

Mr. Pelletier explained to the Board that PSNH is running a Smart Start Program. Mr. Pelletier explained how the program is to work for the Town. The program starts by relighting all buildings the Town has selected for free. Mr. Pelletier then explained the financing of the program is PSNH pays ½ and the Town pays ½ over a period of time. Mr. Pelletier stated the program is only available for municipalities. Mr. Pelletier also stated the Town's payment is paid through the money saved on their lighting bill.

Mr. Pelletier explained, as explained on a page within the packet, there had been an audit done to the Town Buildings. Mr. Pelletier also stated the packet shows the rates and savings to the Town. Mr. Pelletier stated the cost to convert to the Smart Start Program to be about \$30,000; however the Town will be saving about \$4,000 a year.

Chairman Barry asked if the Town needed to come up with any money up front. Mr. Pelletier responded the Town did not. Mr. Pelletier explained by stating the original bill will go down; however the Town will continue to pay the same amount monthly until the Town portion of the conversion cost has been paid. The name of the system used is called (SBC) Systems Benefit Charge, which is charged to all commercial businesses, this money then goes into a pool and is offered back to the Town through different programs. Mr. Pelletier stated at this time there are 42 municipalities, and over 100 buildings have been converted through the Smart Start Program.

Mr. Pelletier stated there are two options shown in the packet offered for the Town's \$15,000 portion of the cost.

1. The Town agrees to pay 100% of the savings each month
2. The Town agrees to pay 75% of the savings each month.

Mr. Pelletier explained there is a 5% net program charge assessed in the fees. Mr. Pelletier also stated it does not matter what plan the Board or Town chooses for their method of payment, the only difference is it takes longer to pay off.

Mr. Pelletier stated the only building in question at this time is the Highway Department/ Town Shed. Mr. Pelletier stated the cost to the Town would be about \$1,487 with a payback time of 123 months (10 years). Mr. Pelletier stated it was recommended the Town pay the \$1,487 up front but the monthly option is available. Chairman Barry asked if the Town could exclude the building. Mr. Pelletier responded the Town may exclude the building, however the drawback would be this one building would be different.

Richard Pelletier Continued

Selectman Hooker asked if there was any unique lamping which made the Town Shed building unique. Mr. Pelletier responded no.

Vice Chairman Robertson stated he would like to stretch out the cost at this time and maybe pay off the remaining cost of the Town Shed next year should budget allow. Vice Chairman Robertson also stated he would like to act now on the program.

Selectman Hooker stated with the payback of the GBW building being 51 months was it safe to assume the monthly rates will remain the same for the 51 months and then the bill will decrease. Mr. Pelletier explained the Town will be receiving two bills which will be equivalent to the bill in which the Town is paying at this time, at the end of the 51 months one bill is dropped.

Mr. Pelletier explained the making of the bills was done by averaging the usage of the buildings over the last 15 years. Mr. Pelletier stated the Town has been very consistent in their wattage usage and the prices given in the packet are the prices which were averaged with the wattage costs of today. Mr. Pelletier stated as the prices go up the Town saves more money.

Selectman Reagan asked why the Library was omitted. Rick stated he, along with PSNH, had looked into all the town buildings and the Library was one of the buildings which didn't use enough wattage for the program to be worthwhile.

Selectman O'Neal asked if the School had looked into a program of this kind. Mr. Pelletier responded the School had done a similar program with NH-Coop.

MOTION: Vice Chairman Andrew Robertson made the motion to accept the recommendation of the Option in which the Town pays the 100%. Seconded by Selectman John Reagan.

Selectman Hooker stated he liked the idea of paying off the Town Shed next year suggested by Vice Chairman Robertson and asked if this was a possibility. Mr. Pelletier responded he was unsure at this time and would double check.

VOTE: Chairman Stephen Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

- Generator Update

Mr. Pelletier stated the concrete pad for the generator should be delivered this week and the switches should be in next week with the work completed hopefully by the end of next week.

Chairman Barry asked if Ozzy was able to get the necessary wire. Mr. Pelletier responded that yes the wiring is all set.

Chairman Barry asked if they would make budget. Mr. Pelletier responded that they should, however, if they did not the contractor did say he would work with us.

Chairman Barry asked if the School had done their part. Mr. Pelletier responded that at this time the only thing he did not have was fuel and is waiting for answers.

Chairman Barry asked Mr. Pelletier to stay on top of the issue and to please keep the Board informed, and let them know if there are any problems.

