

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
September 12, 2022
MINUTES**

Call to Order

5:30 – 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: All right, onto the budget review.

John Harrington: You have the Planning Board, page seventeen. I understand from Pete Schibbelhute, you have a meeting, tomorrow, uh, Wednesday...

Chairman McGarry: Wednesday night.

John Harrington: ...and that time they'll discuss it. I'll probably recommend you table it tonight and address it next week.

Selectman Dill: I just found it.

Motion: Selectman Huebner

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Selectman Dill: Are we going to do the same thing on the Zoning Board now that I found that one?

(Inaudible, papers being shuffled)

Motion: Selectman Dill makes a motion to table the Zoning Board of Adjustment budget review.

Second: Vice Chairman Pitman

Discussion:

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

Selectwoman McHugh: (inaudible, papers being shuffled)

Selectman Dill: Nope, we've got cemeteries.

Chairman McGarry: Maureen Mann.

John Harrington: Page twenty-four.

Maureen Mann: Do people have questions or do you want me to start?

Selectman Dill: Why don't we just start first.

Maureen Mann: All right, Alden. The super intendent is five thousand dollars, or has been five thousand dollars for a couple of years now. There's no change. That's paid quarterly. Tree case is, essentially, fifteen thousand dollars. That includes brush removal, I don't know if anyone has noticed, for instance, at the Morrison Cemetery, that Jared Messina took down eight mammoth trees. Some of them the diameter was almost three feet and the fact that he did it for only fifteen thousand dollars is something the trustees are very grateful for.

Selectman Dill: I'm guessing you have a lot more trees in other cemeteries that we gotta deal with.

Maureen Mann: I'm sorry?

Selectman Dill: Do you have more trees in other cemeteries that are on the list?

Maureen Mann: Oh, we have so many more trees that, the Morrison I think was critical because the cemetery is in good shape but if those trees fell, it was going to hurt a really good cemetery and what we have done in the past several months is, we've gone around, I don't know if you read the cemetery minutes, but have gone around and looked at town owned cemeteries and sort of prioritized where the trees have to be taken down next. Contractors, this is tricky. What was paid this year was twenty-nine thousand one hundred and twenty dollars for the things contracted by TNT and Averell who just did Morrison but I think, as most of you know, there are, even though there are like seven or eight cemeteries that are being cared for there are another, there are twenty something cemeteries that the town owns that are not being cared for around the town. We are lucky that a lot of them are being cared for by Dick and Pat Pitman or Barry (?), or Phil Bilodeau who have gone in and really maintained a lot of them but, a lot of the other ones are deteriorating, and also the Scouts have taken on one and we're to get them to take on more. The problem is, by state law, we are supposed to maintain all cemeteries on town land. So, this figure for this year, going up to thirty-five thousand is, we are planning once the cemeteries get cleaned up, which we are using trust funds to do...

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Maureen Mann: ...that extra five thousand or so dollars is to then maintain the mowing, the fall clean up, the spring clean-up for at least five additional cemeteries and then hopefully we can get volunteers as they get cleaned up and once, they're cleaned up, the expenses will go down. Then you've got the obvious things like dues and subscriptions, supplies, meetings, a dollar for grants. I'm happy to answer any questions.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy.

Selectwoman McHugh: Does some of this be in like a warrant article to, the initial clean-up for it?

Maureen Mann: And that's where we got some money to do clean up the ones last year. This year, I don't how much you want to hear about cemeteries tonight so I'll make this quick but, it is very clear we are running out of space. Even the new section of Old Center has now been, like, a third sold. We were hoping to a columbarium on Kate Road, which is a town owned cemetery, it turns out it would prohibit ably expensive because in order to bring in the columbarium's, is everyone is aware of what it is, we would have to actually build a road all around it to get heavy equipment in so now what we're looking at is instead is taking part of Old Center, which is flat and open and clear, and looking at columbarium's or what are called cremation plots where instead of a large burial plot, they're, like, two by three and they're flat to the ground and therefor cremains because over forty percent of the people now in New Hampshire are being cremated and that figure is growing and if we started planning for cremains plots rather than, ultimately what we're going to need more and that's probably gonna be Kate, but it's cheaper, fast and can be done more quickly if we start doing other options. Columbarium's, cremains plots, scattering gardens and so, that's what the warrant article is gonna be this year because we just really can't afford to not figure out something to do other than what we're currently doing.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman makes motion to go with the fifty-six thousand four hundred and one for this year's cemetery budget.

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

Selectman Huebner: The only thing I'm asking about is that, I believe last year, I don't know the exact numbers, but there was a warrant article for around thirty-five thousand for cemeteries that was passed and I think that reason that's done, and you can tell me if I'm wrong or not cause I might be, is that in case default budget would become the budget by the town not approving the budget, then of course you wouldn't have that money because it wasn't in the default budget so, it's a way of kind of hedging your bets if you will that if you get the budget approved you get the extra thirty-five thousand here and you if you don't get the budget approved you have an extra thirty-five int eh warrant article.

Maureen Mann: Well, I think they're two different things. I mean, we need the thirty-five thousand to maintain the town cemeteries that are currently owned. I know there was an issue last year with the person who got the contract then didn't fulfill the contract so Mark Young, the supervisor, had to pull somebody in before Memorial Day to make sure that got done and that was more expensive. So, we're actually looking at what was paid last year, which is more than what was in our budget but you guys, you people, found it somewhere. The warrant article is specifically going to aim toward, what do we do to increase the number of

burial spots in Deerfield and the way the trends are going we figure there's a lot more opportunity to do things like columbarium's but that is totally separate but by law we have to fund burial spaces.

Selectman Huebner: So, the question then I have is, it sounds like we are going to spend fifty-six thousand in the budget if it's approved and then whatever the new warrant article might be, let's say thirty-five thousand more...

Maureen Mann: It's expensive but the problem is, for years and years and years we maintained eight cemeteries, two of them weren't even town cemeteries but they were maintained but, meanwhile, the twelve something town cemeteries weren't and they got over grown and there were people like Dick and Barry and Phil who have taken care of them but there are a whole bunch that aren't taken care of and, I mean, excuse me, there is one probably that we're gonna have to let go, Sand Hill which is up on the Allen's town line because there's not actual road to get there anymore but the ones that we can take care of, this is what we're trying to find volunteers to do, trying to find the Scouts to do, to bring them back up and into shape and then we'll take care of them.

Selectman Huebner: Yes, don't miss understand me, I'm not trying, I'm in favor of maintaining cemeteries, but I'm, so, it seems like the real amount that the town would spend to maintain cemeteries if this would pass and you get a warrant article for thirty-five more for the additional maintenance, would be ninety-one thousand.

Maureen Mann: The real amount is what we're asking for in the budget.

Selectman Huebner: But if this passes then would there, and there would also be a warrant article for thirty-five thousand, kind of a hedge...

Selectman Dill: But the warrant article, I think, is for a completely different, the warrant article is to expand more, not for maintenance. This is for maintenance. This for... (inaudible, multiple people talking)

Maureen Mann: The warrant article is to create a new kind of cemetery in Deerfield.

Selectman Huebner: Yeah, so the total we would spend on cemeteries in Deerfield would be ninety-one thousand. So, the total we would spend in two thousand twenty-three on cemeteries if this passes, would be ninety-one thousand.

Selectman Dill: If, the warrant article passes as well. That's two separate items.

Maureen Mann: It'd be fifty-six plus we haven't determined the exact amount; I can tell you now, probably a hundred thousand dollars. Fifty for the warrant article but it's critical.

Selectman Huebner: Okay. You made a good case for why we need it. I'm just trying to figure out what's the real number.

Chairman McGarry: To follow on that, based on the track record regard to the town approving our budgets, it's not very good and the...

Maureen Mann: I agree with you.

