

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
August 9, 2021  
MINUTES**

**Call to Order**

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

**Present:** Andrew Robertson, Chairman; Richard Pitman, Vice Chairman, Alden Dill, and Cynthia McHugh, Selectmen.

**Absent:** Fred McGarry, Selectman

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

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

Chairman Robertson: Our first order of business this evening is not listed but I am going to recognize Travis from the Veasey Park Commission to give us an update on the tree removal we talked about at our last meeting. I believe some progress has been made.

Mr. McCoy: I am hoping so. So, I have been in contact with a local outfit, Aerial Tree Removal.

We settled on Saturday. He can actually come down on Saturday, take care of all of the trees the are going to, need to be taken care of right now.

Andrea and Harry Hotaling actually marked the trees for us that they were concerned. It looks like there's about eight or ten trees.

When I was getting quotes on the phone, I was getting quotes of about \$300.00 a tree and now this gentleman is happy to come down and charge the day rate which we are looking at about \$1,500.00 to take care of as much as he possibly can. He is bringing his chipper down and everything so it's all cleaned up and out of the way.

Chairman Robertson: Great.

Vice Chairman Pitman: That's real good.

Selectman Dill: I assume we are closing Veasey Park for that Saturday?

Mr. McCoy: Well, the trees are actually off, out of the way so what I was thinking was just putting out some caution, some caution tape in the area that anything possibly could happen so, so I think that we can safely keep the public away from what we are doing.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Which Saturday are you talking?

Mr. McCoy: This Saturday, so the 14<sup>th</sup>?

Chairman Robertson: Yeah, I think it is.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Do you have a rain date the 21<sup>st</sup>?

Mr. McCoy: I would hope that it would be sooner than that. I'm praying for no rain. Does that work?

Vice Chairman Pitman: No, I didn't know since it would interfere with the Old Home Day.

Mr. McCoy: No, I didn't think of that. No, I would like to get him in, I was kind of hoping ...

Vice Chairman Pitman: You get him when you can get him. Right now ...

Mr. McCoy: As soon as we can.

Chairman Robertson: And, that sounds like a great rate, too.

Selectwoman McHugh: Would the chips stay here or would they be taken?

Mr. McCoy: I think that we are going to keep the chips and use them on the kayak path. The last load of chips are kind of wet and (couldn't understand) kind of chips, so I would like to keep them.

Chairman Robertson: Great. Do any Board members have any questions for Travis while he's here?

Selectwoman McHugh: How's it going up there, Travis?

Mr. McCoy: It's been a good season. It's been a really good season. I'm, we're working on rebuilding the swimming lesson program this year so that's going really well.

We are extremely well staffed which is amazing because most of the places around here couldn't find lifeguards, so we were real fortunate. We had a lot return and had a few extras come on board.

We weren't able to get anybody swim instructor certified because they just weren't holding new classes any times or that are guards would be able to take them so we just went with the basics swim lessons which we can do without the certified swim instructors so hopefully next year we will expand that.

Attendance is huge. We have really good attendance numbers now this year and with the parking lot attendant, I know it's not in my budget but we have a park attendant down there every day and it has been a godsend for all the life guards but myself too. I'm not down there checking stickers all the time so it worked out real well and I would like to keep that position going.

Nope, all in all, it has been great this year.

Chairman Robertson: Great.

Vice Chairman Pitman: No, it's all good, thank you.

Chairman Robertson: Good, thanks for coming in Travis. Appreciate it and I know the Hotaling's and some other folks over that way will be happy that those trees are getting taken care of too.

Mr. McCoy: My pleasure, so I will get going on that and notify the Hotaling's that we are moving forward.

Chairman Robertson: Great.

Mr. McCoy: Excellent. Thanks for having me.

Chairman Robertson: Have a good evening.

#### **Ed Cross – Ridge Road Extension:**

Mr. Cross is not going to be with us this evening and just an update on the Ridge Road proceedings, John actually called him and told him that I had no new information. I am having a meeting with John Boutin, the attorney, tomorrow afternoon at 2:00 pm.

I think it's going to be, if I can get the credentials, it's either going to be a phone conversation or a ZOOM or MS Teams call if he's got documents that he wanted to review so if I get the credentials and figure out how to do it, I'll get those out to anyone else that is interested that wants to sit in.

