

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
June 8, 2020  
MINUTES**

**Call to Order**

5:30 pm – Chairman Robertson called the meeting to order

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

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

No pledge as they are still doing ZOOM meetings.

5:30 – Non-Public Session

Chairman Robertson asked for a motion for a non-public session under RSA 91-A3, II

**Motion:** Vice Chairman Pitman moves to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A3, II

**Second:** Selectman McGarry

**Discussion:**

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

Board back in session and the chairman asked for a motion to seal the minutes of the non-public session stating that no action was taken during the non-public session

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

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

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

**Highway Department – Steve Rollins**

Mr. Rollins stated that the reason that he was calling in tonight was about the overlay that they planned on doing and some of it is on a scenic road and obviously before they did the overlay he would like to do some ditching and tree cutting in order to do the ditches.

He thought that this was his first step to talk to the Board and go from there, correct?

Chairman Robertson stated that yes it was Steve and he stated that he had talked with John and himself a little bit and they need to have a public hearing and he believed that it should be held by the Planning Board and he asked Mr. Harrington if he was able to post that.

The chairman stated that he had talked with Mr. Harrington on this and he believed that he had to have 10 clear days to do that.

Mr. Harrington stated that he was working with Jane Boucher and the Planning Board trying to get a date. They are trying to set up their meeting so that it can be held in public via ZOOM so as soon as he has a date, he can post it.

Chairman Robertson stated that the piece of road that Steve was talking about is on Candia Road. It would be northeast of Barbara Matthews property and he thought that they were able to mark some of the trees. There is some dead ash in there and some other broken off trees that need to be removed.

Mr. Rollins stated that the dead trees have an "X" on them and there are some with "dots" on the bottom on them which are trees that are not necessarily dead but they are in the ditch. Everything that has an X on it is trees that Carl felt that they would have an issue with.

Chairman Robertson stated that it looked like all the trees were within the right-of-way, within the stone walls for the most part and anyone that has been over that piece of road, that couple of hundred yards, and you don't have go

very far on that couple of hundred yards before you realize that something needs to be done in there to which Mr. Rollins agreed.

Chairman Robertson stated that they would have to proceed with the Planning Board public meeting before they do anything to which Mr. Rollins stated that he understood that.

Mr. Rollins stated that he thought that he had to have a meeting with the Board first before he could go to the Planning Board.

Selectman Dill asked how the Planning Board, if they have had public meetings since they have gone into this new format to which Selectman McGarry answered that they have not and Mr. Harrington stated that the Planning Board has had one, onsite meeting but that he has talked to Pete Schibbelhute, the Planning Board chair and Sylvia from Southern NH, she is actually going to meet with him tomorrow morning to do a dry run on their potential ZOOM meeting at the end of the month and if that works out well, their plan is to meet on Wednesday, the 24th which is plenty of time to post for the public hearing.

Chairman Robertson stated that while they had Mr. Rollins there, he knew that he wasn't able to attend but he was in on a Southern NH Planning conference call the other day and he thought that everyone had a chance to look at the information they provided too and that was exactly what he was looking for in regard to the information that they provided and he didn't know if Mr. Rollins had thoughts or Board members had questions for Steve as to how they might proceed from here.

Mr. Rollins stated that he thought that it would be a helpful piece of paper and it is nice to have someone else's opinion.

Chairman Robertson stated that it would help in prioritizing and while he is making the decisions that he is, while the Board is encouraging him to make decisions, they have some backup they could use.

Selectman Dill stated that basically they have the Cadillac solution of fix every road so that they would have a bottom-line number. They are going to have a solution of continue doing what they are doing and then they are going to have a middle ground solution.

The roads that have heavily traveled, getting them up to a much better condition.

Mr. Rollins stated that this was the ten-year master plan and the chairman added that he liked the budgeting background, projecting how he might budget in coming years which will be helpful.

Selectman Dill stated that other than that, they weren't surprised at which sections of road were bad.

He continued that also they asked about the town's road management practices. Some of them are a little different than the town is doing and they also had to make sure that it was things that they could handle as well. They should be sending it out in the next few days.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked Mr. Rollins how things were going to which he answered he thought it was going well.

Chairman Robertson stated that he knew that that hadn't been able to get back to him on this but he didn't know if Mr. Rollins had gotten a copy of the rental agreement that they had used with the prior road agent. He knew that Mr. Harrington had given him a copy of the highway agent job description.

Mr. Rollins stated that he had gotten a copy of the rental agreement for his loader but he was not looking to rent equipment by the month unless the town needed to but the thing that was in question was the hammer and including himself, he is the fourth road agent that he has hammered for and billed the same way which was how it was always hired and that was how it was always done.

Chairman Robertson stated that it never caught their attention until he was the actual road agent. That was what did it.

He continued if the need arises for further rental equipment, they could certainly revisit that. He thought that it was important for both Mr. Rollins and for them as a Board to have some sort of agreement in place should they get in a position to lease or rent equipment from him.