Chairman McGarry: ...concern I think I have and probably Cindy and Will have, is mentioned, it appears that a warrant article might be more successful in raising the money than putting it into the budget and the question would end up being, do we want to revisit, we can proceed with this tonight but revisit it and decide whether we want to establish a separate warrant article for this maintenance money.

Maureen Mann: Well, last, there was a warrant article that said excess funds, I mean, I know everybody wants excess funds, but excess funds based on that warrant article can go to help with the maintenance in the cemeteries because that warrant article did pass.

Selectman Dill: That was for cemetery, a trust fund, wasn't it? To establish one last year?

Maureen Mann: Right. Any money out of the trust fund...

Selectman Dill: So, we did establish the trust fund.

Maureen Mann: We did establish a trust fund.

Selectman Dill: Okay. What I was thinking, Fred, is we could always do one of those warrant articles that is worded, if the budget fails that we will do ex, because I had the same concern, we're going to have to find, I don't want to have to find twenty thousand dollars in the default budget.

Chairman McGarry: Oh yeah, right, I agree. Or maybe that's something we can discuss...

Maureen Mann: We are certainly willing to listen to ideas you people have.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Down the road. Get closer.

Selectman Huebner: well, we have a motion.

Chairman McGarry: And a second?

Selectman Dill: Yeah.

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

Chairman McGarry: Thanks, Maureen.

Maureen Mann: Thank you.

Chairman McGarry: Building department. Good evening, Paul.

Paul Colby: Good evening, sirs, ma'am. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The building department budget, actually, was started by my predecessor and it slipped by me and I apologize, but I actually want to reduce the budget by twelve thousand dollars. I moved some money around in different lines but if you look under the line 01111, part-time employee, that was on top of the full-time employee salary, of twelve thousand dollars. This town is not busy enough to warrant two building inspectors, I believe. So, my recommendation is that that twelve thousand be removed from the budget.

Selectman Dill: Or reduced to a dollar.

Paul Colby: Reduced to a dollar, yeah, that's, yeah.

Chairman McGarry: So, it would drop to...

Paul Colby: forty-four thousand...

Chairman McGarry: fifty thousand six, six, four. I think you're one step ahead of me. I think you're right.

Paul Colby: The total budget is fifty-six seven, seven, five, so...

Chairman McGarry: We're showing sixty-two six, six, three.

Paul Colby: Okay, you must have a different than I do.

John Harrington: Is that after your change?

Paul Colby: No, this is with the twelve thousand in that I submitted to you.

Selectman Huebner: Right, with the twelve thousand in its sixty-two six, six, four.

Paul Colby: oh, you know what, I didn't print all the, you're right, all the pages didn't print, so, that's my fault. I apologize.

Selectwoman McHugh: What is it now?

Vice Chairman Pitman: Fifty, six, six, four.

Paul Colby: Yes. Like I said, the rest of the budget, we reduced, after talking with John and I, we reduced the legal budget by two thousand dollars and we, I just moved some dollar figures from one line to another to show where the money is truly spent.

Chairman McGarry: The only big jump we're seeing is, at least I see, is the fifteen hundred bucks on gasoline and...

Paul Colby: Right. Last year's budget was figured at two ninety-nine and John, correct me if I'm wrong, we did this year's budget at five dollars?

Selectman Dill: That's a good number to remember, Will, because we'll get that question multiple times and the MBC. That's a common question.

Motion: Selectman Dill makes a motion for the building line in amount of fifty thousand six hundred and sixty-four dollars.

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Chairman McGarry: Emergency department.

Paul Colby: So, basically, we reviewed the, Kevin and myself, reviewed the budget and our recommendation is to make zero changes from last year's budget.

Selectman Dill: So, you're looking for eighty-one forty-four, correct?

Paul Colby: Correct.

Motion: Selectman Dill makes a motion that the amount of eighty-one thirty-four.

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Vice Chairman Pitman: I got eighty-one thirty-nine, Alden.

Selectwoman McHugh: Yeah, eighty-one thirty-nine.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah, me too.

Paul Colby: Yeah, thirty-nine.

Selectman Dill: You sure.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Positive.

Selectman Dill: If you go to the next page, it's eighty-one forty-four.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah.

Selectwoman: Eighty-one forty-four.

Paul Colby: There's a sub-total and then you gotta go, yeah.

Chairman McGarry: Another five bucks...

(Inaudible, multiple people talking at once)

Selectman Dill: Yeah, so what's forty-two?

Selectwoman McHugh: That's the...

John Harington: That is the emergency management highway...

Selectman Dill: Oh, that has that highway safety grant that is, like, four dollars.

John Harrington: They're in the same category...

Selectman Dill: I will amend my motion to eighty-one thirty-nine then.

John Harrington: Yeah, just stick with the department.

Chairman McGarry: Okay. Is there a second?

Selectwoman McHugh: Second.

Chairman McGarry: Movement seconded to approve the budget of eight thousand thirty-nine dollars. Any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion signify by saying Aye.

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

Chairman McGarry: And agencies Health and...

John Harrington: Sixty-four.

Chairman McGarry: I'm showing thirty-eight thousand eight hundred and sixteen.

Paul Colby: Okay, yeah, and the breakdown is the nine thousand seven hundred and eighty dollars, that's actually new physicals and DOT testing for firefighters. So, that part is, you would have to check with Matt if he needs to change. I looked at just the social services part of twenty-nine thousand thirty-six dollars. My recommendation, talking with my predecessor in that department, was to level fund it based on the letters we received from the social agencies. So, the request this year again, will be twenty-nine thousand thirty-six dollars.

Vice Chairman Pitman: (inaudible, others talking)

Paul Colby: Yes.

(Inaudible talking, lots of people talking at once quietly by the mics)

Chairman McGarry: We still have to deal with firemen physicals.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Sounds like... (inaudible, others talking).

Paul Colby: The physicals are for the new hires in the fire department and things like that that are required by law.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Dill: I know we had a long discussion with the budget committee about that last year and Matt came in and just said that was what it was going to cost, I believe.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy.

Selectwoman McHugh: Are we supposed to be looking at page sixty-five or sixty-four?

Selectman Dill: Sixty-four is what we got on there.

Selectwoman McHugh: Well, it's the same as the last time. There's a different number on sixty-four or sixty-five.

Selectman Dill: No, I've got thirty-eight eight sixteen on the next one.

Selectwoman McHugh: So, that's the difference between the...

Chairman McGarry: Yeah, I've got the same number too, thirty-eight eight sixteen

Selectwoman McHugh: So, what's the different pages?

John Harrington: It's just a total page. It's the way it prints out.

Selectman Dill: All right, I'm gonna...

John Harrington: Some categories have multiple departments in the same category so that gives you the...

Motion: Selectman Dill makes a motion the amount of thirty-eight thousand eight hundred and sixteen dollars for the Agency Health and Social.

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Chairman McGarry: Sixty-six, welfare.

Paul Colby: Again, the welfare budget, the total is seventy thousand five hundred and sixty-eight with forty-three thousand of that for assistance direct assistance to the citizens and my recommendation is that budget be level funded, the same as last year.

Selectman Huebner: I have a question on this one Paul.

Paul Colby: Yep.

Selectman Huebner: So, the forty-thousand isn't that just donations that we make as a town to various charities?

Paul Colby: No, that was the budget we voted on previous to this one.

Selectman Huebner: Right.

Paul Colby: That is if somebody comes in and applies for assistance, we would help pay for rental assistance...

Selectman Huebner: Right.

Paul Colby: ...car repairs, things like that.

Selectman Huebner: So, we expect to pay forty-three thousand of that type of assistance to citizens?

Paul Colby: That's been the budget figure for a number of years here, so...

Selectman Huebner: But I was under the impression that that money was actually being donated to outside agencies, outside of our town for instance, like Boy, like Red Cross for instance.

Paul Colby: Okay, that was in the budget you just voted on...

Selectman Dill: That was social service...

