

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
June 22, 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, and Cynthia McHugh, Selectmen.

Absent: Alden Dill, Selectman

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

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

We have a fairly busy agenda this evening and we also have to be out of this room by 7:00 this evening, so I will just throw that out there that if folks feel particularly long winded, they may get shut off.

Our first agenda item is the Conservation Commission's quarterly report from Serita Frey.

Serita Frey – Conservation Commission – Quarterly Update:

Mr. Harrington: She is not here.

Chairman Robertson: and I don't see Serita here and the town administrator has told me that she will not be joining us.

So, that said, we will move on to Fire Chief Fisher. Could I get you to come forward?

At this time, I would like to introduce James Moody, Vice Chair of Employer Support of the Guard and the Reserves here in New Hampshire and if you would like to come forward, Mr. Moody.

And John, could you maybe give him a mic. I don't know if we can get a microphone to reach you ...

Mr. Moody: I will use my "command" voice.

So, good evening everyone. My name is Jim Moody. I am a volunteer with the New Hampshire Committee of Employer Support of the Guard and the Reserve.

We are actually a Department of Defense agency. There is a committee in every single state and territory and, made up of volunteers. We have about 50 to 60 volunteers here in New Hampshire that do various things. One of the tenets of ESGR is to support employers of guardsmen and reservists and Chief Fisher was put in for one of our awards that is called the "Patriotic Employer Award" from one of his employees or fireman, Charles Butler.

Charles is a Private First Class in Charlie Company, 3rd of 177th Mountain Division. He is currently deployed or at least at the mobilization station and getting ready to deploy to somewhere in a far-off land but he thought so highly of Chief Fisher and how supportive the Chief and the department and the Town of Deerfield was to his military career.

Charles has also put on COVID support orders, numerous times over the last year to assist with vaccine distribution, warehousing, security of sites and things of that nature and of course now, he's deployed.

Anytime a guardsman or a reservist is deployed, it puts an added burden on the employer to take up that slack and again, Chief Fisher has been fine with that and more than willing to step up and support Charles and his military career.

So, with that chief

Chairman Robertson: And, this is why we were trying to keep you around at the last meeting.

Mr. Moody: It was a miscommunication. I apologize for that.

Chief Fisher: This is awesome.

Mr. Moody: So, Chief, thank you again so very much for being the supportive employer. Actually, I'll read this if you don't mind?

"Office of the Secretary of Defense:

The Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve recognizes Matt Fisher, of Deerfield Fire/Rescue, as a "Patriotic Employer" for contributing to national security and protecting liberty and freedom by supporting participation of America's National Guard and Reserve force."

I also have a statement of support and it is made out to Deerfield Fire and Rescue and signed by one of our former National chairs, Eric Craig McKinley and it basically shows that you, as an employer, are supportive of guardsmen and reservists that work for you because you know how important it is to the nation's defense but also in the support, here in New Hampshire, i.e. COVID Support so you can sign this and put this in your office somewhere to be displayed.

Chief Fisher: Thank you very much.

Mr. Moody: And last but not least, we have a "Patriotic Employer" pin. It has a US flag and ESGR symbol and the word "Patriot" on it.

Chief Fisher: Awesome. Thank you very much.

Chairman Robertson: Thank you Chief Fisher and thank you Mr. Moody for presenting this.

Mr. Moody: You're very welcome.

Chairman Robertson: You're welcome to stay if you want, Matt.

Next up, we have Mr. Skip Kelley who wishes to talk to us about Kettle Rock Road and Mt. Delight Road.

Skip Kelley – Kettle Rock Road/Mt. Delight Road:

And I believe this is in regard, primarily to Kettle Rock Road?

Mr. Kelly: Yes, it is.

Chairman Robertson: If you have hand outs for us, we can certainly look at those.

Mr. Kelly: I just have a blue print in case anyone wants to see what the property looks like.

Chairman Robertson: We may, we may want to but if I could get you to take a seat at the microphone so we can hear your comments.

Mr. Kelly: Hi. My name is Skip Kelly and my company is MDGF, LLC and my company is owner of the property located on the corner of Mt. Delight Road and Kettle Rock Road. There is that abandoned house there, that's number 217 and essentially what I, what my company has purchased there is a 36-acre tract of land that consisted of three lots of record, one of which had frontage solely on Kettle Rock Road and the significance here is that Kettle Rock Road is not a town-maintained road. It is a Class VI Road and I did at one point try to bring Kettle Rock up to town standards but the select board had decided they did not want that to happen so we abandoned that plan.

We then sought and received from the Zoning Board of Adjusters, a variance to be able to build a structure on the existing lot of record on Kettle Rock Road. Where Kettle Rock Road is not a town-maintained road, you can't normally just obtain a building permit. You need to go get a variance in order for that to happen. The ZBA did grant the variance and so there is now in place, a variance to build a family structure on that lot of record.

Subsequently, my company went to the Planning Board to do some lot line adjustments and some other things, creating one new lot on Mt. Delight Road.

The Planning Board did, in fact, approve the plan but asked that I would come to the select board meeting and do a public acknowledgement that whomever should build on that lot on Kettle Rock Road, will know that it's in the record. It is not a town-maintained road and will not be a town-maintained road and essentially, did I get that correctly, Fred?

Selectman McGarry: Yeah, just to confirm the Planning Board's standpoint, the Board issued a conditional approval subject to the action by the Board of Selectmen to allow Mr. Kelley to construct a dwelling on Kettle Rock Road subject to gates and bars and basically a Class VI Road.

Chairman Robertson: My understanding of this, it's a little bit more complicated than the process laid out. Permission to build on a Class VI Road, whether there is a variance from the ZBA or whether there is pre-approval from the Planning Board, rests solely with the Board of Selectmen.

I'm not exactly sure why the ZBA would grant a variance when they can't grant a building permit for a Class VI Road.

Selectman McGarry: They did grant a variance.

Chairman Robertson: I didn't check the notes but essentially, this Board has to accept the liability agreement for the road. Just acknowledging for the record is not enough and the Board of Selectmen also has to agree to issue a building permit on a Class VI Road.

We haven't had this before us previously. I don't know, I guess to my mind, there was a driveway.

Are you removing the abandoned structure?

Mr. Kelley: No. That is on a separate lot of record.

Chairman Robertson: Okay. So, this would be a separate driveway, further in on Kettle Rock Road for a single residence.

Mr. Kelley: Yes, and there is actually an existing driveway on that lot and that lot is essentially 8.2-acres of land.

Chairman Robertson: Okay.

I don't know what's the Board's pleasure is? Dick, do you have a comment?

Vice Chairman Pitman: Yes, can you tell us how much of this land is in Deerfield and how much is in Allenstown?

Mr. Kelley: So, actually, I misquoted. There are 8.2 in Allenstown and 3.9-acres in Deerfield so the total is actually 11., almost 12.

Chairman Robertson: But it is all going to be one lot?

Mr. Kelley: Yes, it is all one lot, yes. It is not going to be subdivided and will not be further subdivided.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Is that where the logging was taking place?

Mr. Kelley: Yes.

Vice Chairman Pitman: So that, if you were to get this, are you done with that "development"?