If that fails, I'll be having a phone conversation with him.

That said, we have Mr. Pelletier here to give us an update on Building Inspection and Transfer Station.

#### **Rick Pelletier – Building Inspector/Transfer Station:**

Chairman Robertson: Good evening, Mr. Pelletier.

Mr. Pelletier: Good Evening.

Well, we're still building houses.

Chairman Robertson: I suspected as much.

Mr. Pelletier: We have a couple of conversions going on. A couple of McMansions going on. Lake conversions that are going to grow immensely and a couple of new ones. One on Middle. One on South Road and I have three more on my desk that I haven't looked at.

Chairman Robertson: Any new subdivisions that you are aware of, Rick coming along?

Mr. Pelletier: No, not at this point.

Chairman Robertson: Okay.

Mr. Pelletier: Um, I know someone is trying to buy the 96-acres on Mt. Delight Road. I guess there's 96-acre piece up there that someone is actively pursuing but that's all I know at this point.

Other than that, the transfer station is the transfer station. Any further discussion would be best under private session.

Selectman Dill: On the transfer station, it's filling up faster than usual, isn't it? We seem to be making a lot of trash.

Mr. Pelletier: No, we're actually a little bit below last year at this time this year.

Selectman Dill: Really.

Mr. Pelletier: Yeah, we're holding our own. It's been fairly steady this year. I don't think ... I mean, we'll surpass the budget again this year because we're on a five-year-old budget but ...

Selectman Dill: I just keep going ... I go up Tuesday's and Thursday's and it seems more often than not; we're filling up the other dumpster on the .... I guess it's plastic dumpster in front of household and that we were pushing harder than usual on the regular dumpsters.

Mr. Pelletier: Um, actually, we've been using the other one because we've been packing the larger dumpster a little bit heavy and the driver has been complaining. He's only allowed to haul 100,000. We often give him 110, 115 and he's concerned because he has an overweight permit to move that material so other than that, we're pretty much on queue right now at this point in time.

Chairman Robertson: And we did get Steve back too, I noticed.

Mr. Pelletier: Steve is back for a while. He said that he would stay longer but that could change. At this point in time, alright.

Chairman Robertson: We're glad to have him right now.

Mr. Pelletier: But, um, and um ...

Selectman Dill: Is the (couldn't understand) the market completely down?

Mr. Pelletier: Yeah, it's not, there's very little going on. Steel is up but we don't sort our steels. We don't get good money. We have steels that are mixed with things like bicycles and lawn mowers that contain plastics, things like that.

Again, some of this stuff, unless we want to stand someone there and physically take things like lawn mowers apart and microwaves apart and take certain components out of them and so forth, you're never going to get top dollar for your metal.

I mean, you could have a separate dumpster and do just car parts and things of that nature that brings good return but we throw that all in the same metal dumpster at this point in time.

We really would need more personnel if we wanted to actually sit there and pick through things and sort them.

Selectman Dill: And is cardboard and paper still ...

Mr. Pelletier: Still down, pretty well. Okay.

The well company is going to get in touch with me probably the end of August, first of September.

Septic designer, when he gets back from vacation in a couple of weeks, will get a plan done for a septic system and the oil tank at the library is all set. I just finished that, repiping that tank.

As soon as the highway department empties the oil tank at the highway department, we'll replace and pipe that one or I'll replace and repipe that one. If they can get it done this week, I'll do it this week. If not, in another week.

Chairman Robertson: Great.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Great job.

Chairman Robertson: Any other questions for Rick while he's here?

Selectman Dill: Anything on the lot across from Freese's Pond? Across from Mr. Mike's on Freese's Pond? I saw some one up there digging test pits the other day. Have we seen any plans on that?

Mr. Pelletier: Ah, no, that's um, that's a ways down the road. He's, he has various plans. He's looking at some grant money for potential affordable housing and so forth but I really don't know how he's making out. I mean, I haven't, other than test pits, I haven't seen any design plans or anything. It will go to the Planning Board before it comes to me anyways. There's been no, no inquiries whatsoever on their part on that property.

Selectman McHugh: Did you just say you wanted to go into non-public?