Richard Pelletier Continued

- Building and Repair Permit Fees

Mr. Pelletier asked the Board if they would be willing to consider reducing or eliminating the Building Permit fees under natural disasters.

MOTION: Selectman Walter Hooker made the motion the Board accept Mr. Pelletier's recommendation and waive the Repair/Replacement Building Permit fees to those affected by the July 24, 2008 tornado disaster. Seconded by Vice Chairman Robertson.

VOTE: Chairman Stephen Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

Veasey Park Access/Laurie Roy

Ms. Roy handed the Board members a pamphlet of information regarding motorized wheelchairs. Ms. Roy stated that she is looking to see if the Town would be willing to purchase a motorized beach chair. The motorized chair holds up to 250 pounds and is easily portable. Ms. Roy stated that Mr. Manzi of the Parks & Recreation could store the chair in one of the town facilities.

Chairman Barry stated that he felt Ms. Roy's idea of the motorized chair to be a fantastic, the problem at this time is money. Chairman Barry stated the Town is working on a Default Budget.

Selectman Reagan suggested that Ms. Roy have 25 signers for a Warrant Article.

Selectman O'Neal stated that he agreed with Chairman Barry and Ms. Roy's idea may be a great solution to the handicap accessibility issue. Selectman O'Neal stated that he did have several questions.

1. How will the purchase of the motorized chair affect insurance and would there be the need for a waiver to be signed?
2. Would there be the need to require a deposit?
3. Who would be responsible for maintenance and repair?

Selectman Hooker added to Selectman O'Neal's questions by asking where the chair would be stored and the length of time each person would be permitted to use the chair. Selectman Hooker then added that he too thought the motorized chair to be a great idea.

Vice Chairman Robertson responded to the insurance question, he did not see a problem with the use of the chairs because the State uses them at several beaches. Vice Chairman Robertson also stated in regards to the length of time someone would need the motorized chair and suggested the person use the chair to their destination on the beach and someone return the chair until they are ready to leave allowing anyone to use the chair at any given time.

Ms. Roy stated that should the Town buy the motorized chair, it should be left at Veasey park during the summer on weekdays, then moved to the Gazebo on Friday nights for the concert, and in the winter should the chair need to be used she felt it would be used mainly for caroling.

Chairman Barry stated he wished the Town could purchase the motorized chair this year however, he suggested the motorized chair be put in the budget for next year.

Vice Chairman Robertson suggested to Ms. Roy that she get in touch with Maureen Mann, stating she may be able to help with publicity. Vice Chairman Robertson stated \$1,200 is really not a lot of money and there are many local businesses who may donate the money. Vice Chairman Robertson stated he would be willing to donate as a local business.

Veasey Park Access/Laurie Roy Continued

Ms. Roy stated she would do whatever she needed to do and asked the Board to please let her know. Mr. Manzi asked Ms. Roy how long she would have the loaner motorized wheel chair. Ms. Roy responded she was unsure but is hoping to have the chair the rest of the summer. Ms. Roy stated the people loaning the chair were waiting for the results of the Selectmen's Meeting and were hoping the Town would be purchasing a chair. Again Ms. Roy stated that she did not know how long she may have the chair and when they may take the chair back.

Chairman Barry asked Mr. Manzi if he had the names of the motorized chair company. Ms. Roy responded REQ Equipment Co. and there could be others. Ms. Roy stated REQ Equipment Co. is a local company out of Manchester and knows there are residents of Deerfield who work for the company.

Chairman Barry stated one thing the Board can promise is they will work on having a motorized chair put into the budget for next year. Chairman Barry thanked Ms. Roy and stated that it to be a fantastic idea which may save the Town a lot of money. Chairman Barry stated that the Board has been working on trying to make Veasey Park more handicaps accessible and this may be the solution.

Chairman Barry asked Mrs. Heon to please be sure the Veasey Park Commission puts money in the 2009 Budget for the motorized wheelchair. Ms. Glenda Smith asked if she could please respond to Chairman Barry's request and stated that she knew Don Williams has been getting quotes for the motorized chairs, all averaging about \$1,200. Ms. Smith stated that as far as she knows it is the Veasey Park Commission's intent to have the motorized chair in the budget for next year.

Ms. Smith also stated that the Veasey Park Commission has been speaking to Mr. Cote about the grade on the beach which will also help the chair's mobility.

Mr. Cote asked Ms. Roy about how many people did she feel would be using the chair and how many had asked to use the one she is borrowing. Ms. Roy responded she didn't really know how many people would need or wish to use the motorized chair and not many people had asked her to use the one she is borrowing because not many people know she has it.