Mr. Kelley: Yes. That is the totality of all of the subdivision that's going to happen. In fact, in Allenstown, they asked us to add a note to that affect.

Vice Chairman Pitman: So that new house that is being built, is that on the other lot?

Mr. Kelley: So, that is on a lot of record which fronts only on Mt. Delight Road. So that lot, at that point, I have to go back to my notes, but it was something like 16-acres as it previously existed.

Vice Chairman Pitman: So, there will be that house, the old house and this new one that was there for the subdivision?

Mr. Kelley: I'm not clear, say that again.

Vice Chairman Pitman: The new house that is being built.

Mr. Kelley: Correct.

Vice Chairman Pitman: The old house that you have on the market trying to sell.

Mr. Kelley: Yeah.

Vice Chairman Pitman: And this new lot that you wanted, will that be the extent of the subdivision?

Mr. Kelley: So, the total of the area is four, separate lots. We started with three of record that we had surveyed and the plan was recorded and one of the lots which fronted on Mt. Delight Road had a lot light adjustment done to it giving it a little bit more frontage than it previously had. It took that frontage from the existing old house.

Then that lot, which was the same lot where the new construction is taking place; that lot was subdivided into a five-acre and a ten-acre lot. So, there is a total now, will be a total of four.

Chairman Robertson: So, essentially, we're looking at one single ...

Mr. Kelley: One, additional new lot.

Chairman Robertson: Between the abandoned house that is for sale and the Godbois' house.

Mr. Kelley: No. That is an existing Again, it's an existing lot of record between Tim Godbois' house and 217, which is the existing house on the corner.

Chairman Robertson: Right.

Mr. Kelley: We did not create any lots.

Chairman Robertson: So, essentially ...

Mr. Kelley: The newly created lot is solely on Mt. Delight Road.

Chairman Robertson: Okay, so what he's looking for from the Board is permission to build one house with a driveway on Kettle Rock Road.

Mr. Kelley: Correct.

Selectman McGarry: Right.

Mr. Kelley: On a twelve-acre lot. Essentially, the lot of record. We did do some minor lot line adjustments there ...

Selectwoman McHugh: Where is the fourth house going?

Mr. Kelley: So, there's the existing house on the corner. There's this lot that we are discussing on Kettle Rock which is two. Then to the left of the existing house, all the way down Mt. Delight towards the powerlines, there's already one, new construction that is underway. In between that and the existing old house is the additional new lot.

Selectwoman McHugh: The fourth house will be on Mt. Delight, not Kettle Rock.

Mr. Kelley: Correct

Chairman Robertson: Okay, so, I guess the question to the Board is do we want to grant the permission for Rick to issue a building permit on Kettle Rock Road for one house and I guess, to my mind, we've already got two people further down Kettle Rock Road that have driveway permits.

Mr. Kelley: That's correct.

Selectwoman McHugh: With the note that it will never be a town-maintained road.

Mr. Kelley: Yes.

Chairman Robertson: There's a liability waiver that goes along with this so basically stipulating that it's not town-maintained and we don't take responsibility for whether emergency access vehicles can get down that road or not.

Mr. Kelley: Part of the permitting process, just to be clear, there is document that you folks have generated already which was made a part of the variance application package that states exactly what we're discussing, i.e., it's always going to be maintained and a liability on the home owner, not the town.

Chairman Robertson: Unless at some future Board of Selectmen would like to see it as a Class V and lays it out.

Multiple members and Mr. Kelley: Right.

Chairman Robertson: So, future questions from the Board?

Vice Chairman Pitman: So, something will be in writing that this will remain a Class VI Road by the Town of Deerfield?

Chairman Robertson: Yes. Very definitely. We've already essentially established that by telling Skip that we wouldn't lay it out as a Class V.

I don't know what the Board's pleasure is? We could make a motion to accept the plan that Skip has given us; the liability waiver, and allow Rick to issue a building permit.

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to accept the plan presented by Mr. Kelley regarding Kettle Rock Road and allow the building inspector to issue a building permit.

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson: It appears unanimous, Mr. Kelley.

Mr. Kelley: Thank you.

Steve Rollins – Road Agent - Paving

Chairman Robertson: Okay, next, it's not on the agenda but road agent, Steve Rollins, is with us this evening and I believe that Steve wanted to talk to the Board about some paving matters.

Mr. Rollins: So, as you know, R & D is coming in to start the paving that we contracted with them. They are actually starting tomorrow morning and with that extra money that we have, we want to do some more overlay at that same price while they are here.

And, basically, I just wanted to get permission from you folks.

Chairman Robertson: The obviously question is what are you looking at for additional overlay?

Mr. Rollins: So, John and I went through the map that we have as to what roads were next on the list that could be done just with an overlay being so late in the season without a lot of work.

The pieces that were next on the list that came up were to continue Parade Road

Chairman Robertson: Down to 107 and 43?

Mr. Rollins: Yes. So, we are already on Parade Road anyway.

Then, Middle Road, there were two pieces on Middle Road that could be done. A little bit on each end. Obviously, the middle is beyond just an overlay but there was the piece that we left off last year on Middle coming back towards town, from there up over and down to about Danielle, right in there because that's never been topped, as well and then that would save that base and there was a little bit that would need a shim before you get to the last piece of the hill by Danielle.

And then the other piece down the other end towards Sanborn's farm, we could overlay some of that, shim some of that and overlay that to try to get a little more time out of that.

Chairman Robertson: The piece directly in front of the farm?

Mr. Rollins: From the intersection up to about two-thirds of the way up the hill. Just around the corner. Then after that, there's just no, no quick fix to that road.

Chairman Robertson: I, Dick, do you have a question?

Vice Chairman Pitman: It's nice to know the roads but what are we looking at price wise?

Mr. Rollins: \$143,000.00 and some change. Same tonnage price as we put out to bid.

Vice Chairman Pitman: So, this would be what we talked about that \$200,000.00?

Mr. Rollins: Yes. It would be about \$143,000.00 of the \$200,000.00.

Chairman Robertson: I guess my only question would be is that we are under contract for specific sections right now and I don't know who to look at, either John or Fred, as to how this, how we could act on this either with an addendum to the contract or just ...

Mr. Rollins: I don't think that they were looking for a contract. They said that they would honor the per ton price because they could do it while they were here.

Selectman McGarry: Yeah, as long as they are willing to honor, to use those prices, it certainly benefits the town and if they have no objection to it, just a simple addition to, additional quantities in the contract.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Can you oversee that, Fred? You kind of did the ...

Selectman McGarry: I'm not going to oversee the construction.

Vice Chairman Pitman: As to how it gets written up. That the town is going to spend \$143,000.00

Selectman McGarry: Yeah.

Chairman Robertson: I think it makes sense to get that price. I know they're nervous about locking into that price because they are concerned that asphalt is going to go up fairly soon.

Selectman McGarry: It is a good price.

Mr. Rollins: Yes.

