

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
September 26, 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, we have twenty twenty-three budget review. First item is town administration.

John Harrington: Page two.

Motion: Selectman Dill makes a motion in the amount of two hundred and sixty-two thousand four hundred and nine dollars.

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Chairman McGarry: Shows an overall increase of seven-point seven eight percent over our default budget which was in-acted when?

John Harrington: Excuse me?

Chairman McGarry: When did we go back to the default budget? Five years ago?

John Harrington: Yes.

Chairman McGarry: So that goes back to two thousand seventeen.

John Harrington: Most of the increase is in the full-time line and the part-time line which is due to the recent passage of the COLA warrant. The next increase is for maintenance and vendors that handles all of our software vendors that have increased their price every year for the past five years and that line just can't keep up with so the amount that's in there is what we're currently spending as of twenty twenty-two.

Chairman McGarry: Yep.

Selectman Huebner: John, I think I noticed in the documentation that it was a three percent as kind of an automatic increase to salary ... (inaudible, papers being shuffled near mics)

John Harrington: Not the town administration detail.

Selectman Huebner: We got some detail from, I think, Kelly. Yeah, Kelly.

Selectman Dill: That's different. That's not what we're discussing now though.

John Harrington: We're talking town administrator.

Selectman Huebner: Okay.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy.

Selectwoman McHugh: I'm just curious as to what is the... (inaudible, paper being shuffled by mics)?

John Harrington: Those are all of our accounting software, real estate assessing software all of those we have to pay annually for all that.

Selectwoman McHugh: So, that's under your budget?

John Harrington: Yep.

Chairman McGarry: Any further discussion? All right. Hearing none, all those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

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

Selectman Huebner: Now I'm at the right place.

Chairman McGarry: Page three.

Selectman Huebner: And I'm not asking the question because I'm opposed to it, I just wanted to clarify that. This automatic three present...

Selectman Dill: Well, let's get into it first.

Motion: Selectman Dill makes a motion in the amount of one hundred and sixty-six thousand eight hundred and sixteen dollars (\$166,816.00).

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Chairman McGarry: Will.

Selectman Huebner: So, I noticed in the literature that we reviewed that there was this three percent raise automatically for both the town administrator and the ... (inaudible, papers being shuffled new mics).

Selectman Dill: No. Town clerk.

Selectwoman McHugh: Town clerk.

Selectman Huebner: Yes, town clerk and the tax collector which is one person. And again, I'm not asking the question because I'm opposed to it but I just wanted to clarify that it's an automatic thing that each of the town employees are getting. Three percent.

Selectman Dill: I think we ought to ask the town clerk. It's her budget and she's here.

John Harrington: That's a question for Kelly.

Selectman Huebner: I'm just really interested in the consistency with other town employees

Kelly Roberts: So, can you hear me?

Selectman Dill: Yes.

Kelly Roberts: So, I have two budgets to present tonight. One's the town clerk tax collector. Ones the meeting. I revised the town clerk tax collector budget from the one I submitted on the deadline. So, I emailed you all the revised budget and gave you a copy with my notes in the margins and so, if you go through the... Do we have to make a motion?

Selectman Dill: Well, we currently have a motion for a hundred and sixty-six eight sixteen not the one twenty-one nine seventy.

Kelly Roberts: So, the proposed budget for these ... (inaudible, weird scratchy noise) ...one forty-eight nine two three (\$148,923.00).

Selectman Huebner: So, this revised thing you submitted comes to one forty-eight nine two three on the last page?

Chairman McGarry: (inaudible, papers being shuffled very loudly)

Kelly Roberts: One forty-eight nine two three.

Selectman Huebner: Instead of? What was the amount you stated at the beginning?

Chairman McGarry: One sixty-six eight sixteen.

Kelly Roberts: Yeah.

Selectman Huebner: So, why is that lower now than before?

Kelly Roberts: So, I, when I began preparing my budget I was considering, seriously considering adding an additional part-time position to the clerk's office and doing it something similar like I did with the warrant article last year where I would submit in the budget and I would also submit a warrant article should one not pass. I've decided that I want to wait a year. One, I just asked for a warrant article last and don't want it to appear like I keep asking for things and then two, I just want to get our office and software and everything under control before we bring in another person but I do ask for the boards support for next year because the time is getting really close to start to seriously thinking about a third part-time clerk in the office. That would, not only, help Kim and myself but we would like to increase our hours to the public and it would just be really helpful with the current workload. So, that's for next year but for this year I took it back. If you look at the town clerk full-time employee line, I did not put in an increase for myself. I did put in a merit raise for Kim for three percent for her amazing service to the town and her outstanding work. She also gets, per the town policy, a hundred-dollar longevity award in May and so that's the description of the annual increase for that line. I do have a question about the way raises are implemented for town employees and I thought the most appropriate way to start is, put it in my budget line but I had a question and some other employees were wondering if the town would be offering a COLA warrant article.

Chairman McGarry: We haven't discussed it at this point but I assume that we would discuss it.

Selectman Dill: I assume we would be putting one in. I've had a discussion with John but we haven't had a board wide discussion because everything is going on a COLA this year.

Vice Chairman Pitman: So, do we want Alden to change his motion? Make it simpler.

Selectman Dill: Well, first thing I gotta do is change to one forty-eight nine twenty-three.

Vice Chairman Pitman: That's what she's asking now.

Selectman Dill: So, I'll change my motion to that and then we can discuss that.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy, did you second?

Selectwoman McHugh: Yep.

Chairman McGarry: You okay with that?

Selectwoman McHugh: Yes.

Chairman McGarry: Okay. All right, motion has been revised down from one sixty-six eight sixteen to one forty-eight nine twenty-three. And the three percent raise that you're talking about is a merit raise and not a COLA?

Kelly Roberts: Correct.

Selectman Dill: And it's just for the deputy, not the town clerk?

Kelly Roberts: Correct.

Selectman Huebner: So, if we approve this does this mean she gets a three percent raise or that it's just money for it if we...

Kelly Roberts: Correct.

Selectman Huebner: It's not approving the raise it's just putting money in the budget for these items.

Selectman Dill: If we approve it and the town approves it, yes.

Selectman Huebner: Right.

Selectman Dill: And the budget committee. So, you have to get new printers then as well?

Kelly Roberts: Yeah, so, if you go to page three, town clerk equipment I put in for fifteen hundred dollars for printers. The printers we have right now are Lexmark T six forties and they were provided to the town at no cost a few years ago through a state grant. They are no longer serviced and they are getting to an age where they are gonna start.... They are very high usage printers. They do all our motor vehicle transactions so we need to start thinking about getting a backup for when those fail because when those fail, we're pretty much stuck.

Selectman Dill: But we're not getting anything from the state on those?

Kelly Roberts: No. It's our responsibility.

Selectman Dill: Really?

Kelly Roberts: Yep. The only reason why we got the printers we have is cause the state got a grant.

Selectman Dill: Oh, okay.

Selectman Huebner: So, you're saying that you will buy the printers or only if the others fail?

Kelly Roberts: Well, I'm going to get the most out of the printers as I possibly can and I think this is a wise budget item in the event that they do fail that we'll still be operational.

Selectman Huebner: Right. So, the moneys in the budget in case we need it, if they operate fine...

Kelly Roberts: It's going to happen this year or next year. I just don't...

Selectman Huebner: Right. Okay.

Chairman McGarry: You're zeroing out the line for telephone rather than carrying one dollar in it?

Kelly Roberts: Correct.

Selectman Dill: Why are we doing that, just for explanation?

Kelly Roberts: There's a new policy that was presented to the town employees. We have acknowledged those policies but have decided to opt out so we don't need that reimbursement.

