

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
January 25, 2010
MINUTES**

Call to Order

5:30pm: Chairman- Steve Barry called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

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

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

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

Citizen's Comments:

None

Regular Business:

There was discussion regarding Chief Greeley's two potential candidates for hire and the process of hiring to be expected.

Selectman Hooker asked about the status of the decals on the Explorer and Chief Greeley said he has an appointment scheduled to have it finished. He explained that the SUV is marked inconspicuously during the day for a low profile, but at night the decals are reflective to be seen clearly.

New Business:

Maureen Mann gave the Board a handout regarding an issue from Public Works and Highways that Legislation has been introduced; regarding a bill that would require municipalities to use police details or flaggers to be in accordance with the Department of Transportation (DOT) guidelines. She added that two out of the four towns she represents have agreements with their police departments, that only police details will be used. She referred to pages two and three being from the DOT guidelines; stating that under certain circumstances flaggers or uniformed officers can be used (mostly with Class-4 and Class-5 roads). She has spoken with people on the Select Board in one of the other towns that does have an agreement with their police department and they have a Revolving Fund; as they want to use police officers for every detail. She added that they are instituting a Revolving Fund and they feel they can get new police cars out of this fund. She said it is clearly less expensive to use flaggers than to use police details, but asked if it is interfering with the Town to make it a State Law than to leave it up to the individual Towns. She was looking for input from the BOS as they are voting on this bill on Wednesday.

Chief Greeley feels that if it is taken out of the Town's hands to decide whether or not they want officers on details, it could go in the wrong direction. Vice Chairman Robertson said the only thing he notices (volume per day), is that the DOT recommendations mostly apply to the presence of officers for those approaching speeds of 45 miles an hour or greater. Chief Greeley confirmed there are two roads in Deerfield that are over 45 miles an hour.

Chief Greeley said there are towns that have Town Ordinances that if it is requested for a detail, it will be filled by a police officer and he wouldn't mind seeing that for Deerfield for the safety issue side of it. Mrs. Mann said the person who introduced it also saw it as a way to pump up retirement through detail, but there is certainly the home rule issue.

Selectman Hooker can see that if a Town has a Revolving Fund that it wouldn't really be a financial issue, because the money will come in and go right back out. He added that if they do not have a Revolving Fund, it could create some budget problems like Deerfield had last year. He said that depending on the nature of the work, the flaggers would increase the cost (just like having police officers would), but the work will cost less than using police officers. He added that it doesn't create wear and tear on town vehicles when flaggers are used. Chief Greeley said it could be a safety issue with the flaggers, as they are not professionals; they have no legal right to do anything if a situation arises. Selectman Hooker asked if it would create problems with any police department if everyone has to use officers when there may not be enough officers in the State to cover all the details and perhaps the flaggers are to prevent that problem.

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION: Selectman Hooker made a Motion to approve the Board of Selectmen Minutes of January 11, 2010, Public Hearing Minutes of January 11, 2010 and the Public Hearing Minutes of January 19, 2010.

SECONDED: Vice Chairman Robertson seconded the Motion.

VOTE: Chairman Barry took a Vote to approve the Minutes as written.

It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

Selectman O'Neal said there were also Minutes taken at the Board of Selectman meeting on January 19, 2010 where an action was taken.

MOTION: Selectman Hooker moved to approve the Board of Selectmen Minutes of January 19, 2010.

SECONDED: Selectman Reagan seconded the Motion.

VOTE: Chairman Barry took a Vote to approve the Minutes as written.

It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

Vouchers:

Payroll Manifest/Accounts Payable Manifest:

Payroll Manifest/ \$46,891.27

Accounts Payable Manifests/ \$ 25,436.48, \$336,126.19 (of which \$ 300,000.00 is for the School) and \$ 256.59.

Payroll Manifest/ \$46,891.27 (netting at \$ 35,259.35).

MOTION: Vice Chairman Robertson made a Motion to approve the Payroll Manifest in the amount of \$46,891.27.

SECONDED: Selectman Reagan seconded the Motion.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote.

It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

Accounts Payable Manifest total of \$361,619.26.

MOTION: Vice Chairman Robertson moved to pay the Accounts Payable Manifest totaling in the amount of \$361,619.26.

SECONDED: Selectman Reagan seconded the Motion.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote.

