

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
August 15, 2022
MINUTES**

Call to Order

5:45 – Chairman McGarry called the meeting to order

Present: Fred McGarry, Chairman, Richard Pitman, Vice Chairman, Alden Dill, Cynthia McHugh and Will Huebner, Selectmen.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Chairman McGarry: Alright, (inaudible, side speaking in front of mics). Rob.

Robert Mathews: Rob Mathews, 47 Candia Road. We're here to get the selectmen to sign off on the conservation easement on my mother's property which is on 27 Cole Road and the Town of Deerfield will be the executory and trust and Bear Paw will hold the easement. Just need to see approval from the selectman so we can move forward with it at this point.

Vice Chairman Pitman: How many acres involved?

Robert Mathews: The easement itself is twenty acres.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Twenty, wonderful.

Selectman Dill: Okay.

Robert Mathews: well, about (inaudible), there is an exclusion zone around the house which takes out three acres.

Selectman Huebner: I read the literature its approximate value is a hundred and forty-two thousand and I think the cost that is being proposed by Bear Paw was in the twenty thousand range.

Chairman McGarry: yeah, that's right.

Selectman Dill: We are pretty much paying for the fees.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Dill: As we've done projects as of lately. S, I assume she's donating the rights?

Robert Mathews: She's donating the rights and she's very appreciative of the town's support and also of Bear Paws support.

Selectman Dill: Excellent. So, do we need a motion now to accept or, okay.

Motion: Selectman Dill makes a motion that we accept the proposed conservation easement for, I'm sorry?

Robert Mathews: Geraldine Mathews.

Selectman Dill: Geraldine Mathews. I'm Sorry.

Robert Mathews: It will officially be called Geraldine Mathews and Julia (??) Conservation Area (inaudible).

Selectman Huebner: The motion includes the approval of the town funds (inaudible) fees?

Chairman McGarry: Right. That would be coming out of the conservation...

Selectman Dill: Trust fund.

Chairman McGarry: Conservation trust fund.

Selectman Huebner: Okay.

Chairman McGarry: We need a second.

Second: Vice Chairman Pitman
Discussion:

Chairman McGarry: Will?

Selectman Huebner: So, discussion?

Chairman McGarry: Yup.

Selectman Huebner: My only question is about; the fees seem high to me for what's happening so I don't know how to question that. I guess it's just a comment I suppose. It's almost like an open check; they just charge us whatever they want. I don't know if we have any control over that.

Selectman Dill: I would say it's right in line with the other ones we've had donated and actually I had another question. There's been an add on Facebook for Southeast Land Trust for somebody donating an easement in town and they are looking for ninety for fees so I think Bear Paw is getting us a pretty good deal cause this is right in line with the last couple we've done for lawyer fees and...

Selectman Huebner: Yeah, you know, to me you're donating a property that's worth a hundred and twenty, excuse me, a hundred and forty-two thousand and you're paying about fifteen percent as a fee do that. Just seems like a high fee to do that. I don't know how, I'm not suggesting we don't approve it, I just question, in the future perhaps, how we handle the fees for this and...

Chairman McGarry: Yep.

Robert Mathews: You might consider the added value as this is adjacent to other conservation areas.

Selectman Huebner: Right. I saw the map on the literature and we appreciate, of course, the family to donate it.

Chairman McGarry: Any other comments? Mr. Rhodes, I'll have you, briefly.

Erroll Rhodes: Erroll Rhodes, Church Street. The cost question was raised by the conservation commission and the cost for something like this, you have to have it surveyed, you have to have a document, those numbers were questioned by the conservation commission and as Selectman Dill said they were right in line with other costs of similar things. So, it's been vented sufficiently to say that it's not a bad deal. Thank you.

Chairman McGarry: Yep. Alright. Any further discussion. Hearing none. All those in favor signify by saying Aye.

Vote: Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman McGarry: Thank you Rob. Travis.

(Inaudible talking from the audience)

Selectman Dill: Oh, we have it. We can sign it now then.

(Inaudible talking from the audience)

Selectman Dill: I didn't realize we had it already.

(Inaudible talking from the audience)

Selectman Dill: John is a notary by the way. I found that out the other day. It's quite handy.

Travis McCoy: Good evening. So, I wanted give you guys an update on Veasey Park. I know the seasons almost over so I figured it was about time to get down here and let you know how things going. It's been a great year so far.

First to tell you, the patronage, we're looking at about eighty to hundred guests on average which is excellent. We can safely accommodate that many people. We've hosted over a dozen events this year from birthday parties to community groups that have their gatherings down there. Town of Deerfield decals, resident decals, we've issued over a hundred. Issued over a hundred visitor passes. These are intended for people that come down with, accompanying a resident or, I guess there's a lot of Air BnB's in town now that we're seeing a lot more patronage through that. We've been doing season passes. We've only issued ten so far this year but I think that upon educating people it's a better way to go than some of these visitor passes for instance the Air BnB's of course and summer residents that rent out their properties. So, all that's going very well. Swim lessons, we're not quite in full force with the swim lessons. Right now, we're offering levels one through four and we anticipate adding at least two more levels next year. Enrollment is up from last year. We've had over seventy registration forms. Most of these students are participating in multiple sessions, one through four sessions. Getting an immense amount of positive feedback about the swim lessons and we feel it's something that we really focus on in the future. Expand the lessons. Possibly offer things like adult swim classes maybe in the evenings when it's not full of kids and junior life saving courses which we think would help us to cultivate a new generation of life guards. Speaking of life guards, you all might be aware that it's nationwide again that there's a shortage of life guards, beaches closed, pools closed or operating on limited hours. We had that problem in the past. We have raised the minimum pay from ten dollars an hour to twelve dollars an hour which has helped a little bit. It's still, I found myself in some salary negotiations this year that I wasn't expecting but these kids are getting a little more savvy and their realizing that with this certificate and the nature of the job they might be worth a little more when they can get twelve dollars an hour at Market Basket. So that's something we're constantly trying to evolve with the times and unfortunately of course the budget doesn't really support that but we're doing what we can to make sure that they are happy. Last year, if it's not already public record, we went over on our personnel budget. This year we are in a little bit better shape but a lot of that is because the scheduling has been a nightmare. Even with seven guards we can't staff the beach every day. Our budget calls for one lifeguard. That's it. It's basically one employee, fifty-six hours a week, that's what we can finance out of our budget. We are managing to stretch that and we staff two lifeguards. We won't staff less than two employees at a time just for safety reasons, whether it's a lifeguard, there are two lifeguards and a park attendant or a park attendant and a lifeguard, as long as we have two there, I feel okay about that. So, essentially, that's my update. I that, like I said, I think things are going really well this year and I think we're in a good position for next year as well. If anyone has any questions on the update part...

Selectman Dill: How are we doing, I know tree removal's been an issue up there for years, you caught up?

Travis McCoy: We are not.

Selectman Dill: Of course.

Travis McCoy: We are not. I've spent most of this season checking expenditures. Every time a new one is posted I look to see if we are going to have anything left over at the end of the year to at least get started on, we've decided to divide it into quadrants and to look at the most critical ones first. The ones that would affect either the, anywhere the patrons are going to be, the roadways and around the beach and kayak path which is, there's a lot of dead trees in that park. So, that's a big job. We've had quotes, minimum it's going to cost us a minimum of ten grand. If we do it all at once it's, you know, a little bit, this can be a substantial hit. So, we're thinking of either, we need to do an infrastructure warrant article or a warrant article specifically for the forestry needs. We're still trying to narrow that down but what we plan to do at the end of this season is to get those immediate issues taken care of. The ones that could pose any kind of safety concerns.

Selectman Dill: I think, just speaking for myself, I think it might be time for that warrant article and just, because the money that we have in the budget for the tree work is going to get like one tree.

Travis McCoy: Right.

Selectman Dill: You know, I would support that, speaking for myself. I don't know, I can't speak for everybody else.

Travis McCoy: Yeah, there's a few infrastructure concerns that we have and I will say that I know that patrons, when I do discuss this with some of the people that use the beach the one thing that they really see is the sand. They see that sand is no longer where it used to be. Most of the erosion control efforts have worked by planting that grassy area we've eliminated a lot of the storm damage that occurs. I don't that we've mitigated the spring or those torrential storms that we get. We still get some erosion form that but we don't have the same ruts that used to come through the center of the beach. But that, I would say that is, the beach is the one that's on everybody's mind so I don't know if we need to combine and just do a general infrastructure repair and maintenance warrant article. I know that the forestry being over ten grand, the beach is gonna cost us, I mean I've gotten estimates of at least five, and then we have the parking lot which if we're gonna cut down trees, which soak up water, and fix the beach, if we don't deal

with the parking lot we're going to just continue with more erosion. So, we're trying to decide if it's, if it's best to roll all this into one or if we're going to pick away at these and which ones do we need to do first.

Chairman McGarry: I checked into some specific sand that might be used because the stuff on the beach there, it's really pretty fine and it can easily get washed away it looks like. But I'll see if I call pull that, the specification for that so you have that available. One question I did have, we had issues with regard to no parking signs being pulled on Pleasant Hill Road you know, because apparently people are parking there and then walking over to Veasey. Is that right?

Selectman Dill: I think that was the boat ramp.

Chairman McGarry: The boat ramp, is that what it was?

Selectman Dill: Yeah.

Travis McCoy: We haven't, we still encounter a lot of overflow from the boat launch on Golf Road. If it wasn't for our park attendant we'd be in a much worse situation. I think our park attendant, they must turn away a dozen people every week that are looking to park the family vehicle at Veasey and then hit the kayak launch and jump in a boat. We purchased some supplies to pour them off in the water in area to make it more difficult for people to get onto a boat, however I keep seeing this safety issue there if it's not, if don't watch the boat launch and we force people, if they're gonna break the rule we force them to wade out into the water with their collers and things like that. I just keep seeing the safety issues so we kind of go back and forth as to the best way to handle that but we haven't had too much of that this year and as long as we have our park attendant there, we seem to be able to manage that but I will say when we don't have a park attendant on duty it's bedlam sometimes. If we don't have lifeguards on duty, it's absolute chaos. Canoes coming through the swim area docking at the raft. It's interesting.

Selectman Huebner: I just have one comment. I was down there the other day and you where the handy car, handicapped spots are down by the beginning of the path, then there's a little grate where the creek goes through going down toward the kayak launch. So, those grates are just kind of friction fit into that cement and I noticed they had separated and there was quite a hole that had developed from, I guess, vehicles that run over it kind of push it one way, you know, and so I pulled the grates back myself just so somebody wouldn't put a foot down through there walking, you know, so I don't know if we should secure those grates maybe, somehow a little better or something...

Travis McCoy: So far that's been an upkeep thing. We just, we keep moving the grates back when we can. I think that the culverts actually need to be redesigned. What's happening is that they're concrete culverts in sections and they're, some are subsiding with different rates. So, even when we put the grates back, they still move. As a matter of fact, I saw a patron down there today, was fixing the grates before I got the chance to. So, it's nice always nice that, you know, other people do that, but it's obviously noticed.

Selectman Huebner: I suppose because it's on an angle when the car goes over it or the truck goes over it maybe pushes one section preferentially, you know...

Travis McCoy: Yeah. They don't line up as to where just the one concrete section breaks and then the next one starts and that's one thing that we'd like to address when we work on the parking lot, is the drainage swales and culverts and that's why we're not looking at, you know, a few thousand dollars' worth of aggregate and then, you know, maybe even a volunteer with a tractor to move it around. We're looking at re-grading, addressing the pitch of the lot, digging out the drainage swales, which is, we dig them out by hand every year but that only gets us so far. So, that's one of the things, that and, I feel like the parking lot is as important as the forestry and as important as what the patrons tell me the beach is for them. So, kind of in a quandary as how to go about financing all of that without, you know, this huge warrant article.

