

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
April 19, 2021
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

Open Highway Bids: Road Reconstruction, Roadside Mowing, Winter Sand:

Chairman Robertson: Our first order of business this evening is going to be to open bids and we have highway bids, road reconstruction, roadside mowing and winter sand road reconstruction materials, typically gravel and materials and John, if you could open those for us.

I think we are starting with road reconstruction.

The first bid we have for road reconstruction materials is Earth Northeast Mechanics from over in Pittsfield. I'll run through these and pass them down. We typically refer these to the road agent and presume to get his recommendation. In this case, the road agent may well have a bid in the mix so it will probably be up to this Board rather than the road agent's referral.

Earth:

Sand:	\$11.20 a ton; \$14.00 per cubic yard; a cubic yard being 1.25 tons
Gravel:	\$11.43 a ton; \$16.00 per cubic yard
Crushed Gravel:	\$14.50 a ton; \$21.75 per cubic yard
Crushed Gravel for Shoulder Leveling:	\$15.50 a ton; \$23.25 per cubic yard
Crushed Aggregate for Shoulders:	\$15.50 a ton; \$23.25 per cubic yard
2" Minus Crushed Stone	\$16.00 a ton; \$24.00 per cubic yard
3-1/2" Crushed Stone	\$16.00 a ton; \$24.00 per cubic yard
6" Crushed Stone	\$16.00 a ton; \$24.00 per cubic yard

Delivery will be in tri-axle dump trucks and or dump trailers. There are no restrictions on dates for delivery. We will need 48 hours from time of placement of order to day of delivery.

Selectman Dill: Those are all delivered prices, right?

Chairman Robertson: Right. And they included a copy of their certificate of insurance for their operation as well.

The second bid we have for highway reconstruction materials is from Deerfield Sand and Gravel.

Deerfield Sand and Gravel:

3/4" Crushed Gravel:	\$9.35 per ton for onsite pickup; \$12.10 per ton delivered
1-1/2" Crushed Gravel:	\$9.25 per ton for onsite pickup; \$12.00 per ton delivered
3" Minus Crushed Gravel:	\$9.10 per ton for onsite pickup; \$11.85 per ton delivered
¾" Crushed Stone:	\$12.40 per ton for onsite pickup; \$14.40 per ton delivered
1-1/2" Crushed Stone:	\$12.00 per ton for onsite pickup; \$14.00 per ton delivered
6" Minus Crushed Stone:	\$11.50 per ton for onsite pickup; \$13.50 per ton delivered
Processed Reclaim	\$11.62 per ton for onsite pickup; \$13.62 per ton delivered

Vice Chairman Pitman: What was the processed reclaim?

Chairman Robertson: The processed reclaim was \$11.62 per ton; \$13.62 per ton delivered.

Vice Chairman Pitman: There are no yardage prices, just tonnage.

Chairman Robertson: Yes, it was all tonnage from Deerfield, yes.

It mentions quantity subject to availability.

Selectman Dill: There is no sand price there either.

Chairman Robertson: No there is no sand price there either.

We also have a bid, and I believe that this is the last bid. We had three, total for recon and this is from Merrill Construction and their bid is as follows:

Merrill Construction:

1-1/2" Processed Gravel:	\$8.05, picked up; \$14.00 delivered
3/4" Processed Gravel:	\$9.80 picked up; \$15.75 delivered
3" Minus Bank Run Gravel:	\$7.05 picked up; \$13.00 delivered
1-1/2" Crushed Stone:	\$11.80 picked up; \$17.75 delivered
Erosion Stone	\$11.55 picked up; \$17.50 delivered

Vice Chairman Pitman: There is no yardage, just tonnage?

Chairman Robertson: Yes, it is all tonnage.

And, those are the three bids that we have for reconstruction materials.

Selectman Dill: I am going to have to see some kind of spreadsheet with the same materials in a line across.

Selectwoman McHugh: (couldn't understand, envelopes being opened)

Selectman Dill: (couldn't understand, envelopes being opened)

Selectwoman McHugh: You said that Earth was all delivered?