Mr. Rollins stated that this was fine and he would give them a price list and the chairman stated that he appreciated that.

The chairman asked the Board if they had any other questions while they had him there?

Selectman Dill asked Mr. Rollins what they were working on right now?

Mr. Rollins stated that today they were working on some trees, dead trees on the side of the road, some brush as well as some maintenance stuff. Last week it was potholes and permanent patch. It is just chasing their tails.

Chairman Robertson stated that it was burn it until they plow and asked if Mr. Rollins had any questions to which he didn't. The chairman thanked him and they would be talking about paving and road reconstruction bids later on in the meeting under unfinished business. They will be working on that a little bit later.

### **Travis McCoy – Veasey Park Commission**

Chairman Robertson stated that he hoped that everyone had a chance to read the recommendation letter that Travis and the Commission forwarded to them earlier.

Mr. McCoy stated that he was on the line.

Chairman Robertson stated that he appreciated him being there. What he would like, if Mr. McCoy was able, you certainly don't need to read the recommendation letter but if he could highlight the recommendation and the concerns of the park commission and he thought that they should also probably get that letter, if he could, onto the website as a public document so that people understand what they were talking about after this is said and done to which Mr. McCoy stated that he would be happy to.

Mr. McCoy stated that obviously, as a commission, they struggled with this decision. They came to the fact that regardless to anyone's personal feelings or the ability of any one individual on the committee to police themselves, it's more about the logistics of mitigating the impact of the situation on the community.

They spent a lot of time trying to get a picture of what the season would look like if they opened under the guidelines. There is a substantial concern regarding enforcement of any of the new social distancing guidelines or other restrictions that would be put in place such as limiting capacity, limiting time that could be spent at the beach.

It has always been a struggle to enforce park rules. They know with all that is going on there is going to be a lot of new challenges that the staff would have to try and handle on their own and it seems unreasonable to expect the staff to be able to handle those situations without some sort of help from either the authorities or the commissioners themselves.

As far as geographical space limitations, they did go down and measure it out and they found that they would be limited to probably twelve, a dozen or so safe distance locations with walkways in between. In looking at it, it would be 12 to 15 families or they would be fitting 12 to 15 individuals with those spots filled up and would have to start to turn people away.

Obviously, safety is a concern. They couldn't see how the lifeguards would be able to preform their duties and still limit their exposure and limit the exposure to others.

Based on the information that they had, and the input that they have been given, it is their opinion that the park should remain closed for the remainder of the season. They feel that it parallels with the playground closures and the cancellation of the summer programs. They feel that it is the right thing to do.

Chairman Robertson thought that the Board had read the recommendation and he appreciated the rationale that they put into this recommendation. It was very well written. Very clear. What their thought process was and the challenges that they were concerned about.

He didn't know what path the Board wants to take at this point. Traditionally, they have voted to accept the recommendation of an appointed commission.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he had two questions when they had a chance to which the chairman stated absolutely.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked first, the report was written before the Governor opened up the beaches and the second one is that in his younger years, he was a lifeguard and the only contact he had with an individual was only with someone who needed it which they would do anyway so he didn't think that was a point.

He continued that he thought that the reason that they should keep the park closed but need to get that kayak ramp open and get some parking so to get them off of Gulf Road and please some of the taxpayers that have been crying about it not being open yet. We can use the documents for guidance but we could try it and it doesn't work then they could step up and close it. Without trying it, they are taking a lot of heat from the taxpayers.

Selectman Dill stated that he was just going to ask Travis that if things change, he assumed that they were going to take a second look, say in a month from now, the state changes recommendations or two months from now, they are staying on top of this, he would assume to which Mr. McCoy stated absolutely.

Mr. McCoy stated that provided that they could get their lifeguards back and they don't find other summer jobs, if they would all be willing to come back if the situation changes and the opportunity is there for them to reopen.

He also stated that if he could speak to what the vice chairman was saying, he has only witnessed in his ten years on the commission, and he has only been party to, he believed two, maybe three, incidents where lifeguards had to perform any form of life saving operations. Everything is band-aids, it's information, and just enforcing the other regulations.

So, while that is further down the concern list, as far as it relating to the COVID-19 thing, situation, it's more related to their ability to enforce the new guidelines and he looks at this, at his personal experience, personal interactions with people lately, its been a really wide range of feelings about the situation where someone doesn't want to wear a mask and they are not going to be told what to do where someone else is going to uncomfortable being anywhere near other people so they are trying to shoot down the middle and avoid those situations where a lifeguard has to go over and above things that needed to be enforced.

As far as the kayak path goes, they are happy to entertain any kind of input as to how they could go about opening it up. They could close the beach. They could fence it off, he guessed, put up a chain and state that they are not allowed down there but as far as being staffed, they couldn't ensure that people aren't using the beach.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked why couldn't they just post a "No Swimming" and that would take away the lifeguard problem and staff.