Selectman Dill: How are you doing on commission members? Are you full?

Travis McCoy: So, we have three right now. We've had anywhere from one to five. We had five commissioners last year and four of their commissions were up this year. Two of them declined to be reinstated. They cited the fact that it's just, it doesn't, it's not that it doesn't fit with their schedule, there's fair amount, I'll be very candid, there's a fair amount of, they kind of feel bad because they are sitting on a commission, which as a volunteer, you want to sit on a commission you want to do good, you want to better your community but Veasey Park is not a typical commission. There's a lot of physical work. There's lot of managerial tasks. So, I know the one gentleman who sat on the commission with us for at least two terms, he just felt bad that, you know, the work load fell on one person but they all have real jobs whereas, you know, I don't. So, right now we're a commission of three. The two that did get reinstated they asked me quite simply to not bail on them while their commissions were still effective.

Selectman Dill: Are those two open to anybody in town or those two of the, I know there's that weird milage restriction on some...?

Travis McCoy: We need to maintain one commissioner with two miles.

Selectman Dill: Okay. But there is a wide town opening one. I'm just trying to get the...

Travis McCoy: Yes.

Selectman Dill: ...to get it out there while we're talking about this and maybe somebody else, you know, mor than two miles away would be interested.

Travis McCoy: So, in my opinion the commission works well as three. The reason being is, I seem to, when I five commissioners it seems to be very difficult to get all five together and I'm not one that likes to make a decision unless I have my entire commission intact. So, I've always found that it works best with three. Five is doable. Two doesn't work.

Selectman Dill: I just don't want you getting burned out not enough.

Travis McCoy: I'm already two. Don't even worry about that. That ships sailed. But I'm still enjoying myself and I still just want to keep doing it.

Chairman McGarry: Any other questions for Travis?

Vice Chairman Pitman: Thank you Travis.

Chairman McGarry: Thank you Travis for all your work you do.

Travis McCoy: I do have, if I could just a few more minutes.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

Travis McCoy: One thing I do want to discuss is warrant articles. Another issue that I have with any type of warrant article they put in is we are associated, although we're not connected to, not governed by, the parks and rec department, we are heavily associated with the parks and rec. Most people think that Veasey Park is part of the parks and rec department, which it is not. It's deeded to be a separate commission and when the Veasey, the parks and rec commission was established it was actually written in there that they would, you know, have domain over everything but Veasey Park. So, anytime I discuss any type of warrant article regarding personnel, any kind of raises or anything like that, I get the same feedback which is, doesn't parks and rec have enough money, so in order, I understand not and I'd like to, you know, talk to Erroll a little bit about this more too. I want to get the word out there. I want to educate people a little bit more about what Veasey Park is and how it is not part of parks and rec. On that note, we're looking to establish a park manager. I've been able to do this for as long as I can simply because, like chair people before me, Glenda Smith, my mother in fact, we had an unusual set of circumstances that allow us to focus time on Veasey. My circumstances have been that I just need a lot of money so I don't have to work whole bunch. I'm sure everybody can relate; those times are gone. I need a lot of money just to put gas in the car. So, what we're looking to do, we feel that it's time to explore a park director for the purpose of carrying out the wishes of the VPC in a timely manner, coordinate, perform all the managerial tasks. I have all the stuff written down. There's three pages of it but I've heard myself talk enough tonight that I'd like to give you a general synopsis and maybe we can revisit this because as a commission we still have no idea of the direction we want to go with this but what we do know, is that if I'm unable to do this we don't want the park to suffer because that set of circumstances isn't there for the next chairperson. I spend over the last few years, keeping better track of the time that we spend, I spend at least five hundred hours a year on Veasey. We're talking, we have an eleven-week season, but it's March first to October first. That's when I'm in Veasey mode. I am not in Veasey mode April twenty-ninth but come March first I'm down there. I'm cleaning up and getting ropes out, ordering, purchasing, I'm doing everything that...

Chairman McGarry: That March first or May first?

Travis McCoy: What's that?

Chairman McGarry: Is that March first or May first?

Travis McCoy: Honestly, it's March first. As soon as the snows out we're trying to get down there and start cleaning out the drainage Swales because first priority is, make sure that the water is going to flow and I've developed this little bible that has all your important dates which states that, you know, on March first you do a walk-through assessment and you start the land work and you don't close until, you know, you don't close until you have too. We, we're scheduled to close on Labor Day but typically we keep it open for the kayak path as long as we can. So, essentially that person has to be available seven days a week for a minimum of eleven weeks while we're open. So, we're looking at, you know, someone that can spend that six hundred hours, I just want to let you guys know that at our last we did, my commission's been asking how we can, how they can reimburse me for the time that I've been spending. So, at our last meeting they decided, we decided to take five thousand out of our escrow account which, so that every effort of transparency, so everybody knows, this escrow account was created with a ten-thousand-dollar donation from Nancy Brown McKinney. It was given to us in recognition of the efforts of the Veasey Park commission and the dedication that they show. It was decided that we would take a portion of that and pay for some of my time this year but in order to keep that type of thing going we need a legitimate way to do so. Almost done. We're gonna have money left over this year so we're going to either look at encumbering some funds on projects such as the forestry or we're looking for a way to retain some of those funds. I know in some research that I did I found RSA 327 which states that appropriations should lapse at the end of the fiscal year any unexpended portion shall not be extended without further appropriation unless the amounts legally placed in a no-lapsing fund properly created pursuant to statute, trust fund, blah blah blah. That's thirty-two seven.

Selectman Dill: Yeah, we'd have to have a warrant article to establish a trust fund like we do for the rest of them.

Travis McCoy: Yeah. So, these are things that we're currently looking into and just trying to figure out how we can continue growing the park and that, like I said, if I'm unavailable to do this that the park doesn't suffer. I'm not saying that I'm the only thing keeping the park alive but it does take a lot of effort and a lot of dedication and it's hard to expect that from a volunteer.

Selectman Dill: How many years have you done that?

Travis McCoy: I'm not sure but I think I'm going onto thirteen.

Selectman Dill: So, it's been a while.

Travis McCoy: It has been a while and I love to do it. I'd like to do this for, you know, a while longer. I've enjoyed every minute of it.

Chairman McGarry: Alright, well thank you...

Selectman Dill: Fred.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy?

Selectwoman McHugh: Travis, do you guys post your commission meetings minutes on the town website.

Travis McCoy: Yes.

Selectwoman McHugh: They are currently on there?

Travis McCoy: Yeah. They should be. I know there was a lapse and sometimes it seems like we might not have pay because I've had to cancel. (inaudible) cancel a lot of meetings because I'll show up and wait out there and nothing happens but I know that everything from this year is definitely in there and I believe most everything from last year.

Selectwoman McHugh: Just so we can look and see what you're struggling with.

Travis McCoy: Yeah, yeah, they should all be there.

Chairman McGarry: Thank you again Travis for all the work you do. Dick?

Vice Chairman Pitman: Thank you.

Travis McCoy: Thank you. I'm sure I'll see you all again.

Selectman Dill: You can come in more often. You don't have to come in once a year and talk for forty-five minutes. You can come, you know, every couple weeks.

Travis McCoy: (inaudible)

Selectman Dill: Exactly.

Travis McCoy: You guys meet so early, you know.

[Laughter]

Travis McCoy: Thank you again.

Selectman Dill: Have a good one.

Chairman McGarry: All right. We have a, I'm going to take this out of order, we have a request from the school district for SAU 53, which reads, please accept this letter as SAU number fifty-three (inaudible, papers being shuffled) is requesting impact fees of one hundred thirty-one thousand and one hundred dollars to offset the cost of the replacement of the leach field and septic system at the Deerfield Community School. Septic system is an expansion of the capacity the disposal field. Thank you for your time and consideration. So, do we need a vote by the board to release that money to the school?

John Harrington: Yes.

Selectman Dill: I'm guessing we're just the fiscal agents of it.

John Harrington: Yes.

Chairman McGarry: Dick?

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

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

Chairman McGarry: Zach, do you want to do just a brief...?

Zach Langlois: Yeah, I mean I certainly, so, I'm Zach Langlois, Chairman of the school board. So, just for, I guess, clarification informational purposes. The school is on its fourth leach system in its approximate thirty-two-year history. Building was built in nineteen ninety and we have had a perpetual problem with the systems that have been at the school so towards the end of the school year this year, system went back into failure. We hired Keech and Nordstrom to do a system design for us and to help us figure out why this keeps happening. One of the things we came across is the additional growth that the school has seen in usage over the years has cause the existing systems to fail prematurely. So, there's a new system going in. the project is ongoing. We are utilizing funds from our facilities or we will be utilizing money from our facilities repair trust. We are installing a twenty thousand square foot leach system which is significantly larger. We're doing pipe and stone this time as opposed to the envirotech system that has failed on us. The way the work was designed this time was to calculate it differently that it had been done in the past. So, previously they were doing the calculations based off of water meter readings. This time we're using, the engineer used, the DES readings or the DES formula for the number of students in the gallons per day and that's where we really started find that we needed a much larger system. We also found in discussions with him is that our system takes an awful lot of abuse for about six hours a day so there's a tremendous amount of flooding that goes on or a tremendous amount of water that has to go up over the course of about a six-hour period. So, the work is ongoing. We've added an additional six-thousand-gallon septic tank and additional twenty-five-hundred-gallon grease trap so everything coming out of the kitchen goes into one grease trap and then into a second grease trap prior to hitting the second tank and then we have the additional tank, new pumps and everything else. The work is currently ongoing and what we're asking for is the impact fees to be released to the school to help offset some this cost. So, the impact fees were generated from development in the town for the growth or additional wear and tear the town sees from growth. So, this obviously this isn't money that's coming from taxes and from the taxpayers. This is something we're looking to use to offset those costs.

Selectman Dill: And this is, the school earmarked impact fees.

Zach Langlois: School impact fees, exactly.

Chairman McGarry: Correct.

Vice Chairman Pitman: So, what do you think the total cost will be Zach?

Zach Langlois: So, when we put the project out to bid there were three bids that we received. It was rewarded to the low bidder which was two hundred and eighty-two thousand and change. We have uncovered some...

(Inaudible, someone from the audience)

Zach Langlois: It was two hundred and eighty-two and a little of change. The, there is some materials in the, underneath the ball field that were unexpected, that were stumps. A lot of boulders the size of Volkswagens. So that's all coming out which will create some additional cost, obviously, because we have to replace the material with suitable material in the hole. But the initial bid for the work as designed was two eighty-two and a little change.

Vice Chairman Pitman: So, the lowest bidder was not from Deerfield.

Zach Langlois: The low bidder was not from Deerfield. We received three bids. Two of the bids were fairly close. One was two eighty-two and change and, I think, the second one was two eighty-seven and we had one that was over four hundred. The low bid was providing new pumps in his proposal as well so there was a little bit more material going in in his proposal.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Thank you.

Chairman McGarry: One of the important things in it, the letter spells it out here too and you've mentioned it in your statement too, is the fact that this money would be used for expansion of the system to cover the additional growth and that's specifically what the impact fees are intended for. So...

Selectman Huebner: Yeah, this is a totally appropriate use of the money.

Chairman McGarry: Right. Exactly.

Selectman Huebner: And we have to use it or return it so... We certainly don't want to return it.

Selectman Dill: I would much prefer it's consumed than given back to the developers.

Chairman McGarry: Any other questions or comments by the board? Motion?

Selectman Dill: Yeah, we had a motion and a second.

Chairman McGarry: Yep, that's right. Okay. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

Vote: Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Zach Langlois: Thank you very much. I'll notify the board on Wednesday night and thank you for your time.

Selectman Dill: So, is this gonna be done by school?

