

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
December 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, we have longevity awards for Ray Ellis and Randi Long and Ray is not here.

Selectwoman McHugh: And Randi's not here.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

John Harrington: I will take care of them.

Chairman McGarry: All right, John Dubiansky, Health Officer. Oh, um, hold off for a second. Mr. Huebner is remote in Pittsburg.

Selectman Huebner: Pittsburg, yup.

Chairman McGarry: And we have to take a vote to allow Will to be involved with the selectmen's meeting.

**Motion:** Vice Chairman Pitman

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

Chairman McGarry: Cindy?

Selectwoman McHugh: Yes.

Chairman McGarry: Dick?

Vice Chairman Pitman: Yes.

Chairman McGarry: And McGarry, yes.

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

Chairman McGarry: Okay Will.

Selectman Huebner: Okay. Thank you.

Chairman McGarry: All right, John.

John Dubiansky: Good evening.

Chairman McGarry: Evening.

John Dubiansky: It's been about, I don't know, four or five months since I was appointed the Health Officer and I just wanted to get caught up with you guys. Um, for one, I don't really know where it stood. One of the reasons is that per RSA, I'm supposed to convene a board of health once a year which is the five of you guys plus myself, um, to discuss, I don't know, there's very specific wording in the RSA that I don't currently remember. Um, but this, be that I have no issues, this could most likely count as that. I would have to double check and make sure it's posted as such but, um, I've taken and passed the, uh, certified health officer class, um, so I have... and then I've been sworn in slash sworn at up at Kelly's office so that all the bonifies are done. Um, so, the, uh, question I have, um, is, the RSA

does require that we figure out a compensation, uh, so, currently I haven't had any issues that didn't apply to both my role as health officer and my role as fire inspector. Um, so, I've just done those inspections. I've had probably a half dozen, um, foster home inspections. We have quite a few foster homes in town, both adult and, uh, child, uh, and then two school inspections, um, that all I would do anyway as fire inspector. Um, so, I just did those during my station hours, um, as fire inspector and then the, uh, one investigation that I've had is also... had very clear, uh, fire safety implications to it so that one I also did in my role as fire inspector as well. Um, the chief has indicated that he doesn't really have an issue with, um, keeping things on the fire side payroll as long as it doesn't get too excessive. I don't anticipate it being too excessive. The only things that aren't crossover items are, uh, trash slash odor complaints and septic, uh, which actually is the one thing that will... I will probably have to seek outside advice on anyways for my first couple of inspections. Um, I am very well versed in what happens to septage after it leaves peoples tanks. Um, I'm not super experienced in septic tank layouts, uh, so, uh, that would be something. Fortunately, there is, uh, fantastic resources. Uh, the, uh HHS has a health officer liaison and they also have a state managed, uh, list server, with, uh, a tremendous amount of brain trust in it that they, essentially, allowed active forum and it's moderated by somebody over at HHS that you can pose a question to and, uh, take advantage of the experience that's out across the state. There's like two hundred and sixty-five health officers that are members of that list server. My first question is, is the board fine with that cause I know the previous health officer also crossed over a bunch of departments and not sure where that, um, lied, lay, ended up? Um, so that' my first question, is that... unless we encounter either something that's going to involve an investigation with many hours that has no fire implication, are we okay with just continuing down that road of using my fire department hours.

Chairman McGarry: Dick.

Vice Chairman Pitman: No. I think that's ... (inaudible, someone starts talking).

Chairman McGarry: (inaudible, someone else talking)

Selectman Dill: How many hours are you doing, John?

John Dubiansky: So, I generally work one ten hour shift a week, um, at the fire station.

Selectman Dill: And how many health hours are you doing you figure?

John Dubiansky: Not many because any school inspection, any foster home inspection...

Selectman Dill: Or fire.

John Dubiansky: ...I'm their anyway. The two forms have a tremendous amount of crossover, um, between the two. Uh, so, I think there's maybe three things that I have to check as health officer that I wouldn't have already checked as fire inspector, um, and it's, you know, do they have hot water, do they have adequate trash disposal, and once again I forget the third things so we're not talking about a significant... it's not adding any time. I'm not spending any more time in peoples house, um, as I otherwise would be and then the school health inspection form is a bit more involved, um, but the school fire inspection is like fifteen pages so, again, it's really... when I'm already in the kitchen, um, inspecting their flame hood and fire extinguishers it's really easy for me to turn the hand wash sink on and check the temperature in the correct amount of time. We're not talking about adding a bunch of time. If we ever had, you know, um a repeat of the trash pile visible from space incident, uh, then we can be talking about some more prolonged hours but I don't really anticipate that and obviously you guys, as the board of health... defacto board of health, will already be involved because I can't, um, can't take any corrective action on people without running it by you folks first, you know, that letter, that cease-and-desist letter comes from you guys via me. Uh, so you would know if I was getting into a particularly involved investigation.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy.

Selectwoman McHugh: I mean, we can do that for now. Do we want to look into a, like, a stipend per incident thing before he buys one?

Chairman McGarry: Yeah. Long ago in a galaxy far, far away, when I was health officer you did have a stipend for the health officer and plus had mileage covered as well. So, I think we should be looking at something like that and probably have to include that in our budget.

John Dubiansky: Yeah, I believe the RSA requires some sort of compensation, um, mileage and then, um, compensation for, uh, my required training which John had already... I think that class was forty-five bucks, so I just paid it out of my credit card and submitted the receipt.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah.

John Dubiansky: So far that's been it.

Selectwoman McHugh: But how long did it take?

John Dubiansky: Uh, it was a three or four class that I just, you know, did it on my phone cause in a move very unlike the state the class was mobile compatible so I was able to do it in my spare time.

Selectman Dill: I think... oh, sorry.

Chairman McGarry: Dick.

Vice Chairman Pitman: So, is there nothing in the budget now?

Chairman McGarry: I don't think there is.

John Harrington: (Inaudible)

Vice Chairman Pitman: Okay, so we'll have to...

John Dubiansky: Yeah, cause your previous health officer was also Co-EMD and welfare director so I'm sure the expenses probably got distributed.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah. Alden.