Mr. Pelletier: Um

Selectwoman McHugh: Did you say you wanted to go into non-public?

Mr. Pelletier: Well, we could plan one at some point.

Chairman Robertson: If we have nothing more Rick at this point, I would thank you for joining us, Rick and keeping us up to speed.

Mr. Pelletier: Very good.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Thank you for the plumbing.

Mr. Pelletier: What's that?

Vice Chairman Pitman: Thank you for the plumbing on the oil tank.

Mr. Pelletier: All right. You're welcome.

Chairman Robertson: If the Board doesn't mind, I'm going to take an item out of order here.

We have the Water Commissions, we have the Adam's with us, Mr. Cross and I'd like to talk about the Thurston Pond Dam work before we do our regular business so anyone that doesn't want to, doesn't have to sit here and listen to us and that said, I think everybody is aware that there was concern of the beaver debris removal at Thurston Pond Dam. The Board of Selectmen were certainly made aware that there was concern

It appeared to residents, excuse me, and other folks that viewed the dam after the beaver debris was removed that it looked quite like that some stonework had been removed.

We have in our packets and we had this electronically, too, um, pictures that DES sent us of some of the original plans for the dam that showed sort of a ring collar or smaller rocks before the spillway actually out into the pond and I know that there is interest in the community in putting some of that structure back to the way it was.

Obviously, you can't do a whole lot without getting DES involved. I think we could likely put a stone collar back in place there.

The research I've done leads me to believe that was laid out as a "three rod road" which would be a 49 ½ foot wide road so from the center, we have close to twenty-five extending into the water there that would fall under the original layout of that road.

So, at this point, I know that the Adams's have contacted us about wanting to make some comment or take about a plan with regard to restoration.

I also notified the Heritage Commission and the Conservation Commission of what had happened there and I don't know if anyone wants to speak to that directly at this time.

We did invite the Water Commission to be present and two of the members are here with us this evening.

The Water Commission is specifically charged with maintenance and keeping an eye on Thurston Pond Dam and Freese's Pond Dam and depending on whose on the Water Commission, there's been more activity or less activity from year to year but it felt appropriate to include you folks in any discussion we had and I don't know if anyone wants to take the microphone at this point and talk to us about potential plans or at this point, the Board of Selectmen has made no specific plan to reinsert stones or certainly not remove any more material from the dam.

But, if you would like to comment, please step up to the microphone, give us your name for the minutes.

**Brian Adams, Abutter:**

Mr. Adams: Hi, I'm Brian Adams, abutter so the um, original, so I had originally texted George Thompson, a land owner, abutter to some rocks coming out of place for the buttress of the bridge of the whole dam structure and now that the water is much lower, I've cleared out a lot of vines, the grape vines that were growing over there.

So, it's pretty evident, like the, overall, it would be great to see the rock collar restored and the water level brought up to some degree but I think, in the, like a more important item would be the original rock buttress that I had alerted George Thompson to.

Now that you can see everything, you can tell that the rock buttress is coming apart from the base and so ...

Selectman Dill: On the upstream, downstream?

Mr. Adams: On the upstream, right side, there's some significant, large rocks coming out from the base of that buttress. I've been looking at it because I walk there all the time. All the stones, I think a lot of the stones could be removed without removing any of the actual granite slabs that comprise the bridge and then rebuild but um, it's a pretty important historic structure as well as, you know, a usable bridge on a Class VI road, so that's important and I now, in a larger sense, restoring the rock collar would be pretty cool, too.

That's all I have.

Chairman Robertson: Okay.

Does anybody else want to comment on this at this time and as I mentioned, clearly, the Board of Selectmen would be going back to DES before we attempted any reconstruction of the buttress or the collar.

They've been fairly hands off and told us that they considered it the town's dam. They're not concerned if the dam fails because of the downstream wetlands and because of the size of the impoundment being relatively small but the Board of Selectmen certainly recognize its historic value and the fact that it makes that road usable from end to end.

Mr. Rhodes?

**Erroll Rhodes – Church Street:**

May I? Just what you were saying, Mr. Robertson, about the ...

