

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
May 26, 2020, 2020
MINUTES**

Call to Order

Present: Andrew Robertson, Chairman; Richard Pitman, Vice Chairman. Fred McGarry, Cindy McHugh, Alden Dill, Selectpersons.

5:30 pm – Chairman Robertson called the meeting to order and stated that he was going to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II(c)

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II(c) - Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant.

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman Robertson stated that the Board had come out of the non-public session and has asked a member to make a motion to seal the minutes as no action was taken in the non-public session.

Motion: Vice Chairman moves to seal the minutes of the non-public session

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman Robertson stated that at this time they would get back to their regular agenda.

The first order of business is the opening of bids for roadside mowing, winter sand, paving, road reconstruction, town – diesel fuel, heating oil and propane.

The chairman asked the town administrator if they had bids to which he replied that they had at least one bid for each RFP that was posted.

Chairman Robertson asked to start with roadside mowing.

Roadside Mowing:

Mr. Harrington stated that they had one bid, excuse him, two bids.

Talco Enterprises and the attached bid includes a quote for a long reach boom mower with a 60" rotary cutter head and a six-foot, heavy duty, flail mower to work in tandem, effectively and efficiently to complete.

Bid is for \$8,875.00

Fieldworks of NH out of Bradford.

Bid is for \$14,420.00

Chairman Robertson asked what action the Board wished to take in regard to these two bids? Is this something that they want to refer for consideration or do they want to go with the low number?

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to go with Talco Enterprises

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion: The vice chairman stated that they were the ones that did it last year and did a great job. Selectman Dill also stated that he thought that they did a good job last year and was added by the chairman that they are \$6,000.00 cheaper.

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Mr. Harrington stated that he had two bids for winter sand.

Northeast Earth Mechanics –

Winter screened sand - \$11.48 per ton or \$14.35 per cubic yard.

Merrill Construction, Loudon, NH –

Winter screened sand \$11.44 per ton, delivered

Chairman Robertson asked the Board what their pleasure was as to whether they wanted to refer it to the highway agent or did they want to make a decision this evening?

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that they had Earth last year and he stated that many times he was told that the quality of it as being **(couldn't understand)**.

Chairman Robertson stated that they have had some difficulty in the past when they didn't use Earth because the sand wouldn't flow through the sand spreaders very well and he knew that this was one of the reasons that they had used Earth in the past.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to award the winter sand contract with Northeast Earth Mechanics

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Mr. Harrington stated that he had one bid for paving and that was from R&D Paving, Franklin, NH. He stated that they are dealing with the new bid schedule this year so if you bear with him as there is:

Schedule A – base bid to furnish and apply emulsion, unit price \$5.50 and the extension total price is \$3,382.50

Selectman McGarry suggested that Mr. Harrington just go to the bottom line of the Schedule A base bid.

Mr. Harrington stated that the bottom line of the Schedule A Base Bid is \$276,129.50.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if this was for the linear footage for the roads that the Select Board gave to bid which was grind and everything. He asked Selectman McGarry if he had looked at it and was depending on him.

Selectman McGarry asked what the Schedule B price was to which Mr. Harrington stated that it was \$61,547.15.

Chairman Robertson asked the Board what their pleasure was as to whether they wanted to take a look at this before they move and noted to the Board that they have used R&D in the past, including last year.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked the chairman how the amount of the bid compared to what had been budgeted?

Chairman Robertson stated that he did not have that in front of him and didn't know if the town administrator did.

Mr. Harrington stated that the amount in the budget was \$257,000.00 for hot top and paving.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that they might have to take from somewhere else and bend on this paving bid. He also stated that maybe Selectman McGarry could discuss this with Andy and John after the meeting.

Chairman Robertson stated that they didn't have to award the bid at this meeting. They could certainly take this under advisement and move forward.

Selectman Dill added that especially, with the pavement prices dropping, it would be nice to get a decent deal here.

Mr. Harrington asked if they were going to table the decision on that for now to which the chairman stated that they were so that they could take a look at it and discuss what they might be able to do.