Chairman Barry asked Mr. Manzi if he knew of anyone attending concerts that may need to use a wheelchair. Mr. Manzi responded no, however there are some. Mr. Manzi gave an example of someone who may benefit from a motorized chair as Maureen Mann's mother or mother-in-law.

Chairman Barry asked Mr. Manzi if he felt in addition to purchasing the chair for Veasey Park he may want to purchase one for the Gazebo. Mr. Manzi responded maybe not just for the Gazebo but also for other Town events like Old Home Day.

Chairman Barry stated that the Board will look into purchasing the motorized chair further and thanked Ms. Roy for coming in.

Veasey Park/Joe Manzi

- Friday Concert

Mr. Manzi state the August 1, 2008 Friday night concert raised \$800. Mr. Manzi stated the money is being put into the Tornado Disaster Fund.

- Old Home Day

Mr. Manzi stated he had a couple of items which he would like to discuss with the Board.

1. The Fire Pit area.

Mr. Manzi stated the usual pit area which is usually just a little soggy, is a lake. It was then suggested the pit be moved so it can dry and we can have the fire.

Veasey Park/Joe Manzi Continued

Chairman Barry asked Mr. Manzi to set a date to move the pit. Mr. Manzi responded early next week would be great.

2. The Chicken BBQ

Mr. Manzi stated he would like to confirm staff for the Chicken BBQ. Mr. Manzi thanked Vice Chairman Robertson for volunteering to cook and asked how many additional people he may need.

Chairman Barry stated he was sorry he will be away.

Vice Chairman Robertson responded to Mr. Manse's question regarding additional staffing to between 4-8 extra people. It was then suggested the Board try to get Mr. Joseph Stone out of retirement to help as several of the Board members are unable to attend.

Chairman Barry asked Mr. Manzi where the funding was coming from this year for the Chicken BBQ. Mr. Manzi responded the funds are usually raised through donation cups put up around Town. Vice Chairman Robertson suggested the use of ticket this year at the BBQ. Vice Chairman Robertson stated the tickets may not necessarily be for the funding part as much as for getting a better sense of the number of people served. Chairman Barry asked if the tickets would be sold as the chicken is cooking to determine how much chicken to cook. Mr. Manzi responded it really didn't matter how many tickets are sold, the chicken will have been ordered.

Mr. Manzi asked the Board if they would like to do a suggested donation. Vice Chairman Robertson responded he did not feel this necessary; there is always a maxed crowd.

Selectman Reagan suggested a charge of \$3 per ticket and if the person brings a dish they receive one ticket free.

Mr. Manzi stated he did not feel making any real changes for this year is in the best interest due to the short notice of things.

Vice Chairman Robertson mentioned to Mr. Manzi an issue which had occurred within the Soccer Program Camp. Mr. Manzi responded he was aware of the issue and is taking care of it.

Chairman Barry asked if the Board had any other questions or concerns for Mr. Manzi regarding Old Home Day. Selectman Reagan responded, asking Mr. Manzi to make sure there are enough trash cans available.

Chairman Barry asked Mr. Manzi to please stay for a few extra minutes, due to the large number of people in attendance and the issue being discussed.

Vice Chairman Robertson stated he had no problem answering people's questions regarding dogs. Chairman Barry asked if anyone in attendance was here regarding the no dogs allowed policy. There were several.

- Dog Ordinance Policy

A resident named Kenneth stated he went to walk his dog on Thursday July 31, 2008 at the park, as he did most everyday and there had been a sign posted stating no dogs permitted. Kenneth stated he was a bit concerned as this was unexpected.

Mr. Kenneth stated he had spoken to Mr. Manzi and he was told the reason for the change was due to a child being bitten by an out of town dog.

Veasey Park/Joe Manzi Continued

Kenneth stated he understood why the Board would close all public facilities to dogs while an event is taking place however during the week there is no one at the park or gazebo.

Kenneth stated he feels as though he is breaking the law should he walk his dog in the Town Park or Gazebo Field. Kenneth stated he has been walking his dog for years and has always picked up after the dog.

Kenneth stated he understands the Board's intent however felt the actions to be unreasonable.

Resident Carole Powell stated that she usually walks her dog 2 times a day in the Park and was very disturbed to see the dogs not permitted signs posted. Mrs. Powell also stated that when she walks her dog she is also alone in the park.