Whoever is going to look at this, planning on getting someone with historic, like Mr. Adams said, historic rock structural knowledge involved because I do know that the Heritage Commission has the ability to contact people that have that expertise, I believe, in Portsmouth.

Chairman Robertson: Yup, the Board of Selectmen would certainly be interested in the Heritage Commission's input on that because, unless and correct me if I'm wrong, I don't think any of us have a line on colonial rock structures and their restoration as they relate to bridges that service Class VI roads and dams.

Mr. Rhodes: Not yet.

Selectman Dill: But we're getting there though.

Mr. Rhodes: Thank you very much.

Chairman Robertson: And, uh, Lisa, if you could ...

Vice Chairman Pitman: Andy, could we have the names of the Water Commissioners for the minutes?

Chairman Robertson: We have Sage Mackenzie sitting here and we have Lisa, who is going to give us her full name for the minutes.

Ms. Dufresne: Lisa Dufresne, I can spell it too if you need me too.

So, I have been part of the Water Commission for like, hardly any time at all and wonder if I read a little about this in the meeting that you guys had. Could you just give me a little history on what's happened?

Chairman Robertson: Sure. Um, let's, ha, I'll start at the beginning. The, we believe that the Class VI road with the bridge that also serves as a dam for Thurston Pond was built about 1772.

Over the years, the town has from time to time, well, the land owners from time to time had gone up and cleared off beaver debris that accumulates at the upstream side of the bridge on the dam. Backs the water up. The impoundment ranges between six acres and thirteen acres, thirteen acres being the maximum and our highway agent recently went up and to, in the opinion of many, got a little aggressive with the cleaning of the beaver debris and actually lowered the height of the pond significantly and it appears that so rocks were probably removed, too, from the entryway of the dam. They were under the beaver debris.

Ms. Dufresne: So, how long (couldn't understand). I used to live on 80 acres and I had beaver problems all the time. I am quite familiar with that.

How often do the beavers get active enough that you have to go down there? Is it a combination of the beaver and the rain? Was it just the rain?

Chairman Robertson: I think it was a combination, it is a combination of the beavers. It's a combination of just the natural flow that brings sticks, debris, anything that floating down there and catches up.

We've had a very infrequent maintenance plan. Typically, if a landowner has complained about water backing up beyond the usual, we've tapped the highway agent to go up and clean the debris and lower the level a little bit.

Typically, the Board of Selectmen has been involved in that and we have tried to pick an opportune time of year when it wouldn't affect wildlife habitat, that sort of thing. Typically, we've done it in late September, October when the water was a little bit lower. There weren't nesting birds, that sort of thing.

Selectman Dill: The other thing is that the person that was our beaver control contractor retired two years ago and the land owner wasn't aware of that so the population of beavers could be up significantly from prior years.

Chairman Robertson: We, do, we do have a contracted beaver service person that we use regularly for Class VI highway mitigation but we hadn't had him come up there recently.

Ms. Dufresne: So, typically the beavers are taken care of and they haven't been? Is that the reason?

Chairman Robertson: I, not with regard to Thurston Pond, no. I don't think we've ever really done much beaver management on Thurston Pond. We've managed the problem by just removing the debris and letting it go.

The uh, the beaver management that we've done is almost exclusively with regard to Class V roads.

Ms. Dufresne: Okay. So, in terms of what you would like (talking among members of audience)

So, I'm just wondering what your thoughts are in terms of what would be our role beyond coming down and taking (couldn't understand).

Chairman Robertson: Well, I don't know exactly what role the Board of Selectmen would have for you but we do have a Water Commission. You are elected officials and you are specifically charged with maintenance and review of Thurston Pond Dam and Freese's Pond Dam so it occurred to us, that we were talking with abutters and the Conservation Commission and the Heritage Commission about a maintenance plan for the dam or restoration efforts for the dam, that we should invite you to the meetings and certainly seek your input with regard to the plans or at least make you aware of what the Conservation Commission and the Heritage Commission, abutters and the Board of Selectmen might do to the dams in your charge but ....

**Sage Mackenzie:**

So, we went out there right before the beginning. It was pretty rough. My biggest concern going up there was the erosion from the equipment. It's pretty significant and I think with all the rainfall, because it's at the bottom of the hill and because it is a Class VI road, I think that there's going to be significant erosions problems, like, to come.

