

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
October 25, 2021  
MINUTES**

**Call to Order**

5:30 pm – Vice Chairman Pitman called the meeting to order

**Present:** Richard Pitman, Vice Chairman, Alden Dill, Cynthia McHugh and Dwight Barnes, Selectmen.

**Absent:** Fred McGarry, Selectman

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

Vice Chairman Pitman asks all to rise and pledge allegiance to the Flag

Thank you everyone. That being behind us, I'd like to ...

Selectman Dill: I'd like to make a motion, Dick.

Vice Chairman Pitman: That's what I'm going to ask for.

Selectman Dill: Okay.

**Board Appointment:**

**Motion:** Selectman Dill moves to appoint Dwight Barnes to fill Andy Robertson's seat until the next election

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

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

Vice Chairman Pitman: Congratulations, Dwight. Kelly's here. We can swear you in right now and ...

Selectman Dill: We can get you right up here.

Selectwoman McHugh: You're in.

Selectman Dill: It's almost November. We can't wait on this.

(Mr. Barnes was sworn in by town clerk/tax collector, Kelly Roberts)

Vice Chairman Pitman: Have a seat, my friend.

Selectman Dill: Oh, right over here. We have, we don't have a name tag yet but we got everything else for you.

Vice Chairman Pitman: While Kelly's here does everybody have their tax breakdown in their file?

Kelly, do you have any comments?

Ms. Roberts: I am very excited for you guys to set the tax rate. We'll have the warrant ready for you on Monday and we'll get them out next week.

Vice Chairman Pitman: For the record, the tax rate being proposed for 2021 is \$18.80, down five percent from last year which was \$19.67.

**Motion:** Selectman Dill moves to set the tax rate at \$18.80

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

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

Vice Chairman Pitman: Unanimous John and Kelly.

## **2022 Budget Review:**

Vice Chairman Pitman: Take it out of order, do you want to do the Planning Board, page 17?

## **Planning Board**

Selectman Dill: So, John, we kind of started talking about this at the beginning of the meeting here that we put this on hold last week because the part-time employee was down and I see it's not anymore so I assume that ...

Mr. Harrington: Correct. I've discussed the budget with Fred last week. We made, that was the only change that needed to be made and that is the correct amount to be proposed for 2022.

**Motion:** Selectman Dill moves to approve the Planning Board budget in the amount of \$45,522.00

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

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

Vice Chairman Pitman: Unanimous, John.

## **Highway Department: Page 44-55**

Mr. Harrington: So, I believe you've already approved the Highway Administration on Page 44 so you want to flip to Page 46.

Selectman Dill: 46 and 47 we were discussing last time.

Mr. Harrington: Correct and I believe part of the discussion was over the budget line for salt. I've included some estimates for the past five years in your packet. You can use that to look at the proposed price for 2022.

Selectman Dill: So, based on your estimate of use, we're actually, you're estimating we're going to use \$98,500.00 and we're budgeting \$76,100.00.

Mr. Harrington: That's going on the average of five full years.

Selectman Dill: Based on the current price.

Mr. Harrington: Correct.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Any comments Steve on the salt?

Selectman Dill: Do we have any other place to get it from or is that the choice?

Mr. Rollins: No, we, it's, there's a couple places to get it from. They're all, you know, ...

Selectman Dill: \$67.00 a ton is what they told John.

Mr. Rollins: Right.

Mr. Harrington: And Granite State Minerals is the vendor we have used over the past five years since I've been here.

Selectwoman McHugh: Well, if we can get it cheaper somewhere else ...

Mr. Rollins: Yep. Happy to do that. The problem in the past has been moisture content in the salt sometimes and delivery.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Right.

Mr. Rollins: Delivery is the big heartache and actually we've had to go get salt in the past. Not since I've been in but I've gone for Mark with my trailer dump and got salt because it just couldn't get delivered.

Selectwoman McHugh: So, what is your recommendation, go with this company?

Mr. Rollins: Well, I mean, it's not a bid so we can go, we can change in the middle of the season. I mean, we can make, I can call a couple different places and ....

Mr. Harrington: Actually, it is an agreement.