Zach Langlois: One field should be up and running before the start of school. The second field will overlap into the start of school but because it's a butterfly system we'll have ten thousand feet online before the kids show up. Everything that was going on in the parking lots is done except for the paving. That will happen next week. So, we're in a good spot.

Selectman Dill: Good Job.

Selectwoman McHugh: Thank you.

Chairman McGarry: Alright, Matt.

Matthew Fisher: Good Evening.

Chairman McGarry: Good evening.

Matthew Fisher: For those who don't know, I have Chris Gallant with me. He's the deputy chief for the fire rescue department and head of the ambulance committee meeting, uh, committee. The reason we're here tonight is to present the kind of, where we are with the ambulance committee, the next steps we see moving forward. I do have to apologize for some technical difficulties in regards to my ability to run the high-tech staple copier upstairs. You'll your pamphlets are...

Selectman Dill: Stapled to the wrong corner.

Matthew Fisher: ...in a different direction. And Mr. Harrington is going to help us with our AV and technical here for the presentation.

Chris Gallant: Good evening. Again, my name is Chris Gallant, Deputy Chief of the fire department. Tonight, we are proposing, the growth of our rescue side of the fire department to possibly an ambulance. Let's start with, you guys have in front of you, if you can't read the screens, why does Deerfield need an ambulance?

Power Point Presentation:

Why does Deerfield need an ambulance?

- With the increase in calls and fatigue of the first responders, the EMS system and Fire Service are being stressed at many levels.
- Rapid deployment to definitive care
- Continuity of care and rapport of the townspeople and Patients we serve.

Chris Galant: I'll get into that statement there, Continuity of care and rapport of the townspeople and Patients we serve, currently we have a rescue, a non-transport rescue and we facilitate Raymond Ambulance which they do a fantastic job it just takes a little bit of a village to get someone out of Deerfield into an ambulance so, we show up on scene, we talk to them, then the ambulance talks to them and then if we have paramedics come from Exeter Hospital or wherever, then they talk to them and then you end up switching hands. Playing telephone we call it, right? So, that's kinda a big thing for all of us. Continuity of care, you may lose it or you may gain it in the conversations you have during the call, so, that's really a big one for us. Question number two.

When is the right time for the Town to upgrade to an ambulance?

~Since 1984, Raymond Ambulance has provided care and transport to the patients from Deerfield.

~R1 was slated to be replaced in 2011.

~As we move forward in time, Deerfield Fire and Rescue has outgrown their current use of R1. Staffing levels have changed and volunteers have begun to be harder to find.

~With continued education and the NH protocol board we at all levels of EMS and Fire can perform aggressive and progressive lifesaving practices.

~Having an ambulance will allow us to have what some call, "OUR Office" to work in, versus performing these BLS/ALS measures on the side of the road or in someone's home.

Chris Gallant: So, we had an ambulance committee come up with a couple ideas. Total proposals of what kind of ambulances we were looking into. Type one through three. We're going to stick to just what we're looking at here, instead of going through each one. So, this is going to be a type one ambulance. The Ford series, well, this is the Ford one but they also make dodges, I don't know why. So, this here is the style we are looking at, F-Series Ford Cab and Chassis four by four, it's four-wheel drive due to the fact that we have some classic roads that we do take down. We don't have a plow truck in this town for our fire department to get to places so four-wheel drive is kind of a must for us. If you were to buy a van style four-wheel drive it's an extra hundred thousand dollars just make the van four-wheel drive and you actually lose space, you don't gain space. This truck you gain space, you don't really outgrow these trucks. Next one. After doing some extensive research we reached out and got three quotes. This is for a, that truck we just saw. The next file (inaudible). So, AEV is one company, PL Custom was the one and Bulldog was, they were essentially all the same in the same boards just depends on how much frills you want. The AEV was a nice ambulance but it doesn't have the long-lasting features that say a PL Custom does and they also don't do in-house maintenance. PL Custom, the middle one, if your ambulance is down for more than twenty-four hours, they will bring

you a donor and they also don't, do in-house fixing so if we have something they can fix it in-house, they bring us the ambulance, they take our ambulance and they fix it.

Selectman Dill: Where are they?

Chris Gallant: They're out of Maine, (inaudible). Bulldog will do the same thing, do in-house fixing, they have, they're a little higher but there was more frills than that. These can be all, these can be changed a little bit as in options that we want once you have the thing, but I wanted to give you three decent quotes that we're going to show you from the Ford Escort to the Ferrari. On the right side you see additional equipment and supplies.

- POWER LOAD/POWER COT (50K)
- CARDIAC MONITOR (35K)
- Motorola Radios – Mobile & Portable (15K)
- Additional Misc. Equipment & Supplies (TBD)

Chris Gallant: A power loader will actually load the patient and keep down on back injuries, fatigue on the patient. If we're caring someone out of Bear Brook State Park or Pawtuckaway Lake, we're bushed and we're exhausted. If we have to pay a provision for that that's one more step. They are quite costly, fifty grand is little much for that but that's about what it's going to be once you put the warranty, the power cot, all that stuff. Cardiac monitor, we're currently waiting for a new model to come out. The light pack fifteen. We have one. It's still being serviced. It's not a problem but eventually they are going to upgrade that in the, for the future, coming. Radios and communications, that's not built into this because every town is different and they outfit their ambulances to what their town has. So, that's gonna, that would have to be a little bit additional cost and then additional miscellaneous equipment as in car seats, kind of like some, there's a little stuff here and there that we, have to be purchased. That we don't currently have because we don't transport. Next slide.

Chairman McGarry: The additional costs of roughly hundred thousand dollars and plus...?

Chris Gallant: Yeah, and little over.

Chairman McGarry: ...Miscellaneous?

Chris Gallant: Yeah, miscellaneous. So, on your left you see what we currently have, 2004 Chevy Van. These doors pop open so you can reach in and grab all your stuff. Again, you can't really put anybody, any extra gear and you can only carry, you can carry two people but it's. It serves us very well. I don't have a problem with it. It's four-wheel drive. It does, actually, very well in the snow. It's just, we've kinda, outgrown it to a point of, there's not a lot of space to upgrade with our progressive protocols now that, like, the new equipment that we need. The one on the right is the side by side. So, this is just the pictures of the back of this one, of the right side, if you scroll one forward, there you go. Just pop through these real quick. This is a center load so you can actually walk around the patient, six feet tall, you can stand up and inside of it. Its climate controlled so if the patient has heat exhaustion we can cool them down, we can heat them up. This is pretty much anything you can do in there. We can do everything from intubate to give people blood in the back of this thing. This is kind of the way of the future, next one, here we are. Everything's, you can reach from the inside and outside. So, say you're going down the road and you need to get a collar for someone's neck you can reach through and grab that on the left side. The right side is for equipment for opening, that's where we'd keep equipment for our accidents, our fire gear, our gear to get inside of a home. So, say, Mrs. Smith falls down, we can't get in the door, we have tools, that's where we keep that equipment there. Next slide. Again, this is showing how much room this truck has. This is a demo model. This is actually the Bulldog one. Just one more slide there. Again, just showing how much compartment space you have that, slide to the left is, you can reach that from the outside or the inside. Again, you roll down the road, you can be using all your tools and not having, you don't have to stop the vehicle to get them. The one on the right is just the standard cab. They're a liquid suspension so they're very soft and easy on the patients if you hit bumps, you don't really feel them in the back, they don't, it's kind of how technology has gone. They kind of went away from airbags up in the northeast because they didn't handle the salt. Alright, so the next one. I remember a couple meetings back you guys talked about money. About where, I'll touch briefly on it, as in that's going to be a talk we'll have to have down the road anyways. Here's what, so, again Raymond ambulance is a very good company to work with. They're well respected but this is just what we pay them currently. Do you guys want me to read through it or do you see it?

Selectman Dill: Yep, we can see it.

Chris Gallant: Okay.

- Here is what we are projected to pay Raymond Ambulance throughout the contract.

- April 1, 2021 through April 1, 2022, = \$15,000
- April 1, 2022, through April 1, 2023, = \$15,500
- April 1, 2023, through April 1, 2024, = \$16,000
- April 1, 2024 through April 1, 2025, = \$16,500
- April 1, 2025, through April 1, 2026, = \$17,000
- **TOTALING \$80,000 in five years**

Chris Gallant: A total in five years we'll end up spending eighty thousand dollars and it's gonna go up. It goes up five hundred dollars every year throughout our contract. Bottom of the slide says, we also currently buy our own supplies and keep back stock on hand for R1, E4 and R2 through outside medical supply companies. So, when we're supplying, we're paying money for those supplies so that's money that goes out, if say, we transport somebody, I'm going to the Elliot hospital, whatever supplies I use in the ambulance, our hospital, resource hospital, which is actually Elliot will actually restock our ambulance. So, we're not, we'll cut down on a cost there. A little bit of cost but it's something and we get, put back in service right away. So, say I have to use something, I just put it back in the ambulance when I get the hospital, we come back to Deerfield completely in service.

Chairman McGarry: Now the contract we have with Raymond currently, if we ended up going ahead and purchasing an ambulance can we get out of that contract or we locked in?

Matthew Fisher: I think there's some standard, you know, contract terms to get out of the contract, it's either thirty or sixty days but when, let's say we buy the ambulance and it come in in a year, this is going to be such a dramatic change to the department, to change from a one-hour medical call where, you know, we get to the house where they're fifteen, twenty minutes, Raymond comes in does their transfer and then they're off and they have another two hours hospital back. We're years away from taking on the responsibility of being the primary transporting service for the town anyway. I think shooting for, you know, April 2026, if that's the way we want to go, is a good goal. Obviously depending on when we can get said ambulance and, you know, everything else that's going to come along with that. You know, we have one to two people, Monday through Friday, six a.m. to six p.m., well now, if we're it when someone calls 911 to get you to the hospital, we're going to have to come up with a plan for how we're gonna get people on call.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Matthew Fisher: The other, you know, weekends and around the clock and what that looks like.

Chris Gallant: That's a great question and in a few more slides you'll catch that.

Chairman McGarry: oh, alright.

Chris Gallant: You're good. I like your thinking. Are we going to do this one? Alright, next slide. Alright, so a little more money aspect stuff. Billing information from existing billing scale was provided by Raymond ambulance. So, I know you guys went I right to the totals so let's talk about them. In 2021 we did seventy-five BLS calls, we did one hundred twenty-seven ALS level one calls and six level 2 calls. I will explain the pay scale in a minute. So, this is all an estimate. the correct, so, the numbers are correct for, from Raymond ambulance I've received but if every patient paid Medicare in 2021, they would have made ninety-six thousand dollars, again this is all estimated, ninety-six thousand dollars six hundred forty-three dollars and thirty-two cents. That's without mileage. That's just raw, this is your standard fee. if they paid with insurance or self pays, that jumps to three hundred forty-six thousand seven hundred sixty-nine thousand dollars. So, again, some pays with insurance, some pay Medicare, so we're in between, somewhere between ninety and three hundred thousand dollars. it's a big scale, like I said that's without mileage. So, there is on them money aspect of things there is money to be put back into, however it wants to be set up when we talk about that kind of stuff. Next slide. Any questions on that slide? No. alright, next slide. this one came in kind of funny. I'm not very good with computers. I nail shoes on horses for a living so...

That's the pay scale down there if you look into real quick, the BLS one, so the BLS is twelve ninety-nine. So, every time we call and they transport it's twelve ninety-nine plus mileage. That's with the insurance or self-pay. If it goes down to Medicare it goes down to four hundred nine dollars plus eight dollars milage. In 2021 we've, they so in the ambulance billed three hundred and eight calls of service at the town of Deerfield. they transported two hundred and eight patients. we're currently talk about that in a minute where we're at. A hundred patients either signed off, canceled on scene or drove themselves. did yOou want to talk about where we are with calls or no?