Chairman Robertson: So, what is the pleasure of the Board? Do we want to authorize the additional work? I think clearly protecting the base of what we put down last year is in line with our planning with what we have been advised, engineering-wise and I don't know that we have had any engineer reports back on the road between the Sanborn buildings and the Sanborn fields but anyone that has driven over it, might think that it would be worth putting a little overlay on.

Selectman McGarry: The only concern that I had, I took a look at in front the Sanborn's buildings there and we don't have any ditch on the Sanborn side.

Mr. Rollins: Right.

Selectman McGarry: On the building side.

Mr. Rollin: Yeah.

Selectman McGarry: That was a concern.

Mr. Rollins: Our plan for that was to get up there and run the backhoe up and down to try and get it cleaned up a little bit before they do it. There is really no place to put a ditch there as you know, either side. Even the side across the street because of the wall.

I did get permission to get the brush, junk out of there and dig that back a little bit and hoping that we can still make that work but they are starting tomorrow.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to spend up to \$143,000.00 out of the \$200,000.00 on the paving from R & D at the current price that they contracted.

Chairman Robertson: Sorry for the interruption, but Steve, do you know what the change was when you said \$143 and some change?

Mr. Rollins: Call it \$144,000.00 just to be safe or \$145,000.00 just to be safe but it was \$143, yeah.

Selectman McGarry: And that price includes the tack coat and the ...

Mr. Rollins: Yup. I'm assuming everything for the same tonnage price as before.

Motion Amended to: Vice Chairman Pitman changes the price to \$144,000.00 for the extra paving

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson: It appears to be unanimous, Steve. Get that done and thank you for coming in.

Mr. Rollins: Thank you and have a good evening.

Regular Business:

Review of Outstanding Minutes of June 7, 2021

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the minutes of June 7, 2021

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Vouchers/Payroll Manifest/Accounts Payable Manifest:

Chairman Robertson: And before we do that, I would note for the record that we signed an Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$25,164.50 on June 14th, 2021 and we signed a Payroll Manifest on June 14th, 2021 in the amount of \$76,708.78 (gross) and which netted at \$50,285.86 just so we can get that in the record.

Accounts Payable Manifest date June 21, 2021 - \$102,197.07

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to approve the Accounts Payable Manifest in the total presented for June 21, 2021

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Chairman Robertson: Discussion. Did you, I know you had a concern on the charges.

Vice Chairman Pitman: I did but it was a bigger tank and more fuel in it so

Chairman Robertson: So, that's why, because it was 3,500 instead of 2,500 for the fuel tank removal.

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

Signatures/Correspondence:

Chairman Robertson: We have a bunch of stuff in signatures this evening.

We have multiple Personnel Action Requests and because we have so many, I'm going to read through them and would entertain one motion, if there is no objection from the Board.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Sounds good.

Chairman Robertson: Okay.

Lillian Bolton	Veasey Park attendant-part time 24 hours per week	\$12.00 per hour
Rowan Carr	Veasey Park attendant-part time 24 hours per week	\$12.00 per hour
Mia Sarnecci	Parks and Recreation employee (there is not an hourly amount listed)	\$10.00 per hour
Nick DiAugustino	Parks and Recreation employee	\$10.00 per hour
Katelyn Gauthier	Parks and Recreation employee	\$10.00 per hour
Brian Hellings	Parks and Recreation employee	\$10.00 per hour
Cooper Horton	Parks and Recreation employee	\$10.00 per hour
Jocelyn Hurley	Veasey Park lifeguard	\$12.00 per hour
Ella Lemay	Parks and Recreation employee	\$10.00 per hour
Max Lemay	Parks and Recreation employee	\$10.00 per hour
Katie Pegnam	Parks and Recreation employee (returning employee) lead supervisor	\$12.00 per hour
Will Pegnam	Parks and Recreation employee	\$10.00 per hour
Cameron Treacapelle	Parks and Recreation employee (returning employee) lead supervisor	\$12.00 per hour
Leonard Morton	Transfer Station Attendant- 32 hours per week	\$15.00 per hour

I would note that virtually all of the Parks and Rec people are coming on for the Summer Camp programs at Parks and Rec. The rest are Veasey Park lifeguards or attendants.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve all of the personnel action requests before the Board tonight and have the Chairman sign them

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

I will set these aside, John, and will sign them after the meeting rather than having everyone sit here.

We have several items from the Assessing Office.

We have:

Notice of Intent to Cut Wood/Timber – (this does not require a motion) Off Mt. Delight 48.15 acres – The Judd's

Notice of Intent to Cut Wood/Timber – Ryan Taylor - McCarron Road, 28.3 acres, to cut 10 acre

Notice of Intent to Cut Wood/Timber – Wayne and Carol Shuck – 64 Mt. Delight Road (access road is Thurston Pond Road) acreage lot is 23 acres, acreage to be cut is 20.

We have a notification from the US Department of the Treasury and this is regarding the corona virus state and local fiscal recovery funds and essentially, we are due to receive that money any day at this point, John?

So, essentially this is authorizing us to accept the money and we will also need to hold a public hearing.

Mr. Harrington: Those are two documents prior to accepting the money that are part of the application.

Chairman Robertson: Right. Okay and it requires one signature from the chair of the Board.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Good idea. Do you want a motion?

Chairman Robertson: Yes, I would like a motion.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to have the chairman sign the agreement as presented

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson: And, is there a separate document for the public hearing or do we just need to set that up?

Mr. Harrington: You need to set that up.

Chairman Robertson: If you could make arrangements to set that up, it would be much appreciated.

Mr. Harrington: I will set that up.

Chairman Robertson: And, the second document that goes with the first regarding the acceptance of funds from the Fiscal Recovery Funds is Assurance of Compliance with Civil Rights requirements.

We have a three-page assurance from the Department of the Treasury basically acknowledging that we will appropriately and properly with this money and they will take it back if we don't.

So, I would need a motion for this as well.

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to have the chair sign the Fiscal Recovery Funds Assurance of Compliance with Civil Rights

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

And this requires one signature as well.

And, do you have a rough idea what we are eligible to receive, John?

Mr. Harrington: Right now, it's listed as approximately \$475,000.00

Chairman Robertson: We have a letter and we don't need a motion for this because we agreed to create the letter and sign it and this is for Mas Café allowing them to continue with outside dining and table service.

This is so Cathy can forward it to the Liquor Commission.

We have an updated Town of Deerfield Emergency Operations Plan for 2021. I am not aware of any significant changes. This is essentially a notice of promulgation. “

Publication of the Town of Deerfield, NH Emergency Operations Plan herein after referred to as the “EOP” represents a concerted effort on the Town of Deerfield to provide a mechanism for effectively responding and recovering from the impact of nature or human caused disasters or emergencies.”

This requires one signature as well.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to have the chair sign the updated Town of Deerfield Emergency Operations Plan for 2021

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson: And hearing Dick say, “motion to have the chair sign reminds me that although this is not on the agenda, the first order of business this evening after the election should have been to determine who you wanted as chair of the Board.

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to nominate the current chair

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

I don't know about the other committees. I can go through them but I don't have an entire list.

Are people generally comfortable with the committee assignments we have on the Board now?

Most members stated yes.

Chairman Robertson: The only person that I talked to was Alden when he called me and told me he be there and said that he was happy to stay on the Parks and Rec Committee if the Board was in agreement.