Mr. McCoy stated that the staff would still be tasked with the social distancing guidelines he would assume. They would still be guiding people to a safe distance zone enforcing guidelines.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked Selectwoman McHugh what her opinion was.

Selectwoman McHugh stated that she didn't agree with closing for the season. She would much rather see it reevaluated like every two weeks or so. She thought that they should go that way and also to close the beach and open up the kayak ramp.

She stated that she didn't expect the lifeguards to enforce the mask policy as that is not their job so that is her take on it. It should be reevaluated every so often and not just to close it. Vice Chairman Pitman agreed.

Vice Chairman Pitman continued that he would like to evaluate this and see if they could open for the 4th of July the beach but if not, the kayak in the meantime.

**Motion:** Selectman Dill moves to approve the recommendations of the Veasey Park Commission with the understanding that they will be reevaluating those recommendations

**Second:** Selectman McGarry

**Discussion:** Selectman Dill stated that it is a terrible situation, he agreed, but the Commission has put a lot of work into this document. The reason that they have a commission is to give them recommendations on this.

Chairman Robertson stated that he thought that there were a couple of items in the report. One is the geographic size of their beach. It's a beautiful beach. The frontage is limited, particularly the waterline. Not a lot of space down there.

The other complication of trying to decide what they are going to do down the road, if they are going to staff the beach. It is not going to be easy to evaluate every couple of weeks and see if they can get lifeguards so that maybe another criterion. You may want to lock everything up, put a fence around the bathrooms, put up signs to swim at your own risk.

Selectman Dill stated that he knew when the Veasey Park Commission got back to them with three solutions that they were working on and this was the last solution so he wanted to reiterate that a lot of thought was put into this not just to close it down because they did have that solution of no staff and not to be open and there were two other solutions.

Mr. Travis asked if he could interject before they voted to which the chairman gave permission to add to the conversation.

If the Board is going to vote on the proposal as is, should they not amend it to say that the park will remain closed until further notice?

Chairman Robertson stated that he would feel more comfortable with that wording the maker of the motion amended his motion to say

**Motion:** Selectman Dill moves to approve the recommendations of the Veasey Park Commission with the understanding that they will be reevaluating those recommendations until further notice with the understanding that the Commission is researching guidelines and will update the select board so that they could proceed.

Mr. McCoy stated that it would also leave them to explore the possibility to open up the kayak path launch.

Chairman Robertson stated that the last thing that he wanted to do is to close the beach. He also knew that the Veasey Park Commission put a lot of time and effort into this and he is fairly confident that this is the last thing that they wanted to do also and he really didn't want to abandon a commission that they have appointed and pass with them giving advice.

Mr. McCoy stated that they appreciated the support that the Board has given them and it is the last thing that he would ever dream that he would have to make a decision on. They appreciate all the support.

Chairman Robertson asked if there was any other discussion and none was given

**Vote: Yea 4, Nay 1, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries**

Chairman Robertson stated that he appreciated Mr. McCoy's time and anything that can be done to open the kayak/canoe path as soon as possible even if they are not able to move on swimming would be greatly appreciated by the Board and the town and anything that can get people into the water sooner rather than later would be greatly appreciated as well.

Mr. McCoy thanked the Board and feel free to give any input, he assumed that they all had his email or phone number and Cindy, if you have any more input that she could give them to help them. He stated that they had talked about it and it is hard to please everybody and still run the safe course and any input is definitely welcome and valued, they are always available.

**Conservation Commission Quarterly Report – Serita Frey**

Judy Marshall sent over their report earlier today and if it helps for me to summarize it or did they want to just ask questions.

Chairman Robertson asked if she could just give a quick executive summary, that would be great.

Ms. Frey stated that the first item is around the Marston Family Farm-Town Forest and as they knew, they have been working on that project for a couple of years trying to wrap it up and they thought that they were near the end and were getting ready to work with the Board to sign off on the easement documents for the back parcel, the 128-acre parcel that was donated to the town by Gile Bye and at the eleventh hour they heard from the town attorney Jim Raymond, that, that they actually need a warrant article to get the town approval to have the Board of Selectmen authorize those easement deeds and so the project is now on hold until next year when they can put a warrant article on the ballot.

Chairman Robertson stated that he was sorry to hear that and Ms. Frey stated that it was unfortunate but they have been in touch with LCHIP and they will give them an extension on that project.

Next up, the last time she was in to talk to the Board, she mentioned that resident Chris Carr had volunteered to purchase and get reimbursed and then work with the road agent to put up turtle crossing signs and she just wanted to report that this has been done so hopefully the turtles are happier.

She continued that they have been working with the Board on the tax deeded Reservation Road parcels and absent sufficient funding to be able to bid on those alone, they are looking at other possibilities for funding. They have alerted Bear Paw to the opportunity, for example.

Just wanted to let the Board know that they were still having a conversation around that.

They had a complaint about a property on Gulf Road regarding filling of a wetland area or a wet area anyway and the Conservation Commission is investigating that and is following up with the Planning Board and the building department.