Matthew Fisher: yeah, so this is just a breakdown in total call volume for twenty twenty-one and twenty twenty-two. So, at the end of, currently as we sit, eight fifteen twenty twenty-two the department's had two hundred eighty-two calls and last year we were at eight sixteen two hundred seventy-eight so are holding even as 2022 relation to 2021. With you know, up by four calls. That's just a winter storm or, you know, a thunderstorm come through.

Chris Gallant: So, talk about the billing on Medicare versus self-pay or insurance, I always say this word wrong, median. Median age of Deerfield is forty to forty-five. so, yeah, it's strange. I didn't think it was that, I thought it was higher.

Selectman Dill: I thought it was way older.

Chris gallant: yeah, me too. So, it seems like it's changed in the last five years that it's actually flipped, whereas we gave a younger population now. So, continue with the estimates for 2022. This is what I got. This is the first quarter numbers. it's the exact same setup that I just gave you, it just happens to be 2022. we're going to be in the middle somewhere so, the first quarter if everyone was, you know, not on Medicare and self-pay it was ninety-three thousand or it could have fallen down to twenty-six thousand. Again, it's a sliding scale so it's there somewhere.

Chairman McGarry: So, the Medicare and value a number there would be basically the worst-case scenario that if everyone in the ambulance would be on Medicare so if that's how much we would...

Matthew Fisher: Yeah, so, these are the numbers from Raymond ambulance, how many transports they did quarter one 2022 and if everybody was Medicare it would have been twenty-six thousand plus mileage and if everybody was self-paid and everybody paid 100%, and that's not realistic, but if it was the best of the best, it would be, like Chris said, somewhere between twenty-six thousand and ninety-four thousand.

Chris Gallant: (inaudible)... they couldn't give us too much because (inaudible).

Selectman Huebner: But the plus mileage is actually a significant number.

Chris Gallant: It is. I just didn't wanna break it down cause I wasn't sure.

Selectman Huebner: Even for Medicare it's eight dollars an hour and twenty-five dollars an hour without Medicare. So, going to Raymond and back, you know, you can add up the numbers, you're gonna get, Medicare is 4408 dollars per trip.

Chris Gallant: Yep.

Selectman Huebner: And so, it would be at least half, I would say. it's a significant add on.

Chris Gallant: Yeah, it's a loaded mile. So, it's front eh patients' homes to the hospital so you might be right there (inaudible). Some add ons we might run into with coverage that we need, Exeter paramedics for Exeter ALS. Exeter ALS comes out of Exeter hospital, if to use, this is what we get charged. They'll charge us less than a hundred dollars to come out to them. So, it's \$73 to use them so that would obviously come off the top of the bill. We wouldn't get that. we'd have to pay them for that. but that's a service that we have people inhouse that can do that and then we also lean on them quite a bit for massive emergencies so they are a great asset.

Selectman Huebner: So, when you we talk about interceptors are you saying that you pick up the patient and meet the other ambulance halfway kind of thing?

Chris Gallant: So, Yeah, essentially. Yes. So, if they, so, say someone's having a seizure on, at the fairgrounds they get called when we get called and they meet us at or either on the road or they meet us at the patient's home.

Selectman Huebner: Why would you meet on the road and take the time to transfer into the other ambulance when you could just keep on going?

Chris Gallant: Oh, my bad, I'm sorry. they are an intercept company; they don't have an ambulance. They have Tahoe's. they take their bags they get in the ambulance with you.

Selectman Huebner: I see. all right.

Chris Gallant: they don't have another ambulance. they are...

Selectman Huebner: I just miss understood.

Chris Gallant: Yeah, they're an intercept vehicle so they have SUVs that they drive to you. They take all their equipment with them.

Selectman Huebner: So, you just stop and they jump in and then you keep on going.

Chris Gallant: you keep on going.

Chairman McGarry: Are they a higher-level paramedic or?

Chris Gallant: so, they're, they are what they call RSI service which is a rapid integration service. So, they can knock you down, well, it's a weird term to use.

Matthew Fisher: They can provide some medications to paralyze somebody in their airway. They can do more advanced things than just that, Chris can do as a standard paramedic basically. They're also hospital based.

Chairman McGarry: Lets knock you down.

Chris Gallant: They are a little higher. so, they're like a few (inaudible). They'll also, they'll also help on calls that are not needed if they're in the area. So, they are a huge asset in general. But if they don't end up doing interventions, they don't charge you for it. Any more questions?

Matthew fisher: just so, other options, right, so kind of if the patients on the north end of town we're heading to Concord. Departments on the northern end coming from concord provide the same service whether we're headed to Wentworth Douglas or Portsmouth McGregor coming out of Durham does the same thing so it's, nine times out of ten it would probably be extra less but there's certainly other options out there to get a paramedic if needed.

Selectwoman McHugh: I have a question guys. Does ALS charge their patients? So, we would be paying at the ALS rate we have to pay ALS and then they send our patients a bill?

Matthew Fisher: My understanding is, if it's private insurance they will bill the insurance. If it's Medicare they'll bill through us.

Selectwoman McHugh: And we'll still pay them.

Matthew Fisher: Correct.

Selectwoman McHugh: you'll bill the ambulance company as well.

Chris Gallant: Yes, we will get paid at the scale level that we have them. So, we're making money off them and then whatever their fee is. So, it's a little bit of a (inaudible) but you do make money. It ups the scale to ALS too. So, we get to charge ALS but then we just give them a Medicare. We give them the 73 dollars they charged us as well.

Selectwoman McHugh: And then they'll charge the patient?

Matthew Fisher: Insurance, they will separate bill but if it's a single bill like Medicare they'll just bill us.

Selectwoman McHugh: Okay.

Chris Gallant: You guys went down the avenue of a used or new ambulance. I've been talking with a couple companies every week about ambulances. I don't know, I don't like using this as an excuse, but for some reason, Covid, has taken all the ambulances, everybody cannot find ambulances right now so you didn't find a used ambulance that would be suitable for Deerfield that would run between 150 to 170 thousand dollars and again you're getting a 2012 to 2016 model that has been used up pretty hard. that's if we can find them. most companies have been buying them and using them because they can't get new ones over fast enough. Currently there is a wait time of eighteen to twenty-four months to have it built due to the fact that manufactures of the vehicles are having a hard time getting the parts, it's not so much the body building.

Selectman Dill: It's the truck that goes into...

Chris Gallant: It's the truck that's the hard part, but the eighteen months is more like on the dodge scale of twenty-four months before machines.

Selectman Dill: Is there um, there's no state bid on these, for the trucks are there? Not for the bodies but just for the trucks?

Matthew Fisher: Yeah, if, I guess it would have to be worked out with whatever manufacturer we would go with if they'd honor, well, yes, we could buy a F550 cabin chassis off state bid and have it delivered there. I don't know how that would work with manufacturers' warranties. if they'd, what they'd stand behind because they are going to be integrating it and they have a percentage on that sale and certainly.

Selectman Dill: But that is kind of the beauty of like a Ford. It's just that 550 cabin chassis four-wheel drive that should be the same, right?

(Inaudible)

Matthew Fisher: Yeah, that would be my only hesitation if it would affect any way shape or form affect...

Selectman Dill: I know it wasn't going to help us get the command vehicle any sooner but maybe it would help.

Matthew Fisher: Absolutely.

Chris Gallant: (Inaudible) next slide. Like Matt touched earlier and McGarry also mentioned like if we could break contract with, there isn't a cause in that referred contract but there's a huge training aspect of, I didn't want to leave out, there's huge training aspects for this. we're going from a non-transport to transport service. you have a patient longer. you have to find your way to the hospital versus not having to transport the patient so, that can be obtained through monthly trainings that we already do and we can add some trainings and you know, there's a few people here that have already, we're fortunate enough to have a great staff here at the fire rescue back worked full-time so they're kind of half way there so we're not far from it but there is definitely going to be training and an aspect period where we're going to need to keep Raymond a little longer just to get that, get the kinks out of the way and go to conferences too. so, any questions on that stuff?

Matthew Fisher: So, I guess from what we're envisioning the steps here, the ambulance committee will finalize the RFP, advertise the RFP for the manufactures to provide price, pricing and bids. I would have to check with Mr. Harrington on the accuracy of a board of selectmen meeting for 9/26/2022 is what we're shooting for to have bids due. Board of selectmen can then open said bids. the fire and rescue will review them and make a recommendation to the board assuming the board would be in favor of moving forward and then, you know, the other things we touched upon earlier. We need some future discussion to plan on uh, you know, what we're going to look at for staffing and warrant articles, funding, cost sharing mechanisms, all the, you know, nitty-gritty parts and pieces of, once we get it how's this thing going to work and where's the money going.

Chairman McGarry: John, how much money do we have remaining in the ARPA funds? This is most likely the source of the money

John Harrington: I don't have the exact balance of what remains in the first payment but we did just get our second payment \$237,697 dollars. I believe, if memory serves me, 180...

Chairman McGarry: remaining?

John Harrington: Remains from the first.

Chairman McGarry: So, ARPA funds alone will be more than enough to cover everything we're looking at here.

Selectwoman McHugh: I guess I thought we were looking into a demo.

Chris Gallant: Looking into a demo, the only problem, that well, if everything goes through gets accepted, we can get on a demo list. We had one last week. He had mentioned, Bulldog had called me and said we have a demo, we're ordering it, what do you want, I'm like, we can't order yet. Literally, the next day he said, we already sold it.

Selectwoman McHugh: so, it is possible we could get a demo.

Chris Gallant: It is possible. As long as there's money allocated then, you know, we know what we want. When they build a demo, they have to build certain, they have to meet their criteria and then they, we can actually have things that we want either put in or take out to a certain extent. It won't be a completely custom-built truck. (inaudible). It's a, they're pretty, they're pretty fancy so. But normally a little cheaper. but that would be the one thing we'd have to agree on, some money out, however you guys wanted to do the money stuff.

Chairman McGarry: Dick.

Vice Chairman Pitman: So, you think you'll have numbers for us in September?

Matthew Fisher: So, my plan would be, you know, assuming the consensus tonight is we're moving forward with this, we'll finalize the RFP, put it out to several manufacturers requesting pricing back. if the 26th is an accurate date, whatever the board of selectmen's meeting is towards the end of September and hope to have bids at that time then we can sit down, review it, and figure out what the recommendation is gonna be.

Selectman Dill: that's great.

Chairman McGarry: One of the advantages here, obviously, is the, with the money, the capitol cost coming from ARPA. our fees don't have to recover that cost and so consequently it works out slightly better for us.

Selectman Dill: Well, we don't have to outlay the fee at the beginning. So, I went through this when I was a selectman in Northwood and we went from an all-volunteer to an ambulance and so I am somewhat familiar with the process. Because it was the same exact thing. we couldn't get volunteers to come in etc. and so forth and we were having really long transport times. but one thing we did was set up a fund to take those ambulance fees back to replace equipment and it basically bought itself an ambulance every four years because the life expectancy for an ambulance is what, five six, and we think, well once we become a transport it's a little great because we're not going to do it all at first.

Matthew Fisher: Yeah, there are several towns around us to do similar to that and vice versa so I think it's be, you know, spending some time, you know, and really figuring out how we want to move forward with...

Selectman Dill: That would really be my recommendation. I don't really want to see that just go into a general fund. I would want it to go into some sort of dedicated equipment replacement fund.

Someone in the Audience: Would it be possible to have this presentation pout on the town's website so other people can see it?

Matthew Fisher: I think we need to make a few spelling tweaks...

Selectwoman McHugh: How can we freeze a demo opportunity if we get it, is that...

Chris Gallant: So, essentially, I guess...

Selectwoman McHugh: If you guys go forward and we get another chance...

Matthew Fisher: The board of selectmen authorize us to...

(Inaudible talking)

Matthew Fisher: ...besides that I think we need a meeting to authorize it.