I think also, focusing on restoring or replacing the stones for that dam but also planting riparian vegetation like high bush blueberries. I don't know, if that would be a conservation job or, it obviously not a heritage job but there needs to be a little bit more bank stability because that road is probably going to wash out at some point.

Chairman Robertson: The road, what we're interested in, and the road is certainly, particularly above that side of the dam, is in rough condition primarily due to four-wheel drive vehicles in the spring. I know the last time the abutters had done some logging in there, it was appropriated replanted with some grass to hold it, that sort of thing but a combination of four-wheelers and four-wheel drive trucks, I think, have pretty much eradicated the benefit of that but we're, our primary concern at this point, is the actual section of the road that serves as the dam. The stone part of it.

Ms. Mackenzie: Okay.

Yeah, I'm not sure if anybody if any of the residents were there, I took pictures. It's clear that there was like the stones were definitely disturbed but I just wanted to make note that there's also additional erosion that's going to happen in the near future and there is quite a bit of debris, like I said, I took pictures if anybody is interested, this afternoon.

Chairman Robertson: I think all of us have been out there fairly recently.

Ms. Mackenzie: Yeah, I just wanted to mention that because I sure that it is going to be a big problem to come.

Yeah, ah, I don't know much about historic dams.

Chairman Robertson: Well, I think probably the best way for us to proceed is to work with, particularly the folks in this room to development a plan. I think, clearly, there's interest in some restoration and we also need to adopt a maintenance plan and has specific, annual component or more frequently if needed as opposed to just, you know, when someone notices that it might need a little maintenance on a three or four-year basis doing that.

So, probably the best way of doing that here is for the Board to do is to develop some sort of basic plan. Maybe look to the Heritage Commission if they have a lead or an expert that could give us some help with recommendations for the stone and keep everybody involved as we move forward but I think that it is fairly straight forward that there are two components you know, that the Board is interested in.

One, restoring the dam to what everybody believes it was prior to the most recent surge of beaver debris and developing a maintenance plan and making sure that we've got folks that are keeping an eye on it.

Selectman Dill: I just want to say that I agree with Ms. Mackenzie's point there. It's not just where that ring was disturbed, but there was obviously some smoothing and grading efforts on the uphill face of the dam.

Chairman Robertson: There's some large scratches that were clearly made by a hydraulic (members talking over each other).

Selectman Dill: When we were in there, before, that was full of blueberries, brush and pretty good-sized stuff holding it down. Now, it's dirt. I do agree with you there.

Ms. Mackenzie: Yeah, it's pretty chewed up. Not aesthetic at all.

Selectman Dill: Not just no aesthetic, it takes some of the structure, the dirt structure away.

Ms. Mackenzie: Yeah, the bank stability and everything. It's a little concerning.

Chairman Robertson: Okay, well I think at this point, that the Board will work to get us some information that will enable us to put together a plan and will keep all parties involved and when I say all parties, I will certainly notify the abutters, the Water Commissioners, the Heritage Commission and the Conservation Commission as we move forward on this.

Yes, Mrs. Adams?

**Maura Adams – 40 Thurston Pond Road:**

We are an abutter. Just wanted for the minutes to mention that we do, Brian and I, have filed a complaint with DES Wetlands Bureau.

That is currently chugging through their system which apparently, they're very slow per their website but that is there and um, we will keep you all posted and probably hear from them before we do.

Chairman Robertson: Great. Thank you.

Mr. Cross, you haven't spoken yet and then Mr. Rhodes.

**Ed Cross – 4 Thurston Pond Road:**

I guess one of my questions that I would have is, do we have any evidence of exactly what might have been removed as far as any type of stonework that was there? That would be my first question.

Chairman Robertson: We have, we have the original pictures that DES provided us which are not too specific with regard to stones.

I think if you look at some of the plans of the hydroelectric plant or survey that was done and I seen some other photos and I can't remember who showed them to me that make it quite clear that there was, and they weren't particularly large stones, but there was a collar of sort above the sluiceway where the beaver debris built up but that's surely one of the things that we will be looking into as we move forward.