Finally, on her docket for tonight actually, (Vice Chairman Pitman interrupts)

Vice Chairman Pitman asks if he can butt in on that one for a minute.

Someone really needs to get on that Gulf Road one because a resident told him over the weekend that they had a survey on the lot and it is two feet lower than the lake level and if it wasn't for the berm and Gulf Road, he would be underwater. He was hoping they could stay with it because the intent is to bring a very large trailer in for summer use.

Ms. Frey thanked him for that additional information. They are going to be continuing to work on that at their meeting tonight.

Finally, tonight they are going to be working on a revision or at least a review of what is allowed on Deerfield Town Forest and town conservation areas and in particular, there has been an interest in a discussion as to whether horse back riding is appropriate on these properties so that is on their agenda for this evening.

She thought that was all that she had unless the Board had questions or comments.

Chairman Robertson asked the Board if that had questions for Ms. Frey. No one had but Vice Chairman Pitman thanked Ms. Frey for all that she does.

### **Regular Business:**

#### **Review of Outstanding Minutes of May 26, 2020**

**Motion:** Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the minutes of May 26, 2020

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

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

#### **Accounts Payable Manifest of May 26, 2020 - \$1,017,794.62 (most to school)**

**Motion:** Selectman Dill moves to approve the accounts payable manifest in the amount put forward

**Second:** Selectman McGarry

**Discussion:**

**Vote:** Yea 3, Nay 1, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

#### **Accounts Payable Manifest of June 1, 2020 - \$621,428.19**

**Motion:** Selectman Dill moves to approve the accounts payable manifest in the amount put forward

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

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

**Accounts Payable Manifest of June 8, 2020 - \$60,174.49**

**Motion:** Selectman Dill moves to approve the accounts payable manifest as presented

**Second:** Selectman McGarry

**Discussion:**

**Vote: Yea 3, Nay 1, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries**

**Payroll Manifest week ending May 27, 2020 - \$76,495.50 (gross), \$50,367.20 (net)**

**Motion:** Selectman Dill moves to approve the payroll manifest as presented

**Second:** Selectman McGarry

**Discussion:**

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

**Signatures/Correspondence:**

**Cemetery Deed Request – Michael McCauley and Daniel Lucas**

**Motion:** Vice Chairman Pitman moves to allow the sale of the cemetery lot as requested

**Second:** Selectman Dill

**Discussion:**

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

Proposal from Keech, Nordstrom, Associates and this is in regard to the police department building commission and the \$50,000.00 warrant article that passed that they set aside money for.

This would be a topographic survey and conditional survey for \$8,000.00 on the police department station site that the police department building committee recommended and as they heard Steve mention in conjunction with Kyle at that last particular meeting they had, this survey would also be looking at the potential for other buildings in the future and future service placement there.

**Motion:** Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the expenditure of \$8,000.00 for a topographic survey on the property across from the G.B. White Building for a proposed police department building and other buildings in the future

**Second:** Selectman Dill

**Discussion:**

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

Chairman Robertson stated that they had a request from the Hogue-Batchelder 103 Post and he believed this is because they wish to no longer be a dry or semi-dry post and need Board of Selectmen's approval to move forward to seek a liquor license.

Selectman Dill stated that he had never been involved in this one. How does this go?

Chairman Robertson stated that if someone wants a liquor license in town, you have to get a letter from the Board of Selectmen saying that they are in agreement, they should have one.

**Motion:** Selectman Dill moves to approve a letter for a liquor license for Hogue-Batchelder Post 103

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:** Chairman Robertson stated that this particular letter applies, and he has mentioned it before, to alcohol licenses and exotic dancing. They have to come back if they want exotic dancing.

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

Chairman Robertson stated that this does not guarantee that they get a liquor license but is the first step in the licensing application and that is that the board has to agree.

Chairman Robertson stated that they have a sewer service agreement from Bellmore Sewer and this is not actually sewer, this is the kettle drains or what have you, on Gulf Road and this is part of the mitigation work that was done previously on Gulf Road along the shores of Pleasant Lake to keep silt from draining.

They, apparently under the agreement, made themselves responsible for the cleaning of these drains and they didn't have the equipment to clean them.

The chairman asked the town administrator if he had the dollar amount for that.

Mr. Harrington stated that he did and that \$150.00 an hour with a four-hour minimum and with talking with Steve Rollins, he is going to make as much use of those minimum four hours as possible. Apparently, there are other catch basins and culverts in town that haven't been cleaned out in recent history so he is going to send them around to clean all of those out as well. They will get a better value out of that charge.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that it was a good job.

**Motion:** Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the cost of cleaning the catch basins by Bellmore Sewer

**Second:** Selectman Dill

**Discussion:**

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

Chairman Robertson stated that he was going to move to the two, intent to cut requests that he had as well as he has mentioned at previous meetings that they don't normally vote on intents to cut but they will just to acknowledge that the board is accepting them.