Paul Colby: ...social services budget, that was where the Red Cross and you should have had a hand out of where the money...

Vice Chairman Pitman: Read the second page it's all spelled out.

Selectman Huebner: Okay. Right. So...

Paul Colby: This is the actual running of the department as well as the direct assistance the town pays to recipients. This money does not go out of town, well, I say that, if there's a landlord that happens to be out of town and we're assisting some with rent but this money stays in town.

Selectman Huebner: But traditionally we haven't spent this much money on giving money to people in need, as far as I know. Now, maybe someone else...

Paul Colby: You guys would know better than me, so...

Selectman Huebner: Okay. Right.

Selectwoman McHugh: Well, this here is twenty-ones, we actually spent three thousand nine hundred dollars.

Selectman Huebner: Looks to me as of December first is twenty-three forty-seven.

Selectwoman McHugh: Right, for twenty-two. For twenty-one so, so you're right, I'm just...

Selectman Huebner: So, we only spend about, typically, three thousand dollars. I'm just not understanding, that's why I'm asking this question. I don't understand the large forty-three thousand and then we only use three thousand of it.

Selectwoman McHugh: Right.

Paul Colby: I agree. I, like I said, I've been here two months, this is...

Selectwoman McHugh: Okay.

Paul Colby: I represented it as it was presented to me by my... (inaudible, others talking)

Selectman Dill: And I would guess we have; we may have a more increased demand this year because heating assistance also comes out of that line.

Paul Colby: Yes.

Selectman Dill: Sop, that would be my concern on cutting that line.

Selectwoman McHugh: That's gonna be forty-three thousand dollars' worth.

Selectman Dill: I don't know.

Selectman Huebner: (inaudible, others talking) ...six thousand dollars maybe, right?

Selectman Dill: I wouldn't go to six.

Selectman Huebner: I mean, traditionally every year we're only at only about three.

Selectman Dill: Well, John can pull up traditional, he can go back more years than we have here.

Selectman Huebner: It just seems like it's way over.

John Harrington: I can't do it right now.

Selectman Dill: I know, but I'm saying you have the ability to.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman makes a motion to table this until next week.

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Chairman McGarry: Movement seconded to table until next week and have John pull up some information with regard to the past expenditures under this line. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

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

Paul Colby: So that's the budgets I have for you today.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectwoman McHugh: You sure? No more?

Paul Colby: I'll be here cause there's something that's coming up later.

Chairman McGarry: All right. Conservation commission. Page seventy-eight. Erroll, you representing the commission?

Selectman Dill: Were you aware that you were?

Erroll Rhodes: How can I help?

Chairman McGarry: Well, I think...

Erroll Rhodes: I think Haley is the treasurer of the, and she's not here this evening. So, I don't what Haley has done but I, I'm sure if there's an increase from last year or not.

Selectman Dill: There's a small increase in the part-time secretary line, is the only increase I'm seeing.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah. Right.

Selectman Huebner: Thirty-three percent more.

Selectman Dill: Is that the transcriptionist?

Erroll Rhodes: I believe so, yeah.

Selectman Dill: Which, did you hire a new one?

Erroll Rhodes: Well, actually no, actually no, that work gets done by Judy Marshal. She's the clerk of the conservation commission and keeps it in order.

Chairman McGarry: Basically, it's showing an additional five hundred dollars compared to the twenty-two budgets.

Erroll Rhodes: I mean for the amount of work Judy does to keep everybody, all the issues in line. We've got, you know, a dozen outstanding issues, at most times. Some come, some go, so it's a lot of activity around a lot of small, in the big picture, a lot of small numbers but a lot of people and there's been more activity from Bearpaw Greenways, yeah, so...

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman makes a motion to approve three thousand three hundred and sixty-seven dollars for conservation.

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

Selectman Huebner: So, it appears that the thirty-three percent increase is, is to give more hours to the person that's being paid on the part-time basis or is it...

John Harrington: Some of it may be due to the COLA that was voted in in a warrant article because that position would have been affected as well.

Selectman Huebner: Okay.

Chairman McGarry: Showing a hundred and five hours total at nineteen dollars an hour.

Selectman Huebner: So, we're just going to increase the time for that one person that's already on the commission to do the part-time work?

Erroll Rhodes: Yeah, and you're not beginning to compensate her for the value that she brings so. Best, I think the best, and I say this as the secretary of the heritage commission, she's the best secretary of any commission that I've been aware of so...

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

Selectman Dill: That concludes that.

Chairman McGarry: Thank you, Erroll. All right, new business. Review of outstanding minutes.

Motion: Selectman Dill makes a motion to accept as written for nine six.
Second: Selectwoman McHugh
Discussion:

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

Chairman McGarry: Oaky, vouchers. Have the accounts payable manifest, pardon me, accounts payable manifest for September twelfth in the amount of a hundred and twenty thousand six hundred and sixty-three dollars and eighty cents (\$120,663.80). And a motion to approve?

Motion: Selectman Dill
Second: Selectwoman McHugh
Discussion:

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

Chairman McGarry: Is this all we have? We don't have any other manifests?

John Harrington: That was is. Just accounts payable.

Chairman McGarry: Okay. And signatures and correspondence. We have a refund request for fifty-three dollars and twenty cents, motor vehicle refund to CT Corporation System and says the company wrote the check for too much. Kim got permission to change the check from CT Corporation however the bank would not accept it and has resulted in overpayment. It is the recommendation of this office to refund the monies they overpaid. The clerk's office was made aware of the overpayment in May by the finance administrator and see back up for detail.

Motion: Selectman Dill makes a motion to grant the refund request of fifty-three dollars and twenty cents.
Second: Selectwoman McHugh
Discussion:

Chairman McGarry: Cindy?

Selectwoman McHugh: This is back from May?

Chairman McGarry: Apparently.

Selectwoman McHugh: Okay.

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

Selectman Dill: I didn't catch that part. I would want my fifty-three bucks back before then.

Chairman McGarry: All right, have a abatement application for Emily Ericson and...

John Harrington: (inaudible, sounds like mic is off)

Chairman McGarry: In the amount of thirty-seven dollars and twenty cents?

Paul Colby: Yes, that's correct.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

Motion: Selectman Dill
Second: Selectwoman McHugh
Discussion:

Selectman Dill: I feel like's Paul's ready to tell us something about this.

Chairman McGarry: Paul, go ahead.

Paul Colby: No, I didn't know in case you had questions on it. Basically, as you know, she had a tragic loss of her house back in January. We worked with the assessing department and the December tax bill will reflect the true taxes out on the land and this was to wave the interest and penalties for, where she didn't pay her first bill.

Selectman Dill: Makes sense.

Chairman McGarry: We have a motion?

John Harrington: We have a motion and a second.

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

Chairman McGarry: All right. We have a proposal from Manchester Paving which had approved in May.

John Harrington: You only approved part of it. This includes and, so, we do, held off on the payment on that until the paint, the painting of the ADA pad at Hartford Brook came is so that signifi, uh, excuse me, that indicates both jobs. Both paving and the painting. If you sign that one that will just pay the one invoice.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

John Harrington: But I wanted to indicate that you had already seen half of it.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah. Well, actually, more than, significantly more than half of that. We approved that back in May, May twenty-third for the amount of six thousand and this, this is for six thousand six hundred and fifty so we get the painting at six hundred fifty bucks basically. Okay. And that's reflected in the work to be performed adding the paint parking area with commercial grade traffic paint.

John Harrington: And we just got that figure from them as well.

Motion: Selectman Dill

Chairman McGarry: We have a motion. This would authorize the chair to sign on behalf of the town.

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Chairman McGarry: All right. We have a letter to Ken and Kendra Cohen, have all the board members seen this?

Vice Chairman Pitman: Yes.

Chairman McGarry: Should I read this in to the...?

John Harrington: You can.