Vice Chairman Pitman: That makes sense.

Chairman Robertson: So, is the Board in agreement that we will continue as we are?

All members stated "yes".

Chairman Robertson: We can revisit it if you go home, think about it and just decide that you really want to be chair.

Back to signatures, we have the Dog Warrant which lists everybody in Deerfield who has licensed their dog and everybody in Deerfield that is delinquent and hopefully all the selectmen people have checked it to make sure that they are not on there but we do need a motion to certify the 2021 Dog Warrant.

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to certify the 2021 Dog Warrant

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Vice Chairman Pitman: Any idea, Cindy, how many dogs that there are?

Selectwoman McHugh: Unlicensed?

Vice Chairman Pitman: Yeah.

Selectwoman McHugh: There are 530 something.

Chairman Robertson: A fair number of the unlicensed dogs also turn out to be deceased dogs.

Selectwoman McHugh: Yeah, people move out of town or their pets have passed away.

Chairman Robertson: Okay, we have a number of official appointments to, actually, we only have two.

We have an appointment form for Andrea Hotaling. This would appoint Mrs. Hotaling as the deputy town treasurer with the term of office ending April 30th, 2022 and this is a continuation of what she's been doing for the town.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to appoint Andrea Hotaling as deputy town treasurer for a term to end April 30th, 2022

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson: And we also have an appointment form for Kim Crotty and this is reappointing her as deputy town clerk/tax collector and I know that the town clerk/tax collector is very interested in having Kim reappointed.

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to reappoint Kim Crotty a deputy town clerk/tax collector

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson: And, we have the 2021 MS-232 and this is a report of appropriations that were actually voted at our most recent election and that would be the default budget plus warrant articles that passed and the total on that is \$4,248,118.00 and I would need a motion to sign this.

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to approve signing the MS-232 as presented

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson: Okay, in our correspondence file, we have one item that actually needs a motion and the Consortium of Lake Region Communities for Cable TV Negotiation with Atlantic Broadband, LLC of which we are a part of has been approached by an additional town, that being Northfield, NH and all the towns that are part of the consortium at present need to make a motion and vote on whether to allow Northfield to be a member of the group or not.

To my mind, the more towns that we have in the group, the better.

They have recommended motion and what they would like us to make for a motion is:

Motion: Selectwoman McHugh moves that the Board of Selectmen does hereby approve the admission of the town of Northfield into the consortium of the municipalities of Alton, Belmont, Deerfield, Franklin, Gilford, Gilmanton, Laconia, New Durham and Northwood as a member of the municipality pursuant to the inter-municipal agreement signed by the current member municipalities subject to the town of Northfield executing one; the intermunicipal agreement and two; an engagement letter with (couldn't make out due to Amber Alert tone) consortium.

Second: Vice Chairman Pitman

Discussion:

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

Town Administrator's Report:

Mr. Harrington: Number one, I had spoken to several, couple of the Board of Selectmen about the well pump installation at the transfer station, we had discussed it previously and used impact fees.

Talking it over with Rick Pelletier, his proposal would be to reduce the quotes that we were given to include the well pump and just have the well drilled with the casing put in and capped for now because the other two major components, being the septic field and bathroom are not even started yet and it would not make sense to have a brand-new well pump sit in the well.

And with that, that brings the bids down under \$10,000.00 so that the Board can make a determination with the quotes that we received and I did send those quotes out earlier.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Have I got a copy of them?

Mr. Harrington: You should have them in your packet.

Selectwoman McHugh: Will it cost us a lot more if we put in the well pump later?

Vice Chairman Pitman: No.

Chairman Robertson: It shouldn't at all and this will enable us to capture these in case the timeline runs out as to what we can use the impact fees for.

Mr. Harrington: I don't have the exact figure. We had two bids. One was from Contoocook and the other one was, the name escapes me, oh, there they are.

Chairman Robertson: We had a bid from Capital Well, without pump, \$8,925.00 and we had, I'm not seeing, this is just the Capital Well, see if I have a second one

And the second one is from Contoocook Artisan Well and that is \$7,350.00 without the pump and they noted that right now, the FD pump system based on a 200' pump setting with up to a 2 hp motor is \$4,600.00.

So, what's the Board's pleasure at this point?

Vice Chairman Pitman: Can they guarantee the amount of what with that \$7,350.00?

Chairman Robertson and Mr. Harrington: No, there is not.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Or a depth that they are going to go for that amount?

Mr. Harrington: I think the agreement would be that Rick would set a price as to what they can drill to and then if there is not water reached at that point, we could decide if we want them to go deeper.

Chairman Robertson: Basically, what they got for specifics is:

- Pilot hole for casing
- \$20.00 per foot
- \$24.00 per foot for casing
- \$13.75 per foot for bed (couldn't understand)
- \$12.00 per foot for drilling

Selectwoman McHugh: It doesn't say the depth.

Chairman Robertson: No, it does not. I don't believe either of them do.

Selectwoman McHugh: How can they do that?

Mr. Harrington: I believe the first quote did give a depth that they would go to.

Chairman Robertson: Capital does give us some requirements for water, too. Flow Requirements.

Capital will drill to a depth until one of the five minimum flows is obtained.

- 12 gpm at 100 feet
- 10 gpm at 200 feet
- 10 gpm at 300 feet
- 8 gpm at 400 feet
- 4 gpm at 600 feet

Vice Chairman Pitman: I think that we need to put this off until our next meeting.

Chairman Robertson: And see if we can get a depth that they are actually willing to drill to for both bids.

Vice Chairman Pitman: They're not going to, if they set up and they don't get water, they aren't going to wait until our next meeting.

Chairman Robertson: Okay. Can you relay that to Rick, John?

Mr. Harrington: I can and I will have him here for the next meeting.

Chairman Robertson: Great. Thank you.

Mr. Harrington: The next item was for the septic plan, same place, transfer station. Rick received three bids.

One was from Jason Franklin for \$1,000.00. He had a second bid for \$1,200.00 and then the third bid for \$1,500.00.

He would like to get Board's approval to move forward with getting the plan done.

Chairman Robertson: What's the Board's pleasure with regard to the septic plan design for the transfer station?

Obviously, Mr. Franklin is the cheapest price and is fairly well known.

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to authorize Jason Franklin, to award the design to Jason Franklin for the transfer station

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Mr. Harrington: Next, you had some documentation in your packets. I received an email concerning the Thurston Pond Dam and potential issues.

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I've included the original email that I received and then a report done in 2013 and the response that I received from the State is from Steve Doyon who is the chief dam safety engineer and you have that information in your packets.

It would be up to the Board, he does recommendations in there to do a visual, onsite review and that I will alert the state if you want to move forward with further work.

Chairman Robertson: I think that we need time to go through the packet. I don't know which of the other Board members have enough to do a visual review. Both Dick and I have reviewed the dam with Kate Hartnett, probably two years ago?

Vice Chairman Pitman: Maybe four.

Chairman Robertson: Maybe four. Time kind of flies.

I do remember that we found a Blanding's turtle while we were looking at the dam.