#### **Intent to Cut Wood/Timber – Berglund, Tax Map 409, Lot 76 and Tax Map 210, Lots 33-1, 33-2**

**Motion:** Selectman Dill moves to accept the Intent to Cut Wood/Timber from the Berglund's from the noted tax map parcels

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

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

#### **Intent to Cut Wood/Timber – Yurst's, Tax Map 405, Lot 20**

**Motion:** Vice Chairman Pitman moves to accept the Intent to Cut Wood/Timber from the Yurst's from the noted tax map parcels

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

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

Chairman Robertson asked the town administrator if he had anything else that needed action and a vote this evening to which Mr. Harrington stated that he thought that they had covered all the signature file.

#### **Documents for Tonight's Meeting:**

Chairman Robertson stated that they had a new, and they had gone over the Hogue-Batchelder request, they had done Keech, they had done payroll and asked if everyone had a chance to review the new parking ordinance for Reservation Road that the police chief submitted and asked if everyone was in general agreement with what was submitted to which they were.

Vice Chairman Pitman remarked that they definitely needed to do it.

Chairman Robertson stated that for the sake of officialdom, they should probably have a motion and a second on that.

**Motion:** Vice Chairman Pitman moves to accept the parking plan for Reservation Road submitted by the chief of police as well as for Gulf Road and Pleasant Hill

**Second:** Selectman Dill

**Discussion:**

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

Selectman Dill stated to Mr. Harrington that he might want to check that again as he was just reading and he thought that they had Gulf Road on a second one. He was just reading Reservation Road and Pleasant Hill Road. Later on, it says Gulf Road as well on the second one. He asked if there were two different ones?

Mr. Harrington stated that he had sent the Board two versions which is the current one that is in place now and the revised proposal.



Chairman Robertson stated that additional documents for the meeting that John had sent them in an email regarding the accounts payable and a large number of the entries were refunds generated for Parks and Rec Camp that they are canceled. He didn't think that they had to do anything with that then other to be aware of it to which Mr. Harrington agreed.

#### **Town Administrator's Report:**

Mr. Harrington stated that he had several items for them tonight.

Just to let the Board know that the town has submitted the first of three reimbursement requests for the Governor's Office for the Emergency Relief and Recovery, otherwise known as "GOFER" in the amount of \$1,101.64. There is a second submission due July 15th, and he will be submitting again and will update the Board with the amount for that submission when that happens.

Secondly, most of you are aware that they are offering a walk-up window for the town clerk/tax collector a week or two ago and that is being used quite heavily. The public seems to be very happy that they have that access.

They still however, offer online and encourage online usage, by mail and the drop boxes are still available as well but the walk-up window has alleviated that pressure for those folks that can't maneuver any of those particular avenues of getting their paperwork in.

Selectwoman McHugh asked the town administrator how difficult it was to put a permanent door over there so people wouldn't have to come in the building permanently.

Mr. Harrington stated that they have already looked into that. One of the bigger obstacles is that they have the heating system that runs all along that wall and that would mean some major reconstruction to reroute that. It's on that outside wall.

Other than that, if that wasn't there, it would be a fairly straight forward process of putting a door in there. But the plumbing and the rerouting of the heating would be major.

Selectwoman McHugh stated that if that could be done that could help the PD from the public coming in on that side and Vice Chairman Pitman stated that it would be worth looking into and getting a price. Mr. Harrington stated that if Ray were there, he would have a price for them right away. He could certainly ask him to see if he could get one and he will get back to them on that.

Last, question for the Board, he was in touch with St. Jean Auctioneer's today and they are still on hold based on the recommendation of the state for live auctions but they wanted to know if the Board wanted to wait until those restrictions were lifted for a live auction or proceed with an online sale of the properties.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if they could do a tentative August one and then go online if they can't have it real?

Mr. Harrington stated that they could but once they set a date, he has to legally send out letters in a certain time period ahead of time and that is all gauged by the date so it would be hard to move that and send the letters out and meet the requirements.

Selectman Dill asked if they had an "in person" auction, where would they be having it, the town hall?

Mr. Harrington stated that the plan was to have it here at the town offices.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if he thought it would be a problem with the six-foot rule but Selectman Dill didn't know if they would be going parcel to parcel to which it was stated that they would not.

Mr. Harrington stated that he thought that they were having a problem with any live auctions because of the crowd restrictions. They aren't doing any live ones now but they wanted to bring it back to the Board to see if they wanted to continue with an online auction.

Chairman Robertson asked what the Board's pleasure would be. Do they want to hold on and see if they can have a live one or do, they want to move forward with the online one?

Vice Chairman Pitman asked the chairman as to how much notice they had to give if they waited another month.

Mr. Harrington stated that the notice that he is required to give, once an auction date is set, he needs sixty days lead time for the tax deeded properties that the Board deeded last year.