Chairman McGarry: Okay. This is a response to a complaint that, filed by Mr. and Mrs. Cohen. The town is in receipt of your letter dated September second twenty twenty-two as the code enforcement authority for the town we take seriously the concerns raised by residents. Unfortunately, we disagree with the zoning ordinance interpretation you propose in your letter and will not be taking code enforcement action at this time. Deerfield zoning ordinance defines agriculture as farming, dairying, livestock and poultry, truck farming, forestry and horticulture. Your opinion that we must rely on how RSA twenty-one thirty-four dash A defines agriculture is thus not consistent with our zoning ordinance because agricultural is a permitted use in the AR district, forestry is not limited to being incidental to farming. Furthermore, the town does not have evidence that this is a commercial forestry operation pursuant to section three thirty, the Pleasant Lake Watershed protection ordinance. Lastly, the use of Eversource's land at this time appears to be a private matter and one that the town does not have jurisdiction over that, over that at this point. As always, please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. So, we need a motion to prove the letter and sign it.

Motion: Selectman Dill
Second: Selectwoman McHugh
Discussion:

Selectman Huebner: I just want to say, in the, in, for the public and in the record, this is no reflection on our lack of empathy for the problem that they are having. It's just that the tack that they took in this case, we can't agree that the RSA would prohibit them from using that forestry because the AR designation.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Huebner: So, it's really just a technical matter not a judgement on their problem.

Chairman McGarry: Yep. Thank you.

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

Chairman McGarry: And the proposal from Eastern Minerals for delivered salt, road salt for twenty twenty-two, twenty twenty-three at seventy-two dollars and eighty-one cents per ton with an estimated tonnage of six hundred and fifty. So, whatever that works out to be.

John Harrington: That was determined by the interim road agent Ray Ellis. An estimate of what we could do use.

Selectman Huebner: And how does that compare to previous years.

Selectman Dill: Insanely high.

Selectman Huebner: insanely high. Right.

Selectman Dill: I mean there's...

Selectman Huebner: Is there a shortage of salt or is it just the trucking salt?

Selectman Dill: We got lucky last year. It was the first year we ever bid out salt and we thought we way overpaid last year and this is almost double what we paid last year.

Vice Chairman Pitman: I think your wrong.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah. It was, I got the quote here from last year last year at sixty-seven...

Selectman Dill: Okay. I'm sorry. I was thinking forty. I take that back. You're right, Dick.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Maybe ten percent.

Selectman Dill: Okay. I am sorry. I thought it was much cheaper last year.

Chairman McGarry: Sixty-seven per ton and seventy-two eighty per ton for this quote. Is that comparative to five, what was it, five years ago our last budget was approved?

John Harrington: Right. It was fifty-one dollars and seventy cents. Something around there.

Chairman McGarry: So, we're looking at a twenty dollar increase per ton over our previous budget.

Selectman Dill: Right.

Chairman McGarry: So...

Selectman Dill: But, talking to Ray, he's got a plan to decrease salt use.

Chairman McGarry: Oh, okay.

Selectman Dill: Which makes sense. He thinks we're, and Freddie was saying the same thing, that we're using way more salt than most towns in the state and so he's going to mix it at a lower percentage and see how that works.

Chairman McGarry: With the sand?

Selectman Dill: Yes. I think, what did Ray say they're mixing, a two to one sand to salt? But what had we been doing?

John Harrington: Two to two.

Chairman McGarry: One to one.

Selectman Dill: Yeah, one to one and he's going to try to, that'll reduce salt use because we're sitting on quite a bit of sand.

Chairman McGarry: Right. Yep. All right, so...

Selectman Dill: But then we're also taking a chance that if it doesn't work then we'll have to use more salt.

Chairman McGarry: Right. Exactly.

Selectman Huebner: And is this a result of having gone to bids to various suppliers?

Selectman Huebner: This is the supplier.

John Harrington: This is the one main supplier for this part of the country. The only other one was Morton and they've never responded.

Selectman Dill: We tried them last year and didn't go well.

John Harrington: I got no response from them.

Selectman Huebner: Okay.

Selectman Dill: This is a salt pile down...

Selectman Huebner: This is one that works.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Dill: This is the salt piles down in Portsmouth which is the closest we can haul in from.

Chairman McGarry: We have a motion.

John Harrington: No.

Motion: Selectman Dill

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Chairman McGarry: Movement seconded to approve the seventy-two-dollar eighty-one cent a ton quote for road salt and I guess this would require just a chair to sign on behalf of the board. Any further discussion?

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

Selectman Huebner: Just a question for John, we, I know there's like, what they call salt alternatives which are different chemicals that used on roadways that, supposedly, some people think are better that, environmentally, than salt. So, but our town it doesn't sound like we do that.

John Harrington: No.

Selectman Huebner: Okay. Okay.

Selectman Dill: Nor do we have the equipment to say, put down the brine solution currently.

Chairman McGarry: And correspondence. This is one I really don't want to read but anyhow. From Paul Colby, please let this memo serve as my two-week notice to end my employment with the town of Deerfield. I have accepted a position in the private sector. My last day of employment with the town will be September twenty-third. Thank you, signed Paul Colby. Paul, we hate to see you go.

Paul Colby: I've appreciated my two months here. I enjoy working with staff here and as well as you. This was an opportunity that was presented to myself that um, I'm basically taking over the national director of developing new medical facilities around the country. So, this was a big step for me too and I apologize for the short notice but I need to be in Cleveland the first week of October, so...

Selectman Huebner: Well, we had high expectations of you and you were fulfilling those so...

Paul Colby: I appreciate that a lot. Yeah, and it just worked out.

Chairman McGarry: Good luck in your new position.

Selectman Dill: If you could send us somebody to replace you that would really help.

Paul Colby: I've been already thinking about that. John and I talked about that. We'll see what we can do and if I can find someone, I'll definitely get them in here, so, yeah, I want to thank you all for your support too.

Chairman McGarry: Certainly, the career change, when John mentioned some of the details, that it was something I can't blame you at all.

Paul Colby: Yeah, exactly. Between the compensation and benefit package I just really couldn't say no. But I have enjoyed my time here and I appreciate all the support.

Chairman McGarry: And we've been glad to have you and...

Vice Chairman Pitman: Thank you.

Paul Colby: Yep.

Selectwoman McHugh: Yeah, good luck.

Paul Colby: You still coming for Thanksgiving?

Selectman Dill: Maybe, I don't know.

Chairman McGarry: We have a, just a memorandum from Ted Gatsas with regards to what's transpired at the executive council.

John Harrington: Fred, before you move on, you each have a copy of two quotes in your folder. One from Get Wired Electric and the other one from Dan Ives Plumbing and Heating.

Chairman McGarry: Okay. The one from Get Wired Electric is for two thousand five hundred dollars. It says, remove and relocate a hundred-amp panel from future bathrooms to outside of bathroom wall. Recessed panel to provide protection from damage. Provide new panel breakers, circuit extensions and this is at the transfer station.

John Harrington: This is all related to the bathroom installation. That is the electrical work that is necessary to move the panel outside of the bathroom itself.

Chairman McGarry: It's a good idea.

Selectman Dill: Is that coming out of the impact fees as well?

John Harrington: This is all coming out of the impact fees.

Chairman McGarry: And the...

John Harrington: The second quote is for plumbing and that is to actually put in all the fixtures, the remaining plumbing to attach it to the leech field and the well.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman makes a motion for Get Wired for twenty-five hundred.

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Chairman McGarry: And we have a quote from Dan Ives Plumbing and Heating in the amount of five thousand one hundred dollars and that would include the ADA compliant toilet, laundry sink, point of use water heater, well tank and controls, not including the pump, demo and repair to a hand finish of concrete and ADA compliant grab bars. Again, Five thousand one hundred dollars.

Motion: Selectman Dill

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Selectman Dill: Now, John, does that complete this job?

