

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
July 12, 2010
MINUTES**

Call to Order

5:30pm: Vice Chairman, Alan O'Neal called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Vice Chairman O'Neal asked all to rise and pledge allegiance to the Flag.

Present: Alan E. O'Neal, Vice Chairman; John Reagan, R. Andrew Robertson and Bill Perron, Selectmen

Absent: Stephen R. Barry, Chairman

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

Citizen's Comments:

None

Vice Chairman O'Neal announced that the Police Department has been rescheduled to July 26, 2010's Agenda.

Highway Department

Present: Alex Cote, Road Agent

Road Agent, Alex Cote presented the Board with a spreadsheet on his draft Proposed 2011 Budget. He would like to get his contracts out, for the contractors, as soon as possible so that he can get them done.

Vice Chairman O'Neal asked how it compared to last year's rates and Mr. Cote said there are no changes; the fuel charge is the only thing that is really flexible. He said rates should remain the same (except for fuel charges). He said the State fluctuates a little bit, as they do a biweekly assessment of crude oil and use a calculation to figure out the fuel rate; but essentially the fuel rate is \$10.00 a gallon for Division-5. Selectman Robertson said if this is the Road Agent's recommendation, he would support it.

Mr. Cote also referred to this fuel usage being down from what was projected and he would like to leave it up and have money left over in the fuel lines; he would rather have over the amount in case the winter is bad, then to have to justify why they are under. Vice Chairman O'Neal thinks the Board would need to set the rate that they want to carry for gas and diesel fuel.

Mr. Cote informed the Board that they made out well on Mount Delight Road on changing the pipe; it is now open for two lanes of traffic again and is safe to travel. He will change the culvert by the telephone sub-station hopefully by Wednesday.

Deerfield Conservation Commission/ Fred McGarry, Conservation Easement

Present: Chair, Serita Frey and Treasurer, Erick Berglund

Serita Frey advised the Board about an easement that Fred McGarry is donating on his property, which is about 50 acres. She said he is effectively giving up the development rights of that property. Due to the value of the property, the Deerfield Conservation Commission (DCC) has decided to pick up the cost associated with that easement (legal costs & survey costs); they are getting an estimate now and it would be funded from the Conservation Fund. Erick Berglund said this has been their practice in the past.

Selectman Robertson asked if the easement includes any of the shoreline on the pond. Further behind the pond. Mr. Berglund thinks that is below his property.

Selectman Reagan said he heard a rumor that the DCC was objecting to the use of the lot between the Fire Station and the Town Hall. Mrs. Frey confirmed that they sent a letter to the Fire Chief that they would provide their assistance with DES on any wetland issues; there were no objections, just offering their assistance. Selectman Reagan asked if they know for sure if any of that lot is designated wet. Mrs. Frey said it needs to be confirmed by a

wetland scientist before anything is done there. Vice Chairman O'Neal said he heard that someone was donating and dumping some fill in there to fill in wetlands.

Vice Chairman O'Neal referred to the bill from Upton & Hatfield for the Alvah Chase Forest and the Board requested the DCC pay the \$5,000.00 portion of the attorney fee. Mrs. Frey said they found a copy left in their box, but did not realize it was a request to pay it; it will be put on the DCC Agenda to discuss it in their meeting tonight.

Mrs. Frey said the property Fred McGarry is donating is behind the school and Mr. Berglund said it is across Old Centre Road, going east on the right.

Mrs. Frey referred to the land protection on the Town Forest and stated they are continuing to move forward. She setup an appointment to speak to the Town Counsel, Jim Raymond to make sure they are moving forward properly.

Regular Business:

1. Review of Outstanding Minutes:

MOTION: Selectman Robertson made a Motion to approve the Minutes of June 28, 2010.

SECONDED: Selectman Reagan seconded the Motion.

VOTE: Vice Chairman O'Neal took a Vote to approve the June 28, 2010 Minutes as written. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

MOTION: Selectman Robertson made a Motion to approve the Minutes of July 6, 2010.

SECONDED: Selectman Reagan seconded the Motion.

Selectman Reagan objected to the contract as he didn't feel they received any value for the \$6,000.00 for the Lakes Region's television service and wanted that money to be encumbered for next year, so they could stop paying them.

VOTE: Vice Chairman O'Neal took a Vote to approve the July 6, 2010 Minutes as amended. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

2. Vouchers/ Payroll Manifest/ Accounts Payable Manifest:

Vouchers

Payroll Manifest/\$57,392.24 (Netting at \$43,031.62)

Accounts Payable Manifest/ Total of \$45,794.58

Payroll Manifest/ \$57,392.24

MOTION: Selectman Robertson moved to approve the Payroll Manifest in the amount of \$57,392.24.