Chairman McGarry: Okay. Any other discussion? All right. Cindy?

Selectwoman McHugh: Do we want to keep that telephone line open just for the next... I mean, zero dollar whatever?

Kelly Roberts: You can leave one dollar in it.

John Harrington: I would recommend a dollar otherwise once you've zeroed out that line you....

Selectwoman McHugh: Mmhm.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Okay, Alden, now's your chance.

Selectman Dill: One forty-eight nine two four then. I'll change my motion to if you're good with that, Cindy?

Selectwoman McHugh: I am.

Selectman Huebner: This is not... is this the landline or the cellphones?

Selectman Dill: It's the cellphone reimbursement.

Chairman McGarry: Cell phone, yeah.

Selectman Huebner: So, they are saying they are opting out of that.

Selectwoman McHugh: Right, but there could be an employee coming in that doesn't want to opt and they'll need to get reimbursed.

Selectman Dill: Which is why we generally leave a dollar in there.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Huebner: Or they want to opt back in?

Selectman Dill: Yes.

Selectwoman McHugh: Yeah, they could hop back in.

Kelly Roberts: Well, I believe that's funded through IT. Is that line, is that reimbursement funded through the IT?

John Harrington: I'd have to check with Pete where he actually charges it to.

Kelly Roberts: I think it might be.

Selectman Huebner: It says this has cost charge to Android through Verizon phone reimbursements.

Chairman McGarry: Okay. So, are we okay with adding one dollar?

Selectman Dill: Yeah.

Chairman McGarry: All right, so now we're looking at the bottom line of one forty-eight nine twenty-four (\$148,924.00). Any further discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

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

Chairman McGarry: Thank you, Kelly.

Selectman Dill: One hour till Kelly's other half.

Chairman McGarry: Oh, yeah.

Selectman Dill: Or her other hat.

Selectman Huebner: So, we also have a revised budget from... for that hat.

Motion: Selectman Dill makes a motion in the amount of ten thousand five hundred and eighty-three dollars (\$10,583.00). So, that's the same as what you have given before, correct?

Kelly Roberts: Yeah.

Selectman Dill: Okay.

Selectman Huebner: So, this didn't change?

Second: Selectwoman McHugh
Discussion:

Kelly Roberts: No, I just printed an extra copy for you.

Selectman Dill: It's pretty easy because we don't have any elections next year.

Kelly Roberts: It is but we should... My biggest concern for the election meeting budget, and maybe we should be thinking about this for next year is, when we prepare a budget we're preparing it for the next year, well, being on default, you know, it's been difficult and the reason why I bring this up is twenty twenty-four is going to be in a major election year with major expense in these lines and I don't know... hopefully we will be able to pass a budget so we can fund the money, have the money needed to fund the elections. If not, I was wondering, in twenty twenty-four or twenty twenty-three if we would consider somehow creating like a election fund line or something where we ask the voters to put ten thousand dollars in for the twenty-four election or something.

Selectman Dill: How much does one of the major... I mean, that's everything. That's presidential primary, that's for elections. Top of your head, what's that going to cost? Forty, thirty?

Kelly Roberts: It could, yeah. And that's, I mean, it's gonna be like twenty-twenty hopefully minus a pandemic. And we tapped into a lot of grant money. I overspent my budget. You know, we tapped into other places. It's going to be a very, a very expensive thing to run.

Selectman Dill: And not for just for your budget. But then we also have the supervisor's budget...

Kelly Roberts: Correct.

Selectman Dill: Yeah, there's three or four other budgets that get so yeah, Kevin's probably right. It's probably in the fifty, sixty range.

Kelly Roberts: So next year we have this. Twenty-three, hopefully, will be pretty quiet and the increase in here I increase the wage from seven twenty-five to eight dollars. Hopefully we can get that passed and the other increases, obviously, from Malloy sound and just general cost of maintenance increasing. So, even though it's up one thousand four hundred ninety-four that's because of the continuing rise of costs.

Selectman Huebner: It is, though, roughly a fifteen percent increase over the previous budget.

Kelly Roberts: Correct. Because of... If you look at this sound line ending in three nine zero and then if you look at the machine maintenance repair line four three zero, those are kind of beyond our control as far as the costs.

Selectman Dill: Yes, we kind of have to pay to have the sound system and to have voting machines, I agree.

Chairman McGarry: So, we were kept... we were carrying sixteen hundred and ten dollars from twenty twenty-one through twenty twenty-two and that's the increase that we're talking about over that amount so...

Selectman Huebner: It's doubling.

Chairman McGarry: ... it's almost doubling, yeah. All right. So, you're basically putting us on notice that for the twenty twenty-four budget that we may have to have a separate warrant article to add money...

Kelly Roberts: Just like a fund. You know how sometimes you create a fund?

Chairman McGarry: Yeah. Right.

Kelly Roberts: Yeah.

Selectman Dill: It's not a bad idea.

Chairman McGarry: All right, any further discussion with the board?

Selectman Huebner: First we got to get this approved by the budget, by the voters.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Huebner: No further discussion from me.

Chairman McGarry: All right. All those in favor of the motion for ten thousand five hundred eighty-three dollars for the election budget signify by saying aye.

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

Chairman McGarry: Okay. Information Technology, page eight.

Motion: Selectman Dill makes a motion in the amount of seventy-two thousand nine hundred and sixty-three dollars (\$72,963.00).

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

John Harrington: Mr. Jamele is with us if you have any questions for him.

Selectman Huebner: What percent increase does this represent over last year, if any?

Selectman Dill: Twenty-five. It's not, I want to clarify, it's not last year it's... we've been in a default budget for quite a while, so...

Chairman McGarry: Five years. Right.

Selectman Dill: Yeah.

Selectman Dill: Well, but, I mean, from what we had in the budget for this current year.

John Harrington: twenty-five percent.

Selectman Huebner: Twenty-five. I presume that increase has been building from the seven years ago or five years ago?

John Harrington: Correct.

Selectman Huebner: Every year it's ten percent or fourteen percent.

Chairman McGarry: So, Steve, did you want to elaborate on any items?

Steve Jamele: Oh, well, the only thing really quite different is the server and server software. Those are fairly large expenses. The other stuff is pretty much the same just increase in cost. There's really not much else there in addition to last years.

Selectman Huebner: Can you just tell us why we need a new server?

Steve Jamele: Because Microsoft will not support after August next year the server software that's on it and in order to put on what we would need, is called server twenty twenty-two, we would need a new server. there's no sense in putting this software on a six- or seven-year-old server and we need to do that because it's just required. Can't have something out of date with no security updates.

Selectman Huebner: Okey.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy.

Selectwoman McHugh: I'm confused at the voter's guide and newsletter and annual report is under the computer tech budget. Why? Shouldn't that be under the town administrator's budget? Why is our tech paying for voter's guide and...

John Harrington: Printing service has always been under the IT budget since I've been here. All the mailing costs for the two voter's guide and all the printing costs for the town report have always lived in this budget line.

Selectwoman McHugh: You want to pay for it somewhere, I'm just curious as to why it's under there.

John Harrington: I can't answer that.

Selectwoman McHugh: Okay.

John Harrington: Steve, do you know why it was put in your budget?

Steve Jamele: Well, it's just a very quick story. The person that I replaced, she was basically a printer. She didn't know IT at all. She used to print them out on the printers and it was placed in her budget and when I moved in it was under my budget.

Selectwoman McHugh: Yeah.

Selectman Dill: It's gone down a little this year.