Next bid was for road reconstruction. Chairman Robertson asked if that was included in the previous bid to which the town administrator stated that it was not as was a separate bid.

Mr. Harrington stated that he had three bids on that.

Deerfield Sand and Gravel

¾" crushed gravel - \$8.35 per ton self-pickup	Delivered - \$11.10 per ton
1-1/2" crushed gravel - \$8.25 per ton self-pickup	Delivered - \$11.00 per ton
3" minus - \$8.10 per ton self-pickup	Delivered - \$10.85 per ton
¾" crushed stone - \$11.40 per ton self-pickup	Delivered - \$13.40 per ton
1-1/2" crushed stone - \$11.00 per ton self-pickup	Delivered - \$13.00 per ton
6" minus crush - \$10.50 per ton self-pickup	Delivered - \$12.50 per ton

Northeast Earth Mechanics

1-1/2" processed gravel	Delivered - \$14.00 per ton
¾" processed gravel	Delivered - \$14.68 per ton
3" minus bank run gravel	Delivered - \$11.79 per ton
¾" stone	Delivered - \$21.86 per ton
1-1/2" stone	Delivered - \$21.85 per ton
6" erosion stone	Delivered - \$21.85 per ton

S. L. Merrill, Loudon, NH

1-1/2" processed gravel - \$8.00 per ton self-pickup	Delivered - \$13.50 per ton
¾" processed gravel - \$9.75 per ton self-pickup	Delivered - \$15.25 per ton
3" minus bank run gravel - \$7.00 per ton self-pickup	Delivered - \$12.50 per ton
¾" crushed stone - \$11.75 per ton self-pickup	Delivered - \$17.25 per ton
1-1/2" crushed stone - \$11.75 per ton self-pickup	Delivered - \$17.25 per ton
6" erosion stone - \$11.50 per ton self-pickup	Delivered - \$17.00 per ton

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if Mr. Harrington if he could do a graph of these prices to which he stated that he would do and send it out to the board.

Selectman Dill stated that the first question that he had was how often would they be picking up verses delivered and logically, how much could they pick up in Loudon as the town is not running huge trucks. Vice Chairman Pitman stated that they wouldn't be picking up anything from there.

The chairman stated that in fact, he had some notes from last year and the previous highway agent had advised them that they used last year and he thought the year before, Rollins Sand and Gravel and the town did about 95 percent pickup in their own trucks from the local supplier.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that they could spell that out and also look at last year's information.

Chairman Robertson asked Mr. Harrington to graph the pricing and the Board could make a decision at another time.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated to Mr. Harrington that Suzanne Steel could not get into the meeting and could he let her in.

Town Diesel Fuel – two bids

Rymes Heating Oil, Concord, NH (based on approximately 8,000 gallons of off-road diesel fuel). They are offering 28 cents over Sprague Energy's, Newington, NH premium diesel costs on the day of delivery. An example of this price today (which was dated May 21st, 2020) is \$1.00.4114 per gallon.

Brocko Oil, Haverhill, MA (based on approximately 8,000 gallons of diesel fuel). They are offering a fixed price of \$1.84.8488 per gallon for the 2020/2021 heating season.

Chairman Robertson asked what the Board's pleasure was in regards to diesel.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to go with Rymes bid as presented for diesel at .28 over rack
Second: Selectwoman McHugh
Discussion: Selectman Dill stated that he kind of liked the idea of the fixed price as no one knew where this was going and they could do pretty well on that.
Vote: Yea 3, Nay 1, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Heating Oil – two bids

Rymes – This bid is based on approximately 27,000 of Number 2 fuel oil and would like to offer a fixed price of \$1.55.9 per gallon for the 2020/2021 heating season. This would begin September 1st and expire May 31st, 2021.

