

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
October 19, 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, Alden Dill, and Cynthia McHugh, Selectmen.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Chairman Robertson asks all to rise and pledge allegiance to the Flag

The chairman asked if Mr. Pelletier was with them now to which Mr. Harrington asked if he was on the phone.

Chairman Robertson stated that he was going to go slightly out of order and recognize Rick Pelletier to talk to them about impact fee money which was discussed at their last meeting and was hoping that Mr. Pelletier could give them a little more context.

Mr. Pelletier stated that as far as paving goes, the first question would be would that not be considered maintenance rather than work done because of growth of the town and so forth?

He stated that he has been looking for an overlay for a couple of years but he thought that it was more of a maintenance issue rather than due to the growth of the community.

Even though he hasn't gotten a price yet, someone is going to get back to him with that.

Secondly, he has been working on potentially, expanding the canopy over the containers at the station due to the fact that they have cardboard and paper containers that are not under cover and they have gotten to the point that they are paying to dispose of all of the slurry and those things absorb water extremely well so in one respect, they are potentially paying to dispose of water, never mind the potential amount of water that is in tin cans and so forth because obviously they can't control how they are sitting in the dumpster and so they probably hold a significant amount of water that does fall into these containers.

That is one of the reasons why he is looking into extending the canopy over those containers as well as they have added more containers over the last few years in order to be able to service the waste load that has been coming into the station.

He stated that he contacted a number of companies in the spring and the only one that got back to him was called W. L. Shaw/S. L. Chase Steel Fabricators out of Hudson, NH.

They do offer some design services and so forth and after meeting with them a couple of times, they were able to come up with a reasonable design for expanding that canopy and so forth.

They have given him a fee of \$7,500.00 to supply him with plans and drawings so that they can get a more firmer quote price as well as specifications for piers and footings and so forth so that they have something to set this canopy on because right now there are no extra footings or piers to extend that canopy.

They have agreed to do this for \$7,500.00 and in talking to Pete Lemay, he currently has about \$6,000.00 that he has to spend or he is going to be returning it to the developers so he is really looking to move forward with it at least getting the design and so forth. Without it, they can't move forward and either they spend the money or they give it back to the developers.

As far as a well goes, he has spoke to Jody at CMA. She is going to contact the state. Her concerns are that she doesn't think that there is a problem drilling a well but she is concerned that since they don't have water on the site, the state could request that they treat water for POFA's before putting it back in the ground. He stated that it sounded a little bit ridiculous to him. He stated that they could pee in the water and do other things and dump it in the ground but they pump water out of the ground and pee in it but they could potentially not put it back in the ground.

He didn't know what that would work out to be but he didn't expect that he would have anything that would help either way but either way, it would cost around \$10,000.00 to do a well. By the time that it is drilled, put a pump in it and if they have to hydro-frack it, it could get to be that high.

He just did one himself last summer and it ran just like that by the time he was all done and he did the entire install himself.

As far as the leech field, he can't move forward until he gets the authorization to spend the money to do with design and then they could get a more accurate price on a septic but looking at the designs for septic in town right now, a three-bedroom home, they seem to be running right around \$11,000.00 to \$12,000.00. He told them that he told John that \$15,000.00 would probably cover it, worst case scenario, including test pits and everything else.

That is where he stands now and is looking to spend \$7,500.00 to get that design done as soon as possible or otherwise they are not going to have it either way so he is waiting to see what the Board would like to do.

Selectman Dill asked Mr. Pelletier if they were able to give him a rough estimate on what it would cost to build this canopy?

Mr. Pelletier stated that their preliminary cost estimates are about \$75,000.00 and as they say, that is a workable number. That is based on running the canopy the entire length of the wall to cover every container. It does not include concrete and footings. They are steel fabricators/steel erectors. They are not concrete....

Selectman McGarry stated that he would agree with Rick that the overlay is probably more of a maintenance type issue. Certainly, they could justify the design and also the construction of the canopy as well as the installation of a well and a septic system too.

Selectman Dill asked what the total impact fees were had for the transfer station and Mr. Pelletier stated that he believed that the current numbers were just around \$50,000.00 and that doesn't include what Pete said was still coming in and he knew that he would be collecting at least another \$10,000.00 to \$15,000.00 for sure by the end of the year which approximately one third would go to the transfer station budget.

Mr. Harrington stated that as of the end of August, it was \$45,900.00. Mr. Lemay may have more accurate numbers.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if there was only \$6,000.00 available right now to which the chairman stated that no, they were going to lose \$6,000.00.

The vice chairman stated that they had money to work with but that this was how much they were going to lose.

Mr. Pelletier stated that they had all that money to work with but if they don't spend about \$6,000.00, it is going to be gone, no matter what.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to authorize Mr. Pelletier to spend \$7,500.00 for design fees for S.L. Chase, Steel Erectors

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

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

Steve Rollins – Highway Agent – Highway Budget – Pages 44-51

Chairman Robertson stated to correct him if he was wrong but what he is looking at is a requested budget of \$689,921.00 which is about 25 percent above last year's and prior year's budget.

Chairman Robertson stated that they had back up for the lines for the things that the Board is interested in what he was looking at for major expenses and particularly, road reconstruction projects.

