

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
July 13, 2009
MINUTES**

Call to Order:

6:00pm Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, Stephen R. Barry called the Meeting to Order.

Roll Call:

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

Also Present: Cynthia Heon, Town Administrator; Nese Farrell, Recording Secretary

Pledge Allegiance to the Flag:

Chairman Barry asked all to rise for the pledge of allegiance to the Flag.

Citizen's Comments:

1. Marcel Riel/Hiring of a Full Time Officer

Chairman Barry recognized Mr. Riel. Marcel Riel directed his remarks to Chief of Police, Mike Greeley and noted he was not just speaking for himself but representing other taxpayers as well. Mr. Riel did not see the need to fill the vacancy on the Police Department during a bad economy.

Mr. Riel presented statistics to the Selectmen that compared Deerfield to other towns. The research consisted of the community (5 towns), population, number of Officers and a calculation to derive the number of residents it would take to justify one Officer. Deerfield's population is 3,900. According to Mr. Riel's calculation of one Officer for every 623.21 people, Deerfield should have 6.16 Officers. This compares to the eight full time Officers and three part time Officers Deerfield currently employs. Having lived in Deerfield for 45 years, Mr. Riel's observations were there are no major highways and traffic coming through the Town is light.

Mr. Riel suggested taking a list of potential candidates for the vacant position. He did not want to see any Officers, currently employed, getting pink slips because they do their jobs as well as anyone else. To fill the vacancy when the State is downsizing didn't seem right.

Mr. Riel stated the Town never has a surplus and is always spending every penny. Mr. Riel's closing thought was that more people create more problems, trees do not create felonies.

Point of Clarification:

The Selectmen noted, for the record, Mr. Riel's comment on the Town never having a surplus was incorrect. Chairman Barry added the Board hasn't decided if they will fill the Police Department vacancy.

2. Harriet Cady/Parks and Recreation Commission Meetings

Having reviewed the Parks and Recreation Department Budget and everything that goes into it, Harriet Cady questioned who manages the Parks and Recreation Department. She recalled the Board saying the Parks and Recreation Commission managed the Parks and Recreation Department. Mrs. Cady looked at the minutes to commission meetings and noted that the Parks and Recreation Commission had not met since November 18, 2007. This led Mrs. Cady to believe there was no one overseeing the Parks and Recreation Department. She suggested the Selectmen appoint people to the commission who are going to take an interest in the position, meet at least monthly and recommend appropriate programs. The same people keep getting reappointed and nothing is done.

Point of Order:

Chairman Barry asked the Board if Bonnie Schusherba could address the Board of Selectmen, at this time, concerning the outstanding rent for Kidz Komfort Zone. The Board agreed to hear Mrs. Schushereba.

Kidz Komfort Zone

Present: Bonnie Schuschereba, Owner

Mrs. Schuschereba informed the Board that there was no way she could pay a lump sum amount for the back rent that she owed. The proposal she presented, last week, the Board did not accept. She is prepared to hand the Board a bank check in the amount of \$3,000 tonight and pay \$1,000 a month until the balance is paid. Mrs. Schuschereba stated the Selectmen put her in this situation and they could help get her out.

MOTION: Selectman John Reagan made a motion that the Board accepts the payment arrangement presented by Bonnie Schushereba; \$3,000 today and \$1,000 a month until paid in full. Seconded by Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson.

Discussion: Selectman O'Neal spoke to the total outstanding amount estimated at approximately \$10,300. He calculated it would take seven months to pay off the debt.

Chairman Barry asked if the plan was to completely vacate the premises on July 31st. Mrs. Schuschereba said yes, she would take out what she wanted by that time.

Selectman O'Neal wanted to see a written promissory note. He had an issue with the statement the Selectmen put her in this position because even at the previous rate, rent was not paid. Mrs. Schuschereba remarked that when rent doubles that is what happens.

AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION:

The maker of the motion, Vice Chairman Robertson and the Second, Selectman John Reagan, agreed to add to the motion they would accept the plan if presented in writing. The motion to read; "Selectman John Reagan made a motion that the Board accepts the payment arrangement as presented by Bonnie Schushereba, in writing; \$3,000 today and \$1,000 a month until paid in full. Seconded by Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson."

Bonnie Schuschereba presented the plan, in writing, to the Board of Selectmen.

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

Selectman O'Neal questioned the statement Mrs. Schuschereba would take what she wanted. Mrs. Schuschereba replied that was clearly not what she meant. Chairman Barry interpreted the statement to mean she would take all the stuff that belonged to her. Mrs. Schuschereba added that the plan was to have everything out by July 31st. There are two closets that may not be completely empty until Sunday, August 2nd. Chairman Barry stated that he, personally, would be sorry to see her go.

Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH):

Present: Allison McLean, Municipal Relations & External Affairs Specialist-Transmission
David L. Plant, P. E. Project Manager-Transmission Business

1. Cate Road Substation/Transformer Project

Allison McLean thanked the Board for having PSNH in this evening to update the Selectmen on the project. Ms. McLean met with Chief of Police, Mike Greeley and the Highway Agent, Alex Cote. Things are coming together for transporting and installing the transformer over Deerfield highways. Ms. McLean introduced David Plant. A package of information was presented to Board members as well as a copy of the routing analysis.

David Plant provided the Selectmen with an overview of Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) and how deregulation affected the company. He noted that PSNH still owns some generation units in Bow and Newington. The transmission business gets the power to the generation facilities and that is a separate part of the business.

David Plant described how the project would proceed in terms of the addition of the second transformer at the Cate Road Substation. He covered the layout of the facility and what would have to be dismantled to make way for the new transformer and how the installation would occur. He pointed out that all would happen within the footprint of the substation. There would be a need to take the old transformer out of service for a week or so while the work is done.

As a result of the site walk with Mr. Cote and Chief Greeley all is in readiness for the movement of the transformer over Deerfield roadways. The unit is currently on a ship from Brazil to New Hampshire. A heavy hauler that specializes in moving this type of equipment will bring the transformer to Deerfield. State permitting is underway and all roadway surfaces and culverts reviewed. Mr. Cote and Chief Greeley are comfortable with the plan.

Chairman Barry understood the transformer would sit during the daylight hours somewhere around the Deerfield Fairgrounds. Mr. Plant confirmed it would sit somewhere but the pace would dictate where. PSNH has kept in close contact with the Deerfield Fair Association and their activities. The dates established for the move are September 13, 14 and 15, 2009. Chairman Barry did not think the move could occur any later because the fairgrounds have to be prepped one or two weeks in advance and traffic picks up at that time. Mr. Cote added traffic was part of the reason for opting for a night time move. Mr. Plant advised the Selectmen that if the move did not occur on the dates given it would not occur until after the Deerfield Fair.

The turn from State Route 107 onto Parade Road was a concern to Chairman Barry. Mr. Plant said while there will be a need to raise or remove a traffic light, in the center of Town, or raise some lines, he didn't see the turn onto Parade Road as an issue. Fire Chief, Mark Tibbetts, present at this time, said the Fire Department was looking at changing the traffic light at the intersection. Mr. Plant suggested accomplishing that at the time the transformer was moved.

The Selectmen were informed the transport vehicle moves at 2mph. Mr. Cote questioned if there would be a need to switch trailers at the intersection of Parade Road. Mr. Plant didn't think it would be necessary.

Selectman O'Neal voiced concern about going through a residential neighborhood at night and the noise level of the diesel truck disturbing resident's sleep. Chief Greeley explained that if this move was done during the day traffic would be an issue. If done at night, and properly advertised, he thought while there would be some disturbance it would not be too bad. Mr. Cote added the movement of the transformer closes the road. Selectman O'Neal thought most of the residents in the area know this project is occurring.

Vice Chairman Robertson questioned the access of safety services vehicles to the area. Chief Tibbett's informed everyone a fire truck would be moved to that area of Deerfield for the period of time it takes to complete the move.

In Conway, where PSNH did a similar installation, Mr. Plant described the atmosphere as somewhat carnival like. There were residents watching the move the entire four mile route from 10pm to 1am.

Selectman Hooker suggested having the project carried on the Town's Website. By using PDF files of the schedule and other information, residents could be kept informed. Selectman Hooker asked if a link could be established to PSNH's Website and perhaps the local newspaper, The Forum, could do the same.

Chairman Barry thought general information would be best leaving the details for Alex Cote, Highway Agent and Chief of Police, Mike Greeley.

Selectman Hooker heard at a Planning Board Meeting that mid-summer the pads would be poured and there would be cement trucks traveling Deerfield roads. He looked for confirmation that should the heavy trucks tear up the roadways, Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) has scheduled grinding and paving for Nottingham and Cate Roads in November. Mr. Plant indicated that was true but any subsequent delays, or inclement weather, would push the date out. The intent is to have the paving done before winter sets in. The Selectmen thought this would make some residents very happy.

2. Emergency Tree Trimming/Scenic Road-Cate Road

Allison McLean brought up the need to cut and trim some trees that were identified on the site review. Mr. Plant said the arborist who looked at the area saw trees crossing the conductors on Cate Road, a scenic road, which is a safety concern and could cause a possible outage to the transmission line. PSNH will need a letter from the Selectmen granting their blessing to trim the trees in this area. Mr. Cote explained that this is an emergency situation, as the trees hitting the lines could cause an arc and knock out power. The Selectmen can grant permission, in an emergency situation, to remove trees on a Scenic Road.

MOTION: Vice Chairman Robertson made a motion to grant permission to PSNH to take emergency action and trim trees off the power lines on Cate Road. Seconded by Selectman John Reagan.

Discussion: Selectman Hooker said when PSNH came to the Planning Board there were no issues with their plans as the Planning Board was fully aware of how PSNH operated and approved of their methods.