Chairman Robertson: Yeah, (couldn't understand, envelopes being opened)

Board discussion happening but couldn't hear over envelopes being opened.

Selectman Dill: Yeah, I think that if we are going to Pittsfield or Loudon, it really makes sense.

Roadside Mowing:

Chairman Robertson: Okay, moving onto the roadside mowing bid. We received one bid and this is from Sewall's Enterprises from Newmarket, NH.

Roadside Mowing and Brush Trimming for the 2021 Mowing Season: \$9,000.00

Selectman Dill: Is that the same person that has been doing it the last couple of years?

Mr. Harrington: We had a different vendor last year.

Selectman Dill: Maybe it was the year before.

Mr. Harrington: Yes.

Highway Winter Sand:

Earth Northeast Mechanics:	\$11.88 per ton delivered to Deerfield Maintenance Shed; \$14.80 per cubic yard Delivery will be in tri-axle dump trucks and dump trailers. We would need 48 hours from time of placement of order to begin delivery.
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Merrill Construction: \$11.97 per ton delivered (they only gave a delivered tonnage rate)

And those are the bids that we received.

Vice Chairman Pitman: I would like to see John put a graph together with all of these.

Mr. Harrington: I can do that.

Chairman Robertson: Great. If you can do that, John, we will take that up at our next meeting.

Selectman Dill: Do we want to move on the roadside mowing since we only got one bid?

Chairman Robertson: What is the Board's pleasure in regards to roadside mowing?

Vice Chairman Pitman: We can do that and winter sand.

Selectman Dill: That is what I was kind of thinking.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to award the roadside mowing bid to Sewall's Enterprises for a price of \$9,000.00

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion: Chairman Robertson: I would note that they did a satisfactory job for us in the past.

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

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to go with Earth for the winter sand at \$11.88 a ton which is the lowest bidder

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson: So, we will award the winter sand to Earth.

Regular Business:

Review of Outstanding Minutes from April 12, 2021

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the minutes of April 12, 2021

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

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

Vouchers/Payroll Manifest/Accounts Payable Manifest:

Accounts Payable Manifest dated April 19, 2021 - \$65,105.63

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

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson: I think, even though we are back meeting in the meeting room as we are, it works really well, John, if you could continue to send us the documentation that you have been.

Mr. Harrington: Electronically?

Chairman Robertson: Yes. I think that it works out for all of us.

Mr. Harrington: I will continue to do that.

Selectman Dill: (couldn't understand)

Mr. Harrington: Very well.

Chairman Robertson: I did come down Friday just because I was bored.

Mr. Harrington: You all are welcome if you want to come in person anytime. I will set you up.

Chairman Robertson:

Payroll Manifest for the week ending April 14, 2021 - \$71,227.38 (gross); \$46,186.26 (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:

Chairman Robertson: Moving to, start with correspondence and get that out of the way before going into signatures as there are a large number of assessing signatures this evening.

First up, we have a letter to the Board of Selectmen and John included the letter. It's handwritten. It's from some young members of the neighborhood who like to skateboard.

Selectman Dill: I was going to bring this up later. Perfect.

Chairman Robertson: And, would like to be able to skateboard, and I am assuming that the only places that are posted against skateboarding, if I am correct, is the basketball court and the tennis court.

Mr. Harrington: That is correct but I also found a town ordinance, which I have attached to the very back, which goes into further detail and I think that this may be what they are talking about.

Selectman Dill: This is cool. I got a call on this and I am glad that they brought this up so that we don't have to do it without it.

Chairman Robertson: Nope, they wrote a letter which is signed by Sam Long, Willow Turner and Matt Kelly and let me, I had seen the letter and was aware that Parks and Rec is not interested in having BMX bikes or skateboards on the tennis court or the basketball court because we had that refinished with a special finish and part of the guidelines of the finishing process are to absolutely to keep out bicycles and skateboards off the surface.

And, since we just had, at least the basketball court

Mr. Harrington: Within the past two years.

Chairman Robertson: redone, I think Parks and Rec and everyone involved would like to see the ban remain on those court surfaces however, notice that the town ordinance actually says that skateboarders and roller skaters ...