Brocko Oil, Haverhill, MA – Based on the approximate use of 27,000 gallons of Number 2 heating oil, they would like to offer a fixed price of \$1.64.28 per gallon. This agreement begins June 1st and expires May 31, 2021.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to award the bid to Rymes for the fixed price of \$1.55.9 per gallon for the 2020/2021 season as presented
Second: Selectwoman McHugh
Discussion:
Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Propane Gas – one bid

Rymes Propane – based on approximately 11,000 gallons of propane, they would like to offer a fixed price of \$0.96 per gallon for the 2020/2021 heating season.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to award the propane bid to Rymes Oil and Propane for the fixed price of \$0.96 per gallon
Second: Selectwoman McHugh
Discussion:
Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

That takes care of the bid opening process. Mr. Harrington will get them a grid regarding the items that they requested and can take those up at a later date.

Longevity Award – Carl Oehler – 20 years

Moving along, Chairman Robertson stated that they had a longevity award for Carl Oehler of the Highway Department who has been with them for twenty years. Normally they would all stand up and invite Carl to the table and give him a certificate and a bonus.

He didn't know if Carl was with them this evening and if he was, they would like to thank him very much for his two decades of service. If you aren't, they will certainly make arrangements to get both his check and his plaque to him.

Members of the Board thanked Carl.

Suzanne Steel – Harvey Road

Chairman Robertson thought that Ms. Steel wanted to talk to the select board about Harvey Road, specifically, the work that was recently done by the highway department there. He is hoping that everyone had a chance to read her letter which Mr. Harrington had emailed to them. They got it fairly late but he believes everyone had it today.

With that, Chairman Robertson turned the floor over to Ms. Steel.

She thanked the Board and stated that she was going to read the letter and asked if they wanted her to do that to put it in the minutes?

Chairman Robertson stated that she could certainly do that or they could include the written copy that they received into the minutes as well as an addendum.

There was some work that was done on their road and she thought that some of the things that she wanted to say that the road work that was done, she thought it concerned her and concerned a number of other people on the road and off of Harvey Road as well.

First, she guessed she would say that she didn't know why it was decided to have this work done on their road. The road seemed to be, first of all, in good shape. It was passable and she didn't know that there were any issues with the road for causing the widening to be done.

What she has noticed, since the roadwork, is that the speed has definitely increased on the road and in fact, walking the road even today, the grading that was done, still hasn't packed in the way it usually used to do. It is still very gravelly and specially further down towards the squeeze, it is very loose on the sides of the road so it concerns her now that there may be more issues or more potential risks happening if people are pulling off to that side and she just didn't know why that was done.

She shared information about potential ways that they might discuss things before these types of things are being done on their scenic roads and she is concerned for other scenic roads in our town that our new road agent might just do changes without any notice.

Chairman Robertson stated that he didn't want to interrupt her but he wanted to make it fairly clear that until this work was completed, the Board of Selectmen was not aware that this project was being undertaken and he thought that he spoke for all of them, that they have some concerns too about that sort of project taking place without any indication to the Board and it is something that they will be addressing moving forward.

Obviously, there is some concern. This is a scenic road. It was accepted back when it was Mountain Ave. as a scenic road which was before it was Harvey Road but the Board of Selectmen always have concern.

He did last week, after he went to the transfer station, he did take a ride down the road to see what had been going on there because he had seen a town truck come out of the end of it with a load of rocks.

It did not appear that trees had been removed or stone walls had been moved or damaged which are two important criteria with regard to a scenic road as I am sure you are aware and he knew that at least one other selectman has walked the road, may have walked it with you or talked with you regarding the work. It is something that the select board is concerned about and will be addressing.

Unfortunately, as she noted in her letter, there is not much they can do about rock and ledge that has been taken away at this stage of the game but they believe that she is right and that they need to have much better communication going forward when they are undertaking this kind of project and he thought that the rest of the board is in agreement with him or speak up if you are not if they have something else that they would like to share with Suzanne.

Ms. Steel stated that she had one other quick point and of course, open it up to discussion. There was grading done as well or after the fact, after the rock was blasted and there was widening of the road but the whole road itself was graded again and usually she has called Carl and the others in the highway department and thank them every time they grade the road because they have done such a great job.