Selectman Dill: Yeah, I was just gonna say that I think we need more of a long-term solution than just... this is working great for now and thank you for making it work for now but I rather have some sort of permanent solutions other than just, we're winging it.

Chairman McGarry: Yep.

Selectman Dill: And the other question I had on, uh, who'd our deputy?

John Dubiansky: I don't have one yet.

Selectman Dill: We don't have one yet. On the septic inspection stuff wouldn't it make sense to... have we approached our building inspector? Can he do both of those? Deputy and covering the septic system checks along with the building inspector checks?

John Harrington: I have asked him and he hasn't given me a...

Selectman Dill: (inaudible, someone talking)

John Harrington: (inaudible, someone talking)

Chairman McGarry: He, uh, I believe the building inspector would be doing the, uh, observation of the test pits at the time their dug... (inaudible, someone starts talking).

Selectman Dill: Yeah, I just didn't know if there was overlap and we could make him deputy and...

Chairman McGarry: Yeah.

Selectman Dill: ...cover it that way.

Chairman McGarry: That does make sense.

Selectman Dill: Is he's...

John Dubiansky: Generally, the install inspection, um, it is fairly straight forward, I mean, you just make sure it's an approved tank, um, and that the, uh, the leaching system has the appropriate, uh, bed underneath it, the problem is that, uh, I've seen a few, you know, cause I do pre-inspections for propane and stuff like that so I've been on sight

when a few of these were being dug but I really don't know what the pitch should look like. What the bed should look like. Um, I doubt it's too hard to hard to learn but I would need somebody there to, uh, um, sort of guide me on that. Failure inspections are pretty straight forward, I mean, if your leach field is working there shouldn't be surface water, um...

Chairman McGarry: Typically, he would, uh, Rick, when he was the health officer slash building inspector, he would do a bed bottom inspection prior to them actually beginning the construction of the field, uh, but, uh, inspecting a bed bottom to make sure that all the roots and stumps and whatever were gone from that.

John Dubiansky: Which I understand in concept but not in practice.

Chairman McGarry: Dick.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Well, the state has final say anyway.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah.

Vice Chairman Pitman: You get them started. You don't need to do the final.

John Dubiansky: Yeah, and again I have that, and that was one of the possible expenses if we get to the point of discussing a budget, is joining the New Hampshire's health officers association. That again opens up another resource pool. So, the, um, the law is kind of weird in the fact that if I were to bring in, like, the Candia health officer to do an inspection then it has to be like a process in which they're selectboard approves it, you guys approve it, but there's nothing stopping me from calling an experienced fellow health officer, just being like, he can you look over my shoulder while I do one, um, and that... those associations, you know, um, give me access to those pools of highly experienced people.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Sounds good.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy.

Selectwoman McHugh: Is there a cost for that association? Do you know?

John Dubiansky: Yes, and it's ridiculously cheap. I think it was like thirty-five or forty dollars. I can look it up. Actually, I think I already emailed John about it once. Um, I can look it back up again. It's all very cheap. I think it basically covers their mailings.

Selectwoman McHugh: The ACO one is cheap too and I see what you're saying cause we work off each other too and it helps.

John Dubiansky: Yeah, the list server... the NH health officer list server is extraordinarily helpful because, again, they let it act like a forum and so, uh, it, uh, you post the question and all kinds of people pop up and the other thing that's kind of cool about it is, uh, people post unusual case studies, um, you know, stuff you normally don't come across that they found a solution to.

Chairman McGarry: Alden.

Selectman Dill: So, I guess... John, could you do some digging and find out how we paid the last independent health officer? It's probably so long ago it's not germane at all and just call around and see what local towns are paying cause... and see if it's an hourly rate or stipend... I... Do you have any feeling on that, if it was an hourly or stipend?

John Dubiansky: As of right not for me, it's hourly. I do it during my fire time, um, and it's actually... it's hourly cause if I do... I, uh, am both on the call side and the paid side of the fire department, um, but if I go out to do something Matt usually has me add it to my timecard, um, with no minimum callback so if the inspection takes an hour, it takes an hour and that's what the town gets billed for. I don't need minimum call back. My house is six hundred feet from the fire station.

Selectman Dill: I just... like I said, I just want a more permanent solution. Be nice to have something updated, you know.

John Dubiansky: I don't know if you guys can hear it or not but there's a really weird echo coming off of Alden's microphone. Could driving the people at home nuts.

Selectman Dill: It's probably me. I speak with echo.

John Dubiansky: I can hear it very distinctly. I don't know if anybody else can.

Chairman McGarry: Will, did you have any questions?

Selectman Huebner: Um, not particularly except for the comment about not being in the budget, um, don't we have in the budget something about the, the, um, previous stipend for, um, Deni Greig that was being paid to her and is that still in there, John? John, maybe you can answer that.

John Harrington: That stipend is in there for her position as Welfare Director. The health officer was a volunteer position for her.

Selectwoman McHugh: She was deputy.

Selectman Dill: She was the deputy.

Selectman Huebner: So, has it always been, historically, a volunteer position and now we're suddenly going to make it a stipend position?

Selectman Dill: No, historically it's been a multi-position position.

Selectman Huebner: Yeah.

Selectman Dill: Now I can hear it. Not sure where that's coming from. So, it was, correct me if I'm wrong, but before it was Rick... one of Rick's many duties health officer fell under and then when we had Paul here. He was building inspector, emergency management, welfare and health officer, correct?

Chairman McGarry: Right.

John Harrington: Correct.

Selectman Dill: So, historically we've just piled it under a bunch of other positions.

John Dubiansky: And I'm sure there was tremendous crossover for Rick, you know, cause again he would be doing those inspections as building inspector.

Selectman Huebner: So, if we're not going to have all positions, uh, combined this time and there's gonna be, you know, this person doing health officer and that person doing welfare doesn't it make sense that we spit up that cost from the budget, um, item for that welfare person or are we gonna end up paying the welfare person more money for doing less work?

Selectman Dill: Again, I don't think it wasn't traditionally under welfare as the primary health officer. It was... the only time it was that was when Paul was here. Before Deni was the deputy health officer and that one, I don't think we've paid for before.