Vice Chairman Pitman: With a deer in the background.

Chairman Robertson: So, if people could take a look at that packet. It's fairly in-depth recommendation and we can bring that back to our next meeting as to what we want to do.

If we want to go up there as a Board and look at it. If you want to ask someone from the state to meet us there to look at it with us, might be valuable as well.

Mr. Harrington: Next, you have some information from the Trustees of the Trust Fund. It's a thicker packet in there.

And it has to do with the Jenness Educational Trust Fund. This trust fund was put in place quite a number of years ago. Joanna Waring did quite a bit of research on this trust. It goes back to 1870 when there was \$5,000.00 was donated for an education fund with the BOS, Board of Selectmen being the agent to expend.

The way that the fund was set up was to expend monies yearly towards the education of Deerfield children.

It hasn't been expended in several years and after talking to Joanna, it's felt that the Board needs to make a public motion, actually two of them.

One to expend the monies currently and one to, into the future, expend the monies regularly on an annual basis.

Chairman Robertson: With a check made out to the Deerfield school.

Mr. Harrington: Correct and I believe I gave you the language of the two recommended motions. You should all have them in your packets.

Chairman Robertson: I think that it is a good idea. We obviously want to use the money as intended. They are two, separate motions that we would need to make.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Read that off?

Chairman Robertson: Yes.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman move to direct the Trustees of the Trust Fund to expend the accrued interest from January, 2018 to December, 2021 from the Jenness Education Fund with a check made out to the Deerfield School District to be distributed at the end of the calendar year

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to direct the Trustees of the Trust Funds to expend monies from the Jenness Education Fund in the amount of the yearly accrued interest with a check made out to the Deerfield School District to be distributed at the end of each calendar year going forward until changed by a vote of the Board.

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

Selectman McGarry: Just a point of information with regard to the actual amount of money, how much money are we talking about?

Chairman Robertson: Do you know the balance in the fund is, John? She's given us the interest for the last few years.

Mr. Harrington: I don't have a balance.

Selectman McGarry: I got showing for 2020, \$210.56.

Chairman Robertson: Yeah, and \$50.34 so far this year.

Mr. Harrington: As of 3/31/21, the balance was \$6,585.50. There has been expenditures over the years. That is the reason that she included the history. So, it's not a large sum of money but the interest needs to be spent annually.

Chairman Robertson: Other discussion?

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

Mr. Harrington: Next, I had a request from the Deerfield Historic Commission inquiring whether the Board of Selectmen would like to have a display on Old Home Day along with other departments within the town.

They have had interest from other organizations in town and they are extending the invitation to the Board of Selectmen.

Chairman Robertson: I'm not sure what sort of display the Board of Selectmen would have?

Vice Chairman Pitman: Let's see how tonight's meeting goes.

Mr. Harrington: Do you want to think about that and I will bring that back to you next week?

Chairman Robertson: Yeah, I think that we need to put a little thought into it. Maybe we could do a float or something.

Mr. Harrington: You do have a copy of the email in your packet. We have time.

Next, actually, I'll wait until, that was the answer to Alden but I can probably give it to everybody.

As to the Comcast question, I sent an email to Comcast inquiring about their interest in Deerfield as a coverage area. To date, I have not heard back. As soon as I do, I will let the Board know.

Chairman Robertson: You probably won't hear back and when you contact them yourself, they will tell you that they have no interest.

Mr. Harrington: I, that's alright. I just wanted to get back to the Board that the email has been sent.

As the, American Rescue Plan, as I stated earlier, we are getting approximately \$475,000.00. That will be distributed in two parts.

The first half, roughly \$237,697.00. It is due to arrive shortly. We don't have an exact time. When it does arrive, again, I will have a public hearing set up so that the Board can get input from the town as to whether or not, accept the money.

The documents that you signed this evening were only preparatory. Nothing has been agreed to. You will have to agree to that after the public hearing.

Next, since the vote has been taken, we input all the voting results, including the default budget into our accounting system and an oversight was determined that the \$58,000.00 which included salary and benefits for the children's librarian voted in by warrant article last year, was left out of the default budget.

Now, that is a \$35,000.00 salary. The rest of the salary is benefits and retirement. I'm quite confident that we have the ability to absorb that within the budget this year due to other part time people not working their full year. We should be able to cover it but I just wanted to make that known.

Chairman Robertson: Have you been in contact with Department of Revenue to see if it would be a possibility ...

Mr. Harrington: I have checked with both Department of Revenue and our legal team and there is no way to add those dollars back in at this time once the vote has been taken but we will be able to accommodate, account for that next year including the recently voted in warrant article for the additional fire/rescue hours.

Chairman Robertson: Okay, well keep the documentation and if we get down under \$58,000.00 in fund balance, we may want to go after MRI's error submission policy.

Mr. Harrington: I will keep an eye on that.

Corey Wildlife Management Area. Getting back to the Board.

I did have a discussion with James Oehler who is the habitat supervisor with NH Fish and Game. I sent him an email with the Board's concerns about lack of signage and confusion about people getting up to the wildlife area.

He was going to send people to review and assess the situation and get back to me and let me know if additional or more signage could be put in there. I explained the whole situation to him.

Chairman Robertson: Yup, good. Thank you.

Mr. Harrington: I also received an email and you have a copy of that in your packet from the senior fitness group. They are aware that the George B. White is now open and summer camp is going on.

However, I explained to that group, that it's a bit too premature to allow adults back in that area building where we are trying to keep unvaccinated children as separate as possible from people walking through that end of the building and she appreciated my response but I said that I would also bring it to the Board's attention.

Selectwoman McHugh: About how many members do they have in that group?

Mr. Harrington: They would require a room from about an hour, two to three days a week and each one of those rooms is allotted for a certain group of kids on a day like today when they have to be inside in order to spread out and the whole point of keeping those rooms segregated is so the kids can go into as clean of an environment in the morning as possible.

It is counterproductive to have adults exercising in the room prior to the kids getting there.

I'm hoping that will change as the year goes on and the conditions and the situation change.

Chairman Robertson: Well, I think one big condition maker that we may be able to take another look at this is when we get the ventilation system.

Mr. Harrington: We can certainly reassess at that point.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Let's do that.

Selectwoman McHugh: When is that happening?

Mr. Harrington: We are still, the vendor is still waiting on parts. That is the problem.

Chairman Robertson: I think that we were hoping for the beginning of July.

Mr. Harrington: Yes.

Two more items.

We had an offer from Lamprey Health to have a mobile health van brought into the community once a week. Right now, the proposal is for Friday from 9 to Noon, parked at the George B. White Building.

This would have no impact or cost to the town. It would be a community service for people, allowing people who want to come by for primary care or just to initiate some kind of care without seeing a physician and while the van will contain a nurse practitioner, an RN and one other attendant and it's open and free to the public.

They are going to different communities around this area. They were able to purchase this vehicle with CARES funds last year and I think that it is a great opportunity to offer people in town who might not otherwise see some kind of health care provider.

It's not an urgent care, just to be sure, but it would be an opportunity for people to talk to a physician.

Selectwoman McHugh: Did you say "here".

