

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
MUNICIPAL BUDGET COMMITTEE
February 11, 2010
MINUTES**

Call to Order

6:00pm: Chairman~ James Spillane called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

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

Present:

James Spillane~ Chairman, Don Daley~ Vice Chairman, Tom Dillon, Harriet Cady, Kevin Briggs, Liz Murphy & Peter Menard

Absent:

Richard Pitman & Bill Carbonneau

Also Present:

Steve Barry~ Board of Selectmen Representative, Bonnie Beaubien~ School Board Representative and Nese Farrell~ Recording Secretary

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION: Vice Chairman Don Daley made a Motion to approve the Minutes of January 19, 2010 as written.

SECONDED: Tom Dillon seconded the Motion.

VOTE: Chairman Spillane took a Vote to approve the 1-19-10 Minutes as written.
It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

Chairman Spillane confirmed that they consulted with DRA about calling a last minute meeting and they said it is commonly done if items are changed in the dollar amount from what was actually voted on prior to that item going to the Deliberative Session. The Committee will only discuss the Warrant Articles that were changed at the Deliberative Session.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Kevin Barry addressed that the Amended Vote on Article-12 was the recommendation of both the Municipal Budget Committee (MBC) and the Board of Selectmen (BOS).

MOTION: Vice Chairman Daley moved to approve the Town Budget Warrant Article-12 as Amended.

SECONDED: Liz Murphy seconded the Motion.

Selectman Barry stated that the final authority has spoken; the Deliberative Session and the Body set the budget and that it is not the BOS or the MBC's budget, it is the People's budget. He feels it is pointless to recommend or not recommend what the people have done, as it is their budget now. Chairman Spillane said that if the Budget would have language in there that says that it is or is not recommended by those committees and that, in substance, is no longer the budget that was voted on or recommended at the time. He added that is why the DRA said that frequently committees meet right after the Deliberative Session so that they can go over the changes. The fact that it is in print and many were not there to know it was changed at the Deliberative Session, is why the Committee needs to make it clear to the voters come ballot day.

VOTE: Chairman Spillane called for the Vote to approve Warrant Article-12 as Amended at the Deliberative Session.
It was a Vote of 4 in Favor, 3 Opposed and 2 Abstentions.

Chairman Spillane addressed Warrant Article-1 of the School Budget that was Amended at the Deliberative Session; it reads the same way, but the number is now \$12,315,608.00 (roughly a \$200,000.00 difference of what they accepted before).

MOTION: Vice Chairman Daley moved the School Budget's Article-1 as Amended at the Deliberative Session.

SECONDED: Liz Murphy seconded the Motion.

VOTE: Chairman Spillane called for the Vote to approve Warrant Article-1 as Amended at the Deliberative Session.
It was a Vote of 1 in Favor, 7 Opposed and 1 Abstention. It will read now that the MBC does not recommend approval.

Chairman Spillane confirmed that the School Budget's Article-4 was changed from \$20,000.00 to \$60,000.00; the language for the Trust is still in there and it will become a Trust that is funded by \$60,000.00 from surplus, including the language of "The project shall use low impact development techniques (such as porous pavement) to minimize the solution at Freese Pond and the Lamprey River Water Shed. The designs will be developed in consultation of the Conservation Commission and Planning Board".

MOTION: Vice Chairman Daley moved the School Budget's Article-4 as Amended at the Deliberative Session.

SECONDED: Liz Murphy seconded the Motion.

School Board Representative, Bonnie Beaubien stated that Don Gorman did the research because of the recommendation by the MBC for it to be done all in one year. She added that at the Deliberative Session a recommendation was made to be very careful on how it is done and to take into consideration the conservation of the Lamprey River Shed, Freese Pond and the sensitivity of that area, so the voters voted that amendment in. She believes this amendment would possibly create a higher cost. She added that the School Board hasn't met since the Deliberative Session to discuss this, but the voters have indicated that they would up the amount to \$60,000.00 from surplus. However, they did not choose to revisit it after listening to the Conservation or the concerns about the watershed going up even higher.