Mr. Rollins: It is?

Mr. Harrington: Yes. It's the first time I've seen them send out an agreement to the town.

Mr. Rollins: Okay.

Mr. Harrington: Normally, the road agent has just gone to and called the vendor. This is the first time they've sent out a letter.

Mr. Rollins: Okay. And that was Granite State that did that?

Mr. Harrington: Yes.

It now goes by Eastern Minerals but it's the same company.

Mr. Rollins: All right.

Selectman Dill: Well, I'd say that kind of negates the whole discussion on if we're too high on the salt line in my opinion.

Mr. Rollins: Not to mention with the price of fuel, they're probably going to start hitting us with a surcharge for delivery so ...

Vice Chairman Pitman: That's what I'm afraid of. Even if we can get it delivered.

Mr. Rollins: Right.

Selectman Dill: So, the other question that popped up the other night, Steve, was the cutting edges.

Mr. Rollins: Yep.

Selectman Dill: Do you just want to speak to that real quick?

Mr. Rollins: What was the question the other night to clarify?

Selectman Dill: Cindy?

Selectwoman McHugh: What are we, what are we putting cutting edges on? I mean, we don't put cutting edges on contractors anymore.

Mr. Rollins: No.

Selectwoman McHugh: But it's just our trucks.

Mr. Rollins: Yes.

Selectwoman McHugh: How many sets of cutting edges do we use a year about?

Mr. Rollins: That, that all depends on how much we, the types of storms we have. Obviously, if like last year, last year was a year we used a lot of material and probably more cutting edges than usual because it was always a cleanup.

You know, we got a little bit of snow and then some rain so then you're slushing off but still, I would say the average is two sets, maybe, possibly three but for the most part, with the blades that we're using now with the carbide in them, they hold up quite well. They're a little bit more money but they hold up quite well.

Vice Chairman Pitman: So, you feel we need \$7,500.00 in there?

Mr. Rollins: Oh, definitely because that also with edges, that's also my grader. You know, the grader gets a cutting edge for grading roads. It's teeth for the backhoe. It's not just snowplow cutting edges.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Okay.

Mr. Rollins: And, on the average, it's about \$1,200.00 just to do a plow so \$7,500.00 really is not much of a budget for edges for just our plows.

Selectman Dill: The other question that came up the other night was contracting on winter maintenance. Where, it was \$65,000.00 more is what you're looking for than we had in the previous, approved budget.

How are we looking on bids and rates for maintenance this year for contractors, plow guys?

Mr. Rollins: So, there's no bid. We pay our rate. So far, it sounds like two trucks are not coming back.

Selectman Dill: Okay.

So, if we're down two trucks and we're down ...

Mr. Rollins: One of our own.

Selectman Dill: One of our own, what is the plan?

Mr. Rollins: Well, obviously, try to fill the two the best I can and the other question is, when are you guys going to let me have some help?

Selectman Dill: So, do you feel like you're probably going to have to adjust the rate, the pay rate, to get people in?

Mr. Rollins: No, I hope not. We did a raise last year. Granted, we're still behind according to a lot of the surrounding towns but you know, we're lucky enough to get the guys that are in town and don't want to travel. So, I mean, that's worth something to them. You know, close to home, close to their shop. They can do their chores or can feed their wood stove, you know, in between trips. So, that means something but, yeah, I have a feeling I'm going to be looking for possibly two trucks.

And, depending on what we're doing, like I say now, it's looking like I'm going to have a town truck, possibly, sitting. I might have somebody in my backup help for like, emergencies that may be willing to run one of our plow trucks. The smaller, small truck.

Vice Chairman Pitman: So, we've got the money in there to cover it, just be up to you finding them.

Mr. Rollins: Right.

Vice Chairman Pitman: At this point, we're covered money-wise.

Mr. Rollins: As far as the full-time position, is that something we're going to fill in the near future? I mean, it's been since July.

No, we're not going to fill it?

Selectwoman McHugh: Do you feel that we need to fill it or just a winter thing? How did you do all summer without filling it?

Mr. Rollins: Well, we made it this summer but we didn't get some stuff done that I wanted to get done.