There were two sets of properties, if they recall, on their list. Properties that have been in town possession for quite a number of years are not under this requirement. It would be the ten to twelve properties that were taken last year that he needs a sixty-day lead time to get all of that done.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if the governor was going to loosen up more on the fifteenth to which Mr. Harrington stated that he didn't know and the chairman stated that it was a good question.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if they could wait until the next meeting and make a decision then to which Mr. Harrington stated that he could bring it back up.

Chairman Robertson stated that they should bring it back up unless there is general disagreement.

Selectman Dill stated that since he hasn't been involved in one of these in town, he asked actually how many people actually show up to one of these in person auctions to which Mr. Harrington asked the vice chairman, since he was there for the last one who answered that they had a dozen or more maybe.

Selectman Dill stated that he didn't think that attendance was going to be huge and the chairman stated that the only caveat he would have is that at least two of these parcels are good sized. There is like to be interest just because the nature of the property and the shortness of developable land right now in town.

Mr. Harrington added that there is a number of particular parcels in this grouping that are much more desirable by folks than were in the first auction so he would imagine that there would be more interest.

Selectman Dill remarked that he thought that they would be better off waiting then.

Mr. Harrington stated that he could bring it up on the 22nd.

#### **Unfinished Business:**

Chairman Robertson stated that the only thing that he had listed was the paving and road reconstruction bids and John did put together a bid analysis, a spreadsheet for them and the three parties that bid for that recon material were Earth Northeast, Deerfield Sand and Gravel and Merrill Construction and he thought that Earth Northeast was significantly higher price than either Deerfield Sand and Gravel or Merrill for delivered or they pick up. He didn't know how the Board thoughts were to the three bids.

Selectman McGarry stated that with regard to Deerfield Sand and Gravel, they are convenient and their prices are competitive but he has a real concern with regard with the perceived if not direct conflict of interest that the road agent would end up having since the road agent owns Deerfield Sand and Gravel and every order of material that he orders, one might end up questioning whether that was absolutely necessary because he would end up making money on that truckload of gravel.

Chairman Robertson stated that this was a valid concern. He knew that on the flip side of that, they have used Deerfield Sand and Gravel when he wasn't the road agent because of the convenient location, particularly because they could truck with our trucks without incurring too much cost but he understood the concern. Other thoughts or emotions as to who they should give the bid to?

Selectwoman McHugh asked if these bids have gone to the same companies to which Selectman Dill stated that no, the winter sand went to Earth.

Chairman Robertson stated that typically, they have had more bids. He didn't ever recall being limited to just to three bids.

Selectman McGarry stated that in the past they have definitely had more.

Selectman Dill stated that he was torn on this to tell the truth because he could see Fred's point and they could use our own trucks to pick up in town and he was at a loss here.

Chairman Robertson stated that the contract that is expiring is with Deerfield Sand and Gravel.

Mr. Harrington stated that actually, last year, for road reconstruction, they had two bids submitted. Maybe in past years there were more.

Chairman Robertson stated that he thought he was thinking of Plourde and two other contractors in the Hooksett area/Loudon area that used to.

Selectman Dill asked where Merrill was, that was it out of Loudon what everything from there would have to be delivered, as we couldn't be hauling back and forth from Loudon.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that with Fred's point, if they needed a little six-wheeler load, they would probably have a tri-axle bring it the way that they bring the sand and being used up.

Selectman Dill asked what the historical was on this, what are they picking up verses what they have delivered?

Chairman Robertson stated that historically, they pick up about 90-95 percent of what they get. It is easy to get for the small jobs that they have and the only times that he could think that they haven't is when had a very high percentage of pickup ourselves was when they had big, road reconstruction like when they completely redid Griffin Road, for example, that sort of thing.

Selectman Dill stated that it is not like they keep a pile of gravel on hand up at the highway shed.

Chairman Robertson stated that no they didn't and we have lousy, little trucks.

Selectman Dill stated that he could see Fred's point.

Chairman Robertson stated that he thought that it was a valid point too but at some point, they are going to need to have a motion as to who they might purchase this stuff from.

**Motion:** Selectman McGarry moves to award the contract to Merrill Construction

**Second:** No second gotten

**Discussion:** Selectman McGarry stated that since that there was no second that it would appear that his motion failed.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if they could split...

**No voted taken – no second.**

Chairman Robertson stated that it was back on the table. If there was a second, please let him know by waving their hand or something.

Selectman Dill stated that Dick said something a couple of times but he could not hear what.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if they could split it up and not have it all in one?

Chairman Robertson stated that he believed that this has been done in the past as well too.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that they wouldn't have to have a meeting with there was a problem Fred if there was....

Picking it up in dibs and drabs probably makes sense but if they needed a charge of it, out trucks don't run for free.

Selectman Dill asked the vice chairman what his thoughts were.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that in the past, they voted on the job size. They ran local when they needed a little bit but when they didn't, they had it delivered.

Chairman Robertson stated that they would have to come up with some pretty clear guidelines for that to which Selectman McGarry agreed.