Mr. Rollins stated that what he planned on for road projects will depend on what he gets for money and they had done that survey so he is basically following their recommendations. What is the heaviest traveled and in the worse condition was his plan to repair.

Chairman Robertson asked if the 25 percent primarily road reconstruction to which Mr. Rollins stated that it is basically across the board and how he came up with that increase is that there hasn't been an increase to the

highway department budget in over 10 years. He looked up how much it would cost to do the same job for the last 10 years to see how much it had risen and this is about the amount that they have risen in the last 10 years.

In order to do the same amount of work that they were doing 10 years ago, that is what the budget needs to come up. It doesn't get them ahead at all. It doesn't help to do all the stuff that was on the list that the survey stated should be done. It just keeps them doing it at the same rate that they were doing it before because as it is right now, they are falling behind.

The warrant article this year obviously helped them and put them in the right direction. It's a good jump start.

Chairman Robertson added that he thought that in the prior year too, they got a little bit of a windfall of like \$140,000.00 that was unexpected that was returned to them from the state that they put in a couple of smaller reconstruction projects that they were planning of holding off.

Mr. Rollins stated that those were helps but he stated that in order to keep the pace moving,

Vice Chairman Pitman asked that out of that budget, last year the recon was \$257,000.00, what would it be this year?

It was answered by numerous board members that it would be \$339,000.00.

(Conversation about amounts and such inaudible from Board members talking among selves and flipping pages).

Selectman Dill asked the plan for next year's roads are following that survey that they did and not arbitrarily going out and doing roads.

Mr. Rollins stated that it didn't make sense to spend money on a survey and not at least follow it to which Selectman Dill completely agreed.

Mr. Rollins added that looking at what they found, and then if you go out and look at the roads, he didn't think that they were far off.

Selectman Dill stated that he was on the call with Steve and Kyle and Southern NH Planning and for them to bring everything back up to certain point, it was insane money, something like \$5 million dollars. There is no way that they are going to be able to hit that.

Mr. Rollins stated that he thought that the extra warrant article monies, if that could happen once in a while, that would be great, that might give them a chance.

Chairman Robertson stated that he thought that they should definitely, probably include a warrant article again this year and then if they end up with a default highway budget, it could certainly be a lifesaver. Selectman Dill stated that he would be in support of that as well.

Mr. Rollins stated that this raise doesn't actually really put them ahead. It just keeps them flat lined.

Selectman Dill added that it just brings them up to the same baseline.

Mr. Rollins stated that they have lost the ability of about 10 percent, not quite, but about 25 percent over the last 10 years. That is a big chunk of road that they are not able to fix.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked that if that \$200,000.00 not been there, the \$257,000.00 would not have covered what was done this summer to which Mr. Rollins stated that it would not.

Mr. Rollins continued that what they would have done was just overlaid. They would not have been able to fix underneath it. Maybe a few pipes and stuff like that because they have a budget for doing culverts. They would have done that but they wouldn't have been able to rebuild pieces of the roads so that they last longer than the overlay would have allowed them to last.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if he has planned anything or did he just put 25 percent onto the budget so that he could spend it?

Selectman Dill stated that he planned on following the survey and Mr. Rollins stated the same.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if that picked out a certain road and Mr. Rollins stated that it did.

He continued that it picks out certain roads, it picks out and tells them the worse roads with the most traffic.

Selectman Dill stated that they had it prioritized.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he just didn't know how he came up with the 25 percent.

Mr. Rollins stated that the 25 percent came from the last 10 years with no increase. That was just to get them back to what they were doing 10 years ago.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he didn't figure, what he was getting at to which Mr. Rollins stated no, and the vice chairman continued to state that he didn't figure how much each project on the priority list was going to be to come to the \$331,000.00 to which Mr. Rollins answered that he did not.

He continued that this is a figure that he used to just try to keep a flat line budget but considering inflation.

Selectman Dill added that for the same mileage that they did 10 years ago to which Mr. Rollins agreed.

Chairman Robertson asked Mr. Harrington if he had information to which he did.

Mr. Harrington stated that what he has done, and he has discussed it with Steve, he took that same database that they got from Southern NH Planning Commission. He has re-sorted it so that it has a sequential worst to best, highest priority road to lowest priority road which he has produced. They can look at it. He is going to send it to the Board so that they can see a list of priorities going from top to bottom, what they recommend that the town works on first, second and so on and so forth.

It is pretty well laid out and the sections of the road you can correspond to the map that they gave them. You can actually look at the section of a longer road like South Road and look at the actual sections that they recommend first.

Selectman Dill stated that they have it defined in the quarter to half mile.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that all that he was getting at was that if it were \$431,000.00, they could spend it all to which Mr. Rollins agreed and added that if it were \$1 million, they could spend it.

Mr. Harrington stated that it just depends on how far down the list they go as to how much money would be used.

Vice Chairman stated that it was a while ago, and didn't know if it was expected in 2021 and 2022 to which Mr. Harrington stated that they would just take the money and fix as many roads as it would fix in any one year.

Mr. Rollins stated that they other thing that came up when they were meeting with SNHPC, they were talking about different ways of doing it also. Some of them weren't complete rebuilds. Some were crack seal and try to get more time out of it and he is open to anything that is going to make the roads last as long as they can for as little money.