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

Police Department:

Present: Chief of Police, Mike Greeley

1. Review of Statistics

The Selectmen reviewed the statistics. Selectman Hooker questioned the number of calls and many miles are being put on the vehicles. Chief Greeley said for 1,762 calls the vehicles have driven 45,000 miles. These are the calls listed on the log sheet but are not necessarily the total number of calls. A year to date comparison beginning with 2009 then 2008 and 2007 is 961 calls, 881 calls, and 880 calls respectfully. The calls for service are definitely up. Selectman Hooker asked if Police Details were reflected in the reports. Chief Greeley replied no.

2. Police Details/Rate Increase

The New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS) notified the Town of the increase to the percentage submitted to NHRS which will affect Police Details. Chief Greeley revamped the rates for Police Details from \$47 to \$53 to cover the increased expense and asked for Board approval.

MOTION: Selectman Walter Hooker made a motion to increase the Police Detail rate from \$47 to \$53 (\$14 Town, \$34 Officer and \$5 cruiser). Seconded by Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson.

Discussion: Retroactive billing was questioned to which Chief Greeley responded he did not think it was fair to go back and ask for more even if the law did change on July 1, 2009. Bills being made out today, and going out tomorrow, would reflect the change. Selectman Hooker suggested an effective date of July 13th.

AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION:

Selectman Walter Hooker added to his prior motion, "effective July 13th". Vice Chairman Robertson, the second to the motion, was in agreement with the amendment. The motion would now read; "Selectman Walter Hooker made a motion to increase the Police Detail rate from \$47 to \$53 (\$14 Town, \$34 Officer and \$5 cruiser) effective July 13, 2009. Seconded by Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson."

Discussion: Representative/Selectman John Reagan wanted to correct, and clarify, prior information that the increase in the New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS) rates is a result of cost downshifting to localities. It is no measure of instability in the retirement system as that is a separate problem.

Selectman O'Neal asked if the rate increase was known prior to the letter. It was learned the rate increased but how it affected Police Details was not known.

Chief Greeley explained the last change in the Police Detail rates was in 2007. If the new rates go into effect, the vendors will be notified. Selectman O'Neal questioned if details have taken place in the interim as he didn't believe the Town could charge for details that have already taken place and the vendor didn't know. Chief Greeley stated there have been five (5) PSNH details since July 1st.

Chairman Barry saw the need to increase the rates as the Town's costs have gone up. Selectman O'Neal asked if the five PSNH details added up to approximately 40 hours. Chief Greeley replied yes.

Chief Greeley explained that the increase included this year's increase and next year's proposed increase. Instead of raising the Police Detail rate and then increasing it again, Chief Greeley presented a rate that will cover this increase and the anticipated increase for 2010.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor. The Police Detail rate of \$53 is effective as of July 13, 2009.

3. Vacancy/Full Time Officer

Chairman Barry turned to the topic of the vacancy in the Police Department which has been discussed for two months. There is now the possibility of more openings.

Chief Greeley provided further details explaining that Detective Dan Deyermond was on light duty due to a break in the bottom of his foot. He is off the road and cannot patrol. Officer Craig Maloney is set to retire somewhere near the end of November as he will have 20 years in and be 45 years old. Officer Doug Trottier has received a conditional offer from Franklin, New Hampshire and is waiting on the background check. Corporal Hardy has applied for a job in Austin, Texas and background checks are underway.

Chairman Barry mentioned having talked to Chief Greeley about these changes and the workload on Chief Greeley's desk regarding juvenile cases. It was Chairman Barry's opinion he would like to see Chief Greeley doing his job as Chief and not other jobs. Chairman Barry stated there is a budgeted amount for this position and there is an opening. Chairman Barry would like to see someone hired now as this will not be the only opening this year or next.

Vice Chairman Robertson spoke to lead time for the replacement process. From the time Officer Marchio left, and for a period of sixteen weeks, Chief Greeley expected there would be \$12,000 unexpended in the Full Time Employee Line. Vice Chairman Robertson favored authorizing the Chief to seek a candidate at the rate that is in place and not seek a more experienced candidate or spend more money but locate someone to fill the position at the same wage.

Selectman O'Neal asked if Chief Greeley had gotten any results from the advertisement he placed. Chief Greeley has received four resumes, all full time certified Officers, but he had not mentioned a salary range to any of the candidates.

Selectman Hooker talked to Mrs. Heon about the budget and where the Town might be at the end of the year. There are many factors and not all the answers are available at this time. Selectman Hooker wanted to see definite answers in order to correctly assess the need to fill the position. While not sure of the financial situation, \$12,000 is a good amount to save. Selectman Hooker said Cindy Heon and Cindy Kelley were doing a budgetary analysis and by the next meeting more information may be known about areas that will overrun and areas where there may be some savings. He did not want to back pedal on any decision that was made today.

Selectman O'Neal asked about the Tax Rate setting and when that might occur. Mrs. Heon answered September or early October.

Chairman Barry was concerned that if filling the vacancy did not move forward it could be months before somebody is hired.