Selectman Dill stated that he could see the point but it isn't like they could just make a motion to go with one with pickup and one for delivery. That would just make it more complicated.

Chairman Robertson stated that he thought that it would make it more complicated and would make it more open.

Selectman Dill stated that they would just have to go with it and make a motion to go with Rollins or Deerfield Sand and Gravel, he apologized.

**Motion:** Selectman Dill moves to award the road reconstruction materials to Deerfield Sand and Gravel  
**Second: no second for the motion**

**Discussion:** Chairman Robertson asked the Board if they wanted to revisit this at the next meeting with a clear plan as to how to divide things up to which Selectman Dill stated that they are going to have to and Selectwoman McHugh agreed. Selectman Dill stated that both he and Selectman McGarry tried to get a motion passed but were unable to.

Chairman Robertson stated that he thought that if the road agent needed material over the next week or two, the contract has been with Deerfield Sand and Gravel and will have to be extended until the Board makes a decision.

**Vote: None taken, no second to the motion**

Chairman Robertson asked for other unfinished business.

Mr. Harrington spoke up and stated that they had the paving and Chairman Robertson added that it was the paving that they didn't have enough money to do.

Selectman McGarry stated that he has had discussions with Jeff and apologized as he couldn't pronounce his last name with R&D Paving and they are willing to cut some of the quantity to come in at \$249,000.00.

Previously, they were calling for an "one inch shim" (1") and would call for a ¾ inch shim and with the overlay, they previously had called for an inch and a half (1 1/2") and he would be providing an inch and a quarter (1 1/4") and that was how he was able to take and reduce his price by cutting the overall tonnage back.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if it was an \$8,000.00 cutback to which they decided that the original amount was \$276,000.00 and the town was at \$257,000.00 in the budget and it would be 250 now.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that they had \$250,000.00 approved by the voters to which Selectman Dill stated that that was the separate one. This is the budgeted one.

Chairman Robertson stated that he didn't know if it was appropriate but they might want to make it clear to R&D that they have some other money and some other capability that they were looking at there.

Selectman Dill asked Selectman McGarry how much is reducing the thickness of the overlay; how much is that going to him them in the long run?

Selectman McGarry stated that they were certainly better off to have the thicker pavement for sure. The other possibility was to take and cut the footage down but they were budgeting the project based upon shifts, whatever, that was what he was telling him. He couldn't quite figure that out but he wanted to do the same length but just cut the thickness down but again he thought that they would be better off to have it thicker than thinner for sure.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he made the mistake of cutting his top down when Bedrock did his driveway and it was a big mistake.

Selectman Dill asked if they had any idea how, and he knew that he didn't know this off the top of his head, but how much shorter would be talking if they went with the original thickness? He didn't think that they could hit this tonight.

Selectman McGarry stated that between now and the next meeting he could get an answer on that.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that if they could cut the shim to ¾", as he thought that this would be fine but not the other. See if there was somewhere else that they could take plus negotiate with them. When they figure a job, it is x number of days is x amount of feet so they don't want to get out of work an hour early if the town is shy.

Chairman Robertson stated that they should probably do some planning with regard to the warrant article. If they need to cut distances to maintain thickness to what they proposed for the road reconstruction, maybe they could tailor some of their improvement from the past warrant article to pick up the difference too.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that it sounded like a good idea and asked if it could wait for two weeks or is it something that they had to get back to R&D to tell them that they were going with them but that they were working out the details?

Selectman McGarry stated that Steve was talking about doing work on Candia Road so obviously, they have to do that work before they could do any paving on Candia Road and the vice chairman chimed in and stated that they still had to have that hearing so that is a month away.

Chairman Robertson stated that they had a little bit of time and Selectman McGarry agreed and stated that he would do it for the next meeting and give Steve Keech a call too and just get his thoughts on it as well.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he wouldn't be against taking some of the \$200,000.00 in order to keep the specs right.

Selectman Dill stated to Selectman McGarry that he thought that pavement had gone down and the chairman stated that he thought it had too.

Chairman Robertson asked for any other unfinished business.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he was good on his end.

Chairman Robertson called again for other unfinished business.

Hearing none.

**New Business:**

**None**

**Other Business:**

Selectman Dill asked if they were anywhere on lighting? A couple of meetings ago, they had talked about the place on Nottingham Road and people were going to drive by at night. He knew that it wasn't night too early right now but.

Chairman Robertson stated that they had not and his recollection of the discussion was that they had talked about whether they wanted to consider a light ordinance in Deerfield.

There is an enabling RSA for light ordinances, particularly rural and small towns are encouraged to adopt them if they have large sources of light pollution in order to preserve the night sky. He didn't know how the Board felt about that. He also didn't know how many communities have them. He knew that larger communities with shopping malls, that type of thing, have restrictions on what they can do.

Selectman McGarry asked if that was something that they needed to go to town meeting in order to get the ordinance approved.