Chairman McGarry: Any further questions? Hearing none, all those in favor of the motion for seventy-two thousand nine sixty-three signify by saying aye.

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

John Harrington: Thank you, Steve.

Steve Jamele: Okay. Take care.

Chairman McGarry: MBC, page nine.

Select Dill: Just had it. There's a lot of backup.

Motion: I'll make a motion the amount of twelve hundred and seventy-nine dollars (\$1,279.00).

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Selectman Dill: Which is an increase of thirty-nine point three eight.

Selectman Huebner: And that covers just minor expenses of the MBC doing its stuff?

Selectman Dill: I think it's a transcriptionist.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah. Part-time employee. Discussion?

Selectman Huebner: Well, another item came up from MBC about the, um, someone to run the audio visual for these kind of meetings and John and I discussed that and we don't have any money in the budget to actually hire somebody for those meetings. We talked about possibly volunteer, uh, young people that know computers that might need volunteer work for high school things or other organizations but that's kind of undependable. John, I don't think you were in favor of that because it was not dependable?

John Harrington: Right.

Selectman Huebner: So, the only other option then is to train someone within the group, the MBC, to actually run it and they don't like that because they don't want that person to be distracted.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Huebner: But I think the solution is that, um, somebody, myself or one of the, one of the people on the MBC can turn on the machine before the meeting. Get a train with a camera on the MBC group and at least have the public be able to see and hear the MBC without having to do any inter-meeting, uh, work, you know, that would be distracting.

Selectman Dill: That's how the other boards are doing it, I think.

John Harrington: Unless it's simultaneously held on the Zoom platform then people would need to be recognized so there would be some monitoring over here.

Selectman Huebner: Yeah, and that's the rub, that is somebody wants to be recognized on Zoom, is like raising their hand to talk or something, somebody would have to be watching for that.

John Harrington: Correct.

Selectman Huebner: So, it remains an open item. So, we have the transcriptionist cost. I don't know if we would entertain, part-time person to go to meetings to run the audio visual. I kind of have my doubts but that's why I bring it up because it's the same subject.

Selectman Dill: I mean, there's other boards that are, that are running that with somebody from the board doing it. And commissions.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah. For the planning board we have somebody from Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission who runs, uh, runs that.

Selectman Huebner: And are they active members of the boards and voting or they have no voting...

Chairman McGarry: No. None of them. None of the board members are involved.

Selectman Huebner: So, that's not distracting then because they're not voting, right?

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Dill: The heritage commission has somebody from the board running it but it's the heritage commission which isn't the busiest commission in town.

John Harrington: Zoning board has a member that sets it up.

Selectman Huebner: And then lets it run by itself or they...?

John Harrington: I don't what they do. Whether they monitor it or not.

Selectman Huebner: Okay. Anyway, MBC asked for some help with that and I was unable to give them any help except to train one of us. John was certainly volunteering to train us on how to do it.

Chairman McGarry: So, do we want to consider this further and uh...

Selectman Huebner: Unless the board would have an appetite for actually hiring somebody, I guess the answer is no. We have no motion to add any money to that. I see no one with the appetite. So, we have a motion for twelve hundred dollars.

Selectman Dill: Twelve seventy-nine.

Chairman McGarry: Twelve seventy-nine. Right. Any further discussion? Hearing now, all those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

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

Chairman McGarry: Legal. Page thirteen.

Motion: Selectman Dill makes a motion in the amount of forty-four thousand (\$44,000.00).

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Selectman Huebner: How of an increase is this?

Selectman Dill: Point nine eight.

Selectman Huebner: So, the same as last year's?

Selectman Dill: Pretty much. We had forty-three thousand five hundred seventy-two in last.

Selectman Huebner: And John, how, how far are we along in using this budget this year at about, uh, you know, the progress?

Selectman Dill: Thirty-two.

Selectman Huebner: Thirty-two percent?

Selectman Dill: No. Thirty-two thousand.

John Harrington: As of the beginning of September it was thirty-two thousand two thirty-eight.

Selectman Huebner: And we're on calendar year so that's...

John Harrington: Correct.

Selectman Huebner: ...means we're going to be within budget.

John Harrington: I can't answer that. We still have some months to go.

Selectman Huebner: Should be. Looks like it. To me anyway.

Selectman Dill: Depends what happens.

Chairman McGarry: Unless somebody sues the town.

Selectman Huebner: Yeah. So, is this an area where we can cut back some?

Selectman Dill: Nope.

Chairman McGarry: No.

John Harrington: I wouldn't recommend it. You just don't know what's going to happen as far as liability or civil action against the town.

Selectman Huebner: But we have routinely underrun this budget in normal years?

Selectman Dill: I think we've come pretty close the whole time I've been on the MBC.

John Harrington: Twenty twenty-one we spent thirty-five seven thirty-four and year to date, this is the beginning of September, thirty-two two thirty-eight and so, it's in the vicinity.

Selectman Huebner: I'm just looking for places where we can cut back a little bit so we don't have a failure again.

Chairman McGarry: Any further discussion? All right, I'll call the for the vote. All those in favor of the motion for forty-four thousand for legal budget signify by saying aye.

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

Selectman Huebner: So, once these components are added up, right, that we've both gone through, we'll get a chance as a board to then look it over as like a whole number?

Selectman Dill: Yes.

Selectman Huebner: And then...

John Harrington: Yes. You'll approve the budget and once that's done then it moves to the MBC.

Selectman Huebner: Right, so we'll have a chance to look at this and say, oh, this is too much to go to the voters with and we, uh...

John Harrington: You vote department by department and then the board will look at the final budget including all of your corrections, either increases or decreases, and then make any last-minute adjustments.

Selectman Huebner: And does that happen, John?

Selectman Dill: December.

John Harrington: The last budget presentation is on your meeting at October eleventh.

Selectman Huebner: Right. Because then it goes to the MBC and then...

John Harrington: No. Then it gets approved from here and...

Selectman Huebner: Approved, yeah, and then it goes to the MBC and then we have no more say in it?

John Harrington: Correct.

Selectman Dill: You could also look at it and say it's woefully inadequate and add money in October.

Chairman McGarry: All right. The vice chair has pointed out that we have people from the fair association that are here, uh, and really not on the agenda as such but, uh, Don, did you want to, um...?

(Inaudible talking from the audience)

Vice Chairman Pitman: You want to wait?

(Inaudible talking from the audience)

Selectman Dill: It might take a while.

(Inaudible talking from the audience)

Selectwoman McHugh: I say let him go now.

Selectman Dill: Yeah. You've got some big important stuff coming up.

Don Wyman: Don Wyman, Deerfield fair. Uh, we've received a memorandum of understanding signed by Chairman McGarry. Um, we received it and I was able to bring it back to my directors and looking at this I'm unable to ask my directors to sign this in good faith because it says, uh, first aid coverage to be determined. Fire coverage inspection services to be determined. Donation to Deerfield fire and rescue for data supplies, five hundred dollars. So, I have an hourly rate of the firefighters. Firefighter one, firefighter two, EMT, EMTA, and medic. I have all those hours. Are those hourly rates but I don't have any hours and as far as I know chief Fisher was still looking, as of Friday, for fire staff. So, how do I, in good faith, have my directors sign this, um, memorandum of understanding which is just a processor to a contract. The memorandum of understanding isn't a contract. So, I need to do the memorandum of understanding which gives me really nothing to have them sign then we have to do a contract. Um, and the chief is still, at this point in time, looking for or was, last I knew, looking for fire staff. So, I know he's reached out to the superintendent of nursing. We have a firefighter that's a firefighter EMT and he asked her that, or basically alluded to, that in fact he may have to pull them back from the EMT portion to fill a firefighter spot. So, I'm un, I'm unclear on how I'm supposed to sign a contract or, or an amount with a memorandum of understanding that has no, no...