Selectwoman McHugh: I just don't want to lose it again.

(Inaudible talking)

Matthew Fisher: No, no, no certainly not suspended but like, you know, the ability to reserve, I don't know. Can we, probably.

Selectwoman McHugh: Ask them.

Selectman Dill: Need a special meeting and we can just vote on it.

Selectwoman McHugh: Yeah, well he's saying they sold it the next day.

Chris Gallant: So, the way, I talked to the company they were these people are in the researchers, they're pre-approved to buy vehicles and that's how they're getting this. we're kind of in a special situation just do to the fact that this is our first one. we're trying to spend some significant money. I believe I would call this anyone to purchase this

vehicle (speaking very fast so the words blend together. trying my hardest to understand). So, it's hard to, you know, he I'll definitely take that one if you don't want to keep that out of you. I don't know how.

Selectman Huebner: What if by authorizing...

Matthew Fisher: (inaudible) the Chair to put it all on the Chair.

Chairman McGarry: Put it on my credit card. is that what you're saying. [laughter]

Matthew Fisher: I'll get you to come sign like I did... let's go Fred.

Vice Chairman Pitman: I think you guys need to get back to us with those figures.

Chris Gallant: What would you like me to do for the next step? Do you have any suggestions?

Selectman Dill: I think we ought to go out to bid.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah.

Selectman Dill: I think that's the step.

chairman McGarry: Put together the RFP and we'll take a look at it and then put it out. Do we want to vote:

Selectman Dill: Yeah.

Vice Chairman Pitman: (inaudible)

Chairman McGarry: Yeah, okay.

Vice Chairman Pitman: We're not spending anything.

Chairman McGarry: we're not spending it yeah, but...

Selectman Dill: Do you just want to call a consensus vote?

Chairman McGarry: Commit the ARPA funds to this. Specifically for an ambulance. John?

John Harrington: I would say the board takes a vote to commit the ARPA funds for the purchase of the ambulance or whatever that ends up being and two to direct the fire rescue department to put together an RFP to begin the bidding process.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman
Second: Selectwoman McHugh
Discussion:

Vote: Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman McGarry: Thank you gentlemen.

Chris Gallant: Thank you.

Matthew Fisher: Thank you.

Selectman Dill: It's a big deal guys. Good job.

Selectwoman McHugh: Thanks guys.

Selectman Huebner: It's much needed and if we can take advantage of a demo and get a year jump on what we would have done otherwise, despite the fact that it's cheaper but just timing. We should do that so I don't know how we can authorize these gentlemen to jump on a demo and get us to vote quickly and take it.

Selectwoman McHugh: You're gonna call Fred and get his credit card. [laughter]

Selectman Dill: But, you're right, if that cuts the lead time, we're looking at that would be huge. That's a significant difference for the town.

Chris Gallant: (inaudible) pushed forward just to the fact that these people are selling them. right? So, would they want to the demos to get put out because they bring them to shows, so, they're definitely more available than if you have to order one. so, that's an expectation.

Chairman McGarry: All right. Thank you. All right, (inaudible, others talking by their mics) outstanding minutes.

Motion: Selectwoman McHugh

Second: Selectman Huebner

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 1 – Motion Carries

Chairman McGarry: Okay. Ray. Come up the Mic, we'll take you out of order.

Raymond Ellis: Good evening. So, we had a couple issues this week that I had to address. One of them was the air-conditioning unit. The split for Kelly's, tax collector's office, and then of course it was that hot day and they came out and found out that the circuit board that, that on the outside of the building on the mainframe burnt up. It was completely black. There's no way to get it going again. So, he didn't know because the units old, if he could get another board for that but he did finally find one. I don't know the price of it yet. He's ordered it and he's going to have it shipped in. it will be significantly cheaper than buying a whole new unit. A new unit would be about thirty-six to thirty-seven hundred and he said he get that all done for like, between, eighteen and two thousand. So...

Selectman Huebner: What's the age of the existing system?

Raymond Ellis: The one that we have now, it's about seven years old, John, roughly? So, but it gets a lot of use here.

Selectman Dill: That's, like, not as big a difference as I was thinking too. You know if I expected if it was five hundred and thirty-six hundred then yeah.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah, right.

Selectman Huebner: It may not be pennywise impactful to buy the board for that much money.

Selectman Dill: Because this is an older unit that they weren't sure if they'd find replacement parts for anyway, correct?

Raymond Ellis: At first, he said he didn't think he could and then he got back to me the next day and found one so...

Selectman Dill: I think I'd rather just replace it.

Chairman McGarry: What's the cost for a new one?

Selectman Huebner: Thirty-six hundred.

Raymond Ellis: Yeah, around thirty-six hundred.

Selectman Huebner: Versus two thousand for a board.

(Inaudible)

Raymond Ellis: For the board? By the time he ships it here and the labor and stuff he said it would be between seventeen and two thousand roughly. He couldn't nail it exactly until he gets the unit.

Chairman McGarry: So, that's half the price of a new unit.

Selectman Dill: Yeah.

Raymond Ellis: Pretty much.

Selectman Dill: And then we have a new unit.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah.

Selectman Huebner: Fix the board and then what's the next problem, you know?

Selectman Dill: Yeah.

Raymond Ellis: Well, this same unit last year, the head that's in the office on the wall went on that same unit and we replaced that last year. So that unit, the head is new.

Selectman Dill: But the compressor and the rest of the stuff...

Raymond Ellis: The compressor and everything outside is not.

Selectman Huebner: And the compressor and the coils are really like part of it.

Raymond Ellis: Yeah, it's the mainframe.

Selectman Dill: We don't have any other, the same unit, anywhere in town that we're using on anything else, do we?

Raymond Ellis: Well, other than here. I mean, parks and rec has them all the way down those, this, the classrooms down here that they use for the kids.

Selectman Dill: Well, because what I'm thinking is, if we put a new one in, then we'd have some parts available for the other ones, right?

Raymond Ellis: I guess we would, if it's the same model.

Selectman Dill: If it's the same model.

Raymond Ellis: Correct. I'd have to ask him that but...

Chairman McGarry: Then the thirty-six hundred would be, include installation or is that just the capital cost?

Raymond Ellis: I can find out. I don't believe it would include the installation. It would be for how many hours it takes for him to install it.

Selectman Huebner: Usually when they quote a new piece of equipment the installation is included in that cost.

Raymond Ellis: I can find that out if that's the way you want to go.

Selectman Huebner: So, when you do a repair that labor is added.

Chairman McGarry: Right. That, uh, is something you want to direct Ray to do, is to look into the possibility of a new one?

Selectman Dill: Yep.

Raymond Ellis: Okay. Yeah, I can do that.

Selectman Dill: Yeah, I think that's the smart way to go on that one.

Selectman Huebner: And where would that come from on the budget?

Chairman McGarry: John?

Selectman Dill: Facilities trust.

John Harrington: For this, George B. White maintenance and repairs out of the budget line.

Selectwoman McHugh: How's that budget line looking?

Raymond Ellis: It's good. We have money. Around thirty, thirty-three in there.

Chairman McGarry: Okay. Next item.

Raymond Ellis: Next item is the library. So, you know we, we switched oil tank companies from Palmer Gas and Oil last year to Irving this year. Well, standard procedure now, whenever you get a new company in, the first thing they want to do is inspect all the oil tanks in town to make sure that they, they're in good shape and that they're ready to be pumped in full of oil. So, they came around to do the inspections and they all passed in town except for the library. When we went down in the library the underneath side of the two hundred seventy-five-gallon metal tank was all blistered and dripping. So, it's dripping oil onto the floor. It's also, one of the legs is rusted out and the tank is leaning to one side and it's full of two hundred seventy-five-gallons of oil. So, it kind of put it into the it's an emergency type situation because if it ever let go the library would be shut down and if it ever got outside the DES would be involved and half the town will be shut down. So, I went around and got bids and quotes from different people to see what it would cost. With my past experience with the State of New Hampshire, this came up a few years back and I was ordered to change all the tanks in all fifteen patrol sheds and we put in bladder tanks. Now, bladder tanks is a metal tank that has a polypropylene inside so that if the tank ever did burst the metal tank itself would contain the liquid. It would never leak out. It's, they're new, a lot of people are going to them. There's a Roth tank and a Grandby tank. Two companies that make them. They're a little bit more money than a metal tanks but they have a thirty year, let me make sure I get it correctly, two hundred seventy-five-gallon Roth double wall residential oil tank. It has a thirty-year manufacturer's warranty and a two-million-dollar insurance policy against any leaks. So, if during that thirty years if there's any leak at all they have up to two million dollars for repairs. Okay, so that's why a lot of the people are going to them now. It's one and done but hey are little bit more pricey. So, I called Oil Tank Services of New England and with the typical metal tank that's in there now, two hundred seventy-five-gallon tank with no warranty was two thousand eight hundred dollars. Now, for that two thousand eight hundred dollars he comes in with his truck, he pumps out the two hundred seventy-five-gallons of oil that's in the library now into a holding tank on his truck. Takes that tank out, cuts it in half. Gets rid of the sludge and the tank. Puts in a new metal tank and then pumps it back full of oil so we don't lose any of the oil that we have and that's two thousand eight hundred dollars. I talked to Irving oil. They said it would be around five thousand dollars to replace with a bladder tank. I called Townsend Energy, talked to Jason Leftner and he can put in a Roth tank installed for five thousand but with an eight-hundred-dollar discount for a new customer. He would give it to us for four thousand two hundred. So, I don't which way you guys really wanted to go but I wanted to make sure I checked all the avenues and that's what we're up against. So, it's something that really does have to be acted on fairly soon because I don't know how long that thing's going to hold.

Selectwoman McHugh: That tank that's in there right now, how long has that been in the library?

Raymond Ellis: I don't know for sure because I've only been here five years but you can tell that tank is pretty old. It's all old and rusty.

Selectwoman McHugh: Twenty, thirty years?

Raymond Ellis: Yeah, I don't know.

Selectwoman McHugh: and that last bid you gave us, is that also taking the oil out and removing the tank.

Raymond Ellis: Yep.

Selectman Dill: And giving us the oil back?

Raymond Ellis: What's that?

Selectman Dill: And giving us the oil back?

Raymond Ellis: Yep. We won't have to worry about oil.

Selectman Dill: Okay.

Raymond Ellis: We'll still have two hundred seventy-five-gallons.

Selectman Dill: Well, it's nine hundred dollars in oil that's why I wanted to make sure we were taking it out and putting it back.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Is that twenty-eight hundred?

Raymond Ellis: No, the twenty-eight hundred is for the Oil Tank Services of New England. It has no warranty. It's just a metal tank that's like the metal tank that's in there now.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Can they get us a bladder tank?

Raymond Ellis: Yeah, he said he could but he didn't know how much it would be. I could ask him but roughly I think it's going to be around the same as the other two. Irving was five thousand, Townsend was five thousand and he's gonna give us a first customer deal of eight hundred dollars off cause he's never done anything for us. He wants to get a customer.

Vice Chairman Pitman: forty-two hundred?

Raymond Ellis: Yeah. Maybe forty-two hundred but it's a bladder tank and that also gives us a thirty-year warranty and two-million-dollar insurance policy against any leakage or any damage.

Vice Chairman Pitman: That's not a bad idea.

Raymond Ellis: I'm just saying that it's a good insurance policy and we wouldn't have to worry about it probably as long as we're all here.

Selectman Dill: Could you check with the first vendor and see just what it would be for the bladder tank because I'm in agreement. I think we ought to do it.

Raymond Ellis: It's about fifteen to sixteen hundred dollars just to buy the tank, like, on Amazon, because I looked it up, so depending on what his price is, add that.

Selectman Huebner: Does that include all the gauges and level things?

Raymond Ellis: Yeah. Everything that we have in there now has, we replaced last year. So, the black iron pipes coming in, the whistle gauge, all that stuff is brand new that's on top of the tank.