Chairman Spillane does not recommend the language of the Trust. Harriet Cady said she would not like it to impact the environment. She disagrees that the Town has spoken, as it was the special interest and a few others that showed up to speak at the meeting. She feels that when the word gets out to the rest of the Town that now certain people have added cost to this, it will delay the paving. Liz Murphy does not feel it is ready to be done this year.

School Board Representative, Don Gorman objected to what happened Saturday; the use of the word "shall" in the development techniques. He believes not many will go to the Conservation Commission & the Planning Board meetings, so if there is consultation, he would suggest the Conservation take their money, do their studies and then bring the information to the School Board to look at their suggestions. He stated that he has been working closely with Fred McGarry of the Planning Board and they are way under the 100,000 square feet that is required for the State to get involved. He added that they are way over the 250 foot minimum for the Shoreline Protection Act and that he has been in consultation with Pike Industries on what they can and cannot do. He spent many hours to get a good ballpark on this cost; it can be paved after the underground work is done and striped from somewhere between \$55,000.00 and \$60,000.00. He believes that using porous paving will double or triple the cost. He explained that using a porous paving would require digging up the whole parking lot about 2 to 3 feet deep, putting in a layer of 8 inches of crush stone, put in 8 to 12 inches of porous sand, put in another 4 to 6 inches of pea stone, put in the gravel or finish grade and then pour in the asphalt (which is twice the cost of regular asphalt used on the street). He said this is basically building a septic system under the parking lot and that was not the intention of the School Board. The School Board had no intention to start putting the pavement down next week; they have till the middle of the summer to consult with the Conservation Commission and Planning Board to make sure this is done right. He said a 3 or 4 foot apron of gravel around the paved area will take part of the run off that is there. He added that Mr. McGarry is estimating that the run off will be approximately 35% more than what they are having now. He confirmed they are trying to prevent wear and tear on the school, carpets, the machinery, as well as the way they are sweeping the sand out of the building.

Mr. Gorman does not recommend the warrant as it reads now and asked for another year to do all the impact studies. Maureen Mann asked Mr. Gorman if he has any estimates showing that it would actually cost much more. Mr. Gorman clarified that he said if they are required to use porous paving it would double or triple the cost and he confirmed that it was Pike Industries that said it may be twice or three times the amount of money. He added that he feels that the people will go and vote \$60,000.00, believing they are going to get the paved area and stripping up at the School, but with these restrictions placed on them, he does not know what they are going to get.

Mrs. Beaubien confirmed that it still says "sum up to \$60,000.00 from surplus, toward this purpose..." and that it is still listed as a Trust. Chairman Spillane confirmed that the final version said to create an expendable trust and it does not have to be done in one year.

Mrs. Cady said that the people that didn't attend the meeting won't understand what has happened. She did not support it being put in a Trust to be done over a period of years or to add to the \$60,000.00 cost estimated from Pike. Mrs. Mann said she recalled there was an actual vote at the meeting on Saturday, specifically on the issue to remove this being a Trust and to make it expendable in one year. She said those who chose to attend the meeting chose to vote for an expendable trust, rather than to spend it in one year and she doesn't think that people should be unaware of that, as that was what the vote was.

Chairman Spillane confirmed that he made a Motion to remove the language and it was voted down. He said that he heard concern that maybe \$60,000.00 wasn't enough.

VOTE: Chairman Spillane called for the Vote to approve the School Board's Warrant Article-4 as Amended.

It was a Vote of 0 in Favor, 7 Opposed and 2 Abstentions. The Article will read that the MBC does not recommend approval.

Citizen's Comments:

Maureen Mann is concerned that there are people in the room who really pushed for SB2, as they felt these people were the voices. She said if people choose not to show up to the Deliberative Session, how could they say that essentially Deliberative Sessions are stacked. She added that the idea of SB2 was a smaller group of special interest people could control the meeting, rather than having 400 people hammering it out. She said if it is a small group that shows up, those are the people you have to listen to and if people who do not show up get incorrect information from someone else that is really no one's concern.

Adjourned:

6:45pm

MOTION: Selectman Barry made a Motion to adjourn.

SECONDED: Vice Chairman Daley seconded the Motion.

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

The February 11, 2010 meeting is adjourned.

*The Minutes were Recorded, Transcribed and Respectfully Submitted by Nese Farrell, Recording Secretary.
Pending Approval by the Municipal Budget Committee*