It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

Signatures:

2010 Warrant/Default Budget

Selectman Barry stated that Counsel said they are allowed to put the vote tallies and recommendation at the bottom of each warrant if they so choose to. He added that RSA 32:5 5 says that if a Town has not voted to require such tallies to be printed in the Town Warrant, next to the effected Warrant Article, the Governing Body may do so on its own initiative.

MOTION: Selectman Reagan moved to take the initiative to put it on all the warrant articles.

SECONDED: Selectman Hooker seconded the Motion.

Selectman O'Neal thought the Town did vote to place it on them and he would support that. Selectman Barry said there was a question from the Municipal Budget Committee (MBC) Chair as to whether or not it should be on Article-12. Selectman Hooker agrees as they recommended their BOS Budget and had nothing to do with the MBC Budget, so it would be reasonable to put the BOS Budget with their recommendation along with the MBC Budget and their recommendation.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote.

It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

2010 Warrant Copies/Default Budget Copies

Selectman Barry confirmed that they have to sign each of them.

MOTION: Vice Chairman Robertson made a Motion to approve the 2010 Warrant as presented.

SECONDED: Selectman O'Neal seconded the Motion.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote.

It was a 4-1 Vote in Favor.

MOTION: Vice Chairman Robertson made a Motion to approve the 2010 Default Budget as presented today.

SECONDED: Selectman Reagan seconded the Motion.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote.

It was a 4-1 Vote in Favor.

Avitar Associates of New England, Inc./Contracts

Chairman Barry acknowledged the five year assessment agreement from Avitar Associates, which also covers the Revaluation. Selectman Hooker said it was one year for the Revaluation and five years of General Assessing. He said that he and the Town Administrator, Town Counsel and the DRA reviewed the contract and the Town has awarded it to Avitar Associates (with field work beginning tomorrow).

Melanson, Heath & Company/ Contract

Selectman Barry acknowledged a contract from Melanson, Heath & Company, the Auditors. Town Administrator, Cindy Heon said that she and the Finance Director are comfortable with this contract and that it is reaffirming the current contract the Town is presently under.

MOTION: Vice Chairman Robertson made a Motion to reaffirm the Melanson, Heath & Company accounting contract and requested the Chairman of the Board sign it on behalf of the Selectmen.

SECONDED: Selectman Reagan seconded the Motion.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote.

It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

Selectman O'Neal referred back to the Revaluation and said that within the agreement there was a bond requirement checkbox which was not completed. He stated that he does not think they should require a bond.

MOTION: Selectman O'Neal made a Motion not to require a bond.

SECONDED: Selectman Hooker seconded the Motion.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote.

It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

Notice of Abatement/ Kyle and April Purinton (27 Middle Road); regarding an old assessment of \$250,200.00, which has been revised to \$243,700.00, due to an interior inspection that was performed and data corrections that were entered.

MOTION: Vice Chairman Robertson moved to grant the abatement as recommended by the Assessor.

SECONDED: Selectman Reagan seconded the Motion.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote.

It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

Notice of Abatement/ BTLA (in reference to a decision on SNHS/ Elderly Housing); regarding an old assessment of \$1,745,900.00 that has now been revised to \$1,522,800.00 from a decision of the Board of Tax and Land Appeals (for the 2008 property taxes). There is also an assessment of \$1,745,900.00 that has now been revised to \$1,477,700.00 (for the 2007 property taxes).

MOTION: Vice Chairman Robertson moved to accept the revised assessments recommended by the Assessor.

SECONDED: Selectman Reagan seconded the Motion.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote.

It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

Selectman Hooker mentioned that it is not likely the BOS would appeal this, but the group that submitted the appeal may or may not appeal their decision. Selectman O'Neal asked if that action should have waited until the window was closed and Selectman Hooker said no to this, as the BOS is agreeing with the decision of the Board of Tax and Land Appeals.

Request from Joe Manzi/ Primary Care Aide: Nick Dakota

The Board signed the request.

Timber Tax Levy/ Richard Chandler/ Dwight Stevens/\$4,088.19

The Board signed the request.

Correspondence:

Parks & Recreation Director, Joe Manzi wants to start using Facebook to advertise the Town's programs. He has inquired through the State and other departments that do this and he included presentations for it. He confirmed that he would only use it to market programs and events.