John Harrington: The last component would be the actual well pump which was included in the original bid from Contoocook. That's about forty-six hundred.

Selectman Dill: But we haven't paid for it yet?

John Harrington: Nope. We've waited until the rest of the fixtures are in before we hook up the water.

Selectwoman McHugh: And what are we looking for completion?

John Harrington: Pardon me?

Selectwoman McHugh: What are we looking for when they complete it, the project?

Selectman Dill: Date wise?

John Harrington: They should be coming in; I don't have a date when they're coming in. They are waiting for this to be approved. They're going to come in right away. Contoocook is just waiting for my call to schedule the pump to be installed and, just for your information, with that twenty-five hundred the fifty-one hundred for the plumbing, there's an impact balance of thirteen thousand one hundred and eighty-six, which will cover those two plus the forty-six hundred for the pump. So, we still have enough money to cover all that.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah, to cover all that.

John Harrington: Yep.

Chairman McGarry: All right, town administrator's report.

John Harrington: That was everything I was going to report...

Chairman McGarry: Oh, okay.

John Harrington: ...detail of the numbers.

Chairman McGarry: All right.

John Harrington: I gave it to you early.

Chairman McGarry: Okay. Good.

Selectman Dill: John, I just wanted to revisit that quote we got for shim on Haynes Road. You don't have that handy, do you?

John Harrington: I do not have it with me but I believe the quote was in the range of forty-five thousand dollars for about six hundred and fifty linear feet. I think we oughta revisit that just for um, we gotta do something up there and I think Pike's coming out late but I don't want to put that out to bid now and rebid it and we're not, we wouldn't be looking, November, December on that. So, I think we oughta go with that number. Stabilize the bad section and reopen the road. I doubt we'll have that box culvert plan in place for this season.

Chairman McGarry: No. I don't think so.

John Harrington: I can bring that quote to next meeting so you can actually...

Chairman McGarry: Good. Okay.

John Harrington: ...vote on it, okay?

Chairman McGarry: Because we're still uh...

Selectman Dill: A couple weeks out, three, four weeks...

Chairman McGarry: ...four weeks before they're coming in to actually start working.

John Harrington: Second week of October.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

John Harrington: They haven't given me an actual start date yet.

Selectman Dill: Because Ray's, there's no way they could do that during fair traffic.

Chairman McGarry: Oh, yeah.

Selectman Dill: There's just no way.

Chairman McGarry: Right. I agree. All right, unfinished business. Fire Rescue and Deerfield Fair Association agreement.

Selectman Huebner: Right. So, Matt, I guess, is going to join us by Zoom, is that correct?

John Harrington: He's on.

Selectman Huebner: Matt are you on? We don't hear you Matt.

Chairman McGarry: Still can't hear you Matt.

Selectwoman McHugh: Speak up.

Selectman Huebner: Do you need to allow him to...?

John Harrington: No, there's nothing I can do.

Selectman Dill: Well, boy, that's going to kill this conversation.

Selectman Huebner: We can't hear you Matt.

John Harrington: He's not muted. It's got to be... oh, he's gonna try...

Selectman Huebner: Well, I had a discussion with him. So, if necessary, I can just relay what I believe he would report.

Selectman Dill: Or we can watch Matt yell at the screen for five minutes. It's somewhat entertaining.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Can he hear us?

Selectwoman McHugh: He can hear us but we can't hear him.

Selectman Dill: I can't read lips that well.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah, me neither.

Selectman Huebner: Matt, how about I give a report and you can thumbs up or thumbs down if you agree? Or can he call in by telephone.

John Harrington: He's gonna do notes.

Chairman McGarry: You're gonna do notes with even the notes you can't really see them.

Selectman Dill: No.

Selectwoman McHugh: No.

Selectman Huebner: I mean, we could have him call in and have it broadcast over the...

Selectman Dill: That would be the low-tech better solution I'm guessing.

Chairman McGarry: (inaudible, others talking) ...that, John?

Selectman Huebner: I think call.

John Harrington: Matt, you can use your phone to call in. Just use the phone number.

Selectman Dill: He's running to get it right now.

Matt Fisher: Hello.

Selectman Huebner: All right, Matt, you're on.

Matt Fisher: I can hear myself on the computer, that's fantastic.

Chairman McGarry: Okay. So, do want to fill us in.

Matt Fisher: Okay. So, I watched last week's meeting and I reviewed the proposal from two weeks ago from the fair with the staff and everything they're looking for and a couple pieces of apparatus. Best thing I could come up with is, looking at the fire we recently had at twelve Coffeetown Road and that was very well involved, barn coming into a breezeway coming towards a residence and using that as a recent staffing review and we had on scene within a few minutes was eight personnel. That doesn't include those setting up water supplies, for the past, well we can't count twenty-twenty, For the past three years we've had a plan in place at the fairgrounds, if there was a fire we used, (inaudible, echoing to much) ...to supplement the hydrant system. Currently when we've tested the hydrant system it's around three hundred four hundred gallons a minute, that is insufficient to supply even two and a half (inaudible, echoing to much) ...and (inaudible, echoing to much) ...we had at twelve Coffeetown Road. We assign three members to engine two and then we have our engine four for the other personnel and rescue and their supplies so where, looking at the review we're at a number of ten personnel to be able to try to sustain if there's multiple booths starting in one of the barns to give us somewhat of a fighting chance to put it out or least contain it, stop the spread. Any sort of mutual aid on the way that we start will be delayed with all the traffic with coming in from the fair depending on what time of day, what day. And I also had a couple conversations with Alden and Will proceeding from here and what that looks like knowing full well that for those days when the, when we have our staffing at that fair there for the fair but also need to make sure the town is covered at the same time and what that agreement could look like so, you know, both sides are protected.

Selectman Huebner: So, Matt, your conclusion with your meeting of the State Fire Marshal, why don't you give that conclusion?

Matt Fisher: So, one of the things I wanted to touch upon was the State Fire Marshal's office was the comment from the fair is that the booths or the mobile trailers were already inspected by the fair and the answer I got from them was that they have no such program. I'm not sure where that information came from but if it's Al's fries, fry booth, it's not being inspected by the state when it crosses state lines to any sort of statewide program along those lines.

Selectman Huebner: Okay, but your overall discussion with the state Fire Marshal about the level of coverage and then you came to a conclusion, I think, about what the level of coverage this year should be based on that discussion with the Fire Marshal.

Matt Fisher: We discussed keeping the staffing the same as we've had it (inaudible, echoing to much).

Selectman Huebner: Right.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy.

Selectwoman McHugh: Matt, you have ten people at the fair, who's covering the town?

Matt Fisher: In the past it's always been members from the fair leaving to town emergencies so...

Selectwoman McHugh: The fair is paying you a detail to be there to protect them we can't do that.

Matt Fisher: Okay.

Selectman Huebner: Right.

Matt Fisher: That's how it was done in the past.

Selectwoman McHugh: Do we need to hire, do we need to hire personnel to be at central station and then have four people at the, at the fair? We can't, you can't get paid a detail and leave to go on a fire in town.

Matt Fisher: So that is the fair's practice for the past twenty-one years I've been on the department...

Selectwoman McHugh: but for eight thousand dollars Matt.

Matt Fisher: (inaudible, someone else talking) ...

Selectwoman McHugh: Not at detail rate.

Matt Fisher: (inaudible, someone else talking) ...years if we take out twenty twenty-one it's been the same practice.

Selectwoman McHugh: How many fires have we had at the fair, Matt, in the past three years, five years?

Matt Fisher: I would have to review.

Selectwoman McHugh: Three. Three Matt.

Matt Fisher: Okay, sure, and there could be one tomorrow, there could be one next week...

Selectwoman McHugh: Absolutely.

Matt Fisher: ...we're here for a reason.

Selectwoman McHugh: Wait, when you, we need the town covered.