Mrs. Powell stated she agrees with no dogs allowed during public events and understands the Board's intent, however found the actions to be unreasonable.

Another resident of Deerfield (did not state his name) stated he had the same issues as the persons before him. He also agreed to the no dogs permitted during public functions, however also felt dogs should be allowed during the week when the park or gazebo is empty.

Resident Jeanne Menard stated to the Board that she was not sure if the Board realized or is aware of how much the dog walkers are also caretakers. Ms. Menard stated she knows and has seen several times people walking their dog or dogs and also picking up other trash which has been left behind.

Ms. Menard also pointed out to the Board how the dog walkers have taken care of and watch the kids while skateboarding at Gazebo Field.

Ms. Menard stated she was a little alarmed when she received an email from the Parks and Recreation Department informing her of the new policy. Ms. Menard stated she did not feel or maybe the Board inadvertently didn't look at the whole picture and the effects their decision to not allow dogs in the Town parks would have on the residents who use the parks daily to walk their dogs. Ms. Menard stated she would like to see a copy of the policy and the good amount of solicitation input that had been used to create the policy. Ms. Menard added she is not trying to downplay what happen at the park and a policy is important; however before the Board made their decision she hoped they had a good solicitation of input.

Vice Chairman Robertson stated he had received three emails stating much of the same concerns the citizens have stated here in the Meeting. Vice Chairman Robertson stated he would be willing to refine the ordinance; however still feels dogs should not be permitted at the public beach and the baseball field always and at Gazebo Field when public events are taking place. Vice Chairman Robertson added he did not mean to include Town Forests, Conservation Land, and Gazebo Field should there not be a public event at that time. He did still agree with the leash law and the owners' responsibility to clean up after their dogs.

Chairman Barry stated the Board can fine tune the ordinance to read dogs are permitted on or in Bicentennial Field and Gazebo Field while there are no activities being held.

Selectman Reagan stated he was not in agreement due to people not picking up after their dogs. Selectman Reagan followed up his statement saying one resident in attendance even suggested he only picks up the mess and tosses it over. The resident responded stating he does pick up after his dog and the mess is thrown into the brush but would be more then willing to pick up the mess. The resident also stated the mess which Mr. Reagan may be seeing is not only caused by dogs but other wild animals.

Veasey Park/Joe Manzi Continued

Chairman Barry again stated the Board would be revisiting the ordinance for clarification and come up with an actual policy which takes care of both the liability issue and the residents concerned as stated in the Meeting.

Vice Chairman Robertson offered to work some ideas of resolution to the ordinance and stated he would bring them back to the Board next week. Selectman Hooker responded it appeared to him this is a Public Hearing sort of thing. Selectman Reagan suggested the Board announce when they will be discussing the dog ordinance so the residents can take part.

Mr. Manzi asked about signs and sending courtesy emails out to people regarding the dog policy. Mr. Manzi stated that he felt fortunate the Friday night concert went so well and the residents were so respectful.

The Board was asked when the residents can expect a decision and the signs to be removed. Vice Chairman Robertson responded he did not know when or if the signs will be removed but he will have ideas to present to the Board in next week's meeting.

Chairman Barry thanked the residents for coming to the Selectmen's Meeting and expressing their concerns.

Highway Department/Alex Cote

- General Updates

Mr. Cote stated since the tornado there is a lot of debris still in the roads. Mr. Cote named Griffin Road, Echo Valley Road, and Ritchie Road and Baker Avenue. Mr. Cote stated he has toured the affected areas with 5 different contractors which he had chosen due to their reputation, size, and availability of equipment.

Mr. Cote stated he has discussed the cleaning of the debris and wishes to have the roads cleaned in a timely manner, adding winter is just around the corner.

Mr. Cote stated he has several ideas and is asking for the Board's blessing.

Mr. Cote suggested first of all before he begins anything he would like to wait for FEMA. Mr. Cote stated he had walked the area on Saturday with Governor Lynch and Senators Gregg and Sununu. The Governor and one Senator seem to feel there would be aid money involved. Mr. Cote stated he was hoping to hear from Chris Pope before the middle of the week as to what we can expect.

Mr. Cote stated he had received quotes regarding the cost of the clean up ranging from \$30,000 to \$100,000. Mr. Cote felt the \$30,000 quote person had adequate equipment to meet the needs of both the Town and the landowners.

Mr. Cote also stated the State has offered to come in and help with men, trucks, and chippers however there would still be the cost of removing the large debris, stumps and the trees hanging overhead. Mr. Cote stated the \$30,000 quote included the grinding stump and chipping within the town right of way. Mr. Cote stated in the long run the Town would end up spending more money if they take the help of DOT.