Vice Chairman Pitman: We might have to bring that up at another time.

Selectman Dill: You were the one that was full of questions the other day, Cindy.

Selectwoman: Well, you just hit, the salt was one, the heating oil, the diesel, that was explained and the down one person, if Steve thinks we need a person, then we're going to have to look into that.

I thought he said last, at least for plowing.

Mr. Rollins: Well, I definitely need somebody in the wintertime, I mean, but as it is and actually Cindy, you're the one that asked the most about it is I have a truck sitting in the shed and you ask me about that all the time, well, I have ...

Selectwoman McHugh: Well, isn't that Paul's truck.

Mr. Rollins: Yes.

Selectwoman McHugh: So, he's going to be driving that one.

Mr. Rollins: In the winter.

Selectwoman McHugh: Right.

Mr. Rollins: So now, I'm going to have a truck also sitting in the shed in the summertime, I mean also in the winter time right now so, because, I don't have a driver for it so, what to I do, hire another truck? I'm already looking for two. Do you want me to look for a third and let one of ours sit or do we want to hire somebody to run one of ours that can help me in the summertime as well?

Selectwoman McHugh: (not understandable)

**Motion:** Selectman Dill moves to approve the Highway Budget in the amount of \$390,109.00 which is what the Highway Agent requested for a budget on page 47

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

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

Vice Chairman Pitman: Unanimous, John.

Selectman Dill: We still have to move the total Highway Budget, I believe, correct John?

Mr. Harrington: They're all individual.

Selectman Dill: Okay.

Mr. Harrington: That would be Road Surfacing...

Selectman Dill: I don't know if we did Highways and Streets? I think that was the other one we hadn't ...

Mr. Harrington: Yes, if you move the Highways and Streets, that will encompass the Highways and Streets and the Bridges, Dams ...

Selectman Dill: I think we already did that one.

**Motion:** Selectman Dill moves the Highways and Streets budget in the amount of \$743,615.00 on page 51

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

Selectwoman McHugh: So, what is this for?

Selectman Dill: Basically, everything from what we just did so the Road Resurfacing, the gravels, the block grants. It's everything from Highway Administration ...

Mr. Harrington: Nope, Highway Administration is on its own.

Selectman Dill: No, that's what I'm saying, from Highway Administration on, that's ...

Mr. Harrington: Correct.

Vice Chairman Pitman: It must include what we just ...

Mr. Harrington: Yes, it does.

Selectman Dill: It does? Okay. So, which one do we have to do, though?

Vice Chairman Pitman: Well, we could have just done the 743 and not this.

Mr. Harrington: Yes.

Selectman Dill: Because I know we haven't done Road Resurfacing.

Mr. Harrington: That's all included in Highways and Streets

Selectman Dill: So, that, so if we do the \$743,615.00, we're done.

Mr. Harrington: That includes gravel, road resurfacing and then your bridges and dams are separate. Those are individual budgets.

Selectman Dill: But we did that before.

Mr. Harrington: Yes.

Vice Chairman Pitman: So, do we need to remove the budget we just did or is somebody going to subtract it from this?

Mr. Harrington: If you want to withdraw that motion and the second withdraw, then you can put in a new motion out.

Selectman Dill: Yeah, okay, we'll do that. I will withdraw my motion if Cindy withdraws her second.

Selectwoman McHugh: I'll take my second.

Vice Chairman Pitman: So, we're looking for a motion for \$743,615.00

**Motion:** Selectwoman McHugh moves to approve the Highway Department budget presented of \$743,615.00

**Second:** Selectman Dill (I thought it was the same number I just motioned)

**Discussion:**

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

Vice Chairman Pitman: Unanimous, John.

Mr. Harrington: Okay.

Vice Chairman Pitman: The Highway budget is behind us.

Mr. Harrington: That leaves one budget which is the Insurance and I just got an update that they won't have those numbers for me until November 1<sup>st</sup> so it's going to be another week.

Selectman Dill: But other than that, we're done.

Mr. Harrington: Yes.

Selectwoman McHugh: This is the employee insurance?