Selectman Dill: are not supposed to be in public roads.

Chairman Robertson: are not supposed to be on public ways in the town of Deerfield, is prohibited.

Selectman Dill: I got a call from a different group of kids that were skateboarding on Candia Road and they said that it was the best pavement in town and the officer that they know went by a few times and waved and said hi and then he came back and said that he got a call that somebody referenced that ordinance and he shut them down.

I had never heard of that and it really surprised me because I would rather have the kids skateboard on Candia Road than skateboarding on 107 where it is legal.

Chairman Robertson: Yeah, this also goes on to ban the use of rollerblades and roller skates on public ways.

Selectman Dill: But biking and walking are legal.

Chairman Robertson: Yeah, I think that this is a little more complicated probably because it is an ordinance that was enacted. I think that we have to hold a public hearing. We can't just say that we would like to get rid of the ordinance.

Does the Board have any interest in holding a public hearing?

Selectman Dill: I think the young people that I talked to the other day would be very interested.

Chairman Robertson: I know a number of hockey players and hockey playing adults that rollerblade in Deerfield.

Selectman Dill: I would just rather have these kids on a back road where there is no traffic than on a state road where they are legally allowed to do it which I don't think is such a good idea not to mention when you go out into the cul de sacs, you are going to find a bunch of kids doing it.

Chairman Robertson: I will also say that our ordinance specifically states that skate boards may use the basketball court.

Selectwoman McHugh: What is the date on that?

Chairman Robertson: To keep them off the ... no, it was 2000.

Selectman Dill: I thought that it was longer than that.

Chairman Robertson: It was in 2000 and I don't think that there was anybody on the Board close to skateboarding age at the time, looking at the minutes.

So, if the Board is in agreement, I don't think that we can make a decision this evening but we can set up a public hearing as soon as possible so that we have time to rethink what we want to do with rollerblades and skate boards.

Selectman McGarry: We should get Gary's input, too.

Vice Chairman Pitman: on town roads.

Chairman Robertson: Yup.

Selectman Dill: I have to say, the kids in town, they both said that the officer (can't understand, a lot of static) Our ordinance says that they get one warning and then they get a \$10.00 fine each time they are caught.

Selectman Dill: I don't think that he brought that up.

Chairman Robertson: So, if you want to pay \$10.00 per session and get away with it, you are probably ...

Selectman Dill: I know that these kids live on a dirt road with dirt driveways and they were really excited to find such a nice, smooth piece of asphalt.

Selectwoman McHugh: That's not a really great place to have them rollerblading, though.

Chairman Robertson: Okay, moving along, to be addressed at this meeting, in correspondence, we have a letter from Mr. Erroll Rhodes and this is regarding a land use change tax. I am going to bring that up under our assessing signatures.

Essentially, I had correspondence from him since he received this letter. He made a name change on a parcel of property not realizing it generated the land use change tax. Could not get an appointment with our assessor prior to the April 1st cutoff.

He has since met with the assessor and changed the deed back so that Mr. Rhodes could now (couldn't hear) the whole situation but I don't believe that Evan has had a chance to see that change and (couldn't hear) that abatement request and a land use change tax levy (couldn't hear).

I think probably, (couldn't hear) put this on hold until we (couldn't hear) from Evan with regard to the fix.

Nothing has changed about these properties; the LLC name or trust name or whatever. It was changed and now it has apparently changed back so (couldn't hear).

Selectman Dill: (couldn't hear) I know that his parents passed away.

Chairman Robertson: It probably part of the estate cleanup after his mother's passing.

Vice Chairman Pitman: (couldn't hear) opinion.

Chairman Robertson: Moving on to our non-assessing signature file, we a request from the Veasey Park Commission to reappoint Travis McCoy to the Commission and this would be through April 30th, 2024.

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to reappoint Travis McCoy to the Veasey Park Commission

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Selectman Dill: (couldn't hear) really is great. You have to look at the back of the envelope. I am really impressed.