Chairman McGarry: Before that it was Rik Pelletier and he was, obviously, the building inspector slash health officer.

Selectman Huebner: Right. Okay. I'm just wondering how to un-connect them. We've them all combined now we're uncombining.

Chairman McGarry: Several before that was me and I got a stipend and mileage.

Selectman Huebner: Yeah. Okay, well, I don't have any other questions.

John Dubiansky: As I recall, the language for compensation in the RSA is pretty wiggly. It just says, shall be compensated, you know, so for those of us that are doing this as a secondary role to other positions I think that gets it covered. And, again, I don't... it doesn't really matter to me as it's whether or not the board, um, would want that money to come out of the fire department's budget if I were investigating a trash complaint.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Dill: Well, let's have John dig into it and see what he finds and then we'll come from there.

Chairman McGarry: Very good.

Selectman Dill: Unless Kelly has something right there.

John Harrington: Kelly just reminded me, we already, you already signed the oath for Kevin Lemieux as deputy health officer, um, several months ago. I thought we had but... that's what she showed me.

Selectman Dill: So, that takes care of one of the issues.

Selectwoman McHugh: Somebody should tell him.

John Dubiansky: Okay. Cause last time I asked him he said, no, but that was a while ago.

Vice Chairman Pitman: We all set, Fred?

Chairman McGarry: All right. So, we'll have John checkup on that and report back to us, hopefully, at the next meeting and then we can go from there.

John Dubiansky: Do you guys want to schedule... I don't think... I think monthly would be entirely over kill but, like, a quarterly visit?

Vice Chairman Pitman: I say quarter.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah.

Selectman Dill: Wouldn't be a bad idea.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah, Dick says quarterly and I would agree with him that I really don't think we really need a monthly report.

John Dubiansky: Yeah, health inspections aren't really all that exciting.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

John Dubiansky: I might be able to find something cool to report in three months but I don't know about monthly.

Selectman Huebner: I have a... just a...

Chairman McGarry: Sounds good.

John Dubiansky: Very good. Thank you.

Selectman Dill: Thanks John. Oh, Will...

Chairman McGarry: Will, did you have a question?

Selectman Huebner: I was just gonna ask, you know, we had a couple of recent, um, let's say, complaints from some citizens about some trash on some properties and, uh, we haven't met on it formally but there have been some citizens complaining about that which is probably an ongoing thing, uh, you never have none, but was... expect that John might get involved in evaluating a few properties from the health stand point and advising the board whether there are violations of any health ordinances that we have concerning properties with trash on them?

John Dubiansky: The answers yes. Um, but those concerns need to get forwarded to me, you know, I don't, uh, I'm not super active on the town's social media or anything like that, um, and so I hear rumors of comments but until it comes across my desk officially I can't really do anything and then, uh, the caveat, especially, with trash investigations is that if it's a single family, owner occupied space, um, I have to be able to prove that it is posing a bona fide health hazard, um, to a neighboring property. There is language in the RSA for, I think they use to call it loss of enjoyment, I don't believe they call it that anymore, I'd have to look it up, um, but basically the smells making

onto a neighboring property, that's something we address, uh, but, uh, you know, a pile of trash, you know, somebody who just goes to the dump when it tickles their fancy isn't in and of itself a health code violation. Um, you know, don't want it to get to the point that Middle Road did, obviously, but it's definitely a bit of a fourth amendment tap dance, you know, to, uh, make sure we're not violating peoples' rights to be secure on their property or premises.

Selectman Huebner: Right. I understand.

Selectman Dill: Even if it involves large amounts of vermin.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

John Dubiansky: Correct. Once you start getting critters in there that are moving trash or potentially moving disease around, um, then we can get a little bit more aggressive.

Selectman Huebner: Right. Okay. Thanks, John. I am kind of a lightning rod for some of the people to complain to cause I'm more social media oriented and so, um, I will certainly pass some of these complaints onto your desk and you can think about whether the town has any right or jurisdiction to take any action on them.

John Dubiansky: Yeah, If I'm provided... first thing I'm gonna do is go visit with somebody, um, which is the one situation I've already had. Uh, we were, uh, between myself and the new welfare director, we were fairly easily able to achieve voluntary compliance, um, and get a, you know, potentially sticky situation for the town resolved without any, um, really any, uh, official involvement. Just talking to folks and seeing if we can get them too voluntarily, uh...

Selectman Huebner: Yep.

John Dubiansky: ...fix things up. That'll be my first step, just to go knock on a door and be like, hey would you mind, uh, um, you know, cleaning up your yard and is there anything we can do to try to find you some help, um, and that would be the first step. Just see if we can get... people kind of get comfortable in their own worlds and, uh, things get ahead of them and so sometimes if you just give them that opportunity to get straightened back out, they'll do it on their own without us having to do anything official.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy.

Selectman Huebner: It certainly has to be a health hazard not just a messy yard. We're talking about health hazard here so...

Chairman McGarry: All right. Cindy.

Selectwoman McHugh: I just kind of find it, um, as an ACO, getting reports on Facebook is not an ideal situation. So, I think if something has to come to John it should come across officially not reported off Facebook.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah.

Selectman Dill: Yes.

John Dubiansky: So, on the fire side of things, as a practice, as an intentional practice, I will no longer respond to tags, posts, um, and anybody who direct messages me, either personally or, um, which you see Cindy cause you and I both manage the fire departments page, um, is I will reply with my town issued phone or email, um, and tell people that any questions or complaints need to come that route because, um, it makes it a lot easier for ninety-one A at that point because I'm using a venue which is public property, um, so that way if I've got to defend anything that I do or somebody wants to take offense to anything that I do, the path to which that can happen is very, very clear. Um, so I do not respond to Facebook comments, posts, tags, um, or anything like that.

Chairman McGarry: Alden.

Selectman Dill: John, I assume that John's been added as the health director on the town... there's...

John Dubiansky: I have not, actually.

Selectman Dill: Oh. Just make sure we have John and Pete up there so people can find him.

John Dubiansky: Oh, it wasn't the last time I looked.

Selectman Dill: Okay.

John Dubiansky: It's on my to do list tomorrow, to do some website updating.