Mr. Harrington: Insurance, it would be health, dental, short-time, long-term insurance, retirement, worker's comp, property and liability. It's all the insurances.

Selectwoman McHugh: And, we have a company set for that?

Mr. Harrington: Well, that's what we're going, the Board is going to be getting as they do every year, you get a comparison chart of the different health insurances available and you can choose from that. Stay with each ...

Selectwoman McHugh: Before we do this?

Mr. Harrington: Before we do the insurance, yes.

Selectwoman McHugh: Yes.

Mr. Harrington: I do have some information from some of the companies but I don't have the health. That's the biggest one we're waiting for.

Vice Chairman Pitman: So, the possibility of November 1<sup>st</sup>? When we meet next Monday, we'll have it?

Mr. Harrington: No, that's when, that's when the company that does the comparison for us will likely get them and then it probably will be several days after that before I get the chart so probably the week after that is the earliest.

Vice Chairman Pitman: You can chat to us after you get ...

Mr. Harrington: Correct.

**Regular Business:**

Mr. Harrington: Any questions for the Road Agent before he leaves?

Vice Chairman Pitman: Sorry about that, Steve.

Mr. Rollins: I just thought before I boogied ...

Selectwoman McHugh: Like last week.

Mr. Rollins: Yeah, I leave and then you guys have questions for me.

I kind of figured if I was here and you had anything...

Vice Chairman Pitman: I appreciate you coming down tonight and give us that information.

Mr. Rollins: Okay.

Selectman Dill: Do we got anything on powerline tree removal? Have you? No. Okay.

Mr. Rollins: No, I mean...

Selectman Dill: Their getting bad.

Mr. Rollins: Yeah, oh yeah. They're definitely getting bad.

Selectman Dill: Have you heard of any federal or state or any assistance that we can get in removing these things?

Mr. Rollins: No, I have not but I could look into that.

Selectman Dill: One of the cemetery trustees asked me the other day and I hadn't heard anything. If you could just keep an ear out.

Mr. Rollins: Yeah.

Selectman Dill: Because she said, we're having the same problem at the cemeteries and it's going to kill their budget.

Mr. Rollins: Right.

Selectman Dill: It's the same problem you're having, I mean we can start cutting them but it's going to destroy the budget really fast.

Mr. Rollins: Yeah, I haven't, I've checked all my emails because, you know, being the highway agent and I haven't seen anything yet or anybody discussing anything about it but maybe I could throw an email out there and ...

Selectman Dill: Yeah, keep an ear out.

Mr. Rollins: Put a bug in everybody's ear.

Selectman Dill: See what we can hear. I mean I have chased down every Asplundh truck I can find in town and it's just been a nothing after a nothing.

They came to take one of the bad ones on Griffin Road and then decided they didn't have a big enough truck and left and they haven't been back in three months.

Mr. Rollins: Yeah, so right and they do, they'll come through town and do a little bit and then they disappear again and you know, there was a big push for a while. We had three or four trucks parked out behind the town shed...

Selectman Dill: Yeah.

Mr. Rollins: And then they just disappeared.

Selectman Dill: I'm just getting nervous. I mean, we get a lot of wind coming in this storm.

Mr. Rollins: I will say that those ash trees, I mean, other than the bark falling off them and the small limbs, they are holding together a lot and they're hard. I mean, ash typically when it dries, it's powder.

I don't know if it's something to do with the bugs or what but they are still hard, the ones we have cut down. Have still had some girth to them, you know.

Selectman Dill: But I think that's the next big issue we're going to have to confront, road-wise.

Mr. Rollins: Oh, definitely.

Vice Chairman Pitman: While you're still here, Steve, John just gave me the paperwork to sign so they can't raise the price on us. It's \$67.00 a ton for bulk road salt for the 21/22 season through the Eastern Minerals.

Mr. Rollins: Okay.

Vice Chairman Pitman: I need a motion to have the chairman ...

Mr. Harrington: That agreement has a deadline to sign and submit it by October 31<sup>st</sup>. That's how long that price is good for. I just wanted to make sure the Board knew if they wanted to pass on that offer then you would get market rate at whatever the market is that day you order it.