Selectman Dill stated that he thought that Mr. Rollins was right. It seems like they got farther behind and they are not catching up overall.

Mr. Rollins stated that they haven't had an increase in ten years, over ten years.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that since they approved that \$200,000.00, they need money to work on the roads and Mr. Rollins stated that this means that the tax payer wants them fixed also.

Chairman Robertson stated that he thought that there was pretty wide spread support from all political aspirations that have spoken to the Budget Committee and the Board of Selectmen about the need to fund road reconstruction.

Selectman Dill asked if they just wanted to move this to the bottom line and the chairman stated that it would probably be the easiest way to do it unless you have got specific things that they wanted to talk about. The bottom line is on page 51 as near as he could tell.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if there was anything in there besides road reconstruction and Mr. Harrington stated that they had to move the employees separately and some of the actual road reconstruction and highway administration and then the rest of the budget.

Chairman Robertson stated that Highway Administration needs to be moved separately and that total is on page 45 in the amount of \$217,335.00.

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to approve the Highway Administration budget in the amount of \$217,335.00

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson stated that they could move to the bottom line on page 51.

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to approve the Highways, Streets and Roads budget of \$689,111.00

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion: Vice Chairman Pitman asked if that was above and beyond the \$217,000.00 to which Mr. Harrington stated that it was and Selectman Dill stated that that was the total for Highways and Streets.

Mr. Harrington stated that it was up over last year by over 3.6 percent.

The chairman stated that he is showing that Administration is, your right, 3 percent. He was looking at the dollar amount.

Selectman McGarry stated that on page 46, they were looking basically, at a flat 25 percent and he questions whether the Budget Committee will go along with that.

He continued that he could see the justification on paving but a flat 25 percent on everything, he would question that.

Mr. Rollins stated that it has been over ten years that they have increased and that is across the board, that was the average of what road construction costs have gone up.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that this was his point too. What he was trying to say is that not everything was up 25 percent, some was up more than 25 percent whereas fuel is down.

Mr. Rollins stated that he just went by what the state said that road construction had gone up.

Chairman Robertson stated that they had things in there such as the electricity line, mowing, that sort of thing that didn't go up 25 percent, in all likelihood.

Mr. Rollins stated that he bet in the last ten years that it may have.

Selectman McGarry that heating oil is listed as going up 25 percent and Mr. Rollins stated that at some times, has gone up more than 25 percent and now it is back down so he thought as an average, across the board, but that is up to them.

Selectman Dill stated that he did see Fred's point though and the vice chairman stated that there is more elsewhere in the budget, if they are going to pay a certain amount for something, that is one thing but the other stuff, he just asked him, about a 3 percent increase and stuff like that.

Selectman Dill stated that there is stuff such as tree work that has gone up way more to which Mr. Rollins agreed. In fact, he has added way more because of the ash tree borer.

In fact, he cut one down, actually fell down Friday night, at midnight, he had to take one down on Middle Road that was blocking the whole road. A fifteen-inch tree, across the road.

Chairman Robertson stated that they are starting to go to which Mr. Rollins agreed.

Selectman Dill stated that he thought that they were going to have to bump that way up. He could see Fred's point.

Mr. Rollins stated that he thought that he had bumped that line up around \$6,000.00 on top of the 25 percent if he remembers correctly.

Chairman Robertson stated that it is up to the Board. They can take a look at it as they like to see it if they want to which members of the Board agreed.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that they didn't need this tonight. They have the two administration ones done that were in line and this one is definitely not in line.

Chairman Robertson stated that he didn't think people would have a problem necessarily with the amount requested but they are going to get beat up by the Budget Committee if they leave just a flat 25 percent across everything.

Mr. Rollins stated that it seemed like the simplest way to do it to him but if they wanted 29 in one category and 18 in the other, he could do that but when push comes to shove during the year, they move the numbers around from category to category to do what they have to do so what is the difference.

Chairman Robertson stated that they explain it that way but the Budget Committee pretty much every year and Selectman Dill added that they would spend eight hours to come up with 25 percent. He stated that he understood Mr. Rollin's thought process.

He continued that it seemed like a major waste of time and money when there is other stuff that they could be doing but whatever you folks want.

Chairman Robertson stated that they shouldn't move on the bottom line for the Highway Budget tonight as they have a little time and let members take a look down through here and see where they might make percentage adjustments.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that in Mr. Rollin's defense, there might be more paving money than you thought and still keep the bottom line. Being more specific on oil, gas, electric and put it on paving where they need it spent. Other members agreed.

Selectman Dill asked the chairman if he wanted to withdraw the motion to which he stated yes, if he were willing and stated that he thought that it wasn't just a bad idea.

Selectman Dill stated that he withdraws his motion and Selectman McGarry withdrew the second to the motion.

Mr. Rollins stated that maybe reconstruction rather than paving is a better place.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that they do need a lot of overlay to which Mr. Rollins agreed.

Selectwoman McHugh asked what the Highway Safety Compliance as there was \$1.00 in there. Is that a place holder for grants, that sort of thing? She noticed that it is \$1.00 this year taken out and maybe they should take it out or, keep it open for a reason.

Mr. Rollins stated that they way that he understood it, it was just to keep it open and it was noted that it had been taken out. He stated that it must be a typo.