Chairman McGarry: No dollar value to it.

Don Wyman: Right. Correct.

Selectman Dill: I thought that it had hours in it.

Don Wyman: Um, but you signed it, you know, I guess. I understand that and I understand we're probably all getting tired of hearing this meeting after meeting but I just need clarification before I can have the board of directors' sign this as a contract.

Selectman Dill: I thought that was a contract. I apologize.

Don Wyman: A memorandum of understanding...

Selectman Dill: No, no, I thought it had hours. I didn't realize it didn't.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah. Cindy.

Selectwoman McHugh: I just wanna state that when we used to do the contracts it... we would do like... I don't know... something like twelve thousand, up to twelve thousand. I think that's something Matt could have...

Selectman Dill: Or like Don said, if it's got... if it's got rates... but then it needs hours. You're working X number of hours for this rate. I think is kind of what he was also looking for which is what I thought it had.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectwoman McHugh: No.

Selectman Dill: Which is great cause it's Monday and you guys need this really quick.

Don Wyman: Yeah. Fair starts Thursday.

Selectwoman McHugh: We don't have another board meeting until Friday.

Don Wyman: (Inaudible, someone else talking) ...board meeting until Friday at one o'clock.

Selectman Dill: And we don't have one till Monday unless we do something special.

Don Wyman: So, this is it. It's kind of going and I know we got off... we were ... Matt and I were trying to juggle the schedule. We did it but now this is a fifth meeting I've been in on. So, that's, you know, we could have come to this conclusion...

Selectman Dill: Yeah.

Don Wyman: Even though it was late we still could have come to it before now.

Selectman Dill: We can have... how... what do we need for posting on just an emergency meeting? If we can have Matt get us a contract, we can sign it by when?

John Harrington: Twenty-four hours' notice for a meeting here.

Selectman Dill: Okay. So, I think that's pretty much our only option.

Chairman McGarry: Yep.

Selectman Dill: Right?

Chairman McGarry: Yeah, I think...

Selectman Dill: Yeah, I think that's the only thing we can do is we have to give them a contract. We can't just do this.

Selectman Huebner: Yeah, we don't want to work anymore on the MOU.

Selectman Dill: No.

Selectman Huebner: We've had enough discussion now let's work on getting a contract signed before the fair starts.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Dill: So, I can meet tomorrow.

Don Wyman: But the problem is, I have to try to pull my directors in. I have nine directors I have to try pull in to do the same thing, an emergency meeting. That's going to be tight.

Selectman Dill: Yeah.

Don Wyman: You know, we're all busy. We're all trying to get the fair going. They're all trying to, you know.

Selectman Dill: Yeah.

Don Wyman: I took the week off. One of my... two of my directors took the week off.

Selectman Dill: Yeah.

Don Wyman: Um, so, but the other ones still work.

Selectman Dill: Yeah.

Don Wyman: You know, that's awfully hard to do and this is exactly the spot we were in last year.

Selectman Dill: I think that's the best we can do is we can sign it as long as Matt can get us one tomorrow. We can sign it tomorrow and get it to them.

Chairman McGarry: Mhm.

Selectman Dill: We'll all be at the fair too.

John Harrington: I can't put a meeting for tomorrow. It has to be twenty-four hours before the meeting.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Dill: So, Wednesday.

John Harrington: Wednesday would be the earliest.

Selectwoman McHugh: The night before.

Selectman Dill: The morning before. Okay, so...

Don Wyman: As so long as the town is clear we're not gonna sign a contract before the fair opens. We're gonna be able to, you know...

Chairman McGarry: Because you don't have the time for your board of directors?

Don Wyman: Our meeting is one o'clock, Friday afternoon. The fair opens Thursday morning.

Selectman Huebner: Is there any question between the understanding that we have about the rates? There is questions.

Don Wyman: There is questions.

Selectman Huebner: Okay.

Don Wyman: I have a fire chief that's putting in for basically twenty-four hour a day coverage, until twenty-two hundred in the evening. I also know that that fire chief has rented a space for a camper trailer across in the camper park. If he's gonna be in the camper with his wife and his child. He's not at the fire house with the rest of his firemen. So, I don't want to pay him for overnight overage if he's not in that firehouse.

Selectman Huebner: Okay, but we have a general understanding of what we're paying for, how many hours, right? You have some question on a few of the items... (inaudible, interrupted).

Don Wyman: All I have is hourly rate. I have no hours.

Selectman Huebner: Yeah. I know but once we put the hours in there, I think we have a general understanding that we've reached over several weeks here, uh, to do this so, the fact that we have an inability, apparently, to have a contract signed before the opening day of the fair. Does that allow the town to simply in good faith except the fact that the contract will be at your board meeting on Friday, I think you said?

Don Wyman: Yeah, as long as that's the understanding.

Selectman Dill: I mean, we can probably do it Wednesday morning, right?

Chairman McGarry: I think that's what we're going to have to do, yeah.

Selectman Dill: Is what we can post and do early Wednesday morning. Run it down to them.

Selectman Huebner: But they can't meet until, I think you said Friday...

Selectwoman McHugh: Friday.

Don Wyman: Friday is our meeting and then if we have... if I have directors that have questions or concerns, just as your board does. If I have questions or concerns, we have no... there's no move, you know, there's no movement. We're held solid to this. Not knowing what it's going to be, we're held solid to this. That's all. That's my concern as the fair president.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy.

Selectwoman McHugh: Yeah, I think there should have been some type of figure that went with that MOU so we would have known what to...

Selectman Dill: I think there should have been a contract in there.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah, is it not to exceed or whatever...

Selectwoman McHugh: Right.

Chairman McGarry: ...coverage.

Don Wyman: Correct.

Chairman McGarry: I think that's reasonable on the fairs' behalf.

Selectman Huebner: I think the fair has demonstrated in the past that they've always paid their bill.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy.

Selectwoman McHugh: I think...

Selectman Huebner: I don't why we would doubt that you would honor what we've already discussed.

Selectwoman McHugh: And I'm pretty sure the chief has an idea what, what he's going to be paying he just hasn't given it to the fair yet. He, so, he could probably give us that paper if was here.

Selectman Huebner: Well, within the next twenty-four hours we're going to make some contract which you're going to have all the hours on and an estimated not to exceed, uh, figure, right?

Selectwoman McHugh: IF that's the way he's gonna do it.

Selectman Huebner: Matt needs to know that we have to have that done.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Dill: So, should we make a motion that we're going to have a meeting Wednesday to sign a contract that we need the fire chief to deliver to us by that meeting.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah, I think that's in order.

Selectman Dill: Okay, what are you guys thinking, nine or ten or noon or does it matter? I gotta bring sheep to the fair Wednesday.

Selectwoman McHugh: You can bring the sheep to the meeting.

Chairman McGarry: I would prefer ten since I'm going to be up in Bath Tuesday night so...

Selectman Dill: Okay.

John Harrington: So, ten o'clock Wednesday...?

Motion: Selectman Dill makes a motion that they have an emergency meeting Wednesday at ten here and the chief to provide us with the contract to sign that we'll then forward to the fair for them to sign at their board of directors meeting.

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Selectwoman McHugh: You should, I shouldn't.

Vice Chairman Pitman: I'll second it.

Chairman McGarry: All right, second by Dick instead of Cindy. Okay, any further discussion?

Selectman Dill: That's our bad this time.

Don Wyman: Excuse me?

Selectman Dill: I said, that's our bad this time on that one.