Chairman Robertson: Okay. We also have a water conservation letter that John has put together. This is essentially what we did last year. It doesn't have any particular teeth to it but it is asking people to please limit their water use and use water wisely and just notify the community that we are again, in a drought situation before we even get close to the summer.

I guess we should have a motion.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to notify the community regarding the current drought situation

Second:

Discussion:

Mr. Harrington: Actually, there were a couple of typos that Fred pointed out so I will have to bring that back to you next week.

Chairman Robertson: Okay. Is the Board, oh, we don't have one to sign, do we? Never mind.

Mr. Harrington: No. I just got this today. I will correct it and have it for you next week.

Chairman Robertson: The maker of the motion has rescinded his motion.

And, then we have a letter to Cambridge Trust Company of NH asking them to provide our auditing firm with several items: listed individuals, securities held by you for our town; individual securities that have been transferred to our name, emails (couldn't hear) from us, (couldn't hear) during the period ending December 31st, 2020 and credit quality ratings of debt securities other than debt securities issued or specifically guaranteed by the U.S. government.

That would need a motion for us to move forward with this request.

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to sign the letter to Cambridge Trust Company as read

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson: And that was the short folder with regard to signatures.

Mr. Harrington: There was one item to be addressed at this meeting in the correspondence folder. The ascertainment letter notice.

It would have been the right-hand side, Alden.

Selectman Dill: Okay.

Chairman Robertson: Yeah, I have never seen that there.

Selectman Dill: There are only two things on the right; the letter, there are two letters. There are the Planning Board minutes. The (couldn't understand) Control Service. That's all we have in here.

Mr. Harrington: Okay, thank you.

Chairman Robertson: Can it wait until next week?

Mr. Harrington: Yes. Not a problem.

Chairman Robertson: Okay. The first two items we have are the land use change tax for 70 Church Street, LLC and an abatement application for 51 Church, LLC and these are the two of the properties that Mr. Rhodes letter concerns and I think, if the Board is in agreement, I would like to set these aside.

Moving on, we have a disposition of an abatement application and this is from Kathleen and Jonathan Lear of 5 Dukes Lane in Deerfield. The assessor recommends the abatement on the \$5,000.00 difference in value contested. Evan has provided us lengthy explanation of why he feels we should grant the abatement.

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to approve the abatement regarding 5 Dukes Lane for Kathleen and Jonathan Lear

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Next, we have an abatement application from Mark Duclos for 123 Nottingham Road. The amount of the abatement is \$206.54. This is due to a \$10,500.00 value difference between the original assessment prior to the abatement. The assessor recommends the abatement on the \$10,500.00 difference in value.

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to approve the abatement for Mark Duclos of 123 Nottingham Road

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

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

Then we have an abatement application from James Ricci of the Lois Tilton Trust and this is for property at 72 Nottingham Road. The amount of the abatement is \$1,463.45. This is due to a \$74,400.00 difference in value. The assessor recommends the abatement and has provided a lengthy explanation of why he does.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the abatement request for James Ricci for 72 Nottingham Road

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

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

We have an abatement application from Joseph and Michelle Murphy, 215A North Road in Deerfield. The assessor recommends this abatement be denied. He has given us, and this is a lakefront property assessed at \$672,900.00.

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to deny the abatement for Joseph and Michelle Murphy at 215A North Road

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion: Selectwoman McHugh: I don't understand what he put in the explanation as to why he denied it.

Chairman Robertson: Yes, and I believe this is the same as several others on the lake. People wanted to contest the value of the property and he basically explained why the comparable pieces that they used were not actually comparable to their pieces and he also explained that the abatement process is for the total property including improvements and you can't separate out just the land value.

Selectwoman McHugh: Okay.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Every one of them was land.

Chairman Robertson: Further discussion?

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

Okay, next we have an abatement application from Patrick and Lisa Brochu at 2 Iver Johnson Lane. This also waterfront property and is being denied for essentially the same reasons and Evan has given us a lengthier explanation of why he would recommend denying this abatement.

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to deny the abatement for Patrick and Lisa Brochu of 2 Iver Johnson Lane

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

We have an abatement application from Mrs. Harriet Cady at 32 Old Centre Road. The assessor recommends that this abatement be denied.