Mr. Harrington stated that it is probably for any grant money that would come in and would probably want to keep a \$1.00 in there to which Mr. Rollins agreed as well as other Board members.

(Inaudible as multiple Board members were talking at the same time).

Mr. Rollins stated that it must have been a typo.

Chairman Robertson stated that they were going to sit on this in order to take a chance to look at it and then they will come back.

Chairman Robertson stated that they didn't have any other budgets this evening.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if they were done with Mr. Rollins and the chairman asked the Board if they had questions for the highway agent.

Selectman Dill asked where they were at to which Mr. Rollins stated that they were in the G. B. White Building and Selectman Dill asked paving-wise, where were they at?

Mr. Rollins stated that the base has been done. They are just waiting for the date for overlay. The base was done a week ago, Saturday. At that point, he told him two weeks. That leads him to believe that they are a week away but he knew with paving, weather rules everything.

Now that they are not base, now they are top, so now it has to be dry. Before, they were base, so it could be done while it was wet.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if they were 100 percent ready to which Mr. Rollins stated that he was. The only thing they have left to do is sweep but obviously, they wouldn't be doing that until they had a date but that is all that is left.

The vice chairman asked if he had a figure set aside for graveling the edges after they do so that they don't break off the edge to which Mr. Rollins stated roughly but if there is any money left from that warrant article, he was hoping to do more paving and the shoulder gravel as well.

He continued that because they have some roads that were based but were never topped, that he would like to try and top and the vice chairman stated that it was a good idea.

Selectman Dill asked which ones to which it was answered that it was the further end of Griffin that got based back when Alex did it, he thought and it never got topped. The next piece on Middle he didn't believe got topped either.

Chairman Robertson stated that he didn't think that they were so concerned about topping that section on Griffin because Epsom had to replace the bridge for a while there. They delayed it initially.

Mr. Rollins stated that the problem is that it is starting to break up so if they don't get after it pretty quick, they are going to lose it.

Selectwoman McHugh asked if they could use that warrant article money on other roads to which it was answered by the vice chairman that they were going to burn it up with what Steve started and then they will have the rest of the budget for overlay.

Selectman McGarry stated that he had a question on the ¾ inch binder. That wasn't in the original bid with R & D so is that is going to be an additional charge to which Mr. Rollins stated yes but now, by doing the grinding that they did, it brought the hand work price from \$125.00 a ton to \$85.00 a ton down so that was a good move there.

Selectman McGarry stated that the question that he ends up having is that currently, they have \$348,000.00 remaining and the \$45,287.00, did that come out of that? Will that be coming out of that. Is that included in the \$108,000.00 year to date expenses?

The vice chairman remarked that he didn't think so and Mr. Harrington asked Selectman McGarry to explain.

Selectman McGarry stated that they are showing year to date expenses \$108,000.00.

Mr. Harrington stated that this is what has come out of the budget and what was billed as of the end of last week towards that warrant article and it does include the \$45,287.00 which is why he separated it out below. It is all included.

Selectman McGarry didn't know if the \$45,287.00 was in addition to the work to which it was answered again, no.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked Selectman McGarry if that would be beyond the \$276,000.00 to which he answered yes. He didn't know what the total tonnage was for the handwork.

Mr. Harrington stated that the invoice for the binder was \$45,287.00. That is taken out of that contract total of \$276,129.00 so whatever is left after that is still to be billed to the town because the total contract is \$276,129.00. They have only billed them for that one invoice of the binder so he is assuming that it is part of the contract.

Mr. Rollins stated that it shouldn't have been part of the contract as it was additional work and Mr. Harrington asked again if it was additional work to which Mr. Rollins stated yes.

Mr. Harrington stated that what is still remaining is the \$276,129.00 to which all agreed and the vice chairman continued that it means that R & D is going to be way over \$300,000.00 because he couldn't believe that there could be enough of a savings.

Mr. Harrington stated that right now, between and if you look all the way over to the balance, the total between the warrant article and what is in the budget is \$348,000.00 so if they are going to be over three, they would have less than \$48,000.00 left,

Selectman Dill stated that he thought that they could get something done with it to which Mr. Rollins agreed.

He continued to ask if he was all set up when they do that overlay, they could just go do the jobs in town?

Mr. Rollins stated that they are going to come out, and as soon as Mr. Rollins knew that he was coming, he was going to ballpark what the tonnage will be so that he would have an idea of what money he would have left and where they could go.

Selectman Dill asked if it was where Mr. Rollins would have to do a lot of prep to get going to which it was answered that if it was just topping, no, just sweeping or something like that.

If the money is not there enough money there to top to make it worth doing one of those roads, then he will have to figure out another plan.

Selectman Dill stated that it sounds like there won't be a whole lot leftover. There was some agreement.

Chairman Robertson asked for further questions for the road agent.

Selectwoman McHugh asked board members if they had the questions for the invoices regarding pricing for the gravel to which the chairman stated that he did look through the tickets and the budget and he looked through them when it first came up and as near as he could tell, they match but that is about his only expertise that he matched up tickets with charges.

Mr. Rollins asked if it was something that he could help the Board with.

Selectwoman McHugh stated that she couldn't remember what the question was but it wasn't that they didn't match but she thought that they had different prices for delivery and so they got ...