This time she did not call because after over two weeks out, is still difficult to walk on. The road was in great shape prior to this grading and she didn't know why they also chose to grade the road at the time.

Chairman Robertson stated that the Board certainly understands her concerns. They will be talking about this with the highway agent as well but in particular with regard to scenic roads. They are very interested in not just pushing ahead with projects without some discussion and as sure she is aware, if they were typically going to change a scenic road or do much of anything other than remove trees for emergency purposes, you would have a public hearing and he thought that it was certainly criteria that they would be looking to have present.

Someone from the call asked if there was the ability to have any other comments from the floor regarding this after Suzanne was done.

Chairman Robertson stated that the appointment was with Suzanne and he didn't know how the Board felt about taking public comment at this point.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that it would be great as long as they keep it under control.

Chairman Robertson stated that they would be happy to take comments from Mr. Berglund.

Eric Berglund

Mr. Berglund comments to the chairman that he was going to say something like that with just what the law is in regard to scenic roads which are the town and the citizen's very special status and protection and that's why they have these rules which require that the planning board approve after they have been approached by the Board of Selectmen or whoever is going to be doing that, to approve of any work that is going to be done.

What they have ended up with is something that happened a couple of years ago on Perry Road. The same thing happened. Eversource was over there doing some kind of maintenance work and they caught them, it was discovered. He thought that somebody noted the work being done and there was a resolution to somehow compensate and that's why they have these signs that say that they are scenic roads now on all of them in town.

In this case, he thought it was very serious because they have really destroyed the scenic value and wonder of this road. It's ruined and he thought that they could not just sit there. He was not suggesting that they bring a boulder in and place it but he thought that it was going to take some thinking and some thoughtful, creative thought about what they could do there because they can't let this go. This is a very important road for everybody in town, not just the people living on it.

If you look in the statute, there is a violation and a penalty brought out in the RSAs so that's his feeling. They couldn't just say that they made a mistake and they have to go on to the next one. They can't do that.

In that regard, going on to the next one, what organization is responsible to oversee and protect scenic roads? They have some responsibility with the planning board but they have to be notified. Somebody has to ask the question and he is surprised that our road agent was not tuned into this.

In his speech before as a candidate, he talked about all his years living in town, as a person who knew everything about everything, and how did he miss this? This is really bad.

He thought that they needed to think about what organization, maybe it's the Heritage organization, he didn't know what they do but actually, in a way, everybody should be tuned into this so that they can all be cognizant of situations that are going down the wrong way and stopping it before it goes as far as this one did.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that when something major with what was done, it shouldn't have been done to begin with, it should have public input and that would have stopped it.

Mr. Berglund agreed. He stated that he was absolutely right. The letters that he has seen. He has seen Suzanne's and Barbara and Rob Mathews were very eloquent with comments. Take a look and read it and see what, this is really important to this town, not just this road, all scenic roads.

Chairman Robertson stated that he agreed with him absolutely Eric and he didn't want to cut him short but because he recognized him, he does what to see if other folks want to comment and Mr. Berglund agreed that was fine.

Chairman Robertson asked if anyone else other than Suzanne want to comment on the road?

(Unknown person speaking, Chairman Robertson referred to him as "Tom")

I frequently walk and ride my bike through Harvey Road and it was in terrific condition until they worked on it. All that he could just say that this is an abuse of the public money being used to repair or alter our road that didn't need altering and there is plenty of work to be done on roads that need it and he would just like the select board do what they can to hold the road agent accountable and he strongly recommends that they put a motion in for the next year to make it an appointed, the next opportunity, it won't be next year, but their next opportunity that it be an appointed position so that they have more direct control over what happens with that money and what happens in the future in the long run to keep this town as they envision it for the future.

Chairman Robertson stated that he didn't want to drag this out particularly long. He thought that the point had been made and he knew that the Board is empathetic to the concerns that have been brought up there.