Mr. Cote stated what he would like to propose to the Board is that he waits to see what happens with FEMA and if the Town does not receive any help, the Board entrusts him with getting the best possible help he can get to get the roads cleared-up.

Vice Chairman Robertson asked Mr. Cote if the \$30,000 quote person had the means to help both the land owners and the Town. Mr. Cote responded the contractor to be David Burl of Burl Land Clearing.

Selectman Reagan stated he did not feel the town should wait for FEMA and should act on the issue right away. Chairman Barry responded he did not feel FEMA was coming. Selectman Reagan stated that it did not matter either way the work needs to be done.

Vice Chairman Robertson mentioned the cost of the wood chips and what should happen if the trees were to remain on the ground, stating not to mention they are a fire hazard.

Selectman Hooker stated he would have preferred to get bids, however in light of the circumstances he is comfortable with Mr. Cotes bid of \$30,000.

Selectman O'Neal asked the details of the quote which Burl Land Clearing had submitted. Chairman Barry responded the town needs to get the clean up done. Selectman O'Neal responded the Board also needs to be clear on what the quote is stating making sure they have something to fall back on. Mr. Cote had the quote from Burl Land Clearing in hand and gave the quote to the Board. Selectman O'Neal stated 90% of his questions were answered.

Selectman Reagan asked if the quote included the grinding of the stumps in the ground. Mr. Cote responded the stumps will be removed.

MOTION: Vice Chairman Andrew Robertson made the motion the Board approve the recommendation of Mr. Cote regarding the tree removal, stump removal, and road clearing. Seconded by Selectman John Reagan.

Selectman O'Neal stated for the Board's record he would like a copy of the quote so they have it on file.

Chairman Barry asked if the motion presented had intended to state that the work may start immediately. Both Vice Chairman Robertson and Selectman Reagan agreed they did not have a problem with the motion being effective immediately.

VOTE: Chairman Stephen Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

Mr. Cote stated the Highway Department is ready to have Middle Road paved. Chairman Barry responded by stating he had looked at the budget and is concerned with the amount of money remaining. Chairman Barry stated he would like to not pave Middle Road and Griffin Road until such a time when the Board knows the remaining budget money is in good shape. Vice Chairman Robertson responded he would like to hear what the Road Agent had to say.

Mr. Cote stated his only concern is Middle Road staying dirt through the winter. Mr. Cote stated the section of Middle Road which needs to be paved is in the middle of the plow route, would take two trucks to plow, and you can't salt a dirt road. Chairman Barry stated he wanted to make it clear his suggestion to stop was not due to the project itself but the fact there just isn't the money in the budget at this time.

Chairman Barry did suggest in two months there may be enough money to pave the road and paving can usually be done in November. Mr. Cote responded should the Town wait they are taking a chance on the price of asphalt increasing. Chairman Barry responded we are but this is his recommendation and would like to put the project on hold.

Selectman Hooker asked if James City Bridge was also going to be put on hold. Chairman Barry responded he would like to see everything but James City Bridge put on hold, reason being James City Bridge involves FEMA money.

Highway Department/Alex Cote Continued

Selectman O'Neal stated he agreed with Chairman Barry's idea to stop. Selectman O'Neal also stated he would like to see all outstanding invoices of the Highway Department.

The Board discussed the money that they may need to pay and not knowing at this time what the tornado costs are going to be. Chairman Barry suggested the Board revisit the issue in a month. All Board members agreed.

Selectman O'Neal asked if Mr. Cote had the permits for James City Bridge. Mr. Cote responded he does but still needs to follow up with the contractors. Mr. Cote stated he could email the information to Mrs. Heon and have the information forwarded to the Board as he receives answers.

Selectman O'Neal asked Mr. Cote if all went well when he felt James City Bridge would be done. Mr. Cote responded hopefully before school starts, November 1, 2008 is the completed by date on the contract.

Chairman Barry thanked Mr. Cote for the updates and to please continue to keep the Board informed.

Deerfield Volunteer Fire Department/Deerfield Rescue Squad

George Clark stated the Deerfield Fire and Rescue Association would like to know if the Town is doing anything at this time to procure the property beside the firehouse. Chairman Barry responded he believed there is an interest on this side of the Town to purchase the property, just as they had an interest in the past. Chairman Barry stated that is all he would say at this time.