Mr. Harrington: Yes. Right now, we have it planned to park right outside the town clerk/tax collector door in case that's the easiest access for an ADA bathroom should it be needed.

Selectwoman McHugh: You couldn't move it to the town hall?

Mr. Harrington: We could. Andy had previously said that.

Selectwoman McHugh: I'm just concerned about the summer camp and you know what I mean?

Mr. Harrington: We thought about that too. I believe if the Board would allow, Denny might want to speak about that a little bit.

Ms. Greig: Hi, just real quickly, one of the reasons we worked with the town offices building is that there are occasions where the ADA bathroom would be in use and this avoids the issue with town hall if someone had to get and keep and get in every week.

We're talking about literally someone coming in to get a key, open it and be responsible for closing it so it's really just an inconvenience. We have an ADA door. We have an ADA bathroom right here and available.

It also is foot traffic and that is one of the goals of Lamprey is to have a lot of out-reach to the community and our problem is that we don't have a lot of foot traffic.

When parked, it's got an exam room within the van. I want to clarify one thing. It's technically not free care. It is no cost to the town. Persons are asked to use their insurance card and if a person is unable to pay, as our community health center, Lamprey offers a sliding scale and they would also be able to make sure that that person has access to health care coverage via the state.

Chairman Robertson: Thank you, Denny.

Selectwoman McHugh: I think that it is a great idea. I don't think it's a great idea to do it here.

Mr. Harrington: I can certainly bring this back. There's no urgent rush on this. I can bring it back up next meeting. Let everybody think about it.

Chairman Robertson: We are going to think about traffic flow and parking impact her before we authorize it?

Mr. Harrington: And, I can certainly talk to you further Cindy and give you more information and I'll bring it up again on the sixth.

And one last item. Just to make the public aware, our next Board meeting is Tuesday, July 6th because Monday is a town holiday.

That's it for me tonight.

Chairman Robertson: Great.

Okay, moving on to unfinished business.

Unfinished Business:

Thurston Pond Road/Ridge Road

And, I am going to start with what we have listed on the agenda that being Thurston Pond Road/Ridge Road.

I know we've seen some information regarding the status of this road. To my mind, Ridge Road, Thurston Pond Road, in its entirety is a Class VI Road. It was discontinued via the 1939 Deerfield Town Meeting warrant 5 although the discontinuance was, it was just discontinued. It was not completely discontinued. It did not revert to abutters.

This was reaffirmed by the Deerfield Board of Selectmen in 1991 and they specifically reaffirmed and re-laid out two sections.

One of Ridge Road and the road that ran out to Mt. Delight and we have good documentation of that and I'm gonna, I have a lot of documentation here dating back to 1772.

It appears that the town probably also actually owns the land under the road from the original layout which was done on range ways.

Coming closer to this day and age, I spent some time reviewing plot plans of the affected road and I found three plot plans of the section that is of most interest to the Board of Selectmen, that being the portion of Ridge Road, from the corner of Ridge and Range up to the junction with Thurston Pond Road.

The first plot plan, plan 416-14, dated 6/25/19 and stamped by Richard Bartlett and Associates identifies Ridge Road as a woods road and this was the plot plan that was filed by Ann Margio, LLC of which George Thompson was a member of.

According to this plan, the first 215 yards of the discontinued Ridge Road reverted to abutters. The plan is annotated to say, it very simply says per 1939 town meeting, warrant article 5.

The next two consecutive plans, plan 42295, date 8/5/202 and stamped by James Franklin, and this illustrates the discontinued section of Ridge Road in a westerly progression. This is the section that includes the Town of Deerfield's town forest frontage. Mr. Franklin's plan clearly identifies Ridge Road and identifies it as a Class VI Road with a traveled way. Shows the property boundaries at the edge of the road, not the middle of the road.

Moving westerly further, plan 42294, dated August 5th, 2020 and stamped by Mr. Franklin as well illustrates the next section of Ridge Road in a westerly progression. This is the section that includes Steve and Dot Anderson's frontage. On the other side of the original Ann Margio plot, same thing. He clearly identifies Ridge Road, traveled way, property boundaries are at the edge of the road not the middle of the road.

So, obviously, the reason this is of concern to the Board of Selectmen is because we have someone who has started to build a house on this section of Ridge Road.

Our building inspector gave them a building permit after reviewing the one plan that shows the land reverting to abutters. They are planning on using the end of Ridge Road, the discontinued easterly end, as their driveway.

I think the Board, to my mind, the Board needs to step in and say that this is clearly a Class VI Road. It's going to be complicated because construction has started on the house but as we already addressed with Mr. Kelley tonight, you can't build on a Class VI Road without permission from the Board of Selectmen and you certainly can't use a town-owned Class VI Road as your own private driveway without permission from the Board of Selectmen.

I know in talking with you one-on-one informally too, there's also some concern about using that road as a driveway because it has an extremely steep grade and intersects probably one of the sharpest corners in town just about exactly in the middle.

So, I, to my mind, it's important that the Board of Selectmen, reaffirm that both the 1991 Board of Selectmen has already determined that the middle of Ridge Road, which is now labeled as Thurston Pond Road, is a Class VI Road. It didn't revert to abutters by virtue of the 1939 meeting's warrant article 5.

It makes no sense to me that this road is all Class VI town road with the exception of the last 200 yards based on one plot plan done a couple of years ago.

There are a couple of ways that we can move forward. I think we can reaffirm that it's a Class VI Road. We may need to lay out the two portions that weren't initially laid out in 1991.

I'm not sure what reaction this will get us from the property owners that think they own to the middle of the road and the road is their private property. It's possible that they could look to us for compensation for property lost or value lost.

To my mind again, there's no particular loss of value by having your property border a public way. I think they'd be hard-pressed to prove that they lost significant value ...

Selectman McGarry: Right.

Chairman Robertson: and I also think that it is well within our capacity and power to lay that out as a Class VI Road. That section and the section above the midsection as well just to reaffirm that this has been considered a Class VI Road since the 1770's and as near as I can tell, one badly researched plot plan doesn't change that.

I don't know what the rest of the Board's opinion is with regard to this. I would also note that Joanne Bradberry had asked us if she could speak this evening. She's not listed on the agenda but I did indeed have the request form to speak to this and if Joanne is with us, I would certainly recognize her at this point and if you could move to the microphone, Joanne.

Ms. Bradbury: Joanne Bradbury, citizen. Uh, actually Andy, I have nothing to add to your research because my research confirms the same thing but, but there is one ...

Chairman Robertson: Some of my research was your research.

Ms. Bradbury: Well, also I would like to say that when Roger Kind did his research into the 1700's, he could, he could, it was his conclusion that when the town laid out the road, they bought it with either cash or land swap or a combination of cash and land and in his words, the roads were bought and paid for, owned by the town so I think that is the only thing that I would add. You have saved me a lot of verbiage tonight.

Chairman Robertson: Well, it probably wasn't as eloquent as yours might have been.

I'm going to wait until Dick returns but I, is there disagreement with other Board members that we should not pursue, making sure that we reaffirm that.