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to deny the abatement for Harriet Cady at 32 Old Centre Road

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

We have an abatement application from Eversource and this is for Map 406, Lot 36. The assessor recommends that this abatement be denied. This is based on tower space that Eversource Energy leases from NHPB.

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to deny Eversource for their abatement for Map 406, Lot 36

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

We have the second abatement application for Church Street which we set the other two applications aside and recommend that we do the same with this.

This takes us to our easier options. Here, we do not need motions on these next couple.

Notice of Intent to Cut Wood/Timber – Janet B. Rich – former Joe and Elsie Brown property.

Notice of Intent to Cut Wood/Timber – Dana Stevens – Map 418, Lot 5, 50 North Road.

We have the report on wood or timber cut and do we have a levy request with this one, John?

Mr. Harrington: Yes.

Chairman Robertson: This one we need a motion on to collect timber tax based on the yield in the amount of \$187.29.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to collect the timber tax levy in the amount of \$187.29

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson: I believe the next few are applications for standard Veteran's Credit in the amount of \$750.00.

The first is from Christina Lewis of 272 North Road.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Do you want to do them all in one motion, Andy?

Chairman Robertson: Yes, if the Board is in agreement, I can read all of these and we can do one motion.

Board members agreed.

Chairman Robertson: All the information appears to be in order.

The first is for Christina Lewis. This is for the standard Veteran's Credit in the amount of \$750.00.

The second is from her spouse, John Lewis, also for the standard \$750.00 credit.

The third is from Daniel Tripp and also for the \$750.00 standard credit.
The fourth is from John O'Gara and also is for the \$750.00 standard credit and all of them have the required paperwork.

Vice Chairman Pitman: So, is that on the person to have two on one property?

Mr. Harrington: If each spouse is a vet, they can apply separately.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the Standard Veteran's Credit of \$750.00 for the four listed.

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

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

A lot of interference with audio.

Mr. Harrington: They couldn't hear me last week so I am leaning right into the microphone.

Chairman Robertson: Okay, moving down the agenda (couldn't hear, loud interference)

Town Administrator's Report:

Mr. Harrington: I have several items for you this evening.

Asking the Board for approval to schedule an additional Board meeting on May 3rd which will make available the Board to open town mowing bids. Those are currently out and due on the 23rd so if we meet on the 3rd, that will line us up for the first week in May.

Bids will be opened at the April 26th meeting.

Couldn't hear because of interference.

Mr. Harrington: Correct.

The Highway Department, you had asked me to check on the balance of the impact fees. I have that for you. As of the last statement dated March 31st, the impact fee balance for the highway department was \$50,022.02.

No fees are due to be returned until 2024 so we have spent down all of the money that was due to be returned so that balance is in good shape.

And, while I was there, I also have the balances for the other two impact fee funds just for your knowledge.

The transfer station has a balance of \$39,930.32 and some fees are expiring in October of 2021 so we have several months to use those fees up.

Selectman Dill: Do you have the amount?

Mr. Harrington: No, I didn't add those up.

It's only a couple of them so the most of the money is not due to expire.

The school currently has a balance of \$96,963.00. No fees are expiring currently. They used quite a bit of money when they redid the floor last year so they're in good shape for that.

The Cable Community Ascertainment Notice that I spoke to Andy about earlier, what that is, is the next step in the negotiation process with Atlantic Broadband.

Chairman Robertson: We are just telling the town what we are doing.

Mr. Harrington: It gives the town an opportunity to respond to the Board with any concerns they might have. It specifies what they send a concern about and what we do not have control over.

I will have that ready for you next week just to have you take a look at it.

Selectman Dill: We have a few years

Mr. Harrington: 2023 when it expires.

We will read it aloud at the Board meeting. I will put it on the webpage, the Facebook page, and publish it in the Forum to get as much exposure as possible.

Chairman Robertson: I think we all saw it because it was in the electronic packet.

Mr. Harrington: Right.

And, it is just a matter of posting it for the community.

I will have to BOS letter to you with Fred's edits next week to sign and will get that posted as well.