Mr. Clark stated the Deerfield Fire and Rescue Association would like to first of all say that the building itself really bothers them and feel it to be a disgrace to the town of Deerfield. The building poses a health hazard for children, being infested with rats. Mr. Clark stated the main concern is if the Town does not purchase the building in the near future, the town is either going to have to purchase the land and build a new larger Fire Department Building or expand the one we already have. Mr. Clark stated the problem is the only way to expand the existing building is in the direction of the house of interest.

One of the problems which already exists is the trucks in the building are tight already with the current trucks we have, so they can't buy new trucks because they would not be able to get them in the building.

Chairman Barry asked if the Fire and Rescue Association was looking at the property for the future development of Fire Department Building. Mr. Clark responded yes. Chairman Barry responded at this time that there are no hard plans to expand the firehouse but if there should come a time when the town should need to expand would they need that property. Mr. Clark responded absolutely it is the only side which can be added on to.

Chairman Barry asked the Fire and Rescue Association what they're looking to propose. Mr. Clark responded they would like to meet with the realtor, purchase the property, and ask the Board if they would give their guarantee in March a Warrant Article is put in to reimburse the Fire and Rescue Association. Mr. Clark stated they did not care the amount of time being 1, 2, 3 years but a guarantee they are paid back. Mr. Clark stated the money the Fire and Rescue Association would use does not come out of the tax payers' money what so ever, it comes from money of the Association. Chairman Barry responded even with the Board's support the Warrant Article still may not pass. Chairman Barry asked if the Fire and Rescue Association were aware the Warrant Article may not pass. Mr. Clark responded they were.

Mr. Clark stated in order for a Warrant Article to pass, the Fire and Rescue Association needs to make it very clear the process and reason for why the building needed to be purchased. Mr. Clark stated he believed the reason the Town was unable to purchase the building the last time they had tried was they had no real plan for the building and now there is a plan as to what the purchase of the building is for.

Deerfield Volunteer Fire Department/Deerfield Rescue Squad Continued

Chairman Barry asked what the Fire and Rescue Association planned to do with the building if they had not purchased the building already. Chairman Barry asked if they would level it. Mr. Clark responded they are hoping to get volunteers to demolish the house and the rest the fire department could do.

Mr. Clark stated the Fire and Rescue Association are just looking for the support of the Board. Chairman Barry asked the Board if they were willing to support a Warrant Article to reimburse the Fire and Rescue Association for the purchase price of the building beside the Firehouse. Board members in favor at this time were Chairman Barry, Vice Chairman Robertson, and Selectmen Reagan and Hooker.

Selectman O'Neal stated he would like to speak. Selectman O'Neal stated he does not know the financial situation of the two associations but he would like to speak as a nephew to Bill O'Neal. Selectman O'Neal stated he could speak to Bill O'Neal's financial bequeath of funds and what they were originally intended for. Selectman O'Neal stated his understanding was the funds were being used for training and the purchase of equipment for the volunteers. Selectman O'Neal stated the volunteer fire fighters were very important to him and he wanted to make sure they were taken care of.

Selectman O'Neal stated he did speak to his cousin Dwight Stevens who was a trustee to Bill O'Neal's estate and that was his understanding also. Selectman O'Neal stated his concern was if the Town didn't support the Warrant Article then the funds will be depleted. Mr. Clark responded as far as the Fire Association went it has nothing to do with the purchase of the building. Mr. Clark stated his understanding was the money bequeathed by Mr. Bill O'Neal was for the purchase of the Fire Truck which they purchased.

Selectman O'Neal stated he is concerned and felt he was in a bad situation if these are the funds being used. He felt that supporting the Warrant Article to repay the Rescue Squad in this format, he had a little problem; however he had no problem supporting a Warrant Article supporting the Town purchasing the building.

Selectman O'Neal stated if they had to consult legal review then it told him they questioned if the money should be spent in this manner. Selectman O'Neal stated again he is concerned and may be out of bounds.

Mr. Tibbetts stated he had spent some time with Roland Folsom and at first he too was skeptical of the situation. Mr. Tibbetts stated he and Roland had a conference call to a lawyer and the conclusion was once the money is handed over to an association with no terms the association is in control of spending the money. If there was a stipulation then the trustees could come back and question the spending.

Mr. Tibbetts stated he and Roland also discussed how Bill wanted to convert the Fire Station into a historical building and not a just a Fire Station. So as Roland said, Bill is repairing the old Fire Station and had done his part as a trustee when he turned the money over to the association with no terms allowing the association to spend the money as they felt necessary.