Selectman Barry, Vice Chairman Robertson and Selectman Hooker agree it is a great idea and the Board has granted his request.

Impact Fee Report

Selectman Barry confirmed that the Impact Fee Report has a notation that no funds can be moved at this time, as there are no bonds or projects; Highway has about \$48,000.00, School has \$25,000.00 and Solid Waste has \$16,352.00.

Selectman Hooker mentioned that the School was looking to pave a parking lot which might make the funds available to them.

Selectman Barry said they signed off on the grant application for the Planning Board, regarding the CTAP targeted local government account.

Waiver/Deerfield Senior Citizen's Lunch

Selectman Barry acknowledged a request for a waiver of the user fees for the Town Hall from the Deerfield Senior Citizen's Lunch.

MOTION: Vice Chairman Robertson moved to grant a waiver for the user fees for the senior luncheon.

SECONDED: Selectman Reagan seconded the Motion

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

Logan Heating & Air Conditioning Proposal/ Philbrick Library furnace replacement

Selectman Barry acknowledged a quote from Logan Heating & Air Conditioning for the installation of a new Thermopride FHA furnace at the Library, which would include the furnace, new oil line, new firematic valves, thermostat, a return duct downstairs, piping, ductwork, wiring, permits and labor for \$4,000.00.

Selectman O'Neal said that he would be looking to see a second price based on the policy they have put into place. They agreed to ask Mr. Tibbetts to try to get more quotes before awarding it to Mr. Logan.

Email/ Alex Cote, Road Agent

Selectman Barry acknowledged an email from Alex Cote regarding holding off on any discretionary spending until March 9, 2010. He mentioned that he would like to take care of some issues as soon as possible; the backhoe needs pins and bushing (which was included in the budget), and the ring gear needs repairs before they need the equipment to complete work around Town when the weather breaks.

Selectman O'Neal didn't find in the Budget any supporting documentation on the backhoe. He referred to the grader and said he found two different items in the backup documentation. One was from Caterpillar for \$7,600.00 and the other was from Mr. Allard for \$3,500.00. He asked if this was an \$11,000.00 repair. Selectman Barry believes it was CAT's price and Mr. Allard's price for the same repair. Selectman O'Neal said that on Mr. Allard's quote it didn't say anything about taking it apart, whereas CAT's quote said they would walk around for inspection, remove and install circle assembly, remove and install circle drive, replace circle segment, recondition the circle drive, etc.

Selectman Barry said that Alex is comfortable with Mr. Allard doing the repair instead of CAT. Selectman O'Neal is looking to find out if the proposals are equal in the tasks they will do. He stated that if our road crew is going to do the labor, other than the welding and grinding, he would like to see an estimate on that so that the Board can review it. Selectman Barry requested that Alex attend the next meeting for these questions to be addressed.

Selectman Barry said that Alex is also asking to purchase a 55 gallon drum of soap for the pressure washer used to keep the trucks clean through the winter. The Board is ok with it.

Email/ Harriet Cady

Selectman Barry read the email from Mrs. Cady in which she said that last year the BOS appointed a Cable Committee of which she is a member and she was surprised that they were not included in their calls to Lake Region (since she told the Board that Deerfield was allowed to appoint someone to represent Deerfield). She stated that last night Denise said that they would welcome a person to that Board from Deerfield and since Bonnie left, that Committee has not been contacted for their input. She asked if the BOS meeting last night meant they have disbanded the Committee.

Selectman Barry does not believe it does. Vice Chairman Robertson mentioned that she copied Joe Serio and perhaps he is the Chair. Selectman Barry asked the Town Administrator to reply to her that the BOS has not disbanded the Committee. Vice Chairman Robertson said they were not instructed to cease and desist.

Old Business:

None

Unfinished Business:

None

Citizen's Comments:

Maureen Mann referred to the citizen's petition warrant article and asked how one gets access of the signed petition. Selectman Barry suggested contacting the Supervisor or the Town Clerk. Mrs. Mann said the Town Clerk said he has not seen it. Mrs. Heon said the original petition stays with the Selectmen as it is presented to them, and it will be at the Town Hall with the rest of the Town Meeting information.

Adjourned:

6:22pm

MOTION: Vice Chairman Robertson made a Motion to adjourn.

SECONDED: Selectman Hooker seconded the Motion.

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

The January 25, 2010 meeting is now adjourned.