Selectman Dill: Um, that's generally where I direct people to as to find the contact for you, on your road agent on the town webpage and...

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Dill: And go from there.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

John Dubiansky: Thank you.

Chairman McGarry: Thanks, John,

Vice Chairman Pitman: Thank you again.

Chairman McGarry: All right. Mr. Bilodeau, here with regard to the cemetery trustees. All right.

Rick Druckenmiller: We just have two warrant articles to put on the ballot this year. I hope you have copies.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Can you give your name?

Rick Druckenmiller: Rick Druckenmiller.

Selectman Dill: Are they in here.

Selectwoman McHugh: I don't know.

Selectman Dill: Are they in here, John?

Selectman Huebner: Number seven.

Selectwoman McHugh: Six. Six and seven.

Selectman Huebner: Yeah, six and seven.

Selectman Dill: Okay, so, those are the new ones. We may or may not. Fire away.

Rick Druckenmiller: All right, the first one is pretty much what we had last time, putting money into the account we established last time. Uh, we've used quite a bit of that money. It's put the fence up at Old Center. Got them old ash trees down from around Morrison. Had a few of the found cemeteries cleaned up and have more on the agenda to do in the future, so... Our existing budget which we know hasn't passed in quite some time...

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Rick Druckenmiller: barely covers for, uh, just to care for the five cemeteries so we need this extra money to get anything else done. There's a lot we should get done.

Chairman McGarry: We're currently showing this as eighty thousand. Is that what you'd be looking for?

Rick Druckenmiller: No, no, this is for thirty-five thousand. That eighty thousand is from last year.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

Selectman Dill: Okay.

Chairman McGarry: The thirty-five thousand would be... go into the municipal cemetery restoration expendable trust fund?



Selectman Dill: Yeah, which trust fund are we looking to do?

Rick Druckenmiller: (inaudible, others talking) ...expendable trust... (inaudible, someone starts talking).

John Harrington: It's article number eleven.

Selectman Dill: Okay.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

Rick Druckenmiller: I don't have all the papers you have so my numbers are different.

Chairman McGarry: Okay. All right, so, it would be thirty-five thousand on that one?

Rick Druckenmiller: Correct.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

Rick Druckenmiller: (inaudible, some starts talking at the same time) ...

Selectman Huebner: So, I'm a little...

Rick Druckenmiller: ...last year and we've used a lot of it and we have mostly earmarked the rest of it, so... (inaudible, someone starts talking).

Selectman Huebner: So, I'm little personally confused about the um, we have at least three articles about the cemetery all asking to put additional funds into these trust funds, right? There's number six, number seven, and number eleven. So, how the voters, um, seems a little confusing to me when I put myself into the shoes of the voter to understand the three different ones. Are they all just...

Rick Druckenmiller: I don't know where those are coming from. The only one I have is to add to the general maintenance expendable reserve fund, thirty-five thousand dollars.

Selectman Dill: We're using last years.

Rick Druckenmiller: I think... last years, yeah, we had three on last year and I think those are still on there somehow. We don't want those again.

Selectman Huebner: Oh, okay.

Chairman McGarry: We can strike the other two?

Rick Druckenmiller: Yeah. You can strike the ones from last year.

John Harrington: Just as a reminder, what we're working off of... this is last year's warrant articles to start as a base. If you don't want a warrant article that was previously published you can tell the board to scratch it. And the first one that they're talking about, article six was to establish the Dowst-Cate Cemetery expendable trust fund. I don't believe you're doing that this year.

Rick Druckenmiller: (inaudible, sounds like a mic issue)

John Harrington: The next one was the... to establish the municipal cemetery restoration expendable trust fund.

Rick Druckenmiller: We don't need that. That passed. We established that we just want to add to it.

Selectman Dill: Okay. What are you looking to add to it.

Rick Druckenmiller: That thirty-five thousand.

Selectman Dill: That's the...

John Harrington: No, that's a different one.

Selectman Dill: Yeah, this is the... the restoration trust fund is different from the general maintenance expendable trust fund.

John Harrington: The thirty-five thousand, which you voted to raise and appropriate last year, was the one Dana and I were working on.

Rick Druckenmiller: Okay.

John Harrington: So, that's the one that's going this year. The other one that Alden is talking about is the vote to establish a municipal cemetery restoration trust fund for the purpose of restoring neglected town owned cemeteries. You put that in for eighty thousand last.

Rick Druckenmiller: We don't need that one.

John Harrington: You don't want that neither.

Selectman Dill: Getting the official Phil head shake, no.

**Motion:** Vice Chairman Pitman makes a motion to go with article eleven of last year for thirty-five thousand... (inaudible, soft spoken and others talking).

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

(Inaudible talking from the audience)

John Harrington: Well, it may not be article eleven after they all get moved around but we're gonna keep that.

Chairman McGarry: The wording on the article was incorrect. The number was correct but the wording was incorrect.

Selectman Dill: So, that was to go into the general... the cemetery general maintenance expendable trust fund.

Chairman McGarry: Right. Cindy seconded?

Selectwoman McHugh: Yes, I did.

Chairman McGarry: Okay. And discussion.

Selectman Huebner: So, this is going to replace article seven from last year with the same wording except for the amount being thirty-five thousand.

Chairman McGarry: No.

Selectwoman McHugh: No.

Selectman Dill: No. This is just an article to put thirty-five thousand dollars into the trust fund previously established cemetery maintenance expendable reserve fund. Said funds to come from unassigned fund balance.

Selectman Huebner: So, the wording is correct in article eleven.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah, so it would be the wording in article eleven.

Selectman Huebner: Okay. Right. So, we're going to strike article six and article seven and we're voting tonight to include article eleven.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Vice Chairman Pitman: It wasn't correct, Will. It says twenty-five thousand in writing and thirty-five thousand in numbers.

Selectman Huebner: Oh. Yeah, that's right. It should say thirty-five.