Mr. Rollins stated that on the bid, there were prices for pick up and a bid for delivery so that is why there is two prices to which she agreed and he continued that sometimes they delivered and sometimes they picked up.

She stated that they got charged for delivered and were they the same trucks that they rented from him?

Mr. Rollins stated that they were different days. So, when they were paying for a truck by the hour, which was like half days, here and there, they weren't trucking material which if she looked at the slips, there is no slips for that day.

He stated that on those days, he actually donated wood chips and the town paid for the truck to do wood chips on the sides of the road.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that this was nothing against Steve but it was brought up that they went with Deerfield Sand and Gravel because pickup was convenient because it was in town and wanted to do local but he was under the impression that Merrill's price was better on delivered?

Mr. Rollins answered no and not that he has ever seen.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he was asked over the weekend. Whoever was the other bid, it was cheaper but it wasn't worth going to get it and asked Board members if they remembered that.

Mr. Rollins stated that was fine. His delivery prices, he didn't know how they could but if they didn't want him to deliver the material and the vice chairman stated, no, not at all, that wasn't it, the point was that he was asked.

Mr. Rollins stated that they had the bids and the Board didn't invite him to the bid opening this spring.

Selectman McGarry stated that they had to bid those out and Mr. Harrington stated that he could put his hands on the bids but he didn't bring them with him tonight.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that they could bring it up when they do the bottom line of the budget. He was done now and Mr. Rollins stated other than shoulder gravel but that isn't a lot.

The chairman asked for other questions.

Selectwoman McHugh asked what was going on at the end of Perkins Road?

Mr. Rollins stated that they put some of the ditch material down there just to make the plow turnaround bigger. He plowed it actually himself the last few years for Mark and would have a problem getting turned around with a big truck so they just made it a little bigger.

The other problem is that cars are parking down there. There is only space enough for one vehicle to turn around and half the time that he would go down there, there would be two cars parked down there. You get down to the bottom of the hill, the plow truck does not back up the hill so they flattened it out with the ditch material, free material, and they needed a place to get rid of it so.

Selectwoman McHugh stated that he has to make that road passible. They have to keep that road open.

She stated that no one could drive through there right now and Selectman McGarry stated that he thought that she was talking about the

She stated that it was not passible to continue out to Blake's Hill Road and Mr. Rollins stated that they would go down there and dress it up unless one of the guys went down and dumped another load there. It was all leveled about a week ago.

She stated that they dumped two more loads down there Wednesday or Friday or something and he stated that is probably why.

Chairman Robertson stated that he thought one of the concerns that Selectman McGarry raised last week was how far down that road that they are, and don't want to appear like they are maintaining the road.

Mr. Rollins stated that he wasn't adding onto the road. He was just trying to make the turnaround a three-point turnaround, basically. It is the same thing that is there basically, just making it a little more level.

Selectman McGarry stated that he guessed that question that he was having was how far down does the Class V go?

Mr. Rollins stated that when he starting plowing that, they turned around at the top of the hill so at some point, it got lengthened and that is recently within the last fifteen years or so, so there must be a record somewhere to this point as to where they are supposed to end.

Selectman McGarry stated that the concern that they were having is if they were going past where the Class V section, they would be in fact, maintaining a Class VI road which would potentially have the legal possibility having to take and extend the Class V because of that.

Mr. Rollins stated that he hasn't added onto the road but Selectman McGarry stated that the question is, where does the Class V end.

Mr. Rollins stated that it was before his time.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if someone could find that out and the chairman stated that he would see if he could find a marker and it may be in the town road report.

Chairman Robertson stated that he remembers distinctly discussion about when that was changed and his recollection was that the understanding was that it ended at the turnaround but let's see if they could find something more specific. Maybe there is a rod there or something.

Mr. Rollins stated that when he first starting plowing for the town, he turned around at the top of the hill and Selectwoman McHugh stated that this might be where it is and Mr. Rollins continued that at some point, it went down the hill. He stated that he would be happy if it was back on the top.

Selectman McGarry stated that the extension of the Class V was when George Owen pleaded his case to the town meeting because he was going to do the house there which obviously, he did not and he didn't know if there was a further extension or not.

Chairman Robertson stated that he didn't remember the specifics but there was, he believed, a new house put out there which changed it and it was probably fifteen years ago at best, maybe longer. He believed that it was one of the Cady boys when they put their house out there.

Mr. Rollins stated that Daryl's driveway is at the top of the hill or was.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if that was the last one to which Mr. Rollins stated that there was one more beyond it on the same side of the road almost just before the turnaround.

Vice Chairman stated that they weren't adding anything to the turnaround so they are exposing themselves to anything and Mr. Rollins stated that it was the same as it was, only making it more level and maybe making the parking so that if there are people down there that want to go hiking or whatever, they can park out of the way of the trucks turning around.

The chairman asked for other questions.

Selectman Dill asked Mr. Rollins where he was at with winter maintenance bids to which Mr. Rollins answered that the letters had all been sent out.

Selectman Dill stated that they hadn't gotten them back yet to which Mr. Rollins agreed that they hadn't come back yet.

Mr. Rollins continued that they had been sent out. Pete stated that he wouldn't be here the first week of next month, he understood, so he would let him know on the second week when he got back.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if that would be when they would sign them and Mr. Rollins stated that this is when they would get them back.