Selectman Huebner: Let me speak to that. So, we discussed that very point, which you had made in the previous meeting, and it does seem double dipping for us to have a full detailed paid and to have a, uh, ability to call people off when necessary for a town emergency, which, we have had in the past...

Selectwoman McHugh: bad ones.

Selectman Huebner: A couple of them.

Selectwoman McHugh: Yeah.

Selectman Huebner: ...and so we reviewed then the number of times in the past historical record of recent history in the fair of the times we did have to pull some people off the detail to go to serve a town emergency, and we determined that was less than ten percent of the time, of the time of the full coverage and so we propose, and I will

be a making a motion to share the cost of the coverage with the fair and to take ten percent onto the town, which is a cost to the town, and the ninety percent to be on the fair, which is historically at least how much time the people that we are on detail do spend at the fair. So, we're intending to give a discount if you will or a recognition that the, that the town also needs those services and have used them at intervals in that so whatever, whatever the charges to the fair, we'll discount it by ninety percent and the other ten percent that we have to pay to those workers will have to come from the town out of the part-time line budget of the budget. So, that's our proposal to handle that issue.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy.

Selectwoman McHugh: What about response time coming out of fair traffic.

Selectman Huebner: You'll have to ask Matt about that.

Selectwoman McHugh: I mean, if we have people at central station, that's gonna be less response time than having them come trying to get out of the fair.

Selectman Huebner: Well, I think, Matt, isn't it the philosophy that we're going to station them at three different locations around the fair so that they can get out from one side or the other as opposed to being all on one side or all on the other side.

Matt Fisher: (Inaudible) ...following previous staffing models we've had at the fair. I would be, if we're sharing costs or sharing staff at that point, I would think we'd all agree the fair is probably the highest hazard in the town while it's happening with the amount of people and the booths and such so, if we're sharing costs to a point, we're sharing staff.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Can you hear them, Donnie?

Don Wyman: I can hear him, yes.

Selectwoman McHugh: I'm worried about the town. At the, sitting in this chair I'm worried about the town coverage now just as well as people from the firehouse can make it to the fair as fair people can make it out of the fair so I just, I guess I don't understand.

Chairman McGarry: Don, did you want to make any comments?

Don Wyman: Uh yeah, it, to me it's not a big lift to ask for six. At that firehouse at the fair with the two apparatus that leaves the town better covered. I'm not asking for, you know, miracles and all that kind of stuff. We wanted to meet halfway. A month ago, or so we met with two members of the select board because we're trying to establish an even road, you know, a middle ground, someplace that would work. Those two gentlemen, from my knowledge, never came back to the select board to discuss that with it. So, the meeting that we had with the two select members and the fire chief was predetermined what was the outcome going to be and I said at that meeting, I got exactly out of this meeting what I expected to get out of it, nothing. There was a predetermined opinion and that was that. We were there just as hush puppies to keep us quiet. We met with you. We did this. And I know, I'm getting smirks and it's very rude it's, it's not very business-like um so everything I did for the past months I just did right there. I closed my book. I did it in that meeting because everything we're saying at the fair is falling on deaf ears. Matt is going to have the say all and he's going to be agreed upon and that's. there's nothing that we're going to do about it. So, why did we, why were we invited to meet as a non-public, please wait, as a non-public and then bring it back out to the public like we're doing now with the exact same result. I'm asking or the fair is asking, excuse me, we're asking for six firefighters and officers. Not ten. We're trying to keep it a balance between protecting out fairgrounds and protecting the town of Deerfield. Our pay went from twelve thousand, from four thousand to eight thousand, to ten thousand, twelve thousand, to what it was last year. Last year we also had increased in EMT coverage in that price, so yes, that was absorbently high, I understand that, but you've removed that out of there and the equivalent money is still the same. It's a very high price.

Chairman McGarry: Will.

Selectman Huebner: So, I just want to address some of the issues that he's bringing up. First of all we did meet with you in, in good faith to try to negotiate and find out what your position was and to let you know what our position was, discuss that with you with Matt and Matt was there at the meeting of course, and then we did write a written report back to the select board which was distributed to them by John Harrington through myself to report to the select board exactly what transpired in the meeting and we felt was the right decision, the right recommendation to come

from that. So, that the idea that the meeting was useless and some kind of straw dog thing, I don't know why you say that. We did indeed negotiate in good faith.

Don Wyman: We negotiated...

Chairman McGarry: Just a minute Don. Cindy.

Selectwoman McHugh: I did not receive anything until I asked for it right before the meeting so I knew what we were talking about so, no we didn't get what you talked about in the meeting until it was...

Selectman Huebner: You got a complete report of what our meeting happened; you're just saying you got it maybe later than you would have like it.

Selectman Dill: It was emailed out.

Selectman Huebner: So, anyway, that's one point I wanted to make...

Selectwoman McHugh: (inaudible, talking over someone) ...Alden.

Selectman Dill: I can tell you that...

Selectwoman McHugh: I got it the day of the meeting. I don't care if it was through email, there's a problem with our email system and we can't seem to fix that.

Selectman Dill: However, saying it was never given to you...

Selectwoman McHugh: It was not given to me...

Selectman Dill: ...whereas Will and I can have the same argument that, why do we bother putting in effort if you're not going to read what we provide as a report.

Selectwoman McHugh: I got it the day of the meeting.

Selectman Huebner: Okay. The rest of it is that, of course we rely on the fire chief to make a judgement as to what the proper and safe amount of coverage needs to be and it was quite a debate, at the meeting that we attended with Matt, about it. It was a suggestion that we had more than we needed and a lot of good discussion, I thought, between the two parties about what was needed, but in the end, we recognized that Matt is the fire chief for the town and that he has the sole authority, in this case, to decide what is safe for the town. Now, I think that Matt would testify, and I let him speak for himself, that he did take into consideration what they were asking for and he considered about the amount of coverage and that was part of, I think, he wanted to consult with the fire marshal of the state. To compare notes and see it, see what he felt about it and what he's telling us here tonight is that he has done that and that they believe the existing coverage is the appropriate amount of coverage. So, with all respect to the idea that Don and the fair have presented to us that they feel six is appropriate, the fire marshal is holding at ten. So, I think that we're not really negotiating with the fair about what the right coverage should be, we're actually relying on our fire chief to do that and he has the sole authority to do that. So, I think that's the end of the matter. I think Matt has now said, this is what we really believe is the right coverage with the proper consulting with many people in the fair included, taking into account their feelings about it and the fire marshal. So, I don't think there's any more debate about how many people we should have as coverage.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy.

Selectwoman McHugh: Does a fair have to hire people? They don't have to hire them.

Selectman Huebner: They have to have proper coverage from the town, right?

Selectwoman McHugh: There's nothing on, there's no RSA's or nothing that states what is proper coverage.

Selectman Huebner: Right. It's up to the discretion of the fire marshal.

Selectwoman McHugh: The fire marshal didn't say that.

Selectman Huebner: Oh, actually, it's up the discretion of the fire chief. The fire chief of our town has jurisdiction over any events that are going on in town.

Selectwoman McHugh: (Inaudible, others talking)

Chairman McGarry: The RSA is quite clear that the fire chief...

Selectwoman McHugh: There is no RSA.

Chairman McGarry: ...yes, there is an RSA which calls for the fire chiefs to be the incident commander and certainly this would be, fall under that.

Selectwoman McHugh: Right.

Chairman McGarry: And I'm very familiar with that statute.

Selectwoman McHugh: Okay.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Don's been trying to talk for a few minutes.

Chairman McGarry: Don.

Selectman Huebner: So, I would like to bring a motion...

Vice Chairman Pitman: Don then Will.

Chairman McGarry: Don.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Don's had his hand up for five minutes.

Don Wyman: So, basically Matt has the authority to have jurisdiction, I'm not ignorant on that fact. I know the codes, I know the electrical codes, I now, well versed in the fire codes so, our attorney, I spoke with today, want that in writing to why we feel we need ten, why he needs ten and not six, and I know that he's gonna state that that's what our past command recall said or, uh, I'm lost for words at this meeting.