Chairman McGarry: All right, all those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

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

Don Wyman: Than you for hearing me.

Chairman McGarry: Yup. All right, review of outstanding minutes.

Motion: Selectwoman McHugh

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

John Harrington: You have two sets of minutes. You have the public hearing, I mean, excuse me, I mean the minutes of the nineteenth and the minutes of the twenty-third. You had that short meeting on the twenty-third.

Chairman McGarry: Oh Yeah. Okay.

Selectman Dill: Um, you going to change your motion to include the twenty-third?

Selectwoman McHugh: Oh, yes.

Selectman Dill: I'll change my second to include the twenty-third.

Chairman McGarry: Movement seconded to approve the minutes of both the nineteenth and the thirty-third. Any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

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

John Harrington: Could I ask you to take an item out of order, number five since we have Ray Ellis here? Inserting those two items.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

John Harrington: Under unfinished business.

Chairman McGarry: Ray. Let's do the winter contracts first for gas and diesel stipend. We talked about that... what would appear to be a reasonable value for diesel stipend and also gas stipend.

Ray Ellis: Well, not knowing what the fuel market is really gonna do, uh, gas has been coming down and now it's starting to slowly come back up. Um, so, it's kinda hard to say, um, I think that what you suggested before was reasonable. Ten, seven. Ten, six. Around there.

Chairman McGarry: Ten dollars for Diesel.

Ray Ellis: Diesel, yeah.

Chairman McGarry: And uh...

Selectman Dill: And six for gas. Did you check with any of the contractors to see if that would make a difference?

Ray Ellis: Well, they're looking for something...

Selectman Dill: I know they're not going to play their hand on...

Ray Ellis: Yeah, I didn't give them any information as far as what I knew, um, so... As far as I know, uh, everybody was coming back as long as we're going to offer a stipend and I says, well, as soon as I find out what the stipend will be we'll try to start writing up the contracts and getting these people signed up.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman makes a motion we go with ten on diesel and six on gas powered trucks.

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

Chairman McGarry: Cindy.

Selectwoman McHugh: What are paying? We're paying ninety-nine now for like the big trucks?

Ray Ellis: Correct.

Selectwoman McHugh: So, that's going to be a hundred and...

Selectman Dill: Nine.

Selectwoman McHugh: Nine.

Chairman McGarry: Hundred and nine. Right.

Ray Ellis: Correct.

Selectwoman McHugh: Okay.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

Selectman Dill: The problem is we have so many... there are so many parts of the formula it's hard to know just what we pay on any given thing...

Selectwoman McHugh: Right.

Selectman Dill: ...but it's an extra ten and six.

Selectman Huebner: I think I asked this question last meeting which was, uh, how does it compare to other towns that are offering stipends to compete with the state?

Selectman Dill: I texted Chris Brown over in Northwood today to ask him that. I didn't get a response unfortunately. And I know you checked with Lee but they don't do contractors so that didn't help us much.

Ray Ellis: Lee and Barrington pretty much take care of their own so...

Selectman Huebner: Ray, how did you come up with ten six?

Ray Ellis: I just think that that's a fair guess to what's the fuel is gonna be. I mean, nobody knows for sure. I think it's, uh, a little too much probably to go all the way up to twelve, you know, like, I guess the state's offering twelve so...

Selectman Huebner: So, just trying to reconcile that. How much gas do you think one of those trucks uses in an hour?

Selectman Dill: Sort of... it's gallons per hour.

Selectman Huebner: Right.

Selectman Dill: So, you're probably, you know, in the diesel trucks you're running six to eight gallons an hour and gas trucks are probably running a little bit more but gas is cheaper.

Selectman Huebner: Right. So, let's say six to eight. So, let's say seven gallons of fuel is burned in an hour and then the delta in price from last year over this year for diesel is roughly?

Selectman Dill: Dollar fifty.

Ray Ellis: And the other part that's hard to tell is the size of the storm that you're fighting.

Selectman Huebner: Yeah.

Ray Ellis: You know, it could be an all-nighter...

Selectman Huebner: Right. This is per hour.

Ray Ellis: ...it would be could be five or six hours and that's it so...

Selectman Huebner: Yeah.

Ray Ellis: That's why we're trying to come up with a reasonable average that we can all agree on and try to move forward.

Selectman Huebner: So, seven gallons times a buck and a half premium is... (inaudible, interrupted).

Selectman Dill: Like, 11 something. Yeah, that's what I...

Selectman Huebner: That's where the logic comes from.

Ray Ellis: Right.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

Selectman Huebner: I just wanted to see if it was logical what we were doing at ten since it seems to be kind of grabbing at...

Ray Ellis: Well, we basically are. I mean, nobody has any concrete evidence that the fuel gauge prices are going to stay where they are or if they're gonna go up or...

Chairman McGarry: Okay, any further discussion on the motion? Hearing none, all those in favor of the motion of providing a gas diesel, a diesel and gas stipend of ten dollars per hour and six dollars an hour, respectively, signify by saying aye.

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

Chairman McGarry: All right. Public Works Director proposal.

Selectman Huebner: This is an item of old business that was from our last meeting where the proposal was proposed and we tabled it because we wanted to get more information, uh, during the week and come back to open it up again.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah. I know, uh, I'm basically in favor of it but I think, I think we need we need to have further... additional information with regard to number of, uh, number of departments or budgets would... which would be covered by this and... because I know it would be more than simply the, uh, the road agent and all of the highway department and also, uh, also the transfer station. So, I think we should end up having that information along with the budgets associated with that to, uh, and we did get a, uh, organizational chart showing the basic... the personnel which would... personnel consisting solely of, uh, of the highway department and also the transfer station. I guess there would be some question as to whether or not some of the... if we included, say, the cemeteries included in this. Would town personnel be able to take and do the mowing in the cemeteries and basically save money on that particular item? Of course, we'd be looking at mowing equipment to be able to do that but nonetheless there would be a potential savings there as well.

Selectman Dill: Well, can we have Ray speak to that? Ray and I have talked about this.

Chairman McGarry: Okay. Yeah. Go Ahead.

Ray Ellis: So, if we are fully staffed, which right now we are not...

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Ray Ellis: ...if we are fully staffed, I believe that we can do it. Um, there's a lot of changes that could be made. I believe in, in the transfer station and the highway departments. This is myself talking, that I think that we can incorporate and save some money in the long run, um, but without the boards full support I don't even want to move forward with it. I just assume pull my name.

Chairman McGarry: Mhm.

Ray Ellis: That's exactly how I feel about it because I'm here to try to help the town of Deerfield with my knowledge and my experience and without the boards support there's no sense of me even trying.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy.

Selectwoman McHugh: I'm just trying, um, I'm up in the air about this...

Ray Ellis: I understand.

Selectwoman McHugh: ...but the board make a decision without any research or without any cost savings in front of us. That's where I'm coming from. If you can't show me, look this is gonna... you know if we hire four guys for here and four guys for there and this is gonna save us, you know, so much money...

Ray Ellis: You're saving forty thousand dollars with me not being the facility supervisor because that salary is gone.

Selectwoman McHugh: Right. That's what we need to see. I mean, we can't make a decision on that. Is the way I feel.

Chairman McGarry: Alden.

Selectman Dill: so, the, um, if we pull, like what Ray just said, if we pull facilities in there as well, we're not paying the facilities budget but then the cost savings I see... so, that makes it a revenue, uh, tax plus but then when the... when I really started thinking about this was when cemeteries came in and I think the cemetery's mowing budget is thirty thousand for contract on that and we've been over when we get the bids on that and then from just mowing in town, you know we're contracting to pay for somebody to mow the George B. White, I mean, uh, the Gazebo field which is right there and then we're paying to mow here.