Chairman Barry asked if there were any other questions. Mr. Clark stated he wanted to add if anyone bought the property again then the Town could run into the same problem in which they are in now. Mr. Clark stated it would make more sense for the town to purchase the building now so when the time comes and they have to expand the Fire Station they have the means to do so.

Jeanne Menard stated she wanted to thank Selectman O'Neal for letting the associations know how he felt and wanted Selectmen O'Neal to know the spirit of Bill is with them all, and they need to be respectful of that and work with it as best they can.

Deerfield Volunteer Fire Department/Deerfield Rescue Squad Continued

Selectman O'Neal stated if the association was to be successful he understands the association will own the land until the town passes the Warrant Article to purchase the land back. Chairman Barry responded yes.

Mr. Clark asked should the association purchase the land would the town waive the taxes on it. Chairman Barry stated and several Board members agreed most likely yes.

Mr. Clark then asked about insurance. Chairman Barry responded the town would not own the building therefore they would not be responsible for the insurance.

Mr. Clark stated if explained to the people he believed the town would approve the Warrant Article to purchase the property from the association.

Selectman Hooker stated a few years ago the Town did try to buy the property and was unsuccessful. Chairman Barry responded he believed the town was unable to purchase the property because they did not have a set plan of use for the property and they were not clear.

Chairman Barry again asked the Board if they were willing to support a Warrant Article for the purpose of paying back the association to say aye.

In Favor: Chairman Stephen Barry, Vice Chairman Andrew Robertson, Selectmen John Reagan and Walter Hooker.

Abstained: Selectman Alan O'Neal

Chairman Barry stated to Mr. Clark he hoped the vote gave him what was needed. Mr. Clark responded the Board gave them something to start with. Chairman Barry thanked the association and stated they are greatly appreciated.

Vouchers

- Accounts Payable Manifests totaling \$17,175.54

MOTION: Vice Chairman Andrew Robertson made the motion to approve the Accounts Payable Voucher totaling \$17,175.54. Seconded by Selectman John Reagan.

VOTE: Chairman Stephen Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

Signatures & Signatures Requiring a Vote

- 2 Appointment Forms
 1. Alex Cote as Deputy Forest Fire Warden

MOTION: Vice Chairman Andrew Robertson made the motion the Board approve Alex Cote as Deputy Forest Fire Warden. Seconded by Selectman John Reagan.

VOTE: Chairman Stephen Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

2. John Dubiansky as Deputy Forest Fire Warden

MOTION: Vice Chairman Andrew Robertson made the motion the Board approve John Dubiansky as Deputy Forest Fire Warden.

VOTE: Chairman Stephen Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

Deerfield Energy Commission Chairman Barry asked the Board if they had read the Deerfield Energy Commission Grant in the amount of \$1,250. Chairman Barry asked if there would be a cost to the Town. Mrs. Heon stated she was unsure.

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Vice Chairman Robertson suggested checking into whether there would be a cost to the town before proceeding. Chairman Barry asked Mrs. Heon if she would please look into it. Mrs. Heon responded yes.

- Refund Requests/ Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Chairman Barry stated the Board had received a request from the Deputy Town Clerk/ Tax Collector in the amount of \$10 to Anthony Jake Neals.

MOTION: Vice Chairman Andrew Robertson made the motion the Board approve the Refund Request of the Town Clerk/ Tax Collector in the amount of \$10. Seconded by Selectman John Reagan.

VOTE: Chairman Stephen Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

- Intent to Cut

Chairman Barry stated the Board had received two Notices of Intent to Cut Timber.

- Timber Tax Levies

Chairman Barry stated the Board had received 3 Timber Tax Levies for the following.

1. David and Thelma Sidmore in amount of \$532.77
2. John DeFranzo in the amount of \$12.17
3. James M. Walker & Barbie Raymond in the amount of \$164.33

Chairman Barry stated the Board had received and Abatement Form for signatures dated March 31, 2008 and neglected to sign the form at that time. Chairman Barry asked Mrs. Heon if the Board was to sign today's date or the March 31st date. Mrs. Heon responded the Boards approval date was March 31, 2008.

- Pole Petition & Pole License

Chairman Barry stated the Poles are to be placed on Ambrose Lane. Chairman Barry informed the Board there were three places to sign.

- Letter from Fred McGarry/Deerfield Planning Board Chair

Chairman Barry asked the Board if they have reviewed the letter from Fred McGarry regarding the upgrade of Perry Road and the subdivision for Harley Stevens.