If there is anyone else that has some brief comments, he would certainly recognize them as they have recognized others. They still have a lengthy amount of business to take care of as well.

Dwight Barnes

Thanks for taking this up. Thanks to Suzanne for leading the charge here and he supports the comments from her and Eric and Tom as well.

If they are going to have a scenic road designation, they need to pay attention to it otherwise why do they have those nice signs. Let's treat it with respect and it sounds like they are going to get on the right track with this so he appreciates it.

Chairman Robertson stated that he wanted to reiterate that the concerns have been definitely heard. This was not a project that was discussed with the Board of Selectmen or the Planning Board before it was started or during or when it was finished.

They will be moving forward in an effort to make sure that this kind of thing does not happen again.

With that said, he was going to go back to Suzanne. This was actually her appointment with the Board so if she was still with them Suzanne, he didn't know if she had anything to say.

Ms. Steel stated that she was still with them and she also sees Maureen Quinn on the line and she knew that Maureen also alerted her, even though she had already started, so she would like to throw it over to her if she has a comment.

Chairman Robertson stated that he would be happy to recognize Maureen if she has any comments that she would like to make.

Maureen Quinn

Ms. Quinn thanked both Ms. Steel and the chairman and stated that she was going to hold off as she knew that they were trying to get back to their original agenda items but she just wanted to thank the Board for taking this issue seriously. She was absolutely devastated running the road and seeing it widened far beyond what a dirt road in Deerfield that is designated as a Scenic Road needs to be and the ledge being chopped away. It was just absolutely heartbreaking and she appreciates the Board taking this seriously and hopefully they can prevent it from happening again on another scenic road.

Chairman Robertson stated that this was certainly their intent and would thank Ms. Steel for bringing it to their attention in the manner that she has and with such thoroughness.

Ms. Steel stated that she just wanted to let them know that she is grateful as all of them are and any other comments that they need from her, she is happy to connect to them but again, thank you for this time, she appreciates it.

Chairman Robertson thanked them all for their comments and they were appreciated.

That said, bear with him, he is going to move to his regular meeting agenda and he has neglected to put these items in order on his other computer screen here so not to have to print everything out but the first order of business would be the minutes.

Regular Business:

Review of Outstanding Minutes of May 11, 2020

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to approve the minutes of May 11, 2020

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Accounts Payable – May 18, 2020 - \$51,922.90

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the Accounts Payable for May 18, 2020 in the amount of \$51,922.90

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion: Vice Chairman Pitman asked if the \$9,700.00 is still not in there, correct? Both the chairman and the town administrator stated that it was not.

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Payroll Manifest for week ending May 13, 2020 - \$77,282.96 (gross), \$51,873.44

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the Payroll Manifest for the week ending May 13, 2020 as presented

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman Robertson stated that they had an oath statement from Angela Hotaling who has agreed to be the Deputy Town Treasurer, serving with Mrs. Cady. This was Mrs. Cady's recommendation for appointment and he would entertain a motion to sign the oath form.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve signing the oath form for Angela Hotaling

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion: Vice Chairman Pitman remarked that it was a good choice. The chairman would note that his familiarity with Ms. Hotaling on the Municipal Budget Committee and he knew that the rest of them as well. She is certainly very well qualified for the position and for stepping up and helping Mrs. Cady.

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman Robertson stated that they had a letter that Avatar had requested that the Board send Eversource. He thought that they probably should send a similar letter to the other power companies that provide service and have utility property in Deerfield but the letter they have with them this evening is directed at Eversource and he could use a motion to approve and sign.

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to approve the letter to be signed and sent to Eversource

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion: The chairman noted that this is regard to the reevaluation of utility properties in Deerfield

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Next up from the chairman, they had the final Pinard Waste Agreement that they held off on at the last meeting so Mr. Harrington could see if he could negotiate a better deal for them. He didn't know if people had a chance to do that.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if did any better and Mr. Harrington stated that he got clarification but the prices did not change. They are still in a much better situation with Pinard than they were with Waste Management.