Selectman Dill asked if he wanted to be in the process for bids and Mr. Rollins stated that he would.

Chairman Robertson stated that typically what they have done is that they have referred the bids to the highway agent and as long as they had submitted their insurance to the highway agent and that sort of thing.

Selectwoman McHugh asked if he could keep his eyeballs open for any street signs and the reason that she was saying that was that the new fire fighters and stuff that are coming in don't know the roads like most of them do so if you have to order some street signs, so be it.

Mr. Rollins stated that they put together a list last week of signs and the chairman stated that he did see the guys putting some up last week.

Mr. Rollins stated that was just one they had and they put it up on the wrong road and the chairman didn't know it until he saw it on Facebook.

Ms. McHugh continued that if he sees any that need it and he stated that he sees a lot of stuff but the budget isn't that big for street signs.

She stated that it was kind of important.

Mr. Rollins stated that the signs that he did replace this year have been vandalized and the chairman added with the same vandalization phases.

The chairman asked for other questions or comments for the highway agent and hearing none thanked the highway agent for being there tonight.

Mr. Rollins stated that he actually had something for the Board.

Back to what Rick was talking about, money from impact fees, what he would like to do is to add onto the salt shed and didn't know if that was something that they could do.

The chairman asked the town administrator as to how much they had for impact fees and he stated that they had, as of the end of August 31st, highway had \$45,457.00.

Mr. Rollins handed out paperwork to the Board and stated that the reasoning for doing so is the bay that they have now is for salt and then they mix their sand and salt because they don't use straight salt, and they mix as they load the trucks.

The problem with doing that is that they are taking snow and frozen chunks, mixing them up and then they have to have guys on top of the sanders pushing it down through the grates so somebody is going to be falling off a truck.

They could mix it ahead of time, put it in the other bay, let the salt do its job and thaw out the frozen chunks and the material is always ready. It's not covered with snow and everyone is happy and the roads get treated faster because there isn't a line of trucks waiting to get loaded.

Chairman Robertson asked if Mr. Rollins had a ballpark price for the addition.

Mr. Rollins stated that it was on the paperwork provided for the building. The only thing that is not on there, is that he didn't have a foundation price.

The chairman stated that there was a page missing which had the pricing on it.

Mr. Rollins stated that he didn't know how that got missed because there is one more page but he would get that to them.

The chairman asked if he had a rough idea to which Mr. Rollins stated that was around \$15,000.00 short of concrete.

Mr. Harrington stated that if he could send him that page, he would forward it to the Board.

Selectman Dill asked how much material would it hold in there, a storm's worth, a couple hours' worth, which Mr. Rollins stated that they could typically get two storms almost out of it, it depends, every storm is different but on the average. Definitely have more than one.

Selectwoman McHugh asked if he had time-sensitive monies in there as well to which Mr. Harrington stated that Mark did a pretty good job of spending a lot of money last year so he didn't think that it was as critical as the transfer station for time.

Mr. Rollins stated that it was a safety thing as well as a speedy way to get the trucks out there faster and it gives them better material. If it is mixed ahead of time, the salt has had time to do its job in the sand. They are not dealing with frozen chunks.

Chairman Robertson stated that if he could get them the estimate that he had so that they could take a look at it and go from there.

Selectwoman McHugh asked that since he was getting that one, does he need to get two more to which the vice chairman stated that it would go out to bid with the specs provided.

Chairman Robertson asked Mr. Rollins if he had anything else which he did not unless they had something for him.

Nick Lawrence – Veteran's Day Remembrance

Mr. Lawrence stated that he was on the line.

He wanted to get the Board's blessing regarding the Veteran's Day Remembrance that they do every year. Normally it is inside of the Town Hall but is looking into something outside at the Gazebo this year if the Board was okay with that.

Chairman Robertson stated that he didn't think that there was any disagreement with having an outside Veteran's Day Remembrance at the Gazebo.

Members of the Board gave their approval and the chairman stated that he has definitely gotten the green light.

Mr. Lawrence stated that this was all that he needed and thanked the Board.

Chairman Robertson asked him to hold on for one second.

Selectman Dill asked if they could bring up the porta potty issue for Gazebo field and the chairman stated to Nick that he didn't know how many people that he was thinking but usually they have between 50 and 100 and Nick should think about some kind of bathroom arrangement, porta potties.

Mr. Lawrence stated that they could get some dropped off for that day.

Regular Business:

Outstanding Minutes of October 13, 2020

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the minutes of October 13, 2020

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Vouchers/Payroll Manifest/Accounts Payable Manifest

Payroll Manifest - \$74,163.50 (gross), \$48,347.19 (net)

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to approve the payroll manifest as presented

Second: Vice Chairman Pitman

Discussion:

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

Accounts Payable Manifest - \$595,899.21 – (\$500,000.00 for the school)

The chairman asked if it had the Deerfield Sand and Gravel invoice in it to which the town administrator stated it did.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman move to approve the accounts payable manifest as presented

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion: It was asked if the chairman went through the slips to which he stated that he did but not being onsite but they were legit invoices as near as he could tell

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

Chairman Robertson stated that he had deed waivers from Kelly Roberts and these were for the properties that they had that were described in their blue folders that Kelly prepared for them.