Ray Ellis: Right.

Selectman Dill: Where we can easily have town employees do that and those contracts are, what? About fifteen or so for those two mows.

Ray Ellis: Between twelve and fourteen.

Selectman Dill: And then we have the same... and then we're... the only thing we can't mow in town I know, is the dump hill. That requires specialized stuff but there's no reason why we can't when we do... and we have to redo job

descriptions too after we do this but there's no reason, I see that the transfer station can't mow as well to save some further contract amounts.

Chairman McGarry: Okay. Will.

Selectman Huebner: I see this as a fairly significant change to the structure of the town. I'm on the fence myself about it. I agree with Cindy that we should do some more research and do a presentation not only to ourselves, to convince me to get off the fence and support it as Fred does, but, um, also for the people of the town I think to hear a little more about it to be able to understand what it is and why it is we're favor of it. How it's going to save the town money. How it's going to make the town run more efficiently. Um, so, I still have questions about it and I think that others do to and I just don't know why we have to rush judgement and I think we could, um, propose that in two weeks, I know Alden won't be here next week, so, in two weeks' time I think we could prepare all of the data for the cost saving and how the organization would look and what the new job descriptions would be and have more information to make a more informed decision and also allow the public to hear that presentation so that they can also understand it better and not end up with misconceptions about why we're doing something.

Chairman McGarry: IS that something Ray, you could put together with, uh, with John?

Ray Ellis: I can work on that, um, the other thing to take into consideration is the time of year. I don't think that people understand, as far as the highway department, this is the busiest time of year. We're getting equipment ready. We got hot top coming up on South Road.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Ray Ellis: I have no salt there at all and I'm looking to sign contractors so, you know, to hurry this up is something that I think really needs to happen because we're going to be in winter before you know it. If you're gonna have a new guy in here as a road agent he's starting with no knowledge.

Selectman Huebner: Well, to take the burden off of Ray to prepare such a presentation when he's so busy, I volunteer to, as a person on the fence, I'll volunteer to put together the presentation and present it to the board and the town during the meeting on the... next two weeks from this.

Chairman McGarry: You want to work with John to uh...

Selectman Huebner: I'll work with John. We'll put together a presentation that's factual and present it. And as I said for myself, I'm on the fence. I'll either fall on one side or the other.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy.

Selectwoman McHugh: That's a good idea. I just... I think we're going to add on more employees. We're going to add on more equipment to do the jobs and we're taking on the cemeteries. That's a commission not necessarily an employee job. So, I don't know. But I'd like to see what the...

Selectman Huebner: So, as volunteer I would ask you all to give me your comments about... like what about the mowers for instance. We have to buy some mowers or rent some mowers or however that happens.

Selectman Dill: We have some.

Selectman Huebner: Okay. So, if you'll feed me concerns and praises or accolades, I can try to summarize those in one of the slides for the presentation.

Selectman Dill: I have run this by the cemetery commission um, and overall, they're in support. Um, and a main reason is we're way over budget on those contract lines because we haven't passed a budget and those contracts keep going up and up and up. So, I see this as a way to control our costs because when we put this out to bid and we have one or two bidders we really don't have control over those costs.

Chairman McGarry: Right. Pete, did you want to add something? Come to the mic.

Pete Schibbelhute: Pete Schibbelhute, 222 Raymond Road. One of the things I've noticed about what's going on is that, you know, right now the highway department has two employees. Um, quite a bit of work to be done in town and um, I suggest that as you guys go through all these numbers that you might consider, obviously, hiring some more guys for the highway department but you're probably going to have to increase their pay rate because on the outside

world the pay rate for people who are actually in constructions, cause that's what they're in, are... the low end of the scale was thirty dollars an hour. It would be very lucky to get people to come and work for the amount of money they might start out at, at a town position and obviously there's a lot of things that need to be done in town and the two guys that do the work have a lot to do and, let's face it, we have a pretty big town with a lot of roads that need to be taken care of. Obviously, nobody wants to spend more money but on the other hand if we don't have anybody working, we're gonna be doing it. You know it... I... everybody understands about spending more money because everything's going up but in order to keep some people on the payroll, we're going to need to probably spend a little more money in payroll. Um, I know nobody wants to hear that. I'm going though it in my business as well as everybody else. Um, you know, combining the budgets might help but I honestly wouldn't think about trying... you're probably not going to save money. If anything, you're going to be able to potentially pay some guys some more and maybe get some equipment because everything has gone up. Um, the big thing I would say is that when you go through all this process of deciding what you're gonna do is that you probably definitely want to think about what you're going to pay the guys to the work because it's... it's hard to get guys that know what they're doing to come and work for certain amounts of money. Um, because you can go to Amazon and get thirty dollars an hour to drive a van around and put package down and that's a pretty simple job compared to what has to be done in town maintenance. It's certainly... the rates are not going down.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Pete Schibbelhute: I mean, I wouldn't go into the process of what you're doing as thinking you're going to be able to cut the budget. If anything, because we've been on default budget, you're consolidating, and potentially be able to pay the guys that you get or the existing people you have a little bit more money because, let's face it, when you're up at two o'clock, three, four, five o'clock in the morning plowing snow, that's not regular work and, you know, the guys that are doing it and the people that we already have as subcontractors pretty well know everything's that's going on and, you know, I did hear about what you're doing for the stipend. That... if... as long as prices of fuel don't go above six, that should work. If it goes above six, things are gonna be different. But that's just based on my own fuel costs. Um, the one that... like I said, the big thing that you need focus in when you do this is, if you're going to consolidate, is how many more guys you can get on the highway department and what you're going to be able to pay. Um, it's just... it's gonna be tough to get people that know what's going on.

Selectman Dill: But either way we'd have to if we consolidate or we don't consolidate we're probably looking at having to raise wages anyway...

Pete Schibbelhute: Right.

Selectman Dill: ...is the other point though.

Pete Schibbelhute: Yeah, that's the big thing right now. To get people to come and stay, it's gonna cost more and nobody wants to hear that but that's where we're at in today's world. That's all I have to say.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

Selectwoman McHugh: Thanks.

Chairman McGarry: Thank you, Pete. All right, so Will will work with, uh, with John to come up with, uh, what this would end up... consolidation would end up consisting of.

Selectman Huebner: And I'll try to give it a fair shake and then we can all consider it and we'll decide what to do.

Chairman McGarry: Okay. Dick.

Vice Chairman Pitman: With that being said, Ray, are you being compensated for what you're doing right now, enough?

Ray Elli: Uh, right now I've got Fred's money so...

Vice Chairman Pitman: Okay, so you...

Ray Ellis: ...but my facility supervisor pay is no longer... (inaudible, sounds like mic is off) ...so, I'm just getting the one pay for everything.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Is that enough or now before we go through this?

Ray Ellis: For now, yep. And like I said, I'm looking to get rich. I just want to try to help the town.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Right.

Ray Ellis: Um, I've been in construction for over forty-seven years so...

Vice Chairman Pitman: Thank you.

Ray Ellis: Yep. You're welcome. Thank you.

Selectman Dill: Hold on. Hold on, Ray.

Ray Ellis: Yeah.

Selectman Dill: Just two things. They're out mowing roadsides which is awesome. They are doing a good job.

Ray Ellis: They're out again today.

Selectman Dill: Yeah, they were out on Griffin. They were doing a good job. Second one though, are we still on for paving?