Chairman Robertson stated that he didn't know what the Board's pleasure was? Basically, they have no monthly rental charge but the service charges, they have \$245.00 for 1-8 cubic yard container at 8 Raymond Road. They have a \$125.00 charge for 1-8 cubic yard container for cardboard only at 8 Raymond Road and they have a \$245.00 monthly service charge for an 8 cubic yard container at 10 Church Street, that being the town hall.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that the one at the town hall seemed ridiculous. Selectman Dill thought that the highway garage used it and the vice chairman asked if they did use it.

Mr. Harrington stated that he thought that the Highway Department uses it and Selectwoman McHugh stated that the fire department uses that one as well and Mr. Harrington added that every time they rent the town hall, it is a place for people who rent it to throw their garbage as well.

Vice Chairman stated that that is what he didn't know and they were picking up that subsidy but if the fire and the town uses it, then it is all right.

Chairman Robertson stated that he would entertain a motion to approve the new contract with Pinard for those three dumpsters.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked how long the contracts were for. Were they for a year?

Mr. Harrington stated that it was a three-year contract but it does not automatically renew. As soon as they reach the third year, it goes to a month to month. That is something that he negotiated so that they would have an opportunity to look at the pricing again.

Vice Chairman stated that they were locked in for three years to which Mr. Harrington stated that they were.

Mr. Harrington stated that as it was explained to him, that was the only way that they could keep their month to month rent as low as it is. If they go with a less than three years, the price jumps dramatically.

Selectman Dill asked how dramatically?

Mr. Harrington stated that he didn't have those particular numbers for him but it does go up substantially. What it basically does is that it breaks out the costs over three years as opposed to only a year or two years.

Chairman Robertson what the Board's pleasure was. Did they want to get other options or did they want to move on this contract? He asked Mr. Harrington when their current contract ran out to which it was answered June 1.

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to approve the Pinard contract as presented

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion: Chairman Robertson noted that these only need to be signed by the chairman. There is no need for five signatures.

Selectman Dill stated that they didn't get a whole bunch of companies breaking down the door on this to which Mr. Harrington stated that it was correct and the fact that they could get a contract that could automatically renew and it's a local company that they could actually talk to, is a big plus. They have been working with Veasey Park for many, many years without incident.

Selectman Dill noted that he didn't like the three-year part of it. He thought that this is what is sticking everybody.

Mr. Harrington added that Waste Management would have been a three-year one as well. It seems to be standard in order to keep the price down per month.

Mr. Harrington stated that Selectwoman McHugh has dropped off again so the vote will only be three. She is at a fire site he believed and her connection is spotty. That's why she keeps dropping off.

Vote: Yea 3, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Next up from the Chairman, they have the Municipal Association recommendation letter for town elected and appointed folks who can contact the legal people at the NH Municipal Association directly. He thought that they all had a chance to review the list.

The only change that he is aware of is for some reason they had not included the town clerk in the last few authorizations and he knew that she had been interested in getting on the list and he noted that he saw no reason why they shouldn't have the town clerk on there as someone who can contact legal directly. He didn't know how the rest of the Board felt.

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to approve the letter to send to the NH Municipal Association for direct legal access

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman Robertson stated that they had the Cartographic Associates Incorporates Technology tax map maintenance fee of \$2,500.00. This is what enables them to keep the online, interactive map for all the property parcels in Deerfield. It is connected to the tax cards as well. This is the annual fee.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the annual maintenance fee for Cartographic Associates Incorporates Technology

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman Robertson stated that before they moved onto Assessing, he had a note and he didn't know if Nick was still with them, he completely forgot about plugging him in.

Mr. Harrington asked if he was on the phone to which he still was.

Chairman Robertson stated that he was sorry that he kept him waiting so long as he had told John that he would plug Nick in the start of the meeting and they had a little bit of an unusual start to the meeting and he will wasn't able to do that.

The floor was Nick's. They knew that he wanted to talk to the Board.