She has prepared letters saying that, and this is her recommendation, that they not accept the tax deed for these properties as everyone is working within an agreement.

Mr. Harrington stated that Kelly was on the line if they had any questions for her.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if the chairman wanted one motion for all of them and the chairman stated that he could read the Map and Lot numbers and they could do one motion.

The properties in questions are:

Map 209, Lot 40

Map 416, Lot 01

Map 405, Lot 04

Map 208, Lot 25

Map 208, Lot 74

Map 208, Lot 76

And the last two are the same person, just divided into two lots.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to go with the recommendation of the town clerk

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion: Just for the record, the chairman will read:

“The town of Deerfield hereby advised by the tax collector, that they will not accept the tax collectors deed because in its judgement, acceptance and ownership of the real estate would subject the municipality to undesirable obligations or liability.”

Vice Chairman Pitman asked Ms. Roberts if everyone of the property owners has made plans, worked out payment plans. There was one in questions, without mentioning names, that needed to be contacted.

Ms. Roberts stated that this person has paid so that they are off the deed list so they were in good shape.

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

Chairman Robertson asked Selectman Dill if he would ask his question to which he stated that he had been talking with Dan and Eric about the election with just trying to get word out and stuff and he was wondering if she could, their concern was with electioneering and if she, as the town clerk, could get out that word as to what it means, hopefully, the earlier the word gets out, the less problems they will have at the polls.

Ms. Roberts stated that she agreed and that is a big concern for the November elections and they have started working on that behind the scenes among other things.

What she will be doing is some Facebook posts and she is working with Joanna Waring, the Supervisor of the Checklist, are working on some media graphics to get out there regarding electioneering, face masks, shirts, buttons, so they were trying to cover all bases. They were having some signs made as well.

She knows that it is a big election and they have to get the word out there.

Selectman Dill stated that he thought that she was already on top of that already but wanted to bring it up and the more press that they could get, the better.

He continued that on the same note, he stated that the town's absentee ballots signs are better. Theirs had a paragraph on them. Kelly's were quick and to the point signs and he really appreciated it so thank you.

The chairman stated that he had some other correspondence there.

They have two letters. One to the Liquor Commission asking them if they would explain to them why they never notified the town of the changes at Mas Café.

The Board had talked about this a few weeks ago and basically, the Board would like to be notified when establishments significantly change in town and they clearly weren't.

There is a letter to the Lazy Lion as well asking them, and this is based on the October 3rd and 4th weekend, Taste of the Fair, for future events, that may cause similar parking situations to occur, that they should contact the town administrator and be put on the agenda and come to them about what is going to happen.

He stated that he had folks call him and email him that they were upset because they were getting parking tickets.

He did go down there and look and where they had parked, there were clearly, no parking signs. Two of the people stated that they had been advised by the Lion that this was a suitable place for them to park and clearly, if there is going to be large event that is going to clog up the area around the fire department, they needed to know about it.

The chairman asked the town administrator if they needed a motion to sign them and he stated no, they just needed to sign the letters.

Selectwoman McHugh stated that it just wasn't around the fire station but also in front of the apartment building. They were parking right under the no parking signs.

Selectman Dill stated that they made a pretty narrow bit of road for a couple of days.

Selectwoman McHugh stated that the trailer was so close to the road and they were parking across the street from it.

Selectman Dill stated that they had people parking in the parking lot legally but then had to get out into the road to walk.

Selectman McGarry stated that he saw that himself.

The chairman stated that they had a couple of letters in correspondence.

First is from Norman and Ann Laurier which were the second highest bidder on the property located on North Road. He believed that it was a 5-acre parcel or so. The specific lot was Map 405, Lot 76.

The high bidder for this property at St. Jean's Auction has backed out of taking the property and this was the second highest bidder.

They are offering the town \$45,000.00 plus 10 percent commission to the St. Jean Auction House.

As a side note, they note that they are residents of Deerfield and have been since 1984 and consider themselves good stewards of the land. They own the lot adjacent to this.

He didn't know what the Board's pleasure was, whether they wanted to take this under advisement before they make a decision and look at what the

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he definitely didn't want to act on it tonight as any auction that he has gone to, the second get a shot at it for the same price. Worst case scenario, he would like to see if they would go \$59,000.00 and then bid \$58,000.00. That \$45,000.00 is too cheap.

Selectman Dill stated that it usually goes to the last bid before the winner and they had bid more than \$45,000.00 at the auction. This is a buildable lot.

The vice chairman stated that he would suggest offering up to them at \$58,000.00 because chances are, that this is what it was because \$59,000.00 was the high bid and that would be close enough.

The chairman asked if the Board was in general agreement and have Mr. Harrington do that.

In addition, they had requests for bids for tree work and this was cemetery tree work and they got two bids. The first is from J. Messina Excavating, Crane Assisted Tree Service for declining maple trees around the Parade Cemetery including left side, right side and rear granite walls to be dismantled using a crane so that to not have any damage to granite stones or any rock walls. Works can be accomplished in three days and J. Messina Excavating and Tree, LLC estimate is \$15,000.00.

We have an estimate from Keenan Logging and Tree Care out of Sanbornton, NH, essentially, the same description, 15 large maple trees and their bid is \$18,600.00.