Chief Greeley turned and directed his comments to Marcel Riel, a resident who spoke earlier. Chief Greeley stated he understood why taxpayers are concerned as he is a taxpayer in another community. Taxes pay for the protection of the Town and it is his responsibility to see that the Town is protected. He asked Mr. Riel to consider the size of the Town and the time it takes one Officer to get from one end of Deerfield to the other.

Point of Order:

Vice Chairman Robertson stated conversations are to be directed to, and through, the Board of Selectmen.

Vice Chairman Robertson understood the need to stay within the budget. However, the Town Budget, with this position in it, went to the Municipal Budget Committee (MBC) and on to the Town where a large majority of the voters agreed to fund the budget. Unless this is an emergency situation where the Town is going to overspend the budget tomorrow, he did not see why a Police Officer could not be hired. As far as budgeted expenses, the outcome cannot be determined until the snow flies and then it will be known how the budget will come out. Vice Chairman Robertson did not believe filling the vacancy should hinge on this.

MOTION: Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson made a motion to authorize filling the vacancy in the Police Department with a Full Time Police Officer. Selectman Hooker seconded the motion for the purpose of discussion.

Discussion: Chairman Barry suggested adding language to the motion indicating that the individual be hired at the previous rate or less.

AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION: Vice Chairman Robertson maker of the motion agreed to this change as did Selectman Walter Hooker, the second to the motion. The motion to now read; "Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson made a motion to authorize filling the vacancy in the Police Department with a Full Time Police Officer at the rate previously paid or less."

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. The Vote was: Yes-2 No-3. It was a Vote in the Negative and the motion did not carry.

Chairman Barry stated that at this time the Board would not be going to authorize the Chief to hire anyone. Chief Greeley didn't understand the worry about the budget because he knew that he would have between \$30,000 and \$40,000 left over. Chief Greeley asked is this a permanent response for this year or just at this time. The Board answered just at this time.

Selectman O'Neal said we owe it to the Town to see where the Tax Rate will go. Vice Chairman Robertson interjected the Tax Rate isn't going anywhere. The increase in the retirement system was mentioned and Chairman Barry pointed out there were decreases in some other areas of the budget.

Chairman Barry said that Department Heads are trying not to spend willy nilly and when a resident said this to Chairman Barry his response was that is simply not true. Selectman O'Neal agreed with Chairman Barry's comment. Chairman Barry continued saying he has watched the budget process over the last ten years and at times, the lack of revenue. The Town makes it work because of the efforts of the Department Heads and the Town Administrator. In the meantime, there is a large hole to be filled in the Police Department. The subject will come up again.

Review of Outstanding Minutes/June 15, 2009:

MOTION: Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson made a motion the Minutes of June 15, 2009 be approved as written. Seconded by Selectman John Reagan.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor. The Minutes of June 15, 2009 stand approved as written.

Review of Outstanding Minutes/June 29, 2009:

MOTION: Selectman Alan O'Neal made a motion the Minutes of June 29, 2009 be approved as written. Seconded by Selectman Walter Hooker.

VOTE: Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson and Selectman John Reagan abstained as they were not present on June 29th. Chairman Barry called for the Vote. The Vote was Yes-3 Absentions-2 The Minutes of June 29, 2009 stand approved as written.

Vouchers:

Payroll Manifest/\$50,043.57

MOTION: Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson made a motion the Selectmen approve the Payroll Manifest in the amount of \$50,043.57. Seconded by Selectman John Reagan.

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

Accounts Payable Manifests/\$41,881.86

MOTION: Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable Manifests in the amount of \$41,881.86. Seconded by Selectman John Reagan.

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

Signatures

1. State and Federal Forest Lands Reimbursement

MOTION: Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson made a motion to sign the State and Federal Forest Lands Reimbursement Form and submit it to the Department of Revenue Administrator (DRA). Seconded by Selectman John Reagan.

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

2. Computer Abatement

A. Map 405 Lot 026 Sub Lot 001/New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority
Reason: The NH Housing Authority stating that they are exempt from property taxes pursuant to RSA 204-C:49; confirmed same with Linda Kennedy of DRA and Loren Martin of Avitar Associates of N. E., Inc.

MOTION: Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson made a motion to grant the abatement request for Map 405 Lot 026 Sub Lot 001, New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority. Seconded by Selectman Alan O'Neal.

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

3. Town Clerk/Tax Collector/Request for Refunds

A. First American Tax Services/Total: \$12,048

1. Wayne Pollock
2. John and Barbara Nelson
3. Christine McDaniel
4. Gerry Purdy
5. Scott Orbon

Reason: Payment disk received from First American Tax Service paid the first half 2009 taxes which were already paid.

MOTION: Selectman Alan O'Neal made a motion to grant the refunds as requested by the Town Clerk/Tax Collector. Seconded by Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson.

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

B. Jason Alexander/Total: \$241

Reason: The tax payment reflected the wrong parcel.