Just to let the Board know that the 2020 Town Audit concluded this past week. The auditors were from Plodzik and Sanderson. They spent three and a half days here at the George B. White Building meeting with town staff to conduct their onsite review. They will be finalizing their results shortly and sending a draft report to review and from there we will get the final report.

So far, I have gotten good feedback from them. They have found nothing of major interest but they will have some recommendations.

Today started the annual fire inspections for all government buildings and with that, I'm reporting to the Board, they already had to do a slightly higher repair than what I was prepared for. They were over in the town hall sprinkler pump house and we had some difficulties with that mechanism last year and in an attempt to shutdown the pump, apparently, whoever responded, broke the handle off to this box which broke an internal component that needed to be replaced and the LED screen that reads out the pump pressure and other important information was no longer functioning.

So, the approximate repair price for that was \$1,500.00. They repaired it today. The pump is back up and running. That supplies sprinkler water for the town hall should there be a fire.

Chairman Robertson: John called me this morning and basically, without this repair, we don't have a sprinkler system at the town hall.

Selectman Dill: What kind of money?

Mr. Harrington: \$1,500.00, approximately.

Chairman Robertson: I think that this has been non-operational for a while.

Mr. Harrington: This is the first time that it has come to light but it's entirely possible but that is why we have annual inspections to catch these things.

And last, an update on the George B. White ventilation project.

Ray met with a HVAC professional today who does nothing but install and service HVAC systems.

From his opinion, he's going to give a quote. We may have significant work to do prior to any Parks and Rec programming if we are going to get that up and running.

He determined that it is just an exhaust system, it's not a ventilation system. It just pulls air out of the rooms and in talking to Rick Pelletier who looked up code, even if we had every window open in that section, and the vents running, we would not be able to push enough air through to adequately service that end of the building.

So again, as soon as I have as to what it will take to adequately supply ventilation to that section of the building, I will get back to you but I wanted to let you know it's still moving forward.

Chairman Robertson: That was the original exhaust mechanisms for that half of the building?

Mr. Harrington: Correct.

Chairman Robertson: So, they are decades old.

Mr. Harrington: They haven't been operational since the last time Rick worked on them back in the early 90's. Since then, they have been non-functional.

Chairman Robertson: I had my fingers crossed when you brought up that we may be able to just fire them up but...

Mr. Harrington: Right.

Chairman Robertson: It did occur to me that they might not.

Selectwoman McHugh: So, is this an issue because of COVID or is this ...

Mr. Harrington: This was, we're doing this because in order to bring kids back into the building, it requires adequate ventilation. Right now, there is no ventilation.

Selectwoman McHugh: Because of COVID or is this normal?

Mr. Harrington: No, even without COVID, we do not meet code and it has just been a matter of time.

(Couldn't hear who spoke)

Mr. Harrington: Correct. I understand that the school just went through a rather drastic ventilation system change themselves last year so I will keep the Board posted as I get information.

Chairman Robertson: Does anyone have any questions for John at this time?

Okay, moving along.

Unfinished Business:

Selectman McGarry: It's really not unfinished business but the Planning Board had a non-meeting last Wednesday night. I guess we had the wrong passcode or the wrong ID number and it was pointed out to us and had to end the meeting.

(Couldn't hear over static)

Selectman McGarry: Oh yeah. I think that we had three cases.

Selectman Dill: On unfinished business, Jared called me Saturday morning to tell me that the crane would not be taking trees down because of the snow and is hoping to do it again this weekend. The cemetery trees that we haven't got to and it looks like this weekend is going to rain so we are just going to keep scheduling Jared for every weekend that by July, we should be caught up.

So, hopefully, they will hit it Saturday but it depends if they can park a 125 crane in the cemetery or not.

I have a second one too, if we have time for that.

I was contacted the other day about (static) shoving match with the person who now lives on the right-of-way access corridor so I pawned him off on Andy as he would know more. I was down in that area Saturday so I thought that I would drive over there.

So, for anyone that doesn't know about (static) parking area but not prior. I pulled up to this dirt road with some stones and if I didn't know to go down there, I would have no knowledge that there was access down there.