Ray Ellis: Last I've heard... I haven't... they haven't called me back and gave us a hundred percent but they said, right after the fair they're gonna go. Everything's been marked South Road. I've marked everything, um, as far as Haynes Road and Middle Road. So, everything is marked and ready to go. Um, we're going with thirteen-foot lanes on each side of South Road so, twenty-six feet across. Um, we're going to try to keep it nice and straight so it looks good. Um, the only other thing after that would be gravel which we don't have...

Selectman Dill: For shoulders.

Ray Ellis: Right, for the shoulders because if you don't back up that new hot top, we'll end up losing it.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah.

Selectman Dill: Are you gonna gravel? Are you planning on doing the shoulders? Are you planning on hiring them back in to do the shoulders?

Ray Ellis: We can probably do the shoulders. I had a couple of plans. We have an old spreader down there. If we take the spreader off the bottom so it's just the belt...

Selectman Dill: Yeah.

Ray Ellis: ...we put gravel out on the edge of the shoulder with that. The only thing is we'd have to bring a couple trucks of gravel up so the backhoe could load the spreader cause the spreader doesn't hold that much. It's a one-ton spreader.

Selectman Dill: Yeah.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah.

Ray Ellis: but it does do a good job. I've done that before. Um, we put a tube on the end and you can lay it right out nice and then just roll it.

Selectman Dill: Cause that's quite a savings over hiring Pike to do it.

Ray Ellis: Yeah.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy, did you have a question?

Selectwoman McHugh: No.

Chairman McGarry: No, okay.

Selectman Dill: Good job.

Ray Ellis: And then the bridge over on Thurston Pond Road, I went and looked at that this morning. They did a nice job. It's open to the public now so that bridge has been corrected and it was better than it was before so...

Vice Chairman Pitman: Thank you, Ray.

Ray Ellis: Yep.

Selectman Dill: Thanks, Ray.

Chairman McGarry: Mrs. Shigo. Is this pertaining to the discussion on the...?

Kathy Shigo: Oh, absolutely. Yeah, I was just really concerned because I know... I heard about, last week, about what they were talking about. This new position of the public works management and I myself was wondering, to ask you, where are we at with getting a road agent and getting somebody in there and getting a highway agent? I mean, I know you had it posted and I know there was another person and I knew Ray's taken over interim type thing as far as temporary, but isn't there a permanent position that we're posting about a road agent? I'll tell you why I feel so strong about this because we have so many roads and we have so much... and we do have some mowing going on the side of the roads, but we got a lot that aren't and we have a lot of stuff that you can't even see up in our end on this end, uh, because it's not being mowed. It hasn't been done for a long time. My point is, is that we have hundreds and, you know, thousands of roads here... just see... and at night time when people are trying to get into work and stuff like that and it's blizzarding in the snow, you need a road agent. You need someone to call. You need someone to know that you're going to get...

Chairman McGarry: That's what the public works person... (inaudible, interrupted)

Kathy Shigo: No, that's this... (inaudible, someone else talking)

Chairman McGarry: ...would end up being.

Kathy Shigo: ...you're trying to get. So, you can have other people hired...

Chairman McGarry: And we're going to be discussing that in...

Kathy Shigo: I understand that.

Chairman McGarry: ...two meetings.

Kathy Shigo: My question is, whatever happened to posting it... the road agent and the highway, I mean, did you not get...

Chairman McGarry: We have posted it.

Kathy Shigo: I know that. Yes.

Chairman McGarry: And we got some applicants and we were holding off on that until we further discuss whether we're going to have a public works director.

Kathy Shigo: But that's my point. I think other than a town manager, the most important thing we need in Deerfield, you know, because of our geographical area, we need a...

Chairman McGarry: Okay, thank you.

Kathy Shigo: ...road agent. That's what I mean.

Chairman McGarry: Thank you very much.

Kathy Shigo: Because you guys are just going right into public works manager and I think that's not gonna fly with this town..

Chairman McGarry: Thank you.

Kathy Shige: You're welcome.

Chairman McGarry: Okay, uh, account payable manifest. We have an accounts payable in the amount of one hundred and fourteen thousand four hundred forty-seven dollars and thirty-three cents (\$114,447.33).

Motion: Selectman Dill

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Vice Chairman Pitman: John, why are we paying for the septic at the school?

John Harrington: That is coming out of their impact fees which the board agreed to pay for.

Vice Chairman Pitman: So, it has to be paid through here.

John Harrington: Correct but it has to be paid out of here.

Selectman Dill: Yeah, we had the hearing on that a couple weeks ago, didn't we?

Chairman McGarry: Yeah. All right, all those in favor of the motion, do we have a motion?

John Harrington: Yes, we do and second.

Chairman McGarry: Okay. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

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

Chairman McGarry: All right, we have a notice of intent to cut timber.

Selectman Huebner: Did we do, uh, the manifest? The payroll manifests and the accounts payable?

Chairman McGarry: It's in here with the vote requirement.

Selectman Dill: I had the same question.

Selectman Dill: We usually do those three together, don't we?

Chairman McGarry: All right, I'll put that down. All right, I have payroll manifest for week ending in nine twenty-three and a gross payroll for, uh, this is, uh, three thousand nine hundred and fifty-four dollars and a net payroll of two thousand nine hundred thirty-nine dollars and ninety-four cents and this is for Paul Colby.

Motion: Selectman Dill

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Selectman Dill: We're not going to him ever again.

Chairman McGarry: Maybe he'll come back to visit us when he's rich and famous.

Selectman Dill: I didn't realize he was leaving that day. I thought we had it for like another few... another week at least, not, I'm out of here in an hour.

Chairman McGarry: All right, we have a notice of intent to cut wood or timber for Vicki Martin on Raymond Road and it's a parcel right next to the... right next to the town owned property, Lindsay Woods. All right, and we don't need a vote. We have another intent to cut for William Simoneau and that's for property off of Mount Delight Road. Personnel action request for Kevin Lemieux, which, who will be our new building inspector. That'd be twenty-five hours a week at a rate of thirty-five dollars an hour. A motion to, uh, to...

Motion: Selectman Dill

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Selectman Dill: John, you said he was going to start October forth?

John Harrington: Third.

Selectman Dill: Third.

John Harrington: He's transitioning from his other job.

Selectman Dill: Oh, Okay.

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

Selectman Dill: You'll like him.

Selectman Huebner: Yeah?

Selectman Dill: He was a, you know.... you'll like him.

Chairman McGarry: All right, have another personnel action request for Matthew Lane. After school staff aide. Twenty hours a week at twelve, oh.... Twenty hours a week at twelve dollars thirty=six cents an hour, correct?

Motion: Selectman Dill

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Chairman McGarry: All right. I think that's all the votes required here. Correspondence. We have a... it's officially a petition or no, it's not...

John Harrington: No, its just using that format, uh, the person requesting I believe is on the Zoom call if you'd like him to speak to it.

Chairman McGarry: This is a petition from, uh, it's a semi-petition, I guess...

John Harrington: A formal request.

Chairman McGarry: A formal request from Jim Spillane and other to rename Swamp Road to, uh, Pease Brook Road. Jim, do you want to address that?