MOTION: Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson made a motion to grant the refund as requested by the Town Clerk/Tax Collector. Seconded by Selectman John Reagan.

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

4. Caterpillar 2009 Electric Power Extended Agreement

5. Milton CAT/Service Agreement

The Selectmen discussed the Caterpillar and Milton CAT Agreements. It was determined the two agreements were for different things and not two quotes for one item. It was pointed out one quote carried a \$130 late fee. It was not clear why that fee was assessed. Rick Pelletier will be scheduled to discuss the terms of these agreements, late fees and funding.

6. Appointments

A. Deputy Health Officer

1. Denise Greig/Health Officer

MOTION: Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson made a motion to appoint Denise Greig as the Deputy Health Officer. Seconded by Selectman John Reagan.

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

B. Heritage Commission

1. Peter Lion

MOTION: Selectman John Reagan made a motion to appoint Peter Lion to the Heritage Commission. Seconded by Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson.

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

7. Letter/Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH)

The letter was before the Selectmen, as requested, granting permission to the Northwood Crank Pullers to use PSNH land, in Deerfield, for snowmobile trails.

8. Thank You Letter/Martin Guardia/Water Commissioner

9. Letter/Brenda Palazzo/12 North Road
The letter requests an updated Current Use map with Current Use areas clearly delineated. It has been noticed some land areas have been disturbed and may no longer be eligible for Current Use.
10. PA-28 Inventory of Taxpayer Property Form for 2010
The Town of Deerfield will not be requesting Inventory Forms in 2010.
11. Fairpoint Communication/Certificate of Exemption from Federal Taxes
Chairman of the Board, Stephen R. Barry signed the Certificate of Exemption on behalf of the Board of Selectmen.
12. Timber Tax Levies/Notice of Computer Abatements (Tornado Damage)
 - A. Map 201 Lot 004/Todd and Laurie Russell
Reason: Salvage from July 2008 tornado. The landowner did not receive monies from sale of wood, they paid for cleanup.
MOTION: Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson made a motion the Board grants the abatement request for Map 201 Lot 004/Todd and Laurie Russell. Seconded by Selectman John Reagan.
VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.
 - B. Map 204 Lot 004/Timothy and Margaret Stoodley
Reason: Salvage from July 2008 tornado. The landowner did not receive monies from sale of wood, they paid for cleanup.
MOTION: Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson made a motion the Board grants the abatement request for Map 204 Lot 004, Timothy and Margaret Stoodley. Seconded by Selectman John Reagan.
VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.
 - C. Map 204 Lot 005/Daniel O'Donnell and Ellen O'Donnell
Reason: Salvage from July 2008 tornado. The landowner did not receive monies from sale of wood, they paid for cleanup.
MOTION: Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson made a motion the Board grants the abatement request for Map 204 Lot 005, Daniel O'Donnell & Ellen O'Donnell. Seconded by Selectman John Reagan.
VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.
 - D. Map 204 Lot 008/Richard and Mary Leonard
Reason: Salvage from July 2008 tornado. The landowner did not receive monies from sale of wood, they paid for cleanup.
MOTION: Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson made a motion the Board grants the abatement request for Map 204 Lot 008, Richard and Mary Leonard. Seconded by Selectman John Reagan.
VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.
 - E. Map 205 Lot 012/David Reid
Reason: Salvage from July 2008 tornado. The landowner did not receive monies from sale of wood, they paid for cleanup.
MOTION: Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson made a motion the Board grants the abatement request for Map 205 Lot 012, David Reid. Seconded by Selectman John Reagan.
VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

- F. Map 205 Lot 011/Juanita Richard
Reason: Salvage from July 2008 tornado. The landowner did not receive monies from sale of wood, they paid for cleanup.

MOTION: Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson made a motion the Board grants the abatement request for Map 205 Lot 011, Juanita Richard.
Seconded by Selectman John Reagan.

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

- G. Map 205 Lot 010/John Elsnau and Lynn Zebrowski
Reason: Salvage from July 2008 tornado. The landowner did not receive monies from sale of wood, they paid for cleanup.

MOTION: Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson made a motion the Board grants the abatement request for Map 205 Lot 010, John Elsnau and Lynn Zebrowski.
Seconded by Selectman John Reagan.

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

Point of Information:

Chairman Barry asked Cindy Heon, Town Administrator, to share with Penny Touchette, Assessing Clerk, that the files for the Timber Tax Levies/Abatements, regarding the tornado damage, were well done.

13. Timber Tax Levy/\$1,352.41
A. Map 209 021/Diane Stevens
B. Map 409 Lot 45/Curtis Huot
C. Map 409 Lot 044/Timothy Malette Sarah Malette
D. Map 414 Lot 095/Charles McSheffrey

14. 2008 Tax Abatement Application/N. H. Electric Cooperative

MOTION: Selectman John Reagan made a motion the Board accepts the recommendation of the assessor (George E. Sansoucy PE LLC) and denies the New Hampshire Electric Cooperative 2008 Abatement request. Seconded by Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson.