Mr. Lawrence stated that it wasn't a problem and that he just wanted to go over one major recommendation for Deerfield Parks and Recreation which is the mission on how to proceed with the summer camp in their department right now.

After spending quite a few hours formulating a couple of feasible options for them to proceed, he came up with two things which the Commission voted unanimously on.

The first one was to cancel summer camp outright but implement an alternate program for essential families that would need the care regardless.

The second option to which they voted in favor of for recommending forwarding to the Board of Selectmen to vote on was to actually cancel without an alternate program.

The main reason for the recommendation was with Option 1, there was really no way to guarantee even with all the precautions they took for the safety of the campers and their families. The recommendation was chiefly built off of.

With that, they are recommending that they do not hold summer camp this summer and they just wanted the Board's blessing to move forward that way.

Chairman Robertson stated that he didn't know what the Board's feelings were. To himself, it sounds like a sound recommendation and they have typically worked with the Commission in regards to their recommendations. He didn't know how other folks felt.

Selectman McGarry asked if they got a recommendation from Ms. Greig?

Mr. Harrington stated that she was in agreement.

Chairman Robertson asked if the Board was generally comfortable with the Parks and Rec Commission's recommendation to which they were.

Chairman Robertson stated to Mr. Lawrence that they have the Board's blessing and that they could move forward.

Mr. Lawrence thanked the Board for that and while he had the Board, he had one other thing too.

As guidance came out for youth sports, they will be looking towards, they haven't quite given up on baseball or softball season yet but with the new guidance from the State of New Hampshire, they were hoping to move forward, at least when they have told them that it is safe to do along the guide lines which at this time they are starting to implement training sessions and practicing for those teams that are waiting. It's a phased approach and this is the first phase of it.

It won't include competition or games as of this point. They are waiting for more before they recommend that but they are hoping to use the ball fields and also for families too, it was part of their discussion at the last Commission meeting was, to possibly have the fields put out on a reservation basis for families that would like to use them in controlled groups, no more than 10.

So, either way, it was by reservation or assigning teams practice times just so that they can get out on the field and get ready for any possible season that they might have. They would have to adhere to all the guidelines that the State of New Hampshire has put forward.

They are also waiting to hear from Primex, on their webinar too so they wouldn't do anything until that happens but they were looking for the blessing for the field usage going forward under those guidelines as well.

Just to note, it would not include the playgrounds, they are going to stay away from them for a while.

Chairman Robertson stated that he didn't know about how the rest of the Board feels. He thought their general guidelines in regard to everything else has to please follow the state recommendations.

Selectman Dill stated that he knew that he had checked Nottingham the other day and they reopened fields for activities. They reopened playgrounds so he didn't know how Deerfield was looking at that.

He didn't know if Mr. Lawrence had talked about the playground situation at all and if they had recommendations on that?

Mr. Lawrence stated that everything that he is hearing regarding playgrounds right now, that is one of the last things that State, he didn't think that there has been any guidance regarding playgrounds just because of the nature of them and how they are so hands on, the germs spread as you are talking about kids that don't know any better so he believed that they wanted to stay away from playgrounds for the time being until they receive guidance from the State of New Hampshire as to how to proceed with those.

Selectman Dill remarked that it was a good point.

Chairman Robertson stated that unless he hears differently from the Board, he thought that their recommendation would be follow the state guidelines and certainly keep them apprised of any plans as they move forward.

Chairman Robertson asked if the Board had any other questions for Mr. Lawrence while they had him to which no one did.

Assessing Documents:

Chairman Robertson stated that the first thing that he would start with is that they have an abatement request for 7 Church Street. This is in the amount of \$3,226.16.

Vice Chairman Pitman and Selectman Dill stated that they thought that they had denied this one already.

Mr. Harrington stated that this one that the Board looked at but never acted upon. He thought that it was back up information for a different Church Street address. This is an entirely different abatement recommendation.