Selectman McGarry: I'm in agreement with that. The one issue with regard to the house that's under construction, although that, that lot has frontage on Range Road, the fact that they're using, the plan to use the discontinued, the Class VI Road would require them to come in as Mr. Kelley did tonight and get approval from the Board and to be able to do that.

Chairman Robertson: Right and I, that's one of the reasons that I mentioned the appropriateness of using that as a driveway, too.

I believe they have enough frontage on a Class V Road so they could use an alternate location for the driveway.

Clearly, our next step, I think, would be to have a visit with the owners, Ed and Sandra Cross, and discuss this with them.

Vice Chairman Pitman: That road is nothing like Kettle Rock. I went down there on a Sunday with a four-wheel drive pickup. It was all we could do to get up out of there.

Chairman Robertson: You can literally jump off the junction of Ridge and Range

Vice Chairman Pitman: I would definitely be averse to having Raymond Ambulance or one of our fire trucks even consider going down that road when that house is built.

Chairman Robertson: And unfortunately, we're a little bit behind the eight ball. The foundation has been put in. There are walls up but I think we, but I think we, two meetings ago, we told the road agent not to grant a driveway permit until we had reviewed this and I think we have reviewed it and we need to do two things.

We need to get specifics from legal as to how we reaffirm the Class VI status of the two-sections in question and that's primarily going to come down to if we can just reaffirm or relay out as a Board of Selectmen or if we need to be petitioned in order to do that and I would bet that if we need to be petitioned, there are probably folks among us this evening who would be willing to put their name on a petition but...

Vice Chairman Pitman: How do we stop them from going further while we do this?

Chairman Robertson: That is probably a question that we need to discuss with Rick Pelletier as to whether he can issue a "Cease and Desist" on a building permit that he's already issued.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Well, it's better now than after it's half up.

Chairman Robertson: I think we should definitely explore it.

Selectman McGarry: May you can check with legal as well on that.

Chairman Robertson: Yeah, I think, John, maybe if you can check with legal and I will have a discussion with Mr. Pelletier.

Vice Chairman Pitman: So, do we need any motions tonight, Andy?

Chairman Robertson: I don't think we do. We clearly, well, I would entertain a motion saying that the Board of Selectman clearly recognizes Ridge Road in its entirety as a Class VI Road.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to say that the Board of Selectmen recognize Ridge Road, in its entirety, a Class VI Road

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson: And that way, we can move forward with the technical details of what we need to do to ensure that is cast in stone.

Selectwoman McHugh: Are we going to ask them to come in and speak with us?

Chairman Robertson: I also think we should invite the Crosses in at our next meeting.

Selectman McGarry: I think, I think that we probably should have opinion from legal before we meet with Crosses so ...

Chairman Robertson: Yeah, definitely and there is a little bit on confusion here regarding legal because our legal counsel has actually worked on the 1991 go around on behalf of the residents as opposed to the town, he has some misgivings about representing us.

I don't know if that ...

Mr. Harrington: The whole firm, actually.

Chairman Robertson: It extends to the whole firm so that takes Jim Raymond out of the picture as an option, too

We may need to find another law office. To my mind, Donahue, Tucker, Shondella might be a good option if they'd be willing to do it or we can ask Bart to refer us to someone if he has a better idea. That might be the best place to start is to ask Bart if he could give us a referral to fill his absence.

Vice Chairman Pitman: As long as we are making progress.

Chairman Robertson: I think the other thing that we need to do and I can certainly communicate this to the road agent. If it even so much as smells like a Class VI Road, do not issue a building permit before you come to the Board of Selectmen.

Selectwoman McHugh: You might want to talk to Rick, too.

Chairman Robertson: Yeah, that's who I meant.

Ms. Bradbury: Andy?

Chairman Robertson: Yes.

Ms. Bradbury: I should point out that in 2001 or 2002, when we ...

Chairman Robertson: The telecommunications?

Ms. Bradbury: Yes. We were represented by Donohue, Tucker and Shondella because, because you had, you had taken Bart Mayer by then.

Mr. Harrington: So, they are off, too.

Chairman Robertson: More than likely.

Mr. Harrington: Okay.

Ms. Bradbury: Well, I'll waive the conflict if you like.

Chairman Robertson: So, what's that, 30 years. This is the issue that never dies.

Ms. Bradbury: Well hopefully, once and for all, this will be put to bed and it'll be clear to everyone.

Chairman Robertson: I agree. That is the absolute best solution for both the landowners and the community as far as I'm concerned.

New Business:

Okay, other new business.

Seeing none, I will bring up a request that I received from the town clerk today and this actually going to make me feel a little funny but she asked if I could waive the mask requirement for the GBW Building going forward and I would launch a stiff argument against that except that none of the Board of Selectmen are wearing masks or the town administrator so I don't know what's the Board's pleasure is with regard to this?

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to do away with masks at the GBW Building

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Chairman Robertson: I have a motion and a second and I would open this for discussion amongst Board members first and then, I'm sorry Cindy, go ahead.

Selectwoman McHugh: I think it's about time.

Chairman Robertson: Okay, then I would recognize Denise Greig, Assistant Health Officer.

Ms. Greig: Yes, I know I recognize that folks are taking responsibility. The concern that I have is truly that at the Parks and Rec end of the building. We have 30 to 50 unvaccinated kids and I think and we don't have a ventilation system.

There's dead air space in the hallway. The fact remains that persons pose a risk to them if they're not wearing these. We can social, you know and they're using the same bathroom right now so we kind of get into this sequence where there is opportunity for interaction.

I would ask that at minimum, we keep the mask requirement in the Parks and Rec end of the building and there's already signage with respect to the other.

The fact remains, we are at 52 percent fully vaccinated so there are a whole lot of folks that are not vaccinated. Thank you.

Chairman Robertson: Thank you.

Selectwoman McHugh: Well then, can we go on with what the stores are doing, if you have your vaccination, you don't have to wear a mask?

Chairman Robertson: If you want to amend the ...

Selectwoman McHugh: I don't know. If everyone's going to enforce it.

Chairman Robertson: or the other thing we could do as the assistant health officer has recommended, we could leave the lower, the Parks and Rec section, below the doors that no one is supposed to be going through as a mask area and the area above, unmasked.

Selectwoman McHugh: So, what does that leave Yanni's? People that come in from Yanni's have to have a mask to use the restroom?

Mr. Harrington: That is how it is currently signed.

Chairman Robertson: Yeah.

Selectman McGarry: I would certainly prefer that scenario.

Chairman Robertson: Well, we either need to amend or vote on the motion that we have before us and we could have another one or

Vice Chairman Pitman: How would you word it?

Chairman Robertson: Essentially, just as the assistant health officer has said that the area below the fire safety doors in the hallway between the two sections of GBW would remain masked and the area above is optional.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Not including Yanni's?

Vice Chairman Pitman: That would include Yanni's as it is now because they are using the same bathrooms.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Any ideas?

Selectman McGarry: I can't make a motion because it's already on the table.

Chairman Robertson: We have a motion on the table so you would have to amend the motion or you could rescind the motion if your second was willing to do that and we could start over.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Why don't we rescind it.

Selectwoman McHugh: Yes, I agree.