Mr. Cross: So, when we were at that meeting and we had the state people there looking at the roadway and the bridge itself and also the dam, I just recall their comments saying that structurally speaking, it was actually in very, very good shape especially considering the age of the dam itself.

Chairman Robertson: They did indeed say that.

Mr. Cross: Um, they also had a recommendation I believe which was to remove the beaver debris that was on top of it and continue to monitor the beaver activity.

I don't know how much was disturbed but I would be, I would want to know how much we plan to reattach to something that is an historical marker.

I fished that pond for the past eighteen years on and off. I do not believe that a lot of the height of the dam was affected just from my own experience. I just wanted to share that.

I also know that the day after the large rain that we had after they cleared the beaver dam, the amount of water that was spilling over was quite significant and I also recall when we were up there before the beaver debris was moved that the water was already spilling over and running down the roadway.



I can't imagine what might have happened if that debris hadn't been moved, removed when those last few big rain storms that we've had. I would have assumed that we would have had considerable wash away unintentionally on the roadway itself.

So, in all what I'm saying is that I'm not that upset that we removed some of the beaver debris on a dam that was cluttered with beaver debris. It may not have been done as gingerly but I also know how it is to work with a piece of heavy equipment and I also know how it is to reach in and try to grab stuff and when you have a beaver dam that is completely tangled up within whatever debris is on that bridge, I mean on that dam, it's a hard thing to remove so I would say, have some consideration for some of the unknowns that we had in this room, no being there and not experienced that ourselves or somebody else experience that or to view that. That's my comment. I just wanted to make sure that we're all aware that stuff had to happen. That was the recommendation from the state and whether the timing was right or the whole process was absolutely correct, I'm not sure but it would be interesting to know if there is any factual evidence that shows specifically that rocks were removed.

Chairman Robertson: Yup, appreciate your comments.

Mr. Rhodes, did you ...

Mr. Rhodes: I was just wondering if the road agent was going to be on your copy list?

Chairman Robertson: Ah, more than likely, yes.

Okay, if there's nothing further, we'll move forward on that and I thank everyone for coming and if you were only here to talk to us about the dam, by all means, go home and eat dinner.

Okay, we have outstanding minutes from August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021.

#### **Regular Business:**

##### **Review of Outstanding Minutes of August 2, 2021**

**Motion:** Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the minutes of August 2, 2021

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

**Vote:** Yea 3, Nay 0, Abstained 1 – Motion Carries (chairman voted)

##### **Vouchers/Payroll Manifest/Accounts Payable Manifest:**

##### **Accounts Payable Manifest with today's date on it - \$70,644.05.**

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

**Second:** Selectman Dill

**Discussion:**

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

##### **Payroll Manifest with tomorrow's date on it - \$81,186.49 (gross), \$53,560.62 (net)**

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

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

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

##### **Signatures/Correspondence:**

We have a letter from the Historical Society, specifically from Mary Ellen Moran of the Deerfield Historical Society and they are writing to request permission to use the Board of Selectmen as supporters for the nomination process of 2021 Seven to Save Project of the NH Preservation of Alliance and this is an application for funds for the Historical Society through the program and they need local organizations, leadership or groups that support the renovation of 5 North Road. That the building that they own and are trying to turn into a museum.

So, essentially, they are applying for money and at some point, they are going to need a specific letter or signatures from the Board of Selectmen as that process moves...

Vice Chairman Pitman: Good idea.

Selectman Dill: So, moved. Do we have to vote on it?

Chairman Robertson: We can certainly vote to support the process, yes.

**Motion:** Selectman Dill moves to support the Deerfield Historical Society process to obtain monies

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

Chairman Robertson: When we get the specifics that they want in a letter that they need for signatures on the grant applications, we can take action but, in the meanwhile, we support their efforts.

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

Chairman Robertson: With regard for signatures, I'll need my glasses for this, we have an application for reimbursement to the state and this is for property that is consumed by state forests or state parks.

We have three properties listed here.

Our portion of:

Bear Brook State Park	1,825 acres per DES	\$1,279.56 per acre	\$2,335,200.00
Pawtuckaway State Park	500.6 acres	\$1,917.29 per acre	\$ 971,300.00
Woodman State Forest	88.6 acres	\$1,616.25 per acre	\$ 143,200.00

I'm not certain why Woodman State Forest, much of which is marsh, would be valued at a much higher rate than the portion in Bear Brook or Pawtuckaway but we do need a motion to apply.