Selectman Huebner: The valves?

Raymond Ellis: Yep.

Selectman Huebner: So, we have all that already.

Chairman McGarry: Alright, so we need to...

Selectman Huebner: So, I think the consensus seems to be that we want a motion to buy the bladder tank at either forty-two hundred or at a lower price that he may find from New...

Raymond Ellis: New England Services.

Selectman Huebner: Services.

Selectwoman McHugh: (inaudible) we just up to forty-two for where ever we can get it.

Raymond Ellis: Right. I have another company coming tomorrow that couldn't make it here until tomorrow and that's Aetna Tank Removal, they're out of Exeter and he's supposed to be out here tomorrow to look at the tank and give me a price so I can, if you want to wait, we can go get another price for him tomorrow.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Make a motion (inaudible) if we go up to forty-two hundred, leave it in your hands.

Raymond Ellis: Yeah, I think that...

Chairman McGarry: Second.

Selectman Dill: Second.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

Chairman McGarry: Okay, Ray, go ahead.

Raymond Ellis: Okay. The Townsend guy just want to, you know, hopefully get business with, from us and he also asked if he could be on the bid sheets for future.

Selectman Dill: Sure.

Selectman Huebner: None of these are Deerfield businesses or you're I guess, I'm already,

Raymond Ellis: No.

Selectman Huebner: We don't have that business.

Chairman McGarry: All right. Any further questions for Ray? Any further discussion?

Vote: Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman McGarry: Okay, thank you Ray.

Raymond Ellis: Yep. I'll get right on it.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Sorry to have you hang out.

Selectwoman McHugh: Should have taken YouTube first.

Vice Chairman Pitman: (inaudible) three hundred thousand.

Selectman Dill: Yeah, that would be a mess if that let go in there.

Chairman McGarry: The only good thing is that, uh, we would then be, uh, fall under the DES funding to clean up the...

Selectman Dill: I'd rather not get to that though.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Huebner: I suppose, without delivering the point of time, but how do we get in these situations, you know? Don't we have any town inspection of our own tanks that we have, to rely on Irving coming in and saying, hey that tanks leaking and the foots falling off, you know? It seems like, what would happen if we hadn't changed to Irving? Would we just go on until we had an incident? Is there an inspection schedule for any of these tanks and things?

Chairman McGarry: I would have thought the library said, I can smell oil.

Selectman Dill: Yeah. But we do seem to find then. I mean we had the one at the fire department last year and the...

Selectman Huebner: the transfer, or...

Selectman Dill: Highway.

Selectman Huebner: Highway department.

John Harrington: We do have the joint loss committee which does go and inspect every building every year. So, this group, which is made up of staff, does go in and look at safety problems, mechanical issues, and such. So...

Selectman Huebner: Do we have a problem with that inspection staff not catching these things?

John Harrington: No, this leak could have just developed as well before they're process of going around to all the buildings we speak.

Selectwoman McHugh: Being on that Joint Loss Committee myself, that tank I think that's leaking is in a closet and you really can't get to it...

Selectman Huebner: To inspect it?

Selectwoman McHugh: Right.

Selectman Huebner: I'm not trying to be critical of any particular person or anything but I', just trying to ask if they're inspected annually, we? Seemed like this tank is so old we would have probably noticed this but we just didn't see it.

Chairman McGarry: All right. The MS535 form and this is a requirement that the boards sign and forward to the DRA.

Motion: Selectman Dill

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman McGarry: And, we have some appointments. John Dubianski, well why don't I just read them all off here and then we can vote on all of them. John Dubianski to be health officer, Paul Colby to the welfare administrator, Paul Colby to be co-director emergency management, Paul Colby to deputy health officer.

Motion: Selectman Dill

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman McGarry: We have outside detailed contract. This is for the police department with the Deerfield fair association services. September twenty-eighth through October second and forty dollars per hour per officer plus eight ninety-five, five seventy-three or three twenty-two per hour for administrative costs. (Inaudible, side talking in front of mics) and needs the board to the sign for that contract.

Selectman Huebner: I thought we were going to negotiate this; we are with the fire department.

Chairman McGarry: Police detail.

Selectman Huebner: Why wouldn't we negotiate with the fair about the police department?

Vice Chairman Pitman: There's no negotiating with this.

Selectman Huebner: We're at their mercy.

Vice Chairman Pitman: (inaudible)

Selectman Huebner: Right, nor without the fire department.

Vice Chairman Pitman: A lot more involved with police.

Selectwoman McHugh: Need, a lot more need for the police.

Selectman Huebner: How does it compare to the rates we charged them last year?

Chairman McGarry: That I don't know.

Selectman Huebner: I'm just wondering the difference between why we negotiate one and not the other one.

Selectwoman McHugh: Well, this is because this is detail rates that's coming from the police departments. Um, I do have a question about the different, three different things at the end. What's that for?

Chairman McGarry: Yeah. You know?

John Harrington: He's got to be on the mic.

Someone in the audience: (inaudible) those rates even with the administration they're cheaper than I pay for details for trafficking. My rates are somewhere between sixty and eighty. So, the rate...

Chairman McGarry: I guess the question is and if I have, I share Cindy's questions too is to, why do we have three and...

Vice Chairman Pitman: We can wait until the next meeting.

John Harrington: Do you want to table it and I'll get that answer for you.

Selectwoman McHugh: Yeah.

Selectman Dill: Will and I are meeting here with the fair board tomorrow for the fire and it would just seem logical that we do...

Selectwoman McHugh: There's not a question with the police department and the fair. The question is (inaudible, loud dinging noise).

Selectman Dill: Anyway, I'll make a motion to table this for further information.

Motion: Selectman Dill

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Chairman McGarry: Movement seconded to table it to find out about the three additional charges for administrative costs. What they cover and when would they be applied and how do we apply differently.

Selectman Dill: And if the, what we charged last year.

Vote: Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman McGarry: Okay. We have the Town Deerfield cell phone policy. You all had a copy of this and had an opportunity to review it. (inaudible) approve the cell phone work, cellular work phone workplace policy.

Motion: Selectman Huebner

Second: Selectman Dill, I'll second it but I haven't read it to be honest. I missed the last meeting so I'm out of the loop on this one.

Discussion:

Chairman McGarry: Would the intent be to hold off on this one?

Selectman Huebner: What's the issue?

Selectman Dill: I haven't read it.

John Harrington: You tabled it last meeting as well. Is there any questions I can clarify for you?

Selectman Dill: I just have to read it John. That's for me. I haven't read it yet. I don't, I can't speak for anybody else.

Selectman Huebner: But the lack of an alternate second from the others that there's issues with it, so...

Selectwoman McHugh: Well, it just seems like there's a lot in it for...

John Harrington: This is a policy that never existed. The auditors have come in every year asking for one. We pay out a monthly stipend for those people that use their own personal cell phone so this is a policy to begin having that kind of procedure and have it in writing as to why and what the amount is that we pay.

Selectman Huebner: And John borrowed the format this from another town...

John Harrington: I did.

Selectman Huebner: ...and so, this is a starting point. We can always modify it...

John Harrington: Correct.

Selectman Huebner: ...in the future. I think that was the spirit of it. Getting something going...

John Harrington: In order to meet that requirement from the auditors, yes. I can give you a little bit of data if it will help your decision. We currently have ten staff that get a monthly stipend of fourteen dollars. The yearly cost for that is one thousand six hundred and eighty dollars. With the increase price, I think the new policy is recommending twenty dollars, which is still not close to the average rate that the staff are reimbursed but it's a step in the right direction. The month, that yearly increase would be seven hundred and twenty dollars for a total of two thousand four hundred. Now, if all ten of those staff were to request town phones, that would be five thousand nine hundred and ninety-four dollars for an equal. So right now, with the cost savings of stipends the town saves thirty-five hundred ninety-four dollars. So, it's a good process. We have ten staff taking advantage of it. We just needed to put the policy in writing.

(inaudible)

John Harrington: Yes, they all do. They're all either a department head or a deputy department head.

Selectman Dill: All right. I've been reading through it. I'm good with it.

Chairman McGarry: All right, so, we have a motion and a second. Any further discussion? All right, all those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 1 – Motion Carries

Selectwoman McHugh: Now this allowance payments going to be paid annually every December?

John Harrington: I thought you said it's monthly?

Selectwoman: Page three and D...

John Harrington: Those are paid monthly to staff. The beginning of every month. Twenty dollars a month.

Selectman Dill: It says, the approved cellular phone reimbursement will be paid to the employee annually each December.

Vice Chairman Pitman: (inaudible)

John Harrington: which paragraph is that, Cindy?

Selectwoman McHugh: It's three D.

John Harrington: That's something I missed in transitioning from that town to Deerfield so I can make that correction because we do it pay monthly.

Selectman Dill: Yeah, cause in A we say we're paying monthly and then D says we pay...

John Harrington: Right. If the board with amend its motion that I will correct that in the final policy I will change that page out to reflect what we do.

Chairman McGarry: motion to approve that correction?

Selectman Huebner: Yes, amended yes.

John Harrington: I'll make that change.

Chairman McGarry: All, the other item we have, which is the, came up a couple times with regard to 4-H. Do you have any more information on this, John? This is the 4-H booth at the fairgrounds requesting a, basically not be...

Selectman Dill: Property tax.

Chairman McGarry: Property tax.

John Harrington: I did not receive any more information.

Selectman Huebner: And the assessor is suggesting that we deny it.

Chairman McGarry: Correct. Right. Because it (inaudible)...

Selectman Dill: Does?...

Chairman McGarry: ...for education.

Selectman Dill: Does the Boy scout food booth pay property tax?

Selectwoman McHugh: That's what I think...

Selectman Huebner: That's the reason we tabled it last time...

Selectman Dill: I wasn't here.

Selectman Huebner: ...to investigate it.

John Harrington: I did not get a response to my question so if you'd like to table it, I can try again to get that answer.

Motion: Selectman Dill motions to table again.

Selectwoman McHugh: I mean the 4-H is a 501 c3 correct?

Selectman Dill: Yeah, I believe so because that's the foundation not the county so it would be a charitable organization.

John Harrington: Was there a second to table it?

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Chairman McGarry: Taxes were one hundred forty-eight dollars.

Vote: Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman McGarry: And we have notice of intent to cut wood. Cilley Road, Calgary Mackenzie. I guess we just sign this anyway.

Selectman Dill: Where's Cilley Road?

Selectwoman McHugh: Down the road right on the line.

Selectman Dill: Okay.

John Harrington: That's the road that comes in through Deerfield dips into Raymond, comes back into Deerfield and goes out through Raymond.

Selectman Dill: Oh, okay. Every time I think I know them all we throw one of those out.

Chairman McGarry: All right, then have a report of wood or timber cut for us to be able to collect the money form that which is a total yield tax of three thousand four hundred and sixty-two dollars and twenty-three cents (\$3,462.23).

Motion: Selectman Dill

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman McGarry: We have accounts payable. Accounts payable in the amount of five thousand sixty-six dollars and seventy cents (\$5066.70).

Motion: Selectman Dill

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman McGarry: Correspondence. Highway agent, Fred Wallace, (inaudible) to you today to inform you that I am very appreciative of the chance to become road agent in the town of Deerfield. This (inaudible, papers being shuffled) far great that I had expected. I will be terminating my employment with the town on August twenty-sixth. (inaudible) complementary comments about the work Mr. Wallace has been doing.

Selectwoman McHugh: Fred, does this now fall under the employee exit interview policy now?

Chairman McGarry: Right.

John Harrington: Yes, it does.

Selectwoman McHugh: And how are we going to handle that?

John Harrington: I've already talked to Fred, he's more than willing to take it. I'm going to give him the documentations, he can return it with me and I'll share it with the board.