Vice Chairman Pitman: This doesn't count ...

Mr. Rollins: And that's, that definitely was delivered, right, for that price?

Mr. Harrington: Yes.

Selectman Dill: Now is that a cap and if it goes under, we're paying under or is this a bid at \$67.00 ton.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Offered at a delivered price

Mr. Harrington: Please to offer the delivered price of \$67.00 per ton, bulk road salt, for the 2021 to 2022 season.

Mr. Rollins: Yeah, so I don't believe we're going to get a deal. It's, that's what it's going to be.

Mr. Harrington: This price quoted will remain firm until April 30<sup>th</sup> of 2022.

Mr. Rollins: Right.

Mr. Harrington: And we need to give them an estimated tonnage, sign it and send it back to them by October 31<sup>st</sup> if you want to take advantage of this offer.

Selectman Dill: That leaves no time to check other prices.

Who else distributes salt around here?

Mr. Rollins: Well, you got Morton, there's an outfit in Hooksett and those are really the three big ones and that might even be Morton in Hooksett as well.

Selectman Dill: Yeah.

Vice Chairman Pitman: John, this isn't committing us to any, this is just estimated tonnage, it's not guaranteed.

Mr. Harrington: That's correct.

Selectman Dill: This isn't an exclusive agreement, that's what you're saying, Dick.

Mr. Rollins: Well, that's the other thing too, is yeah, it doesn't ...

Selectman Dill: It doesn't lock into one ...

Mr. Rollins: Right, it just locks us into this price. We estimate the tonnage we're going to use and if we get a better price, you go somewhere else.

Mr. Harrington: They are just trying to plan their inventory.

Mr. Rollins: Right. That's it which it would be only fair to try to use them but I mean if it's ridiculously the other way then it ...

Selectman Dill: Then we have options.

Mr. Rollins: Then we can out, I guess.

Selectman Dill: That makes it a little bit more palatable.

Mr. Rollins: I mean, once you've committed, you've kind of committed, I mean your words, your word but I mean, if it's, yeah, I don't think it's a horrible number anyway especially with what fuels going to do and everything else so or is already doing.

Selectwoman McHugh: I don't think we should sign it.

Vice Chairman McHugh: Okay.

When is the deadline?

Selectman Dill: October 31<sup>st</sup>.

Vice Chairman Pitman: The other thing we could do is ...

Mr. Rollins: There's no meeting between now and then so.

Selectman Dill: No there's no meeting between now and then.

Selectwoman McHugh: I don't know, somebody didn't do any research there when you come back with one number ...

Mr. Rollins: Well, we never had to commit before, that's the problem. This is a new thing. It's a new company and now they want a new, they want to commit.

In the past, we were just, we got salt wherever it was the cheapest. Did our homework at the time and they're kind of taking that away from us?

Vice Chairman Pitman: I kind of agree with Cindy but ...

Can we make a motion to have, I could stop in and sign it if in the next few days, once they checked?

Selectwoman McHugh: Can you call around to a few places, Steve and see what you can find?

Mr. Rollins: Be happy to.

Selectwoman McHugh: And if this is what we have then ...

Vice Chairman Pitman: This might look really good.

Selectman Dill: Yeah.

Mr. Rollins: Yeah, I feel as though it probably will but ...

Selectman Dill: How do we make a motion like that? I don't think I have. I'll withdraw my motion on the 67 so we can discuss.

**Motion:** Selectman Dill moves to sign at \$67.00 a ton for salt with the understanding that if we can get it at \$50.00 then get it at \$50.00 from somebody else

**Second:**

**Discussion:**

Motion withdrawn.

Mr. Harrington: You, I can suggest you make a motion to authorize Dick to sign the agreement if that is a reasonable or lowest price after Steve does his research and if it isn't, then Dick won't sign it.

Selectwoman McHugh: I'll second that one.

Selectman Dill: Well, I'm going to have to make the motion first.

**Motion:** Selectman Dill moves that we authorize the vice chairman to sign an agreement after the road agent researches our local salt suppliers and finds, basically, our best rate before the 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

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

Vice Chairman Pitman: Unanimous, John.