**Motion:** Vice Chairman Pitman moves to apply for reimbursement for state properties that located in Deerfield

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

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

Selectman Dill: So, do we get a separate one on the Fish and Game owned lands like wildlife refuge?

Chairman Robertson: I believe we do, actually. This is from DRED for their state forests or state park.

We also have the letter supporting the petition that was presented to us last week. This is the redistricting position, petition and what we've used in the language is the actual language from the petition and then stated that the Board of Selectmen voted and support of the petition.

So, we've actually already made a motion so we just need to sign it.

Selectman Dill: I just wanted to point out that I wasn't here for the last meeting but I completely support it.

Chairman Robertson: And there is a spot for you to sign it in support.

We also have a Personnel Action Request. This requires one signature and this is for the assistant Parks and Recreation director position which I believe has been filled now and the new employee is Eric Menard, a young man with a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in recreation who's from Milton, VT and actually went to school at Southern NH University and is familiar with the area.

Of the folks interviewed, that was the final decision.

I would need a motion to sign this so we can pay him.

**Motion:** Selectman Dill moves to sign the Personnel Action Request for Eric Menard

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh  
**Discussion:**

Selectwoman McHugh: I just have a question. Who pays for him? Is that out of the revolving fund or is that out of the town?

Mr. Harrington: That particular position right now, half is funded out of the budget half is funded out of the 80 fund.

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

I will sign it and pass it on.

Okay, which brings us to the Town Administrator's Report.

**Town Administrator's Report:**

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

First, is getting back to the Board on their question on roadside mowing. That is to begin this week so you should see the contractor out there.

The road agent also contacted the company that sprays for knotweed and according to that company, they will begin treatment in the fall once the plant blooms.

I think, as I understand the explanation, that's the best time to eradicate it when it's taking up from the soil.

An update on a maintenance issue here at the G.B. White Building.

The town clerk's air conditioning unit is down currently. We've installed a window air conditioner for them to get them through.

We have called a contractor to come in and give us an estimate. The internal unit of the split system is no longer functioning so I've asked them to give me a quote on a replacement part for that which they came back with approximately \$25,000.00, excuse me, \$2,500.00. That's if they can find a replacement head for it.

It's an older unit so they're looking for that and the second estimate that he is getting for me in case they can't find a replacement part would be, we would have to install a whole new system because they don't work with one another which would be approximately \$5,500.00.

So, as soon as I have a definitive of which way we're going, I will come back to the Board. Either way, my recommendation is for the Board to approve the Municipal Government Building Trust Fund to use to pay for it so it doesn't impact the budget.

That's what that was designed to accommodate and that currently has a balance of \$54,587.00 so it should be able to cover it.

And, that's all I have for this evening.

Chairman Robertson: Okay, just a quick question John, in regard to the air flow in this building, has that work been completed? I know I've seen a gentleman on the roof.

Mr. Harrington: Yes. I will, I meant to have an update for you but Ray was unable to get in touch about what exactly is left to be done.

Chairman Robertson: Okay.

Mr. Harrington: My understanding is that it may just need the electrical hook up so we are waiting on the electrician but I should have an update next week.

Chairman Robertson: Okay. Questions for John?

Selectwoman McHugh: I have a question about government buildings.

Mr. Harrington: Yes.

Selectwoman McHugh: With our budget, government buildings, government buildings in my mind are this building, the fire houses, the town hall. Parks and Rec is also on that government buildings. Are we charging repairs for the Rec buildings out of our government buildings line?

Mr. Harrington: He pays for those repairs out of the 80 fund depending on what it is.

Chairman Robertson: And, in the past, it's actually, Parks and Rec has actually paid for more than their expected ... I'm thinking in regard to the furnaces when we didn't have money available for government buildings, we actually hit Parks and Rec up for the expenditures for at least one new furnace and I believe some water filtration, too.

Selectwoman McHugh: For this building?

Chairman Robertson: Yes.