Chairman Robertson: Motion has been rescinded and we can start over fresh.

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to allow mask less attendance in the portion of the building above the safety doors and require continued mask use on the other side of the safety doors

Chairman Robertson: I'm hearing no second so now we have no motion.

So, do we want to take this back up at our July 6th meeting?

Vice Chairman Pitman: Unless ...

Chairman Robertson: Unless we just waive masks.

Selectwoman McHugh: It just doesn't make sense to me, I guess.

Vice Chairman Pitman: I agree. It's just time to get going here. I'll make that motion again.

Selectwoman McHugh: Nobody's going to ...

Chairman Robertson: Dick has made a motion to take the masks off, that we waive mask use or mask use is optional.

Vice Chairman: For all town buildings.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to make mask use optional in all town buildings and ask people that haven't been vaccinated to wear a mask.

Selectwoman McHugh: You could even add, if you've been vaccinated. Stores don't have anybody it, it's like an honor system. If you haven't been vaccinated, you wear a mask.

Chairman Robertson: We could certainly include that language in the motion. The motion has not been seconded as of yet.

Vice Chairman Pitman: And ask people

Second: Selectwoman McHugh
Discussion:

Selectman McGarry: I can't disregard the recommendations from the assistant health officer so I am going to vote no on this.

Vote: Yea 2, Nay 2, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries (The chairman voted for this motion)

Chairman Robertson: The motion fails and I think we can take this up again in July 6th. Hopefully, July 6th will be closer to knowing when we're going to have our ventilation system up and running.

Other new business?

Other Business:

Other business?

Hearing none, I would move to Citizen's Comments.

Citizen's Comments:

Kathy Shigo, Cate Road:

Hello.

Chairman Robertson: If you could identify yourself.

Ms. Shigo: I was going to. Kathy Shigo. Cate Road.

Hello. Two quick things. Well, actually, I want to do, in all due respect for Denny, the scientist, the science right now, not our opinions, but the science says the children, not a percentage of them are not involved in getting COVID-19 and that's something we have to keep an open mind to I what the scientist say, not our opinions when it comes to voting on mask and those, is a great idea about those who are vaccinated should not have to wear a mask.

And, the other thing I wanted to ask is someone mentioned about the COVID-19 Fiscal Recovery Fund, \$475,000.00. I'd like to know, Andy, what would you do with that money, how would that be used, the \$475,000.00. I guess you had to sign to make sure it's done responsibly.

What would that be used for?

Chairman Robertson: Yeah, we don't have the money yet and basically, I'll take citizen's comments but I'm not going to do a question and answer.

We can provide certainly for you that information a list of projects that we are ...

Ms. Shigo: And one other thing then that I wanted to ask was about this trustee fund and the Jenness Education, I believe that you said that there was \$6,500.00 in the balance?

Chairman Robertson: Roughly, yes, that's pretty close.

Ms. Shigo: Again, I know that it's question because I don't know how else to answer it but you know why do we have to continue to pay \$5,000.00 when it's not, you know, this is like an 1870 thing. Is that something that we have to do is it, you know, is our ...

Chairman Robertson: Yeah, this is a trust fund. This was a donation in 1870 of \$5,000.00 that has accrued interest and this is simply spending the interest for the purpose that the donor originally intended it to be spend.

Ms. Shigo: Okay and it comes up to \$5,000.00 a year, I mean is that, I mean, we're not going to be taking that out of taxpayer's money?

Chairman Robertson: It's hundreds.

Ms. Shigo: That's what I heard.

Chairman Robertson: There was a base gift of \$5,000.00 in 1870 which is held by the Trustees of the Trust Fund and the interest from that is to be spent on the education of the children of Deerfield. The interest is typically around \$200.00 a year.

We just needed a motion to move that interest to the school district.

Ms. Shigo: Okay, it's not \$5,000.00 a year, it's the interest every year.

Chairman Robertson: No, it's donated money from shortly after the Civil War that generates interest that the originators of the fund intended to be used to educate the children of Deerfield.

Ms. Shigo: Yeah, I understand the purpose, I didn't understand where the money was ...

Chairman Robertson: This was essentially housekeeping just to make sure that the money could move.

Ms. Shigo: Okay. Thank you.

Erroll Rhodes, Church Street:

The Thurston Pond Dam question came up earlier. I'm just wondering if the Board intends to, if the dam issue related to anything that the Heritage Commission might have an interest in, if they would be notified?

Chairman Robertson: We can certainly notify you and we can also make available the report that we received from the Dam Bureau.

Mr. Rhodes: Terrific.

Chairman Robertson: Which I believe gives some details about the age and the history of the dam.

Mr. Rhodes: Because I gather there's downstream from the dam, there's historical sites or am I wrong about that?

Chairman Robertson: There could well be. I'm not aware of the specific historical sites downstream on the brook.

Mr. Rhodes: Lovely, thank you.

Bernie Cameron.

So, this past election, our town voted to that we wanted fair redistricting by the special committee.

I just want to be sure that the Board of Selectmen sends a formal letter to our state reps and our state senator notifying them that this is the will of the people and I feel strongly about this because we passed a similar warrant article last year in 2020.

That's when it was actually looking for an independent commission and our state representatives voted against it. They also voted against it when it came up in the legislature back in 2019 so I want them to just be clear that they are representing Deerfield and this is the will of the people.

Now I will say that one of the reasons that I heard from one of the state reps of why they voted against it and this may come up is because they felt that it was going against the NH constitution to have this independent commission.

And, that was absolutely incorrect because included in that legislation was the mandate that whatever the independent commission came up with for fair redistricting, had to be approved, the final stop by the legislature so that fully complied with the NH Constitution.

So, that's my request that the Board send a formal letter to our state reps and senator notifying them and I would also request that a copy of that letter be sent to the NH House Special Commission on Redistricting as well as just sending it to our state reps.

Deerfield was the 70th town to pass similar legislation and the special committee has already received copies of letters from their Board of Selectmen from 50 towns so I think that it is important that they hear from Deerfield as well.

Chairman Robertson: Okay, thank you Bernie and I would note to the rest of the Board that Bernie did send me an email asking me to bring this up under Other or New Business and I got carried away with thinking about Thurston Pond and completely forgot about it so my apologies, Bernie.

Harriet Cady, Old Centre Road

The Election Law Committee in the House handles the redistricting. It's not a special committee, it is the Election Law Committee and they do it according to the Constitution. They then have public hearings on how it's redistricting

Now, we have 332 towns and what, four ...

Chairman Robertson: I don't know but do you have a comment specific to this?

Ms. Cady: Well, my point is, you can send it to your representative. There's no reason not to. It was a vote but as Bernie said, 70 towns out of 332 doesn't show overwhelming support by the State of New Hampshire's towns.

Chairman Robertson: Other citizen's comments this evening?

I would note for the record that I'm not hemorrhaging. A fish bit me last week and I've forgotten and scratched it but masks work very well as first aid pieces as well.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to adjourn if no one else is going to speak

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson: Thank you for joining us. It's the biggest crowd we've had in a while. Only crowd that we've had in a while.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 6, 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*