Selectman Dill: First, we know what we're doing this week then Steve ...

Mr. Rollins: Yup.

Vice Chairman Pitman: So tomorrow ...

Mr. Rollins: Yup, oh yeah.

Vice Chairman Pitman: That'd be great. Thanks Steve.

Mr. Rollins: Okay.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Glad you stuck around for a minute.

Mr. Rollins: All right.

#### **Review of Outstanding Minutes of October 18, 2021**

**Motion:** Selectman Dill moves to accept the minutes as written

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

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

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

**Accounts Payable Manifest - \$1,581,017.15 (\$1,550,000.00 going to the school)**

**Motion:** Selectman Dill moves to approve the Accounts Payable Manifest as presented

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

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

Vice Chairman Pitman: Unanimous, John.

**Signatures/Correspondence:**

**Intent to Cut Wood/Timber – Jeffrey Kerr, Middle Road, (25-acre piece. He has plans to cut 5 acres)**

Vice Chairman Pitman: We don't need a motion. Gary Sanborn will be the logger.

I'm passing down a paper that Dwight signed already that we sign. The motion's already been made. Just sign it. We'll turn it in.

Last thing in the Correspondence/Signature file is:

"The Board of Selectmen discussed your request to reorganize the separation of two parcels owned by you and separated by Old Centre Road.

That's Shane Corson which we voted on last week and just, this will be the official notice. We'll sign it.

**Town Administrator's Report:**

Mr. Harrington: I have one update for the Board this evening. Just to let you know that Phase Two of the town hall tank repair will be Thursday, this Thursday, the 28<sup>th</sup>. They'll, we've rented a power washer and they'll be cleaning out the tank and I will report what they find once they have a good look at it.

Selectman Dill: All right, so then we'll have a path for fixing it after they but they're not going to fix it at the same time that they're cleaning it?

Mr. Harrington: They're just cleaning so that they can get a very good look at what the condition is of the tank.

Vice Chairman Pitman: And at that point, they'll give us a price?

Mr. Harrington: If they recommend fixing it, they'll have a price.

Selectman Barnes: Is that the tank at the Gazebo field?

(Answered yes by members of Board)

Vice Chairman Pitman: Any other questions for John?

Thank you, sir.

**Unfinished/New/Other Business:**

Selectman Dill: On the unfinished, I just wanted to say that the parking situation coming out of Candia Road or coming out of Church Street, Candia Road, that intersection, at the apartment they've been working on it and it's improved the sight line.

You know, it's, it's definitely what they're doing is helping.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Wonderful.

Selectman Dill: I think we still need to fix the intersection but this is a good start.

Vice Chairman Pitman: You bet. It's a lot easier looking east.

Selectman Dill: Yeah.

Vice Chairman Pitman: If there's nothing else, we'll do citizen's comments.

**Citizen's Comments:**

**Kevin Verville – McCarron Road:**

Congratulations Mr. Barnes. It couldn't happen to a nicer guy.

So, the previous chair had mentioned during the last MBC meeting that he anticipated you guys would be through the budget in plenty of time to be able to send it over to the Budget Committee. We have our next meeting a week from tomorrow.

Obviously, the budget won't be complete because you're still waiting for the insurance data but I would request that you guys send the budget as it is that you've worked through it so far so the Budget Committee can start going through it and you know, my guess is, we would reserve the Insurance section for late in the game once you guys had a chance to go through it and settle on your proposal.

So that's the one thing that I would ask.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Good idea.

Mr. Verville: Thank you.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Thanks for coming in, Kevin.

Selectwoman McHugh: I had something.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Go ahead.

Selectwoman McHugh: I, what's going on with the, I emailed John with the Community Channel? We can't run anything on that channel?

Mr. Harrington: That was basically being used to have a running, repetitive loop of building, excuse me, meeting agendas, some video that used to be on there but now all the video of all the meetings is gotten through our town website.

If you go to the right page, there's always a link to go to any meeting videos for those meetings that do record everything.

So, because last year nothing going on, it sat idle and there's really hasn't been a request to renew it.

The problem is as soon as you put something up there, it's old because it does, it would need constant, every week updating and there's just not that much to ...