Chairman Robertson stated that the recommendation from Avatar, the changes that he noted in the documents that they had, reduced the assessment from \$454,900.00 to \$315,300.00 and he recommended the abatement on the \$139,600.00 difference. They have a fairly lengthy set of documentation why he felt that was appropriate. This is the five-unit office building, he believed owed by Kelly Properties.

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to approve the abatement for 7 Church Street

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman Robertson stated that he was going to jump to the other one that Vice Chairman Pitman mentioned and this is the 68 Oakdale Avenue Land Use/Change Tax Abatement request and they mistakenly, he mistakenly led the Board to believe that Avatar was recommending the abatement. They are not. They recommend that the abatement be denied.

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to deny the abatement for 68 Oakdale Avenue Realty Land Use/Change Tax

Second: Vice Chairman Pitman

Discussion: Chairman Robertson stated that again, Avatar had provided fairly significant documentation and backup as to why he felt that it should be denied.

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman Robertson stated that he was going to get back to the timber cuts. He stated that they didn't need motions on them legally but they are going to do just so they can sign the documentation.

The first timber cut request they had was for the Perron's, Map 414, Lot 67

Chairman Robertson asked Mr. Harrington if they were actually timber cut requests or levies to which Mr. Harrington stated that they were timber cuts with associated levies.

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to collect the timber tax levy in the amount of \$112.68 from the Perron's

Second: Selectman McGarry
Discussion:
Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Next is the report of timber cut for Crowley, Map 415, Lot 63 and 64

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to approve the collection of the timber tax levy of \$116.06
Second: Selectman McGarry
Discussion:
Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Another for the report of timber cut for Crowley, Map 415, Lot 65

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to approve the collection of the timber tax levy of \$1,418.07
Second: Selectman McGarry
Discussion:
Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Next is the report of timber cut for the Richardson's, Map 209, Lot 047

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the collection of the timber tax levy of \$539.58
Second: Selectman Dill
Discussion:
Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Last is the report of timber cut for the Bouchard's, Map 420, Lot 53

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to approve the collection of the timber tax levy of \$420.36
Second: Selectman McGarry
Discussion:
Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman Robertson took that back, there is one more change use/timber tax to levy.

Next is the report of timber cut for Katie Lima, Map 414, Lot 46, subdivision 2

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the collection of the timber tax levy of \$9,500.00
Second: Selectman Dill
Discussion: Vice Chairman Pitman asked what road that it was on and Mr. Harrington stated that it was on Woodcrest Drive.
Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman Robertson stated that he did have correspondence but he didn't know the specifics of the acronym, GOFERR, Corona Virus Relief Fund and Grant agreement and this is an agreement that the Board has to approve in order for the town to submit any COVID-19 related expenses to the state fund for reimbursement. He didn't know if folks had a chance to review that and if they wanted to make a motion to adopt the agreement or not.

Mr. Harrington stated that the acronym stands for the "Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery".

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to sign the GOFERR grant agreement
Second: Selectman Dill
Discussion:
Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman Robertson asked if anyone was aware if he was missing something and Mr. Harrington stated that he was taking a look and stated that he believed that he had gotten everything.

Town Administrator's Report:

Mr. Harrington stated that once again this year, Wheelabrator has been generous to the Town of Deerfield and once again funded the Community Partnership Grant for 2020 in the amount of \$1,500.00.

The past two years it has been \$2,000.00 but due to cutbacks with the corona virus, they dropped the amount of the grant by \$500.00 and they anticipate having it back up to \$2,000.00 next year.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked where that money went.

Mr. Harrington stated that it is held in an escrow fund and each year when there are projects that come up that they need coverage for and the last time he used it; it was to offset the costs for the gazebo roof. There was not enough in the trust fund that was set up for that so he used some of those funds to pay the balance of that cost.

The funds are basically for

At this time, during the virtual meeting, there was an interruption and the meeting ended without a vote to adjourn by the Board.

Next Meeting: Monday, June 8, 2020 at 5:30 pm

*The Minutes were transcribed and respectfully submitted by Dianne L. Kimball, Recording Secretary
Pending approval by the Board of Selectmen*