Selectman Dill: It was emergency operations plan, Don.

Don Wyman: Yeah, so that's, that was our very first try at doing that, so, he's holding strong at ten. So, I want it in writing from the chief to myself or to my lawyer, to the fair's lawyer, that we can have this and we know what it is and if there are going to be ten people at that fairgrounds, they, I will mandate as an employer, there will be two at that fire station at any given time. Two. Everybody else will be doing their job and working. They will be walking the grounds and I'm getting loud cause I'm getting agitated, this is a dog and pony show, but there will only be two there and if I keep getting the winkled eyes and stuff, I'm just going to lose my mind at the incompetency of two of the selectmen on this board but...

Selectman Dill: I feel attacked by that, Don.

Don Wyman: Excuse me.

Selectman Dill: I haven't said anything in this and...

Don Wyman: Hold on....

Chairman McGarry: Hold off, Alden, let him finish.

Don Wyman: Did I say a name? yeah, I'm asking you a question. Did I say a name?

Selectman Dill: You've come in here before...

Don Wyman: Did I say a name?

Chairman McGarry: All right, that's enough! Will, you were proposing a motion.

Selectman Huebner: Right.

Motion: Selectman Huebner proposes a motion to end the debate and to accept the fire chiefs coverage for the fair as his judgment has been made and to write a contract, amend our contract, I think it already says exactly this but, the contract should be given to the fair as our record, as he's asking for a record in writing, so that's our record in writing of the coverage that we feel is necessary and that we, in addition to approving the contract, that we agree we will pay ninety percent, that they will pay ninety percent of the charges and that ten percent will be borne by the town in recognition that the town occasionally needs to split off some firemen for an event and we've done that based on historical time and record.

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

Chairman McGarry: Cindy.

Selectwoman McHugh: I think what our attorney was looking for was, uh, just a description of why he thought that coverage, isn't that, so I'm putting, I'm just saying, putting that in your motion...

Selectman Huebner: Well yeah, but I don't think we want to demand that from Matt. I think what we say is, at his discretion he can explain why he feels he needs the coverage that he does but he's not under an onus under the RSA rules, I don't believe, to explain to anybody's satisfaction.

Selectwoman McHugh: But our attorney is asking for it.

Selectman Huebner: He can explain as much as he wishes but I would recommend that does that in his write-up. But that's to his discretion because I don't think the law says that he has to explain everything why but I think this case he probably would elect to do so. So, I, so, let's amend the motion to say that we recommend that Matt explain as requested by fair the reasons for his coverage.

Chairman McGarry: All right, we have a motion that we are discussing amongst the board members. I don't know, I will entertain one comment from you Don and I won't take anything else. Go ahead.

Don Wyman: First of all, I want to apologize for losing my temper. That was wrong on my part. So, I understand a motion being made. So, what is the possibility of dropping the fee, dropping the amount of money? Originally, we were saying we didn't, we weren't arguing about that money but if we don't drop the amount of employees, firefighters, that's gonna put the monies back to the same. We've spoken with a numerous other fire departments that work for us. Nobody has asked for more money. None of the town's that come in that Matt has raised the prices for, has not asked for the more money. Everybody I spoke to is, is, was happy. They were doing it cause they were working at the fair. They were doing it as the old days, the old ways. They didn't ask for an increase in pay. Matt asked the increase in pay. So, I'm asking in good faith of the town. The ninety percent, okay, that's if they leave the grounds but God forbid something happens, lightning strikes twice in a lot of places. God, forbid it strikes twice in town and on the fairgrounds. Now both are lacking. I'm not, I'm not disputing that and I know some of you think that I am. I'm disputing safety. I've worked my, ninety percent of my life in the safest manner possible to save lives. Not as a fire fighter but in a lot of ways you have to think of safety first. I've done that ninety percent of my life and I take it very seriously and I'm not doing this just off the top of my head.

Chairman McGarry: Alden, did you have something to add?

Selectman Dill: I saw the 10 percent as a way to reduce the cost. That's how I was looking at it Don. Um, that we're sharing in the cost with fair is how I was looking at that cost share.

Don Wyman: But that's only if the fire engines roll out of the fair.

Selectman Dill: No, that's just a flat, we're gonna take...

Selectman Huebner: Whether there's a call or not we recognize year-round year it's about four or five percent of the time that they've had people out...

Don Wyman: Way, I just understood it, and correct me if I'm wrong, the way I just understood it is, if the fire trucks rolled out of the fairgrounds...

Selectman Huebner: No, it's not conditional. It's just saying that we're just going to give ten percent recognizing that we might have to take the detail off if there was an emergency in town.

Selectman Dill: That was my way of looking at doing a cost share whether it happens or not....

Don Wyman: The way it was posed and the way I understood it, if they rolled out, you'd pay the ten percent.

Selectman Huebner: No.

Selectman Dill: No. The way I was looking at it is and the way we looked at it with Matt is that they don't do it often, so that's why we figured ten percent would be a decent cost share with you. Saying one in ten hours they may not be there so we'll take that cost.

Selectwoman McHugh: They do it more than we have fire incidences on the fairgrounds.

Chairman McGarry: All right. So, I have a motion on the floor with the movement seconded, any further discussion?

Selectman Dill: I was going to discuss a little farther that if ten percent isn't enough, that is a negotiation we can actually have on that end of things.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Kinda late now you've already said this.

Selectman Dill: You can amend motions. So, that's why if, if we're, if you're on the same page of understanding how we're doing this, is that a benefit that you would see in this.

Don Wyman: You know, yeah, any of it would be a benefit, Alden. Exactly. I just um, I just, we've been at this and I know Fred's getting anxious to move this meeting on, I know he is, um well we've been a year at this and we would have saved a lot of, it bothers me to the town and the fair are debating like this. Back and forth. This is a huge, huge break to me.

Selectman Dill: I mean, I'll modify my second to say fifteen percent if that's, would be a added benefit, granted I didn't make the motion so I can't do that but I'm just saying I would modify the second to be fifteen if that's good, with Will.

Don Wyman: You guys have to do what you do, I can't I'm not gonna, I'm not gonna put that price out there. You guys do what you think is fair and you have to go with that.

Selectman Huebner: Well, the ten percent was based on about four or five percent estimate that Matt and I made of the number of hours in recent years that there was a detailed called off for other incidents in the town. So, that's why we said ten percent, it's to make sure that we have it covered based on historical record. That's the basis for that. Now if we want to make another concession, just out of, you know, being less stringent to the fair for some reason we can do that. So, let me ask the board, would you like me to amend it to a different number?

Vice Chairman Pitman: Yes.

Selectman Huebner: Okay, Dick says yes. I think, Alden, you indicated yes.

Selectman Dill: Yeah, I would be fine with fifteen. I think that would be...

Selectman Huebner: Dick, what's you're feeling.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Fifteen is a minimal. I was thinking more like twenty but since they were looking for six and Matt's proposing ten.

Selectman Huebner: Remember that the town makes no money on that, is, we have to pay the workers right, so, the money that's going to be paid to those workers is going to have to come out of our town budget, out of our tax dollars.

Selectman Dill: I mean, we end up over expending the part-time line by doing this.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy.

Selectwoman McHugh: Two of those days were supposed to have part-timers on. Three of those days.

Selectman Huebner: Two of the coverage days.

Selectwoman McHugh: Yeah.

Selectman Huebner: Yeah, but I'm saying that the, this, if give them let's say ten percent. Let's say we give them two thousand dollars it'll have to come out of that part time.

Selectwoman McHugh: It's not going to affect the part-time that much because two of those days they're supposed to be working anyway. Was supposed to have coverage in town. On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

Selectman Huebner: Okay. I guess that's a little more complex than my mind can handle at the moment but...