Chairman Robertson answered that he thought that it was likely although he would like to double check the RSA because it may give the Board of Selectmen authority to do that.

Selectman Dill stated that Mr. Harrington could send out some stuff to them as well to which Mr. Harrington agreed.

The chairman was sorry but he couldn't remember the RSA number. He has it buried in his emails so he would send it to Mr. Harrington when he finds it.

Chairman called for other new business and other business.

Chairman Robertson stated that the one thing that he would mention just for the rest of the Board, and regardless to their feelings on the matter, there was a vigil last evening held at the center of town on private property and he believed that the term that was used was "social justice" and he will say that the Deerfield Police Department represented themselves very well. The chief made a few remarks. He was concise and to the point and it appeared that the group was very enthusiastic that they took the time to participate and be there. There was the chief and three officers and was very well received by the 100+ people that were there.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that it was very professional that those guys did that.

Selectman Dill stated that the only other thing is that Deerfield is the last fair that hasn't canceled and he knew that it was not part of their prevue but he just finds it interesting that all the other towns have.

Chairman Robertson stated that he couldn't speak for the fair association but maybe Dick or Cindy can jump in but he believes the vote has been moved up and the Board of Directors have actually voted and the association vote has been speeded up from what was initially planned.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that the association vote was June 23. The fair can only be canceled by a vote of the association and they have to be notified.

They have been dealing with the Governor's Task Force which has been very positive but the problem they have is that 4-H has said no, FFA has said no, numerous farms have said no, the rides company has said no so they don't want to put on a fair so wait a couple of weeks and he will have an answer for them.

The chairman asked if there was anything else before he went to citizen's comments?

#### **Citizen's Comments:**

##### **Ms. Cady – Old Centre Road**

She is very disturbed about the beach situation as the Governor has allowed that people can walk on and use the ocean. They had to have seating, six feet apart.

The reason that she is quite disturbed about this, is she was planning on using the beach water for her physical therapy that the doctor has recommended in water.

She sees no reason, if people are just going to use the water to close it. It would be at their own risk, she understood that, but she didn't think that this was even part of thinking what the governor put it out about the beach, meaning Hampton Beach.

The refund for GOFER seems to be quite small considering how much they have had to pay staff that aren't in or for having to do, for instance, definitely the Parks and Rec have lost quite a bit of money because of not being able to have day camp so she would think that some of that would be reimbursable.

The auction on town property in Wakefield that she went to about a year and a half ago held in their town hall had about 40 people and most of it was some land on Pine River or parcels of no more than 10 or 15 acres and so she thought there was an interest by people if it is well advertised.

She stated that the Board had mentioned Keech-Nordstrom and she didn't hear all of it because there was some cutout of some voices but there was something said about a survey. Was there a bid process put out for a surveyor to survey?

Chairman Robertson answered that they did not put out a bid process for a survey.

Ms. Cady asked if it was going to be surveyed or is that what Keech-Nordstrom is recommending?

Chairman Robertson answered that he thought that is what Keech-Nordstrom is recommending and they approved it this evening for a conditional, topo survey that will move forward.

Finally, Ms. Cady believed, the meeting mentioned for the scenic road with the Planning Board and she is really not happy with this ZOOM and they said after June 15th, they could have meetings. Now, the Planning Board meets in the select board's meeting room and she has never seen a crowd so big that they couldn't seat people six feet apart.

She would like to go to a regular meeting on that. After June 15th, they are supposed to be able to do that again.

If everybody would just take the percentage, the national percentage is like one percent of the people that have got it have died and that has been mostly nursing homes, people that have problems.

Chairman Robertson stated that they are going to follow state guidelines, Mrs. Cady and believe him, everyone that is on this meeting on the board is thoroughly sick of ZOOM meeting as well and as soon they are able to comply with the state guidelines, they will work to be back at a traditional meeting.

Ms. Cady stated that since this meeting is going to be on the 24th and the governor has said after the 15th, she would suggest that they don't plan a ZOOM meeting unless he has changed his mind. She thinks that there are enough people that are angry, he may not change his mind again.

When people can do a march in Manchester, shoulder to shoulder with a 1,000 people....

Chairman Robertson interrupted to state that he thought that they getting off of public comment of the meeting at this point.

The chairman asked if anyone wishes to speak?

Hearing no one and thanked people for being online and putting up with the distraction on being online for these meetings.

**Motion:** Vice Chairman Pitman moves to adjourn

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:** Selectman Dill stated that he wasn't totally opposed to ZOOM meetings. This is not something to cut because one person is upset about it. He thought that it has worked incredibly well. Is it his preferred method of meeting, no but he just came off a rather good COVID scare that he just got a negative response on this afternoon. This hasn't gone away and being the youngest here but not having the greatest immune system, he didn't think that this was something that they should hurry along and get rid of.

Chairman Robertson stated that they needed to be in compliance with state and CDC guidelines and when they are able to move back, they will.

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

**Next Meeting: Monday, June 22, 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*