Chairman McGarry: Okay. So, we have a motion and a second. Any further discussion? Hearing none I'll call for the vote. Uh, 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**

Rick Druckenmiller: (Inaudible) ...this year is to establish a columbarium because we can't the new cemetery started. Very expensive and I don't know if we're gonna have trouble passing it but can, uh, set up a columbarium because being cremated is becoming much more popular and projections are it'll be, like, seventy-five percent in the next ten, fifteen years. So, we don't need to sell these big plots of land since we're gonna run out of land. We can build the wall of columbarium and, uh, double our usage on a very small plot of land. So, that's the purpose and we're asking for fifty-five thousand. Uh, at this point in time, we probably could do it... if we do it right now get it, maybe for fifty but by spring... everything's going up so rapidly we thought we should ask for a little extra.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Rick Druckenmiller: So, that's why we're asking for fifty-five.

Chairman McGarry: What does that actually consist of?

Rick Druckenmiller: Well, they are going to put up a wall... well, you gotta build a base. You got to put in a base and then you build a wall that has sixty-four niches. Each niche can hold two remains... two, uh, cremated remains.

Chairman McGarry: So, the ashes would go into those?

Rick Druckenmiller: Right. And they'll have little plaques that they can engrave however they want...

Chairman McGarry: Yeah.

Rick Druckenmiller: ...and we want to put a couple benches and a little bit of landscaping around... just make it kind of... if you want to go sit in front of your loved ones, you know...

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Rick Druckenmiller: ...you got a place...

Chairman McGarry: Yup.

Rick Druckenmiller: ...and, uh, so, that's the purpose of that and it should pay for itself over time. That was the idea behind it and again, we're running out of space.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Rick Druckenmiller: And it's gonna cost us a hundred and fifty thousand to get a new cemetery put up, at minimum.

Chairman McGarry: Yup.

Selectman Dill: I assume we're gonna ask for that out of taxation and not on unassigned fund balance.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah, I would think so.

Selectman Dill: I would... just so we can vote on two things in one here.

Chairman McGarry: Yup.

Rick Druckenmiller: Yeah, the fifty-five thousand would add two people... (inaudible, background noise).

Chairman McGarry: Mhmm. Right.

Rick Druckenmiller: Hopefully we can sell it.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Huebner: Well, do we have an article with the wording submitted for this?

Selectman Dill: Well, I... is that the official wording there?

John Harrington: Yes, uh, Dana Van Der Bijl and I worked out language. I don't have it with me.

Selectman Dill: Okay.

Rick Druckenmiller: I can read it or...

Chairman McGarry: Oh, okay.

Selectman Dill: Yeah.

Chairman McGarry: That'd be good.

Rick Druckenmiller: Okay. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty-five thousand dollars to build a sixty-four-niche columbarium. It would take the place of a hundred and twenty-eight traditional burial plots. The columbarium construction, landscaping and installation cost is estimated at fifty-five thousand. A columbarium would eventually pay for itself with money generated from the sale of niches. Any excess funds from the build will be deposited into the maintenance fund created and approved in twenty twenty-two which would allow the cemetery trustees to use those funds to maintain all cemeteries.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

**Motion:** Vice Chairman Pitman

**Second:** Selectman Dill

**Discussion:**

Chairman McGarry: Movement seconded. Any discussion? Cindy.

Selectwoman McHugh: Where are you looking to do this?

Rick Druckenmiller: The lower part of Old Center. That oval... it will be at the narrow end of that oval. We're gonna take, like, the last two areas and build... put the wall in there.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

Selectman Dill: Any idea... and this is thinking way out and I know you guys have an idea... how much does a niche cost?

Rick Druckenmiller: I think we're gonna charge the same for a niche as we charge for a plot.

Selectman Dill: Okay. Phil's saying five hundred bucks.

Rick Druckenmiller: Yeah.

Selectman Dill: Yeah.

Rick Druckenmiller: Yeah, five hundred

Selectman Dill: Okay. It doesn't go on here. I figured, in case somebody asked, now I know.

Rick Druckenmiller: Okay.

Chairman McGarry: All right, I'll call for the vote. 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**

Rick Druckenmiller: Unless there's questions, I think I'm all set.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Thank you, Rick.

Selectwoman McHugh: Good Job. Thank you.

Chairman McGarry: Thank you.

Selectman Dill: Thanks, guys.

Chairman McGarry: Thank Mr. Bilodeau for his support. All right, review of outstanding minutes.

John Harrington: You wanted to continue with the warrant articles. We have Chief Fisher on Zoom.

Chairman McGarry: Okay, yup.

John Harrington: That way that will complete that item.

Chairman McGarry: Yup. Okay, Matt's on. There he is. Okay.

Selectwoman McHugh: There he is.

Matt Fisher: Hello.

Chairman McGarry: So, Matt, do you want to address the, uh, warrant article that's related to the fire department?

Matt Fisher: Yes. I will do my best in between my little one being excited but, so, talking with John he emailed over last year's warrant articles which would be number seven, twelve, and fourteen and I would recommend that we move forward with those again. Number seven being fifty thousand dollars towards fire apparatus and equipment replacement. Number twelve being, um, the department maintenance fund for equipment and apparatus. And number fourteen being the ten thousand we've put towards EMS vehicles and equipment.

John Harrington: Those numbers are different from what you're seeing cause they've been... every time warrant articles are changed it reorganizes the numbers. Matt if you could, uh, the numbers aren't going to match up for the board so let me just read them to you to make sure we're talking about the right warrant article. The first one that comes up is the highway vehicle and equipment maintenance expandable trust fund.

Selectman Dill: You mean the fire apparatus?

Selectwoman McHugh: Fire, yeah.

Selectman Dill: Fire apparatus capital reserve fund?

John Harrington: Oh, I'm sorry, yes. That one's for fifty thousand dollars. Do you want to go with that amount? Article...

Chairman McGarry: Previously shown as article eight.

Matt Fisher: Yeah. Okay. We've previously done fifty, um, honestly with the cost of things we'll probably not gain a whole lot more than cost increase every year. Um, you know, historically, pre-Covid and these extreme times, uh, apparatus cost increased about three to five percent every year. Um, half a million-dollar fire truck, five percent would be twenty-five thousand so we'd be twenty-five thousand of what we're putting away just goes to every year cost increase.

Chairman McGarry: Yup.

Matt Fisher: Two years ago, Candia bought an engine for six hundred and thirty thousand, um, so we're not gaining a whole lot on the actual cost of the vehicle.