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

Review of Outstanding Correspondence:

1. Letter/Frank Mitchell/Re: Fuel Tank Behind Town Hall
Mr. Mitchell wrote to the Board expressing concerns about the unused gas tank and concrete retaining area, behind the Town Hall, filling with water. This is creating a prime breeding ground for mosquitoes. The Board referred this to Alex Cote, Highway Agent for a remedy to the situation.
2. 2009 Budget Expenditure Information
A. Animal Control Budget
Any further needs for equipment will be funded from the supply line.
B. Police Department
Chief Greeley stated that information was sent in error and was for the Year 2008.
C. Transfer Station
The Town has been notified about rate increases in the areas of solid waste and from Waste Management.

Selectman Hooker pointed out that if the Animal Control Budget, Equipment Line, ran over the charges would still go to that line but the funding would be located in the Supply Line, thus balancing the over-expenditure.

3. Memo/Chief Greeley
Chief Greeley wrote indicating he would be on vacation from July 22nd to the 28th.
4. E-Mails/Open Space Committee
Erick Berglund and Kate Hartnett have expressed interest in serving on the Open Space Committee.
5. Local Government Center (LGC)/Proposed Article 28-a Lawsuit Against the State
The LGC wrote to municipalities of their intention to file a lawsuit against the State of New Hampshire due to the downshifting of costs to the towns and cities. The suggested language for communities to file payments, under protest, with the New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS) was included in the memorandum. Representative/Selectman Reagan spoke to this and the need to act in accordance with what was outlined by the LGC. The Board was in agreement that all NHRS payments should be made under protest.
6. Letter/Lenny Mandigo and Kyle Mandigo
Chairman Barry mentioned to Chief Greeley, present at this time, the Board received a written account from Lenny Mandigo and Kyle Mandigo concerning a recent incident at the Transfer Station. Chairman Barry asked Chief Greeley if he had anything to report to the Board on this incident. Chief Greeley did not but indicated he would get back to the Board.
7. E-Mail/Frank Diaz/Recognition-Re: Fire Chief, Mark Tibbetts
Mr. Diaz sent a letter to the Selectmen recognizing Fire Chief, Mark Tibbetts, for the assistance he provided to the Diaz family at a recent family gathering. After a fireworks display angered neighbors, Chief Tibbetts stepped in and handled the situation. Everyone was impressed, appreciative and found him to be a key leader in the community who upholds American rights and the New Hampshire laws. A copy of the letter was provided to Chief Tibbetts. Chairman Barry publicly thanked Chief Tibbetts on behalf of the Board.
8. Letter/Request for Waiver of Interest/Map 423 Lot 32-Marguerite Girard
Mrs. Girard requested a waiver on interest accrued on the 2008 Tax Bill. At the time the house was sold, the real estate agent suggested that she not pay the taxes. Because the closing company never paid the taxes, Mrs. Girard received a late notice. It was Mrs. Girard's observation that someone did not handle the closing properly and because of that she requested a waiver of the accrued interest. The Town Clerk/Tax Collector's recommendation was to deny the request.

MOTION: Selectman Alan O'Neal made a motion to take the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's recommendation and deny the request for a waiver on the accrued interest.
Seconded by Selectman John Reagan.
Discussion: It was thought the matter was between someone other than the Town and should be worked out with the appropriate parties
VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.
9. Petition from Residents of the Lake Sites Neighborhood of Deerfield N. H. to the Selectmen of the Town of Deerfield, N. H. and Avitar Associates of New England, Inc.
Nine residents filed a petition asking the Town and Avitar Associates to consider changing the neighborhood code from "D" to "E". The request was due to the devastation of the topography of the Lake Sites Neighborhood that was caused by the July 2008 Tornado. The residents stated they now live in a treeless, barren area where the noise level has dramatically increased and protection from the wind and sun is gone as well as the privacy from neighbors and from Route 4. Chairman Barry read the entire petition and noted there were nine signatures on the document.

MOTION: Selectman John Reagan made a motion to forward the petition to the Assessor, Avitar Associates of N. E., Inc., for their recommendation. Seconded by Selectman Walter Hooker.

Discussion: Selectman Hooker did not understand why this petition was necessary as Gary Roberge promised to look at that neighborhood when he returned from vacation.

MOTION WITHDRAWN:

The maker of the motion, and the second, withdrew the motion because it was determined that no motion was necessary and the document will be forwarded to Gary Roberge of Avitar Associates of N. E., Inc.

10. Memo/Richard Pelletier/Transfer Station-Estimate for Work
Chairman Barry pointed out that Mr. Pelletier estimated the cost of \$2,922.39 for the preparation and installation of the cement pad at the Transfer Station. It was asked if the funding was available. Mrs. Heon stated there was approximately \$6,000 in the Repairs and Maintenance Line. The Board agreed to proceed with the project.

Selectman O'Neal asked if some of the encumbered money could be used for this purpose. Mrs. Heon said she would look at the encumbrance and report back to the Board.