Selectwoman McHugh: We can't fill in, like our meetings or budget meetings or Planning Board meetings on that channel?

Mr. Harrington: But it's already available on YouTube for everybody ...

Selectwoman McHugh: But a lot of people, older people don't have YouTube capabilities and, I just don't, we have a blank channel. There's nothing on it. I think, I think we need to start putting stuff back on it. I mean, Parks and Rec are doing things. That could be on there and I think our meetings can be on there. The Planning Board meetings, whatever public meetings, they should be on that channel.

And, I don't know if it's because Steve's not here. In my mind, Steve should be coming back here and working. Working from home is great but there's things that he needs to be here to do so I don't know if that's why it's not getting done.

Mr. Harrington: Well, when there are things for Steve to do, he does come in but day-to-day IT operations does not need a physical presence in the building.

Selectwoman McHugh: So, do, is it possible to cut his hours then? Do we need him as much as we thought we did?

Mr. Harrington: I would not recommend that. The things that he does work on, he may not have showable access or showable deliverables every day, every week but he is working every day. I'm in constant communication with him for different items coming up.

We're currently working on trying to finalize the details for live streaming Board meetings which has been a request from the community before the winter hits and we've been working on that for over six months with Bob Malloy so he is working.

Selectwoman McHugh: No, I'm not saying he's not working but he's, that's a wasted channel there and Randi is working down with Rick and she looks like she's doing a great job but I thought we didn't approve an assistant for him, for Rick?

Mr. Harrington: She isn't an assistant for him. I believe the Board had requested last year if she could take time to go down there and help Rick organize and that's what she's been doing.

Selectwoman McHugh: And she's been down there ...

Mr. Harrington: She's not reassigned. She's only helping Rick.

Selectwoman McHugh: And how long has she been there?

Mr. Harrington: Since she's been back which was about March.

Selectwoman McHugh: I'm just kind of concerned. You needed an assistant and now the assistant is with Rick and you don't need the assistant. We're just ....

Vice Chairman Pitman: She's available to help you?

Mr. Harrington: She's available to help wherever the need is. She's very flexible. She's not my assistant. She's the town admin assistant.

Selectwoman McHugh: Okay.

Selectman Dill: If I could ask a semi-related question, John. Any updates on the cable, wi-fi, cable internet committee?

Mr. Harrington: They're still meeting.

Selectman Dill: Okay. I've had a bunch of people ask.

Mr. Harrington: And they post their minutes.

Selectman Dill: Okay.

That's been a hot topic in town. I'm glad we had a committee for it.

### **Erroll Rhodes – Church Street:**

Good evening. Erroll Rhodes, Church Street.

One question. I don't know what that committee that you just brought up, Mr. Dill, is doing but Consolidated is putting fiber into town. Did we know that?

Selectman Dill: We know that New England Electric Co-op is doing a big fiber upgrade to their system but only on their grid.

Mr. Rhodes: Between now and Thanksgiving, they're going to be two fellows putting fiber into Deerfield for Consolidated Communications. I don't know if that committee is aware of that.

I think it's terrific that Atlantic Broadband's got some competition if they can, you know do that but I didn't know if that committee was knowledgeable about that and how we would get to know more about it.

Vice Chairman Pitman: I can pass that on.

Mr. Rhodes: The other question, Mr. Harrington, glad to hear that you're working on making commission, I guess, is it just commissions and Boards?

Mr. Harrington: Any meeting that would happen in this room would be able to be live streamed, yes.

Mr. Rhodes: And with like ZOOM or ...

Mr. Harrington: YouTube.

Mr. Rhodes: So, it's just ...

Mr. Harrington: It's the same mechanism that the school is currently using.

Mr. Rhodes: I see so it wouldn't, there wouldn't be an ability to interact.

Mr. Harrington: Correct. It's just for an observation of the meeting. You can't live interact.

Mr. Rhodes: Mini c-span.

Okay, thank you very much.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Thank you, Mr. Rhodes.

**Motion:** Selectman Dill moves to adjourn at 6:10 pm

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

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

**Next Meeting: Monday, November 1, 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*