Chairman McGarry: Alden, you got a question?

Selectman Dill: Matt you just, got that grant from FEMA for fire apparatus, so we still need to be socking money away in that same fund this year if you just got that grant?

Matt Fisher: Absolutely. So, there's a very good chance of the cost of that truck is going to be more than the seven hundred fifty-thousand-dollar grant so some funds will have to come out of this account to make up the balance of the difference and we will have a lot of other vehicles to be putting money away to replace. Uh, the next big-ticket truck might be engine one which is a ninety-four which is approaching, uh, what, thirty years old in a couple years so we certainly need to continuously be working on replacing.

Selectman Dill: What do you got in that account currently?

Matt Fisher: Three hundred and eighty-one thousand twenty-two dollars and fifty-one cents.

Selectman Dill: Okay.

Matt Fisher: Just for retrospect, uh, town of Alton just bought a pumper tanker for one point one million. That used to be ladder and tower truck price.

Chairman McGarry: Wow.

Selectman Dill: Okay.

Chairman McGarry: So, rather than fifty k how much do you think we should put in?

Matt Fisher: Looking through previous warrant articles back when we started putting away money away for engine four which was bought in two thousand fourteen, we were putting away ninety thousand dollars at that time. Um, I would think, maybe, seventy-five would be a good step is we're gonna increase it without too much of a, hate to say shock and awe, but shocking factor of going for a hundred thousand. If we incrementally kind of work on our increase, um, seventy-five might get us there.

**Motion:** Vice Chairman Pitman

**Second:** Selectman Dill

**Discussion:**

Selectman Huebner: I would personally rather see it at fifty thousand just because I... I understand what Matt said about catching up and keeping pace with inflation I suppose but I just, I don't want to end up with the voters, uh, voting it down because it's just too much money against other things we're trying to pass as well. So, I just wonder if the other board members might share my, uh, caution on that.

Selectwoman McHugh: I do.

Chairman McGarry: You do or don't?

Selectwoman McHugh: I do.

Chairman McGarry: You do. Okay.

Selectwoman McHugh: I'm afraid they won't pass it.

Selectman Dill: Oh, okay.

Selectman Huebner: So, I'm suggesting that we amend the motion to be, uh, fifty.

Vice Chairman Pitman: So, done.

Selectman Dill: Yeah, I'll definitely change my second. To me, passing the highway maintenance trust fund is more important this year. No offense Matt but we already got fifty. We got a lot in there so let's try for the fifty but I really want to get a trust fund in for the highway as well so I guess I share the same concern about asking for too much in this one.

Selectman Huebner: And in fact, I wonder to, myself, if, you know, since we have the FEMA funds and this three hundred and eighty-one thousand, we've got the lion's share of what we're going to need in the future as we seek a new vehicle, fire vehicle. Should we even have this warrant article in light of the fact that we want to make sure that we pass a highway, uh, vehicle maintenance fund?

Vice Chairman Pitman: the voters will tell us.

Selectman Dill: Yeah.

Selectman Huebner: yeah, I suppose it doesn't hurt because if they pass both of them that's okay but I just don't want them to pass the fire one and not the highway one because they just don't want to spend the money on any of them.

Selectman Dill: Yeah, and if Matt's telling us that we may have to spend that in addition to the grant then that's what we have to spend.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Huebner: Okay, let's go with fifty then.

Selectwoman McHugh: Yeah, I think we still need it in here because we're going to need to replace things, right? I wouldn't want to take it out.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah. All right, I'll call for the vote. Will?

Selectman Huebner: Aye.

Chairman McGarry: We're voting on fifty thousand rather than the seventy-five.

Selectman Huebner: That's right. I vote 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: All right, what's the, uh, what's the next one for fire, Matt?

Matt Fisher: Uh, would be, raise and appropriate the sum of twenty thousand dollars to place in a previously established fire department vehicle and equipment expendable trust fund. Uh, no said fund to come unassigned fund balance. This is the fund we use for, uh, kind of bigger ticket maintenance. The pump on engine two. Uh, when the bill comes in when rescue ones' body work's done, I'd be looking for approval to use this fund for that instead of the budget.

Selectman Dill: What do we have in that fund Matt?

Matt Fisher: Fifty-one thousand forty-nine dollars and zero four.

Selectman Huebner: So, is this article fifteen, John?

Chairman McGarry: Uh, thirteen.

Selectman Dill: Or twelve depending on...

Chairman McGarry: Fourteen under last year's.

Selectman Huebner: Okay. Okay. Right. Thirteen, twenty thousand, right?

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Huebner: Okay.

**Motion:** Selectman Dill

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

Chairman McGarry: Movement seconded. The question is, would we be taking this money on... from the unassigned fund balance or would the, uh, be through taxes?

Matt Fisher: In the past it's always been from unassigned fund balance.

Chairman McGarry: Okay. Okay. Any further discussion?

Selectman Dill: What do you figure... Matt, you said you had some body work and stuff, um, wild off the top of your head guess, what do you figure you're spending on that stuff that we're going to be pulling out of this budget... out of this fund?

Matt Fisher: So, the three quotes, if you will, that I got... one was from Allegiance, uh, they didn't want to do the work. Banks around seventy-five hundred and, uh, Mark Rollins was right around six thousand.

Selectman Dill: Okay.

Selectman Huebner: So, in the wording it says, no amount to be raised from taxation and I've seen this on other warrant articles as well but it seems to me that misleads voters by saying that, uh, this is not coming out of taxes when it's really coming out of previous taxes just not future taxes if I understand it right.



Selectman Dill: If you want to stand at deliberative session and make that argument, which is made every year, however there's two different ways to do it. We can say out of unassigned fund balance or taxation. Taxation would be a new bill...

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Dill: ...and this is out of fund balance, so...

Selectman Huebner: Right but at least it leads the taxpayer to say, oh, so we're not going to pay any more taxes to do this, which is not really a true thing. It is coming out of their taxes.

Selectman Dill: It's still a true thing that it's coming out of the unassigned fund balance.

Chairman McGarry: Correct.