Selectwoman McHugh: Well, I, I just don't think we should have to pay since it seems that our budget never passes and we're working on this budget that we've had forever without these Parks and Rec buildings, we shouldn't be using that money to pay for those buildings.

Mr. Harrington: There hasn't been a recent occurrence but depending on what the problem is, I usually work it out with Nick. If it is a strictly Parks and Rec issue, it is typically the 80 fund that pays for it.

Selectwoman McHugh: That's all Parks and Rec issues?

Mr. Harrington: Yup.

Selectwoman McHugh: Okay.

Mr. Harrington: Do you have something specific in mind?

Selectwoman McHugh: No, I just think we should stop using the government building for Parks and Rec.

Mr. Harrington: It's typically not used for the out buildings if that's what you're talking about, the fields?

Selectwoman McHugh: Yeah.

Mr. Harrington: That's usually the 80 fund.

Selectwoman McHugh: Okay.

#### **Unfinished Business/New Business/Other Business:**

Selectman Dill: Um, Old Home Day is scheduled for the 21<sup>st</sup> and the fire works of it at the fairgrounds the night of the 22<sup>nd</sup> and thank you very much to the fairgrounds for letting us do that.

Um, we are looking for volunteers for Old Home Day. We are looking, if you want to sponsor Old Home Day or want to sponsor a specific activity, please get in touch with Nick.

Um, if you're raring to go and volunteer for Old Home Day, the first major thing is this Friday at 9:00 am. We get to rebuild the chicken pit, um, for a limited time only out there so swing over by the Gazebo Field at 9:00, Friday morning. If you want to move some cement blocks, it's not going to be cool out but Jeff says that he wants to start at 9 and get done by 9:30 if enough people show up so and unfortunately, it's going to be a limited time chicken pit because we are probably going to have to take apart again but it will be here and we'll make some chicken for Old Home Day.

So, that's the big announcement out of the Rec.

Chairman Robertson: Okay.

New Business, other business, I sent an email today. I talked to Mike at Groen Construction. He'd called me back and said that they can't meet with us at 1:00 on Wednesday and they would like to meet with us at 10:00 and I know that Dick told me that he can't do that. Gary and John assured me they could. I'm hoping some other select people might be able to go with us.

Selectwoman McHugh: I'll go.

Selectman Dill: I can't commit to anything, weather dependent, for sure.

Chairman Robertson: I will, um, I'll talk to Fred and I don't know if people want to carpool or not but I will talk to the chief and see how many people he can stuff into a cruiser or ....

Selectman Dill: I've seen the new white one around quite a bit, by the way.

Chairman Robertson: Yeah, it looks good.

Vice Chairman Pitman: That was at 10, right?

Chairman Pitman: It is.

Chairman Robertson: In Rochester on Washington Road, Suite ... 120 Washington Road, Suite 302, if I remember correctly.

And, as I had mentioned earlier, I have a conference with John Boutin, the municipal attorney that we're looking for advice from with regard to Thurston Pond Road. That's being tomorrow afternoon.

I had pushed to try to get him Friday afternoon or Monday but he was in court both days and couldn't meet with me so ...

Other new business, old business or other business?

Selectwoman McHugh: If you do a ZOOM with him, I'd like to sit in.

Chairman Robertson: Okay.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Did we decide that R&D does the shoulder gravel?

Chairman Robertson: I believe Steve had given us a date at the last meeting that he thought that they were going to be handling that.

Mr. Harrington: The two projects that were done with the bid contract, that included shoulder gravel. They're doing that.

Vice Chairman Pitman: I had two calls this week that people are waiting. I told them it came up at the meeting but I couldn't tell them a date.

Chairman Robertson: I think Steve, Steve didn't have a date but he thought that it was either this week or the following week.

Mr. Harrington: I'll check with him and get a note out to the Board tomorrow.

Vice Chairman Pitman: That would be great.

Chairman Robertson: Anything else?

Hearing none, I would look for citizen's comments at this time.

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

Hearing none, I would look for a motion to adjourn.

**Motion:** Vice Chairman Pitman moves to adjourn at 6:15 pm

**Second:** Selectman Dill

**Discussion:**

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

Chairman Robertson: Thank you for being here this evening.

**Next Meeting: Monday, August 15, 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*