11. Grant/Proposed Fire Station
Chairman Barry reported that after much preparation, typing and retyping, and six or seven trips to the Fire Station to review the document, the grant has been submitted. It may be the end of the year before the Town hears anything. Chairman Barry recognized Chief Tibbetts and his committee for the work that went into this grant.

12. Municipal Budget Committee (MBC)/2010 Town Budget Submission
Chairman Barry reported writing to the MBC and apologizing because there was no Selectman present at any of their meetings. He also pointed out that the Town's Budget will be delivered to the MBC on December 1, 2009 as it has in the past.

Town Administrator's Report:

1. Gazebo Fund/Maintenance/Project
The Gazebo Fund, which consists of donations collected from the time the Gazebo was built and currently has \$13,313.25 in the account. Mark Tibbetts mentioned needing to add bark mulch to some areas around the Gazebo and has asked if this is an appropriate use of the Gazebo Fund money.

MOTION: Selectman Alan O'Neal made a motion the Board authorize the expenditure of funds from the Gazebo Fund for bark mulch. Seconded by Selectman John Reagan.

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

2. Response for Information/Jan Foisy-Bookkeeping
The notation of a voided check on the typed manifest is for informational purposes only. When processing a voided check in MuniSmart, the system does not produce a voided check register for signature by the Board of Selectmen.
3. Transfer Station/Hazardous Waste Day
Chairman Barry read a section of the Town Administrator's Report that spoke to Grant Funds that are available, from the State, for a Hazardous Waste Day but the application process for 2009

closed on February 1, 2009. If Deerfield filed a grant application by February 1, 2010, the event would be held between July 1, 2010 and June 30, 2011. Reimbursement is up to one half the cost of the event.

While there are other options, Chairman Barry could not see passing up an opportunity of having part of the cost paid for. At this time, \$7,000 is available. Selectman Hooker wasn't sure how long the \$7,000 would last in terms of service provided or the length of the Hazardous Waste Day. Selectman Hooker suggested waiting until next year and extending the project out to get the best results and the grant offset. The Board was in agreement with this approach.

4. Job Description/Transfer Station Director

As requested by the Board, a list of duties was obtained from Jim Alexander, former Transfer Station Director. The position is primarily responsible for budgetary issues and managing employees. There are no Job Descriptions in existence for the Director or the attendants. Lenny Mandigo will drop off a list of duties that will assist in preparing for all three Job Descriptions.

Chairman Barry advised the Board that he located an individual that may be able to assist at the Transfer Station. Currently the individual has family matters to attend to.

5. The following information has been requested from all Department Heads:

- A. Job Descriptions for each employee including the Department Head.
- B. Wage Scale and supporting documentation.
- C. Performance Evaluations for all employees and Department Heads.
- D. The 2010 Budget Packets will be sent out on July 15th and will include this week's expenses from the Accounts Payable Manifest.

6. Vacation Leave

Mrs. Heon will be on Vacation Leave between July 21st and July 31st. Cindy Kelley will be in charge of the day-to-day activities in her absence.

Unfinished Business/Other Business/New Business:

1. NIMS Resolution

Chairman Barry pointed out the packet of information from Emergency Management Director, Jim Cannon. The information is for the Board's review. Mr. Cannon will be scheduled to meet with the Selectmen at a later date.

2. Transfer Station Complaint/Use of Trailers

Vice Chairman Robertson had a conversation with an upset resident concerning the use of trailers at the Transfer Station. The resident was told by an attendant that trailers were a danger and that the attendant would bring that information to the attention of the Board of Selectmen. The request to the Selectmen would be to disallow trailer traffic because of the havoc it causes. Vice Chairman Robertson spoke to both parties involved. Vice Chairman Robertson could see placing cones around trailers which would move traffic out a little further and make access to the hopper easier but he could not see banning trailers. The Board agreed with Vice Chairman Robertson.

3. 2009 Operating Budget

Selectman Hooker mentioned the 2009 Operating Budget and wanting to wait for further information so that everyone would have a better understanding of where the 2009 Operating Budget stands. Chairman Barry remarked where the 2009 Budget stands will be known in November.

4. **Planning Board/Dates to Remember**
The Public Hearing for the Master Plan is scheduled for September 9th. August 26th a site visit has been tentatively scheduled to look at Deerfield Center, with Jim Marshall, concerning the Traffic Calming Study.
5. **Municipal Budget Committee (MBC)/Quorum**
Having read the minutes to a recent MBC Meeting, Selectman O'Neal noted that there were only five members present of an eleven member committee which did not constitute a quorum and many issues were voted on. Selectman O'Neal was curious as to how this would be handled. Chairman Barry recalled the first meeting did not have a quorum and wasn't held. There wasn't an immediate answer to the question.
6. **Presentation of the 2010 Town Budget**
Due to time constraints, Chairman Barry stated that he may need to step away as the Selectmen's Representative to the Municipal Budget Committee (MBC) for this year. He thought perhaps Selectman Hooker or Selectman O'Neal could do a better job. If nothing can be worked out, he can continue. Selectman Hooker pointed out that Selectman O'Neal is primary backup up and filled in last year. The Town Budget is due to be presented, to the Selectmen, on September 14th. Chairman Barry said it should be made clear to Department Heads, again, that information not in the Budget, on the 14th, won't be considered.