Selectman Huebner: Previous taxes.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Huebner: Okay. I just like the phrase. I brought it up last year at deliberative session and I didn't get enough votes to pass that so I'll let it go but I don't like that phrase in there.

Chairman McGarry: All right, I'll call for the vote. Will?

Selectman Huebner: Aye.

Chairman McGarry: We're voting on fifty thousand rather than the seventy-five.

Selectman Huebner: That's right. I vote 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**

Matt Fisher: All right, so the next on would be, I don't know what number it is for you folks but...

John Harrington: Article fifteen on the board's copies.

Matt Fisher: Sounds like article fifteen, to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars to be placed in the previously established rescue vehicles and equipment capital reserve fund. With a current fund balance of sixty-one thousand nine hundred and twenty dollars and eighty-eight cents.

Selectman Dill: Thank you.

Chairman McGarry: Dick.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Cindy, is that enough?

Selectwoman McHugh: I'd like to see it go up.

Vice Chairman McHugh: I would too. You're the spokesperson.

Selectwoman McHugh: He's the chief.

Selectman Dill: Um...

Chairman McGarry: What do you think, Matt, with regard to the ten thousand and should it be greater than that?

Matt Fisher: I think twenty thousand would be a fantastic number to shoot for. Um, I don't think the ten-thousand-dollar difference would hopefully sway people from supporting it. I do have a follow up warrant article to discuss after we, uh, run through this one which is...

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

Matt Fisher: ...tied with ARPA and rescue one.

Chairman McGarry: Well, Cindy was nodding her head with the going to twenty so I think that, uh, that's probably a safe bet.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Is that a motion Cindy?

**Motion:** Selectwoman McHugh  
**Second:** Vice Chairman Pitman  
**Discussion:**

Selectman Huebner: So, I just have a question about how this ties in with this ARPA money and, uh, you know, is it likely that we will use some portion of the ARPA money to help fix up these rescue vehicles and therefore, you know, how will the town perceive that since we... since they know that we're considering using ARPA money for, uh, rescue type of equipment already?

Chairman McGarry: Dick.

Vice Chairman Pitman: I don't know that we are. That's news to me.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah.

Selectman Huebner: Well, it's been proposed to use it for a rescue vehicle, right? We have one proposal for that and we're not, we're not decided to do that yet so you're right that we haven't done it yet but... well, okay. I'm not opposed to this motion. So, go ahead.

Chairman McGarry: Any further discussion?

Selectman Dill: Matt, does it make sense to keep these separate... these two warrant articles for this one and the fire apparatus separate?

Matt Fisher: Both of these were started when the departments was two separate things so, um, it's really up to the board of selectmen. It's yes, we're adding articles to the warrant for people to read through but it still gives them that choice, I guess.

John Harrington: Alden, they're, they're separate trust funds right now. You'd have to... you'd have to unite them or join them and rephrase them.

Selectman Dill: Well, I guess that's what I was kind of getting at is... cause we have the other apparatus warrant article.

John Harrington: Right.

Selectman Dill: I'm just asking, is this the time that we just merge these rather than having multiple confusing warrant articles because it's, it's... I always get the question, what's the difference between the first one and the second one. This one's a... reads a little different because it's the rescuing vehicles but if rescue and fire are the same department, I would think merging this in... it would just seem simpler. I mean, we have to vote... we'd have to have a warrant article to them together.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Dill: So, we're not gonna just finish that tonight but my vote... I'm fine with putting twenty thousand in this but I think it would make sense to merge these to reserve funds as well.

Selectwoman McHugh: Sure. Forty thousand.

Selectman Dill: No, I just mean, put this balance with the other balance and have one...

Selectwoman McHugh: Which is twenty.

Selectman Dill: Yeah, but we get no... what I mean is we get sixty-one and it's almost sixty-two in this and three eighty in the other one. We'd have to have a warrant article to combine this capital reserve fund, that capital reserve fund into one fire and rescue reserve fund and then you go from there but I think from a housekeeping perspective it would make sense. Yes, and then add twenty to that fifty and make that seventy but...

Selectman Huebner: I always felt that the fund was for fire equipment and that this fund was for rescue equipment but maybe that's just my own interpretation.

Chairman McGarry: I think it is. You are correct but Alden was saying that, uh, since it's one department to take and combine, uh, these two trust funds.

Selectman Huebner: Yeah.

Selectman Dill: Since it used to be two separate budget lines and two separate departments.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Vice Chairman Pitman: I say we leave it like it is and one... the day may come when one will pass and the other won't.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah. Right. Entirely possible. Any thoughts Matt on that?

Matt Fisher: Um, the thing about, I think, keeping it separately, it's easier to earmark what costs us specifically for what we're saving for like with the rescue vehicles and equipment, obviously, we haven't used funds to buy a vehicle yet in any shape or form but I think we've put money out of this fund towards life pack fifteen and offsetting costs for the, um, Lucas device that Concord Hospital donated funds for so it... I think it earmarks things a little better.

Selectman Dill: Okay.

Chairman McGarry: Okay. Cindy.

Selectwoman McHugh: This warrant article was actually for a vehicle also, Matt. The life pack fifteen, the Lucas and a vehicle because the vehicle was supposed to be replaced in two thousand eleven.

Matt Fisher: No, I understand, I'm saying we haven't used the funds for a vehicle yet but I was giving examples of what we've used the fund for.

Selectwoman McHugh: Right.

Chairman McGarry: All right.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Do we have a motion?

Chairman McGarry: Yes, we do and I'll call for the vote. Will?

Selectman Huebner: Just on the understanding that we're talking about twenty thousand, not ten, right?

Chairman McGarry: Twenty thousand, correct.

Selectman Huebner: Twenty thousand. Aye. I vote aye.

Chairman McGarry: Alden?

Selectman Dill: Aye.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy?

Selectwoman McHugh: No.

Chairman McGarry: Dick?

Vice Chairman Pitman: Yes.

Chairman McGarry: And McGarry, yes.

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

Chairman McGarry: So, four one.

John Harrington: Just to be clear, these are getting the warrants... the articles on the warrants not the recommendations.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

John Harrington: We'll be doing that after this is complete.