MOTION: Selectman Alan O'Neal made the motion to approve the subdivision/ upgrade of Perry Road. Seconded by Vice Chairman Andrew Robertson.

VOTE: Chairman Stephen Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

- Impact Fees

Chairman Barry read the Impact Fees totaling \$457,555.25 and there are no Appeals.

MOTION: Selectman John Reagan made the motion to withhold 5%. Seconded by Vice Chairman Andrew Robertson.

VOTE: Chairman Stephen Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

Review of Correspondence

None

Unfinished Business

None

Other Business

Selectman Reagan stated he had spoken to the Town Clerk/ Tax Collector and he had stated he can afford to absorb the cost of the Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector.

Selectmen Hooker suggested should the Town have future visits from political figures outside of town such as the Governor or Senators he felt it would be nice to be notified prior to the visit. Selectman Hooker stated he had spoken to Jim Cannon and he explained what and why, he would still like the option of being notified.

New Business

None

Citizen's Comments

Chairman Barry stated the Board would be going into a Nonpublic Session directly after Citizens Comments.

Kevin, a Town resident, stated he thought the purchase of the motorized wheelchair is not the way to go and felt the Board should examine where they stand in compliance with the Disability Act. Kevin stated there are other residents of Deerfield with other handicaps. Kevin stated he felt the motorized wheelchair may be a Band-Aid and not a fix.

Kevin also stated that both Selectman Hooker and O'Neal had brought up a good point when they asked about the liability and insurance questions. Kevin suggested the town look into where they are in compliance with the Disability Act and do what they need to do to make the town compliant. The Board thanked Kevin for his suggestions and would take them into consideration.

David Thompson stated to the Board he had recently learned about the Timber Tax and the Intent to Cut policies. Mr. Thompson stated his home was spared from the July 24, 2008 tornado however his land and trees were not.

Vice Chairman Robertson stated he had spoken to Stephen Hamilton of the State and the town can legally Abate the Timber and Intent to Cut taxes at an individual level. Vice Chairman Robertson also stated the Board has the means to also Mr. Thompson asked the Board if they had received his request for the Intent to Cut. The Board responded they had signed the Intent to Cut for Mr. Thompson.

Vice Chairman Robertson stated the DRA just amended the ruling for which you need an Intent to Cut a tree within 200 feet of a physical structure. Selectman Reagan stated it is his understanding that most residents will not recoup any of the timber.

Vice Chairman Robertson stated the Board is willing to look on at individual accounts. Vice Chairman Robertson suggested anyone with any questions go to NHDRA where they have clear guidelines. Mr. Thompson asked if he had the approval to clear his yard. The Board responded he did and to see them if a tax is assessed on him.

Review of 2008 Employee Performance Evaluations

7:42pm Nonpublic Session RSA 91-A:3,II(a)(c)

MOTION: Selectman John Reagan made the motion the Board enter a Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3,II(a)(c). Selectman John Reagan read the sections of the statute that applied to this Nonpublic Session. Seconded by Vice Chairman Andrew Robertson.

Roll Call Vote: O'Neal-Yes, Hooker-Yes, Reagan-Yes, Robertson-Yes, Barry-Yes

7:52pm The Nonpublic Session ended.

MOTION: Selectman John Reagan made a motion to seal the minutes of this Nonpublic Session as divulgence of information contained in those minutes might adversely affect the reputation of a person or persons not a member of this Board. Seconded by Vice Chairman Robertson.

Roll Call Vote: O'Neal-Yes, Hooker-Yes, Reagan-Yes, Robertson-Yes, Barry-Yes

No Action/No Decisions

There was no action taken or decisions made within this Nonpublic Session.

MOTION: Selectman John Reagan made a motion to add the pay categories to the Personnel Policy. Seconded by Selectman Walter Hooker.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

MOTION: Selectman John Reagan made a motion to make a market adjustment to the wages of the Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector in the amount of \$2.42 bringing the total wage per hour to \$15. Seconded by Vice Chairman Robertson.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

The Board of Selectmen directed that a memo be sent to all employees stating that because of the economic conditions that exist and the Default Budget the Board of Selectmen are unable to offer any merit increases at this time. The Board is honoring the Cost of Living increases as outlined in the Warrant Article.

Adjournment 7:54pm

On the motion of Selectman Walter Hooker, seconded by Selectman John Reagan, Chairman Stephen Barry called for the Vote to Adjourn. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor. The Selectmen's Meeting of August 4th, 2008 Meeting is adjourned