Vice Chairman Pitman: Where I came up with the twenty is ten men ten percent is one there. We're kind of split, they wanted six, we kinda split the difference with twenty.

Selectman Huebner: What twenty means is that if there's four days that means almost one entire day all ten men are off somewhere else and that's not normal for a fair.

Vice Chairman Pitman: I'm just working on the price.

Selectman Huebner: We're not likely to have three or four men taking off and sent off with one engine to put out a fire at an automobile or at a home and to back. So, historically it, we don't need that much out of it but again if you want to do it out of discretion, you're doing it at the expense of the tax payers.

Chairman McGarry: So, Will, are you going to propose an amendment to your motion to make it fifteen percent.

Selectman Huebner: All right, I'll make that amendment for fifteen percent which is a compromise, I guess, between what we're talking about there.

Chairman McGarry: And is the uh, Alden you okay on the second?

Selectman Dill: Yes.

Chairman McGarry: Okay, the motion now before us is to share the cost with the fair association and to the extent for the town to extend fifteen percent with the fair association paying eighty-five percent. Any further discussion.

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

Vice Chairman Pitman: For the record, I'm not a voting member at the fair that's why...

Chairman McGarry: All right. New business. Any new business?

Selectman Huebner: Uh, they're oh, no, not new business. I have old business.

Selectman Dill: I had quick new business just because I didn't know if you knew, Will, we're voting tomorrow.

Selectman Huebner: What's that?

Selectman Dill: We're voting tomorrow at the town hall so, Cindy brought it up before the meeting, we do have to be there.

Vice Chairman Pitman: We need three there at seven a.m.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Vice Chairman Pitman: I'll be one.

Selectman Huebner: Seven a.m.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Yeah.

Selectman Huebner: Okay. I'll be there.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Seven to seven is...

Selectman Dill: And I can, I'll close down so...

Chairman McGarry: I'll be there.

Vice Chairman Pitman: You coming in at seven tomorrow morning?

Chairman McGarry: Yeah. Yep.

Selectman Dill: That's what I had for new business.

Chairman McGarry: Okay. Will.

Selectman Huebner: So, I just wasn't to give a report on the letter that we wrote to the department of environmental services regarding the three issues we asked them to check out for us and they have responded in a report back to us in writing and that's been distributed to all of you here at the board and so I just want to publicly report on the progress of that and I presume that the chairman would recommend passing that on as information to the planning board who are about to make their final decision on this matter.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah, and which is what we can do.

Selectman Huebner: Initially, the DES recommended FB environmental and Concord as their go-to company to evaluate the property at two fifty-six North Road and they have sent an inspector this morning. The inspectors looked at it and will give us a report within a day.

Chairman McGarry: Oh wow.

Selectman Huebner: And so that will also add to the DES report with the FB environmental being a private environmental designer and their purpose is to recommend swales or plantings or other things that the that would be recommended to protect the creek at the lake. So, I just want to, again, publicly report on that. I don't think there's any voting necessary but....

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Huebner: ...that matter, as far as our letter, is addressed by both of those organizations and we should forward that on and then I think the planning board will have everything they need to make their proper decision.

Chairman McGarry: And I know in the deliberations with the planning board, one of the items that was brought out, which brought up by me was the, the type of plantings that should be made on the embankment that there would be, would be constructed adjacent to the driveway. So, hopefully the, would be getting those recommendations from DES.

Selectman Huebner: Right. Otherwise, the builder himself would have had to decide what to do and, you know, we don't know if we could be sufficient so...

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Huebner: ...at least we'll get some professional guidance on what would be recommended by the environmental company.

Chairman McGarry: Yep. Very good. And I have to thank DES for the rapid response on this. It, uh, really stepped forward and came, came forward and did it, kind of surprising at least to me anyways, a surprising response with a speed which they did. All right. Any other business? All right. Citizens comments. Mr. Rhodes.

Erroll Rhodes: Erroll Rhodes, Church Street. Will the DES report be made available to the public or just to the planning board.

Chairman McGarry: It'll certainly become public...

Erroll Rhodes: The town website. Put that up there.

Selectman Huebner: I think it would be made public at the planning board meeting where it will be read...

Erroll Rhodes: Well, if you received it, can you not put it up immediately?

Chairman McGarry: Yeah, I guess we could. John?

John Harrington: Yeah.

Erroll Rhodes: And public record.

Chairman McGarry: Yep.

Erroll Rhodes: Thank you.

Chairman McGarry: Mrs. Cady.

Harriet Cady: As I see the town looking to become more professional by the charging two entities for services by town government. We pay the chief ten thousand dollars as a stipend so will you adopt a policy on out of that ten thousand dollars any money, he's paid for inspections must come back to the town and then he will be paid after the deductions are made for social, uh, SS and income tax and so forth. There is no policy in the policy book allowing the fire department to make charges as there is the police department. Therefore you've been abysmally deficient in your policies. If you made a policy on this when you did the police department, we would have something rather than, now this going back and forth. But since we are paying the chief, a stipend why is he able to charge what he decided to charge. Why is the town letting a person that is, basically, an appointee to a job, decide what's charged? Why is there not a selectman's discussion where citizens can comment on those charges. I would point out to you that when my son's house burnt four years ago the Northwood and Epsom police departments arrived before Deerfield's. Our chief was the chief now. It is time Deerfield became part of a professional town and have the book of policies brought up to date the way it should be and if we're going to let a department charge that the policemen makes, I mean the selectman make those charges and then approve those charges. If I'm going to pay salaries and stipends to the people because they were volunteers and good then is that on top of a salary on top of charges or are those charges to come back to the town and then we make the proper deductions. I suggest you start to look at your policies and start correcting them.

Chairman McGarry: Thank you. Any other comments. Mrs. Shigo.

Kathy Shigo: I think I just witnessed a good thing in a sense of, I believe the fair with its history of a hundred and fifty years have always been the Deerfield Fair and the town have always been such good, they're not enemies, they're friends and that they have paid taxes, they don't have to pay tax but they do and they always wanted it to be cohesive and that's what I'm saying. I really like, between the policies yes, we do need to improve, obviously, we need something in writing. We need something to be specific because I feel like, you know, negotiations are fine but once it's up, it's so that you could be in agreement because I believe the fair has always been, you know, really here for a hundred and fifty years and I worked there for over twenty so I know it's a good situation for this town and everybody knows about the Deerfield fair and love it and so therefore we need to as town people, as residents to support it and I'm glad you're working together but just put it down so it's maybe like, Harriet said, maybe a policy or down in writing so we don't have to go back and forth and let it be an agreement because this is a really great historic place where we can all get together and agree what's good for this town. Both the fair and the selectman. Thanks.

Chairman McGarry: Thank you. Anybody else. Dick.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Motion, yeah?

Kim (inaudible) Cinquegrana: So, I would just like to make a comment...

Chairman McGarry: What's your name, please.

Kim (inaudible) Cinquegrana: Kim, my name is Kim.

Chairman McGarry: Your last name too.

Kim (inaudible): (inaudible) Cinquegrana.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

Kim (inaudible) Cinquegrana: Sorry, I'm new at selectman meetings. I'd like to just point out that I volunteer a hundred percent of my time that I work with the fair to help them and I love to see the volunteers come forward. I don't think it was taken into consideration how much the fair does for the town when coming up with the fifteen percent and you said it was going to be a hardship for taxpayers if we staffed and did the fifteen percent or twenty percent. It's going to be a very large hardship if the fair starts charging for what we do for the town so I am a little bit discouraged by the lack of us working together like you said. It has always been a partnership and I think it's very disappointing.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman makes a motion to adjourn at six fifty-five pm.

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

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

Next Meeting: September 19, 2022 at 5:30 pm

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

*Corrected minutes by John Harrington
Approved by Board of Selectmen at the 9.19.22 meeting*