I really, I would like to see us contact Fish and Game to get some signage up. We have a huge public resource out there and I really think that it is not being accessed.

Chairman Robertson: I think that we should definitely do that and I think originally, it gets worse because there is a nice new sign at the gate after the subdivision was approved in 2016 now and there is also a very, well-kept up sign about a quarter mile in from where you are here. Has been updated and has notices on it, that sort of thing but yeah, they are completely invisible.

Selectman Dill: I put two and two together thinking that Corey Road must be down there but ...

Chairman Robertson: I did send concerned citizens a copy of deeded easement for public access over that right-of-way.

I think Fred, that you and Kate and I walked around a couple of mornings out there. That whole subdivision was approved based on the fact that it would be deeded public access over that road.

Selectman Dill: The current owner there might need a reminder of the deeded right-of-way as well.

Chairman Robertson: Apparently, one resident, I know the folks in the log cabin, are in complete agreement that people should be able to go down there and use the conservation land itself. Apparently, there is a newer resident (static).

Selectman Dill: (Static) about how they are monitoring all of their public lands and finding a lot of encroachment. I think that they are working on the issue now but we need (couldn't understand).

Chairman Robertson: We can certainly do that and I will talk with John to see if we still have emails from their representative who worked with the Planning Board

Mr. Harrington: This is on Corey Road?

Chairman Robertson: Yes, it's the Corey Wildlife, it's actually Hidden Drive, I believe maybe the name of actual ...

Selectman Dill: I was out there and I was completely at a loss.

Chairman Robertson: I think it is called Hidden Drive and it is access to the Corey Mountain Wildlife

Selectman Dill: It goes from Hidden Drive to Corey Road and then Corey Road was dirt. I'm thinking, I guess it's down there ...

Selectwoman McHugh: to a cul de sac

Selectman Dill: It was a lot of extra roads for a small subdivision.

Chairman Robertson: We can certainly talk to them about it to get a sign at the cul de sac indicating access and it is actually access to a pretty good size chunk of conservation land now because the Lyon's property is in conservation there which is 300-acres or so adjacent to the state property which is 100-acres which is divided a little bit by the Green Crow Timber Company's holdings but then we have another 240-acres in two lots on town conservation land.

Selectman Dill: It's literally (static) of town. It's crazy to think that it is from Mt. Delight Road to Griffin Road. It's a lot of land.

Chairman Robertson: We have some other access there that we have had some issues with. There is access off of the bottom of Swamp Road. I think that the Conservation Commission has finally hammered out an agreement with some other property owners in there. Eames Timber, the Conservation Commission so that is not posted anymore. The town of Epsom actually posted it. They posted the Deerfield side of it and it's our road in its entirety from the gate and there is also a Class VI road that is a driveway to a private residence that leaves Mt. Delight and accesses a large piece of town conservation land in there that is not signed that this is how you access it. In fact, the road is blocked with piles of dirt and if you go up that driveway, you will be told that it is private property.

Selectman Dill: There must be some access off of Whittier Road too, wouldn't there be?

Chairman Robertson: There is deeded access off of Whittier Road ...

Selectman Dill: Which has zero signage.

Chairman Robertson: There is a sign that says "Keep Out" if you are not a resident.

Selectman Dill: That is kind of what I meant when I said zero signage to let people know that there is public access.

Chairman Robertson: There is a big sign but ...

Selectman Dill: I just hate to see such a resource not being, being gated or guarded by people who don't have the authority to gate guard.

Chairman Robertson: Nope. I'll get together with John and we'll track down the right people at Fish and Game and see what we can do.

Selectman Dill: That is all I had.

Chairman Robertson: Other business?

Hearing none, at this point I would move to Citizen's Comments if we have any.

Citizen's Comments:

Erroll Rhodes, Church Street: Just for the record, the first ten minutes of this meeting was inaudible.

Chairman Robertson: Okay. Thank you.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to adjourn at 6:17 pm

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

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

Next Meeting: Monday, April 26, 2021 at 5:30 pm

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