Citizen's Comments

1. **Don Daley/Municipal Budget Committee (MBC)**
Don Daley spoke as the Vice Chairman to the MBC and noted that at the April 15th meeting there were seven members present and at that time the vote was to set deadlines for the MBC to receive the 2010 budgets; November 3rd for the Town and November 17th for the School. In June five members met because Lorena Sinnamon had resigned. It was determined that because of her absence there was a quorum. Jim Spillane was named as Chairman and Don Daley as Vice Chairman.

Chairman Barry reported he sent an e-mail, to the Chairman of the MBC, advising him the Town Budget would be presented to the MBC on December 1st. Vice Chairman Robertson commented it would be presented if it was done. Selectman O'Neal asked how it would work if sections were handed over at a time and not the entire budget. Chairman Barry preferred to hand over a complete budget. September 14th is when the Selectmen will see the 2010 Town Budget for the first time.

Don Daley said that December 1st only allows for two weeks, or less, before the Work Session and it is not enough time to consider what will be voted. It is his personal view that the budget could be higher in 2010 and he thought more than two weeks would be needed. Chairman Barry said that the MBC could stop that process and adopt reviewing the budget section by section.

Selectman Hooker indicated that the process could go back the way it was, Departments sending in budgets for review over a period of time. The one day worked because everything was scheduled and there was less waiting around and multiple trips to the MBC for review of some budgets. Selectman Hooker stated the School Budget is a lot larger than the Town Budget and far less information is presented than what the Town brings forward. Two years ago it took 50 minutes to review the School Budget and hours to look at the Town Budget. There is a lot of information in the minutes to Selectmen's Meetings and a lot of things the MBC could look at as well as attend Selectmen's Meetings.

Mr. Daley asked if there would be a Selectman present at the September 15th meeting. Chairman Barry replied yes.

2. Harriet Cady/2008 Audit

Mrs. Cady asked if there was firm date listed in the contract as to when the audit would be done. Mrs. Heon responded the auditors had not given a firm date at this time.

3. Harriet Cady/Public Service Company of N. H. (PSNH)/Power Line Replacement

Harriet Cady asked if the big power lines running through Town were going to be replaced. Selectman Hooker said that at the Planning Board review of this project, Dave Plant and others stated the power lines would not change. There will be activity for two years until the new transformer is totally operational. All work will be completed within the site. Selectman Hooker mentioned a question, at the time, of increased noise. PSNH informed everyone that the new technology was quieter and even if both transformers were running the noise level would not be greater.

4. Harriet Cady/Fire Station Grant

Harriet Cady asked what the projected running costs would be for the new Fire Station. Chairman Barry said the projected costs are for just the building. Chief Tibbetts added there are no projected maintenance or equipment costs. Harriet Cady asked about an equipment allowance. Chairman Barry answered that equipment like an exhaust system is considered in the estimated costs but there would be no chairs, computers lockers or things like that. Vice Chairman Robertson added fixtures are not contents, the fixtures would be included.

5. Harriet Cady/Municipal Budget Committee (MBC)/Town Budget Review

Mrs. Cady stated she served in other towns on MBC's and served three times on Deerfield's MBC. She greatly disliked the one-day Budget review. One day doesn't allow for dialogue, and questions, and as a new member, she would not want it done this way. She will expect the questions to be asked and the answers to be gotten and returned. The School Budget, while having more money, has fewer areas to look at. If Mrs. Cady looks at a School Budget, she can tell where she would want things and where she would not and did not expect to let the School Budget be discussed for just 15 minutes. In the past, whoever has served on the MBC isn't there now and that is why things were handled the way they were. What will happen this year with new people remains to be seen.

Selectman Hooker remarked that at this time the budget review was proceeding forward as it has the past several years. If there is to be a change then next year it should be stated earlier so that everyone can plan.

6. Alex Cote, Highway Agent/Signage on Brown Road

Mr. Cote received a call from a resident on Old Centre Road that a sign at the end of Brown Road advertising items for sale, on the Witham property, is obstructing the view. It was decided that Chief Greeley and Mr. Cote would look at the situation together.

7. Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson/Summer Concert Series

Vice Chairman Robertson reported that on Friday evening people from Northwood attended the summer concert series opener in Deerfield and used their cell phone to take pictures of the event. Northwood has a part time Parks and Recreation Department and was impressed with the attendance, entertainment and the community spirit and they bought food.

Adjournment:

7:48pm Selectman Walter Hooker made a motion to Adjourn. Seconded by Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson. Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor. The July 13, 2009 meeting is adjourned.