Selectwoman McHugh: So...

John Harrington: It's a self-filling, it's not...

Selectwoman McHugh: ...it's not going to be a sit-down interview?

John Harrington: It's a self-filling out form. It was part of the policy that you got.

Selectwoman McHugh: I think that might be a little awkward for some people.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Yeah, what if there was a problem with the town administrator?

Selectwoman McHugh: As an example.

John Harrington: That's a fair question. I can certainly pass the, right to the Chair and you folks can take a look at it.

Selectman Dill: On the other hand, on it, when are we going to advertise?

John Harrington: If you want, I can get that notice out immediately.

Selectman Dill: I think we're gonna have to. I mean this is a real slap. I was hoping, I was really happy with what the road agent was doing but we gotta get another road agent in because we have paving coming up really quick and we need somebody to cover the paving.

Chairman McGarry: Yep.

John Harrington: So, what I will do is give him the form to fill out and I will give him an envelope, ask him to seal it, direct it to board chair and I'll put it in Fred's folder and when you next meet and you folks can review it. Is that acceptable?

Vice Chairman Pitman: I don't think there's a problem...

John Harrington: No, it's a fair question though.

Selectwoman McHugh: It could be a problem not that I'm saying this one but after thinking about...

John Harrington: Then I would just probably you saw it.

Chairman McGarry: Then we'll get the posting out tomorrow if possible. All right we have the accounts payable manifest for August eighth with the board already approved in the amount of seven hundred and ninety-six thousand seven hundred eleven dollars and fifty-four cents (\$796,711.54) of which seven hundred fifty thousand (\$750,000) was for the school. Also have payroll manifest for the week ending August third in the gross payroll of ninety-three thousand six hundred forty-nine dollars and ninety cent (\$93,649.90) with a net payroll of sixty-one thousand three hundred and twenty-one dollars and ninety-one cents (\$61,321.91). And this other one is a check from DOT?

John Harrington: Yes.

Chairman McGarry: Or the State of New Hampshire I should say. This was for two hundred thirty-seven thousand six hundred ninety-seven dollars and eighty-four cents (\$237,697.84). what's that cover?

John Harrington: That's the ARPA. The second trench. It's not DOT.

Chairman McGarry: ARPA?

John Harrington: Yeah.

Chairman McGarry: All right, we have a local letter from Claire M. Mornio from Country Cuts by Claire dated August first. I'm writing to provide you with an advance notice that I am in the process of transferring my ownership of Country Cuts by Claire which shall include any and all physical and material improvements that I have made to the as of the date of the correspondence to Ms. Kristen Morrell of Deerfield. I do not wish to renew my current existing lease agreement which expires September thirtieth twenty twenty-two.

John Harrington: I have a draft lease agreement which I'm going to have Ms. Morrell review if she's in agreement with and I'll present it to the board to have then sign it and she will sign it.

Chairman McGarry: August second letter from DOT that covers the Highway block grant paid...

John Harrington: That's the anticipated revenue that goes into the revenue line that I spoke about. It shows four quarterly payments, we've received the first one.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

John Harrington: That just shows you for the total of twenty twenty-two to twenty twenty-three what the town can expect.

Chairman McGarry: A total of a hundred fifty-two thousand and change. And we have our Breezeline.

John Harrington: Letting you know their rates are going up.

(Inaudible talking)

Chairman McGarry: Breezeline provides what?

Selectman Dill: Internet.

John Harrington: Internet.

Chairman McGarry: Okay. And we also have another check from the state for forty-five thousand six O five (\$45,605.00) and that's the first payment?

John Harrington: Correct.

Chairman McGarry: All right. Need a vote for the trust funds for the cemetery. Need a board of selectman vote to use cemetery general maintenance expended expendable reserve fund for the fence repair at old Centre Cemetery in the amount of one thousand eight hundred fifty dollars which is fifty percent...

John Harrington: That is a deposit and I'll back for the additional.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Didn't approve it (inaudible).

Selectwoman McHugh: that's what I thought.

John Harrington: You did but never used the language to use the trust fund. I need it actually said that way. If you'd like to amend your motion to include the entire amount, I won't have to back to you to get a second statement.

(Inaudible speaking)

Chairman McGarry: Three thousand seven hundred bucks.

(Inaudible talking)

Chairman McGarry: All right. So, we need a vote to amend that previous motion...

John Harrington: Three thousand Seven hundred.

Chairman McGarry: Three thousand Seven hundred. A motion to cover that entire cost coming from the cemetery general maintenance expendable reserve fund.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman
Second: Selectwoman McHugh
Discussion:

Vote: Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman McGarry: Board of selectman votes for the recreational facility maintenance expendable trust of eight hundred and nine dollars and sixty-six cents (\$809.66) for mowing bicentennial and Hartford Brook fields. Need a motion to use that money for the mowing of those two fields.

Selectman Dill: This is the maintenance line we just established, right?

Jhon Harrington: this was a recent trust fund that was established in March for maintenance of the facilities and there was twenty-five thousand put in.

Motion: Selectman Dill
Second: Vice Chairman Pitman
Discussion:

Selectwoman McHugh: We're paying them four hundred dollars to mow each field.

John Harrington: These are multiple dates. It's not just one mow.

Selectwoman McHugh: Oh, Okay, and is it...

John Harrington: Mark Tibbets has that and he just put in one bill with multiple mows in it.

Selectwoman McHugh: Okay.

Selectman Huebner: I had the same question.

Vote: Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman McGarry: All right, and we've had a couple questions raised with regard to what's transpired with regard to Yanni's Pizza and their lease and, current lease is expiring at the end of September for the end of next month. Yanni's asked to negotiate a new lease with the town. The original offer from the town was for a one-year lease with option to renew with an increase in rent to better reflect current market conditions. The current lease rate was established five years ago and the current lower rate is included in the ending five-year lease agreement in place. Counteroffer from Yanni's was a five-year lease with the removal of language prohibiting subletting the space, specifically paragraph, clause fifteen, subletting an assignment, the tenant shall not assign this lease or sublet the premises or a portion of the premises without the landlord's written consent. The response by the town was if a three-year lease with an increase in rent to better reflect current market conditions. The town did not agree to remove the

language of sub-letting. Yanni's Pizzeria declined that proposal. Soon after, John Grimanus notified the town administrator that they would not be accepting the current lease offer and would vacate their space at the end of the lease in September and close their business. There are currently no plans for the space currently occupied by Yanni's Pizza. So, that basically spells out the discussions we had had with Yanni's and hopefully clears up any misconceptions that there may be. Okay. Town Administrator's report.

John Harrington: One item just to bring to the public's attention if they haven't already encountered it. We had a culvert collapse right off of forty-three in front of the main entrance to the fairgrounds. Work began by the state today. They're hoping to wrap it up tomorrow. You may find traffic reduced to one lane with lights and if they continue into tomorrow there may be some rerouting through Cotton Road when they go through the whole road so you may not be able to drive through on forty-three but they should have it done by tomorrow they said. And that's all I have.

Chairman McGarry: Do they have detour signs up?

Vice Chairman Pitman: Yes.

John Harrington: I believe they've got all the signage up. They've brought everything in today.

Someone from the audience speaking. (inaudible)

John Harrington: I haven't put it up. I just got this information late today.

More speaking from the audience (inaudible).

Chairman McGarry: All right. And that was it?

John Harrington: That was it.

Chairman McGarry: New business. Will, you had something?

Selectman Huebner: Yeah, I think it actually comes with our unfinished old business. So, as you recall, we voted unanimously to appeal to the ZBA about the property at two fifty-six North Road and we wrote a letter asking them to reconsider the decision they had made about the setbacks for the property that was proposed to be built there. I've been working recently with two officials at the department of environmental services, Amy Smigula is the program coordinator of the watershed management bureau and Dawn Bucher is the water division of the land resources management department. They have looked at the case as best I could describe it to them and they say it certainly looks as though we have a very good case to be reviewed with an environmental impact study done by the state and so they are saying that the board, if we're in agreement, that we should simply write a letter to them and ask them to conduct such a study and that we should therefore get a report from them about what their opinion is about this property and the impact on the lake and on, you know, their recommendations as to what course of action we should do. This decision, as I understand it, would still remain ourselves as a town to do that but they would make a recommendation to us. I think that would be valuable in this case. There is quite a controversy that most of us are aware of in this matter and so I would move that we vote tonight to send such a letter to the state and ask for such an environmental impact study to be done. There's nothing to be lost by doing that and it would give us further information to make a good decision in the case and I further move that the board of selectman would recommend to ZBA and the planning board that, notify them of our action to have a study done and to recommend that they postpone any decisions until the study is completed and presented by the department of environmental services to the town of Deerfield.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Second on both.

Motion: Selectman Huebner
Second: Vice Chairman Pitman
Discussion:

Selectman Huebner: And I guess John would be the one to send this out form the board with your signature.

Chairman McGarry: Pete. Pete is the chair of the planning board.

Peter Schibbelhute: You just said you had discussed with the state. Now, what are they going to study at lot or are they going to study the road as well?

Selectman Huebner: Well, they have the prerogative to study both. I described to them two issues. One, well, actually three issues. One issue is the lot itself of course and all the septic and other things that have been discussed about that lot.

Peter Schibbelhute: Right.

Selectman Huebner: And they'll make recommendations around septic. They'll make recommendations around setbacks and runoff and those kinds of things. I also described to them one O seven culvert or whatever you want to call that...

Peter Schibbelhute: Yeah, the culvert.

Selectman Huebner: The culvert and how it passes underneath and it washes out routinely in bad storms and we put more ballast rock and sand there and it washes down and it's contributing to the same environmental impact of the silt runoff into the lake and then thirdly there's a property that's been logged. I don't when exactly, I'm gonna guess maybe five or six years ago. It's a large hundred acres piece that's an industrial lot and it's been totally logged in the past, you may know about it, and it's right on the creek, Wilson Creek, it's upstream from this property, two fifty-six that we're talking about and if you look from the satellite pictures alone you can see that there's gullies and ruts all through that property where the dragging of the logs out of that property have torn up all vegetation and, of course, it's taking years for it to recover. I personally believe, DES would have to verify this, but I personally believe that most of the silt that's in the lake is actually the result of this logging operation that was done without sufficient review and soil runoff prevention measures. It's a very steep downhill slope into the creek there.

Peter Schibbelhute: Yeah.

Selectman Huebner: So, those are the three issues I brought to their attention. I described to them some of the things that have been talked about in planning and ZBA about the lot and what's going on obviously through my filter.

Peter Schibbelhute: Yeah.

Selectman Huebner: and they've agreed that there seems to be enough merit to sufficient a study to be done and a recommendation made to the town.

Peter Schibbelhute: They also need to study the road because the road has paved swales. There's no ditches. They're not maintained. So those are one of, part, if they're going to do a study. They need to do a complete study. Not just on that particular lot because the road is probably the biggest cause of the problems of water entering the lake that's not as clean as it could be because there's no retention ponds or anything to slow the water down whatsoever for settlement. So, I don't know what you discussed with them but that would something if you're going to continue to discuss with them that those things should be brought up and you know as far as that, that really needs to be brought up because that's an issue the state could potentially remedy through retention ponds to slow the water down and at that particular culvert on the east side, there's, looks like there's enough room there if they were able to get an easement or particularly, you know, I don't what the right-of-way width of the road is at that location but there's certainly some things that could be done to alleviate some of the issues other than getting rid of route one O seven which is not going to happen. So, there's more just than that one particular house lot that's causing the problem because the amount of surface area there, based on what you're getting in the lake, is not the issue. The issue is, where is the major amount of pollutants are, where are they coming from. Are they coming from the road or this particular lot that was cut and did they, you know, a lot of water escape form there with sediment and what type sediment in there, you know, as far as the chemicals and stuff that you're talking about? If that's a woodlot the chemicals, unless they had major spills of oil or something up there, would seem to be more from the road than anything else.