Jim Spillane: Absolutely. I'm online. I was actually going to be there but my truck battery died and I can't even jump it at the moment so, uh, luck-y we had this ability. Um, the e911 system is requiring that we not have similarly named roads in various places that are near each other and if you know the situation with Swamp Road and Epsom. Uh, coming off our Mount Delight Road which runs east west. You have North South running Swamp Road for about half a mile which then at the town line turns into Mount Delight Road in Epsom running north south until it runs into Old Mountain Road and then it turns again into Swamp Road in Epsom. Um, we've had a problem for the last twenty-one years at least where we've had people coming along our Swamp Road looking for their Swamp Road and with e911 it would be tragic if we had a call sent to thee wrong address and I was told by our fire personnel that they actually did have a chimney fire on Mount Delight Road that was sent, dispatched from Deerfield but was sent but was for a chimney fire on the Mount Delight Road in Epsom. So, it is something that can happen and e911 would love us to have a uniquely named road. Pease Brook Road, from my investigation with some simple google searches is a unique name not only in New Hampshire but in the U.S. I don't see one occurring anywhere else and our little area here coming off of Mount Delight is the watershed for Pease Brook. So, Pease Brook Road made sense. Um, it would remove confusion between Swamp Road Deerfield and Swamp Road, uh, in Epsom which is only about a mile away from each other but totally disconnected and I, um, have signatures on that petition from everybody who lives on the road with the exception of two people I could not get a hold of.

Chairman McGarry: Procedurally... I'm looking at John here, procedurally I this, uh, an action the board of selectman can take following a public hearing or what?

John Harrington: I'd Have to check into hat. I'm familiar with that procedure.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

James Spillane: The last time we did it was to rename the Church Street.

Chairman McGarry: Oh, right.

James Spillane: It wasn't to far in recent history that we've done it, um, and that removed confusion for our rescue personnel because we didn't have the two different sides of...

Chairman McGarry: North South for Old Center Road.

James Spillane: Exactly, um, and we're looking to do the same thing here, um, and everybody in the, on the street is basically in agreement that we'd love to do it.

Chairman McGarry: IO guess we could probably look into that, John?

John Harrington: I will.

Chairman McGarry: Thank you Jim.

James Spillane: You're Welcome. Thank you so much.

Chairman McGarry: Okay. All right, and I did...

Selectman Dill: I guess we ought to check with Epsom to make the thing at the exact same time.

Chairman McGarry: I did receive a something from the New Hampshire Council on Development Disabilities, and this came to me directly. It is with great pleasure with the New Hampshire Council on Development Disabilities in the New Hampshire Department of Vocational Rehabilitation shares with you the insert found in the September twenty twenty-two business New Hampshire edition that highlights the recipients of the employment leadership awards and among the five listed is MA's Café in Deerfield and it says, we thank these businesses for their commitment and dedication to creating opportunities for people with disabilities to having integrated and competitive employment options. They're incredible practices are a model to be praised and emulated. And there's a write-up that was provided to me which includes a very lengthy description with regards to what Ma's Café is doing. So, they should certainly be applauded for their work.

Selectwoman McHugh: Absolutely.

Chairman McGarry: All right, I think we're all set on signatures, uh, town administrators report.

John Harrington: I have nothing to report tonight.

Chairman McGarry: Okay, and we've taken care of unfinished business. Any new business?

Selectman Dill: Now that we are mowing our roads, I am going to keep hammering on the fact that the state isn't doing theirs. We go to get this... I know we have no pull, but I just want to bring it up every week, the state has to nmow state highways.

Chairman McGarry: Is that something Ray could talk to his friends and...

Selectman Dill: I've asked Ray to do it. I've asked Freddie to do it. They've tried. They have nobody to do I, it sounds like.

Chairman McGarry: Is that right?

Someone from the audience: you need me to contact somebody?

Selectman Dill: That, actually, Jim, that would be great. I would really appreciate that.

Someone from the audience: I could go ahead and give a call tomorrow.

Selectman Dill: Thank you very much because forty-three is getting bad.

Someone for the audience: Do you have anything other than forty-three you want me to specifically mention?

Selectman Dill: Um, 107. Actually, I was thinking 107 by, um, or is it 43 by cotton road or 107 by cotton road? The corner by cotton road needs to get a tree cut before the fair. That would be awesome.

Someone from the audience: All right, I'll make a call tomorrow.

Selectman Dill: Thank you very much, Jim, I really appreciate that.

Someone from the audience: No problem. Glad to be of service.

Chairman McGarry: Okay, uh, non-public.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman makes a motion under RSA 91-A:II (C) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant.

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

Chairman McGarry: Roll Call. Will?

Selectman Huebner: Aye.

Chairman McGarry: Alden?

Selectman Dill: Aye.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy?

Selectwoman McHugh: Yes.

Chairman McGarry: Dick?

Vice Chairman Pitman: Yes.

Chairman McGarry: And McGarry, yes.

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

Chairman McGarry: No votes were taken at the non-public session.

Motion: Selectman Dill makes a motion to seal the non-public minutes.

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Chairman McGarry: Roll Call. Will?

Selectman Huebner: Aye.

Chairman McGarry: Alden?

Selectman Dill: Aye.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy?

Selectwoman McHugh: Yes.

Chairman McGarry: Dick?

Vice Chairman Pitman: Yes.

Chairman McGarry: And McGarry, yes.

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

Chairman McGarry: Citizens comments. Mr. Rhodes.

Erroll Rhodes: I was going to make a joke saying I didn't arrive by ambulance but I hope I don't leave by one but I hope you don't leave one. Um, so, I'm back on the ambulance topic. Um, I just wanted to point out some facts, uh, that is to say that we've got broken bridges, broken culverts, utility lines under threat from dead ash and we also have a town hall without its own water source. We also have a medical van that works fine even if it took two years to figure out it was a starter solenoid that was not making work and we have contractual ambulance services at a reasonable cost and mutual aid from other towns. Pre-covid the fire department was seeking a fire engine, congratulations to them that. I thought it was a terrific job but they were not seeking an ambulance. It wasn't on their radar as far as I know. As far I'm able to see. And when the covid infrastructure money arrived all of a sudden, they needed an ambulance. It just seems odd but nonetheless you all have agreed to that without public input. Without a warrant article and setting aside existing infrastructure needs in favor of a non-infrastructure ill-planned unexamined proposal by one department for something that is not a pressing need. Um, doesn't seem right and I'm here to ask that you reconsider your ambulance earmark. Um, examine actual current needs before committing funds to desirables. Rank the needs in order of urgency. Involve the public in spending of major sums. In short, to do the right thing and do it the right way. That's my request.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Thank you.

Selectwoman McHugh: Thank you.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Anybody else?

Chairman McGarry: Mrs. Cady.

Harriet Cady: I have two comments. One is, our info tech use to be here every day. Now he comes in once in a while. We're paying the same amount and I don't understand why he's not required to be in the building. I never heard you vote to say he didn't have to be in the building except for the covid time. The second thing is, I went through the policy book and I have about eight policies you guys are so far behind on that the fire department for the Deerfield fair... this policy that you only... the fair only has to pay twenty-five dollars an hour. You haven't updated it. There is nothing for the fire department. Fire department is just making up the rules as they go along and you seem to be going along with it. I would suggest it's time to go back to looking at your policies and how the town is run and making sure all the policies are up to date. The difference in contractor prices and having a town employee is the town benefits for the long-term retirements and so forth. Most highway constructions don't have the kind of benefits a town employee has so, when you look at the salaries you have to take into consideration the differences. Thank you.

Pete Schibbelhute: I just to mention to focus on, I mean, to make we're trying to keep those guys that are already working for us because they already know so much about what's going on.

Vice Chairman Pitman: I don't even think that's an issue.

Pete Schibbelhute: Yeah, well, we to prepare them to make sure they don't get disgruntled.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Right. They are well respected.

Selectwoman McHugh: Thank you Pete.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman makes a motion to adjourn

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

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

Next Meeting: October 3, 2022 at 5:30 pm

The Minutes were transcribed and respectfully submitted by Randi Long, Recording Secretary

Pending approval by the Board of Selectmen