SECONDED: Selectman Reagan seconded the Motion.

VOTE: Vice Chairman O'Neal took a Vote to approve the Payroll Manifest. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

Accounts Payable Manifest/ Total \$45,794.58

MOTION: Selectman Robertson moved to approve the Accounts Payable Manifest in the total amount of \$45,794.58.

SECONDED: Selectman Reagan seconded the Motion.

VOTE: Vice Chairman O'Neal took a Vote to approve the Accounts Payable Manifest. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

3. Signatures:

- A. Signatures Requiring a Vote
None

B. Signatures Not Requiring a Vote

- 1) Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber/ James & Suzanne Spear/ Map 419 Lot 73
The Board signed.
- 2) Petition & Pole License/ Approved by the Road Agent/49 Meetinghouse Hill Road/ 65-0454
Public Service of New Hampshire/Northern NE Telephone Operations LLC d/b/a FairPoint
The Board signed.
- 3) FairPoint Communication/ Pole Petition on Range Road #3222
NH Electric Coop/Northern NE Telephone Operations LLC d/b/a FairPoint
The Board signed.

4. Review of Correspondence:

- A. Received a check from FEMA for \$34,500.83 for the storm cleanup (representing federal share of the total approved eligible cost).
- B. Received an email from Harriet Cady regarding the July 5, 2010 paper's article where the State will have more money to distribute for energy grants. Her daughter owns a solar company and she would like to volunteer to get energy money for actual problems the Town Office has, such as windows, doors, heating systems, etc. She spoke to Dick Boisvert to see what the State has as far as money.
- C. Received an email from Mr. Hooker regarding a request of information on some items. He would like the support data for all new wage scale adjustments, including but not limited to Assessing Clerk, Police Department and the Library. He believes most of the Police Department would be in line for a wage scale adjustment.

Vice Chairman O'Neal requested Mr. Hooker be forwarded all the support information and list of Town Employees with their current salaries.

He also would like a PDF copy of the Avitar Assessing Agreement for the 2010 Revaluation; which would include the new definition of tables. He said there are many conflicts in the Northwood and Pleasant Lake waterfront codes; some dollar amounts, some changes in waterfront codes. He feels the manual should be posted on the Town Website so that citizen's may download or view online.

Vice Chairman O'Neal thinks it is something that will be necessary for the meeting with Avitar if people have questions. As far as Deerfield's total assessment as of now, the Board does not know at this time; preliminary reports are available on the Avitar website.

Selectman Reagan suggested to respond that these issues are being addressed.

5. Unfinished Business:

None

6. Interim Town Administrator's Report:

- A. Evaluation Process; most of the evaluations are placed in an envelope in the office for all to review.
- B. Gas, Diesel & Oil; the number of gallons are being calculated and hopefully will be in by July 26th.
- C. Copy List; there is a copy list of what the fees are and some research on comparisons to other towns.

7. Other Business:

None

8. New Business:
Offer of Employment/Letter of Agreement / Leslie Boswak

MOTION: Selectman Reagan made a motion to offer employment to Leslie Boswak as the Town Administrator as of July 23, 2010, pending a background check.

SECONDED: Selectman Robertson seconded the Motion.

VOTE: Vice Chairman O'Neal called for the Vote.
It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

Citizen's Comments:

Harriet Cady thought a letter had gone out from Avitar saying what the Town's values were, but was told to go to the website. She went to the Town's website and was unable to find a link to their website. Interim Town Administrator, Cindy Heon confirmed that there was a direct link on the Town's website to go to Avitar's website.

Mrs. Cady said that she scrolls through the Supreme Court decisions regularly, and recently they made a decision that you couldn't be taxed for septic for your home or businesses. She recalls that some years ago when Avitar revaluated the Town, they taxed an improved lot for the septic and the well, adding that value to the lot. She asked if the Board knows if Avitar is still taxing for septic systems and wells as part of an improved lot. Vice Chairman O'Neal said they would look into that.

Mrs. Cady still has not gotten her answer on the right to know request on when the BOS voted in 2006 or 2007 to trade in their guns. She cannot find it on the minutes.

She asked if the Budget Committee have the employees' salaries and all of the wage scale support documentation by the time they meet on July 27th. The Board confirmed their MBC representative was given a copy.

Adjourned:

6:11 pm

MOTION: Selectman Robertson made a Motion to adjourn.

SECONDED: Vice Chairman O'Neal seconded the Motion.

VOTE: Vice Chairman O'Neal called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.
The July 12, 2010 meeting is adjourned.