They had a bid from Queen Canopy Tree Care out of Gilmanton Iron Works, same description of work and their bid is \$19,500.00.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked where these funds will be coming from and it was answered by the chair that they are coming from the Cemetery Commission budget and asked the town administrator who stated that the last conversation that he had with the Cemetery Trustees was that they were going to use as many funded budgetary dollars that they had left in there and the rest was going to come from private donations.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to award the bid for tree cutting for the Cemetery Trustees to J. Messina Crane Service for \$15,000.00

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

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

Town Administrator's Report:

Mr. Harrington stated that he had several items.

They just took care of one of them.

He had an update from the Pawtuckaway Park staff. Their supervisor over there wanted the Board to know that they are still staffing the back entrance to the park on Reservation Road every weekend to ensure that off road parking and compliance with the rules is met.

They are talking to everybody going in that way making sure that they are parked well off the road. This will be monitored weekly and if necessary, Reservation Road access will be blocked again. She seemed to think that it has been working well the past couple of months and people have been in compliance but she did promise him that if they have any problems, they will shut it down again.

The chairman stated that it wasn't a concern to them but they have been manning the Nottingham back entrance off of Nottingham Road. He knew that this weekend, there were probably 50 or 60 cars along side of Nottingham Road, not off the road and also up the dirt road too.

It is a hassle, but it is not in Deerfield.

Mr. Harrington stated that the second item was the second bid so they had covered that.

Those were his two items for this evening.

He guessed that he could also add that the door to the town clerk's office, has been installed. Ray is buttoning up the outside. The foundation and the cement pour for the ramp is in. Bert Allard has been starting on the railing and that should be completed within a week or so and today, Granite State Glass was installing the new, double fire doors in the hallway here. They are almost finished and they should be finished tomorrow.

Selectman Dill stated that on that, they didn't know if they were going to be getting the grant money until they submit, correct?

Mr. Harrington stated that that was in the last billing. Again, he didn't know. All indications look like it will be covered but he didn't have a final answer for that.

Selectman Dill stated so on that, did they find that there is a desire for the bathroom at Yanni's and Mr. Harrington stated that the last chance to bid or put in expenses for COVID expenses was October 15th so it would not be covered by COVID funding. Right now, it doesn't appear to be extended.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that they would get what they would get.

Chairman Robertson stated that he had mentioned to them earlier, that there was an event this weekend at the Gazebo which apparently went very well but whenever Ray is approached about scheduling events there that are going to involve more than a handful of people outside, particularly if it is going to be a rally or a gathering like that, the Board of Selectmen really need to be in on the approval of that.

Mr. Harrington agreed and will talk to Ray about making sure that he inquires as to the approximate size of whatever event he is going to hold and if it is more than a handful, that he will bring it to the Board for approval.

Given the highway agent's concerns that he mentioned to them this evening in passing, that will help them gauge whether or not they need porta potties there or not too or whether they need porta potties there.

Mr. Harrington stated that this can be included with the approval.

Again, he wasn't aware that it was going to be as sizable as it was so they will take care of that next time.

The chairman asked for other unfinished or new business that they wished to talk about at this time.

Selectman Dill stated that he has been in contact with Eric and Dan quite a bit on the election and the big thing that Dan is hitting them on and the Board has approved it, but they want officers there from absolute open until close which they had brought up a couple of times.

The next thing is that they have to think about election for proxies for DOS. It is going to be a long day. He talked to Jeff Shute and he is willing to fill in for them which is awesome but if anyone can think of one or two more.

One board member mentioned Rebecca and the chairman stated that they could definitely reach out to Rebecca and Dwight Barnes, who has also done it in the past for them.

Selectman Dill stated that if they wanted to reach out to anyone, the more, the better. It is going to be a long, busy day. He is planning on getting there at 9:00 through close.

Chairman Robertson stated that he would put together a list of names including Jeff's and circulate that if anyone can think of anyone to add to that, they could go from there.

Selectman Dill stated that it has come up quick all of a sudden.

The other thing that Dan needs is and it is not his area of expertise but if anyone has a better parking plan, he is all ears right now. He doesn't draw parking plans.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he thought that it was more than plans, it was manpower. They deal with it at the fair and have people that know where to line them up. They come into this big, open area and they see a car and they see a saw horse and they don't know which way to go which is what he saw at the last election.

Selectman Dill stated that one main change is that they are going to make it a one-way loop to try to help out a little bit because the last time with people backing out and pulling in.

The vice chairman stated that they didn't have the most parking in front of that building which is the problem. They need either to go down back or on the level.

Selectman Dill stated that right now, the weather is not looking to be a rain day, so that is good and others added as long as it isn't white.

The chairman asked for other business.

Selectwoman McHugh asked if there was any more discussion regarding opening the other half of the building and it was stated that the doors haven't been installed yet but there will be door tomorrow.

Mr. Harrington stated that they should finish the door tomorrow so they won't have that locking problem or door malfunction so the Board can decide how they wanted to proceed with the back half of the building.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that they will be meeting next week so they should be able to have an answer for that.

Other questions, concerns, unfinished business.

Hearing none, the chairman would entertain a motion to adjourn and the vice chairman asked if they were going to have citizen's comments.

Citizen's Comments:

None

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to adjourn at 6:44 pm

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

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

Next Meeting: Monday, October 26, 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*