Selectman Huebner: Okay. I think you make an excellent point, Pete, and I support exactly what you're saying. I think we should amend the motion to be sure that we mention all three of the possible sources and especially the road way as Pete points out with the paved swales, is a tremendous acceleration of water into the culvert area that washes it out. That could be solved. Thanks Pete.

Chairman McGarry: Yes. Okay. Do we have a Second?

Vice Chairman Pitman: Yes.

Chairman McGarry: Okay. Movement seconded and then revise that letter accordingly to address those other issues as well. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

Vote: Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman McGarry: Any other new business?

Selectman Dill: I got a couple. I just wanted to make aware that as of October one we're in a severe drought again. So, four out five years we get to experience a severe drought. I know that previously we put out notices and letters. Maybe we can recycle one of those. Unfortunately, this storm is going way offshore and we're not going to have any significant rainfall really for the next two weeks. It's dry and I was talking to Matt cause there was a brush fire up near me, some of the water holes are starting to suffer from this as well. There, it's dropping fast so water reduction time. The other two things I had is, just keep nailing on the state about roadside mowing. I was turning left onto Cotton Road; you cannot see up forty-three right now. There's real sight distance problems on forty-three with overgrown trees. Also, just wanted to ask, where are we with town mowing and knotweed? Because I remember we had signed contracts. I know for mowing we signed, I don't if we the knotweed guy this year.

John Harrington: I don't know. I will have to check with Fred.

Selectman Dill: Yeah. Because they were up in Epsom the other day and I was wondering when they were coming our way. That's what I had.

Vice Chairman Pitman: (inaudible)

Selectman Dill: Yeah, it's growing fast all of a sudden. School is coming.

Vice Chairman Pitman: (inaudible)

Selectman Dill: Well, that's the only place the water is because we had a thunderstorm and it just runs down the side of the road.

Chairman McGarry: Any other business? Citizen comments? Pelletier and the Mrs. Shigo.

Joyce Pelletier: Joyce Pelletier, Old Centre Road. I want to go back to the issue of Yanni's. Talking to many, many, many people in town concerned about the loss of that restaurant. It has been a gathering place for our children. There's no place else left that you can go and bring a family. They have supported our town teams financially. Question where you think you're going to get the money from to support them. Also, the rent that they pay, where do you think you're going to get the money to make up the difference? Do we have that much surplus in our budget not to have that rent and are we going to have to pay for it through property taxes for the difference? I don't think that's very fair to the public.

Chairman McGarry: Specifically, Yanni's wants to sublet without this board's approval. That's what they want and as far as this board is concerned, we are not willing to do that.

Someone from the audience not at the mic: Sorry, why aren't you willing to do that? (inaudible)

Chairman McGarry: Yanni's want to sublet to whoever they want to sublet to without involvement by this board, without approval by this board and that, specifically, is a clause in the lease that says they cannot sublet without this board's approval.

Selectman Huebner: They could sublet it to McDonald's.

Someone from the audience not at the mic: You know, I understand that they told me, personally, that they just wanted to sell not sublet itself.

Selectman Huebner: sell to some other business and then the lease would automatically transfer to that business for five years.

Selectman Dill: Which is part of the lease that was not agreeable. Which, as Fred read, that's...

Selectman Huebner: We simply asked to allow the board to approve of any additional, any subletting, or essentially saying the new buyer would have to arrange their own lease with the town.

Selectman Dill: It's a town building. I don't think that's an unreasonable expectation to limit sublets if I really...

Selectman Huebner: If you leased a room in your home, wouldn't you want the right to, if the renter wanted to say, oh, I'm now going to lease it further on to somebody else, you want to have an approval of that. That's what we're asking for, is to control our town building.

(Inaudible. Multiple people talking in the audience)

Chairman McGarry: You have to go to the mic.

Selectman Dill: there's a couple situations here but yeah, the big thing is, you have to go to the mic, but the rent increase was not the major tipping point and the rent was very economical.

Kathy Shigo: Kathy Shigo, sixteen Cate Road. I'm just going to continue this conversation just because I think, it's so, she was such, the whole thing, Yanni's was such a pearl for this town. I've been here forty-eight years and we never had really good family, you know, places to go to and, I mean, we have no, nothing and not even a little mall or anything, minimal, and that was such a mice jewel and I just sometimes wish when we have these things in our town that, you know, the selectman and Mr. Harrington would bend over backwards to try and make these things work. Now, you're saying she didn't want to but she told me she just, she wanted a five-year lease because she's going through breast cancer treatments, she wanted to be able to sell it, but I'm sure she would have negotiated that part as far but then I think part of the lease that John put in was that she was also going to have to maintain her own bathroom and other things to maintain and I mean it's just like, I...

Selectman Dill: First I have to address something here. This is what John put in. This is a board decision. This is not the town administrator making choices and I really need to address that because I don't think that's fair. This is a board decision.

Kathy Shigo: It was a board decision after the lease came to you...

Selectman Dill: Dill: No.

Kathy Shigo: ...because you had to vote on it. Am I right. He came and brought it to you and then you voted, three to two.

Selectman Dill: The way the town administrator works, they bring items to the board. The lease is up, wo why would the town administrator not bring an issue of town importance to the board of selectmen?

Kathy Shigo: If you don't want to be landlord anymore.

Selectman Dill: No, no. I don't feel like that's a fair comment.

Kathy Shigo: we need (inaudible) the Deerfield town, the residents are so upset. We need an answer. Why would this...

Selectman Dill: I think you just got your answer.

Kathy Shigo: I understand what you're saying but, you know, it's also something of negotiating, compromising, because this something...

Selectman Dill: There was a negotiation and a compromise.

Kathy Shigo: Not according to her.

Selectman Dill: Well, there's two sides to every story.

Chairman McGarry: (inaudible) for us to drop the requirement that who ever buys that would have to come to us to get an approval.

Kathy Shigo: Yeah.

Chairman McGarry: They wanted to drop that. They want to sell it to anybody they want to. They want.

Kathy Shigo: And I can see that's a problem. I can see that. they could put anything in there. I can understand that. I do. It's just that I feel like we really lost a really important, eighteen years she paid property taxes, I mean, you know, that's somebody that, she did, she paid taxes and I just feel like she...

Selectman Dill: They paid a lease. I believe there's...

Kathy Shigo: She paid taxes. Yea, they did, according to what she told me. You know, they're really nice people and you know that and they've been here so long and we've really, ought, my kids, I mean, it's a matter of really a sentiment thing and I think that's why the town, you know, are very upset.

Selectman Huebner: Well, I hope you don't interpret the board's action as having anything against Yanni's Pizza. We all like the pizza and we all recognize that she was a good community person and still is a good community person and supporting our town and this kind of thing. There's nothing personal or vindictive or any problem from the past that's being harped on today.

Kathy Shigo: I mean, negotiate so well on other things it's something that I think for the town and the kids and all the people, I mean, the kids right here that come all the time after baseball. It was just something that I think we could have bent over backwards a little and helped. That's all I'm saying.

Selectman Huebner: well, and we modified our proposal to three years from one, our initial proposal, and she wanted five, right, so I think the issue was simply around the subletting and I don't understand why the folks from Yanni's were so adamant that they had to be able to sell it without the approval of the board as to who goes in there. I think that's an unreasonable request and I think we should appeal to Yanni's to realize that that's not going to hurt her much and she should accept that and continue on.

Kathy Shigo: That's negotiation. That's what I'm talking about. Going and talking to her.

Selectman Huebner: So, the board appealed to her and she said, no, we're going to stop and close the business. So, we were disappointed as well but it's the way it is.

Kathy Shigo: Just two very quick, two other regrets, just real fast and I just wanted to put down on record the passing, just a wonderful long-time citizen, Joanne Watson and we all loved her and we always cherished what she had been to us. Such a historian and also, I says that she was just, the first woman selectman and that was, I think it was eighty-two or something like that, and I just think that's amazing, I mean, she had so much to give to this town and I just wanted to recognize that to the selectmen and of course my second regret, I'll just have to say it right out, is that the road agent, and I think he was, been, I mean, Mr. Wallace was just so, Fred, he was just so, very aggregable. He seemed to be, really, a hard worker and we don't get to many workers like that. I've been agents, road agents, that won't even listen to us. I mean, I go back to Keith Rollins and David Trombley, so I've seen the different, you know, personalities. He was such a hard worker and he seemed to be really food on the, in this town and I really regret that we didn't somehow the, I know the problem, I know there was a problem but the thing is, is just to talk to them trying to, it's hard to get help and to get another road agent, that was willing to do as much work as he was, I think it's going to be hard to find. So, I just want to get that on record, that I really appreciate him while he was here and I think a lot of other people did too, so.

Chairman McGarry: I think the entire board, Kathy...

Kathy Shigo: I'm sorry?

Chairman McGarry: I'd say, I think the entire board agrees with your sentiments.

Kathy Shigo: it's just a shame the way it ended, I guess. Thank you very much.

Chairman McGarry: Any other citizen comments? Mrs. Cady.

Harriet Cady: I don't know if the board realizes but the legislature changed the law on citizens right to see the minutes that are in non-public and it's taken effect. So, any citizen may request to see the subject matter of any non-public. I don't remember, I've been here since eighty-four, any time that the board has ever gone through their minutes and said, this no longer needs to be sealed, this can be opened, such as when you do, say you are going to build a building and you know a price you want, you don't disclose it until you finally accept a bid. Anyways, my point is, the minutes now, subject matters will be available to citizens. I'd have to go back to the law, but I had the stroke at that time and it just came through my right to know group that it's several towns the people are going in and asking to see

all the minutes that have been sealed subject matter, for what it was sealed. But I do think somebody should designate going through minutes and unsealing or forever sealing or whatever you need to do.

Chairman McGarry: Mr. Rhodes.

Erroll Rhodes: You got it in one. Erroll Rhodes, Church Road, Church Street. Mr. Harrington mentioned earlier this evening that the auditors had flagged up an issue, I can't remember exactly what it was...

Chairman McGarry: Cell phones.

Erroll Rhodes: Oh, the cell phone policy and not having a cell phone policy. Did they flag up not having a conflict-of-interest policy by any chance?

John Harrington: They've not mentioned that in a report.

Erroll Rhodes: They have not mentioned that in a report, is that something this board would like to take up and make an issue going forward? It's. it doesn't have a direct impact the way that a cell phone policy might have, dollars and cents, but I think conflict of interest has other kinds of impacts that, starting with public trust but also monetary issues from time to time.

Selectman Dill: I can't believe we don't have one to be honest with you.

Erroll Rhodes: Yeah.

Selectman Huebner: Well, I know there are, in some of the policies I read, there were some mentions of conflict of interest, abstaining from voting on things by members that had a conflict of interest or any bidding on any projects that involved them.

Erroll Rhodes: I didn't see that in the town policies, maybe that is in the...

Selectman Huebner: I don't think it's a distinct policy. I think it's included some of the policies that we have.

John Harrington: In the employee handbook.

Erroll Rhodes: is it in the employee policy?

John Harrington: Yes.

Erroll Rhodes: So, it's in the employee policy but it's not a town policy, so...

Chairman McGarry: It doesn't apply to elected positions.

Selectman Dill: Or boards or commissions.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Erroll Rhodes: So, I'm just wondering if something's going to move forward on that?

Chairman McGarry: Yeah.

Selectman Dill: Yeah.

Erroll Rhodes. Okay. That's all I've got. Thank you.

Selectwoman McHugh: Thank you.

Chairman McGarry: Dick?

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman motions to adjourn.

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Next Meeting: August 29, 2022 at 5:30 pm

*The Minutes were transcribed and respectfully submitted by Randi Long, Recording Secretary
Pending approval by the Board of Selectmen*