Chairman McGarry: Okay. Okay, Matt, you said you had a few more.

Matt Fisher: Yeah, so, the only one I want to talk about is with ARPA and follow up to the meeting last week. UM, what... I know that at a previous time before we, you know, really got going with the ambulance committee the board had voted to kind of reserve the funds for an ambulance. I'm assuming after the feelings and feedback from last that, that may be changing of if that's still a path but, um, if the board was not going to be moving forward with an ambulance, I think we strongly need to look into a warrant article relace rescue one with something at some point. Um, it was originally purchased in two thousand four for thirty-six thousand six hundred dollars. In the past two and half years we've spent upwards of, including this most recent body work, the fifteen-thousand-dollar mark. So, for a twenty-year old vehicle or eighteen-year-old vehicle, uh, our maintenance funds are kind of increasing what we're spending to keep it on the road.

Selectman Dill: What kind of money would you be looking for in a warrant article, Matt?

Matt Fisher: An idea I had, I know other departments will do it so, a multi-year lease for an ambulance so whatever, you know, if we, if we get close to an updated price, we could use the equipment or rescue vehicle equipment fund to buy down some of the equipment, the cost, the other such and whatever that balance is, uh, try to float that for a warrant article.

Selectman Dill: And I know the leases, I think, get shot down. It's a lease to own, correct?

Matt Fisher: Yes.

Selectman Dill: Yeah. I just... I hate putting lease in there. I think that cans our hope more often than it helps. I'd rather have an outright purchase.

Matt Fisher Then we'd be probably looking at three hundred to three hundred twenty-thousand-dollar range.

Selectman Dill: And just rough guess on if we do a multi-year lease it would be like five years at seventy-five thousand or eighty thousand or something like that?

Matt Fisher: I would think that'd be in the ballpark.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy.

Selectwoman McHugh: You're talking about three hundred thousand dollars to replace rescue one?

Matt Fisher: If we're looking at purchasing an ambulance, yes.

Selectwoman McHugh: But didn't you just say you didn't want to use that warrant we just voted on for vehicle?

Matt Fisher: I was originally... that was talking about the three hundred eighty-one thousand where we're going to have to take some of those funds, most likely towards the, matching the FEMA grant.

Selectwoman McHugh: No, I mean the rescue, the rescue warrant.

Matt Fisher: No, I'm all for that. That can certainly buy down the cost of the power cot, the power load, and whatever equipment we don't have that we would have to put in the ambulance.

Chairman McGarry: So, you would be proposing, proposing a warrant article for the, uh, for an ambulance?

Matt Fisher: If we're not going to be using ARPA money, we need to be looking at something to replace rescue one.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

Matt Fisher: I don't see with... let's say, the van's eighteen years old and we're going to replace it with something, I don't see us moving forward with a like vehicle and not increasing our capabilities of service to the community if we're going to have something for another fifteen to twenty years.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah. Cindy.

Selectwoman McHugh: How many miles is on rescue one, Matt?

Matt Fisher: I'd have to look. I believe it's in the forty thousand range.

John Dubiansky: It was forty-two when I put gas in it the other day.

Selectman Dill: I don't think this is anything we can vote on today. I think is...

Chairman McGarry: Yeah.

Selectman Dill: We gotta think about and come up with which way we want to proceed on this.

Selectman Huebner: So, how would this warrant article read? Will the town approve the expenditure of, let's say, I don't know, a hundred grand to replace rescue one as a vehicle? Is that the intention, to just name a price to replace it in its entirety?

Selectman Dill: Well, he just said that would be a three hundred twenty thousand to replace in entirety.

Selectman Huebner: No, he said that would be an ambulance. If we just replaced it in kind that rescue one with a new rescue one, maybe I'm misunderstanding you Matt.

Matt Fisher: yeah, no, my intent would be to pursue an ambulance.

Selectman Huebner: Okay. So, it's would the town spend three hundred twenty thousand to buy an ambulance? That's essentially what this is, right?

Matt Fisher: If we're... my approach to the board of the selectmen is, if we're going to change from the previous path of using the ARPA funds to purchase an ambulance, we still need to be looking at replacing rescue one so my proposal would be and certainly not looking for it tonight... trying to get it out to the five of you to start thinking about looking towards an ambulance if it's through a warrant article to a lease or outright purchase what have you, um, we need to be moving forward with something.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Matt Fisher: I don't think keeping with the same non-transport for the next ten fifteen years is the right path moving forward. I think we need to be improving our services we can provide to the community just, you know, Saturday night we were at a mutual aid call in Chester and another community had their primary ambulance, wasn't available, went

to a second town that re-toned, they weren't available to a third ambulance. So, it's, it's, it could happen to any call we have. If we're able to transport with an ambulance fantastic, that'll help. If not, we'll still provide the care we can.

Selectman Huebner: Well, based on the public hearing we just had it seems the town's sentiment is not to do that at this moment. So, I doubt that such a warrant article would have much of a chance of passing but I suppose we could let the voters decide, you know, that for us but I would guess that there wouldn't be much support for that this particular round. Other selectmen may feel differently.

Chairman McGarry: Any further discussion? No. Okay. So, I guess, uh, be up to us to decide whether we want to have a warrant article covering an ambulance, well, actually we should probably end up discussing and probably not tonight with, uh, what the ARPA money, based on, uh, the input we received last week what the ARPA money should be used for and that'll make a determination as to whether we or not end up going with the ambulance or whether we use it for other purposes.

Selectman Huebner: Yeah, but we have more than a year to decide what to use those ARAP funds for, not that we should just wait for a year and we only have three months to decide about what we're going to do with the election here, right? So, unless we want to make that ARPA decision right away, I'm not sure it's going to be clear before the time to turn in these warrant articles.

Selectman Dill: I think we could. I think we're gonna have to make some decision but what I was just thinking is we could do a cascading type warrant article and I don't have the worded, the verbiage, of course but we could so a, shall we proceed, uh, pursue an ambulance and then if yes by taxation or via the ARPA funds, would be one option if we putting out a warrant.

Chairman McGarry: It'd be interesting to see how we'd set that...

Selectman Dill: Yeah, I, I, I just literally... thinking about it now and I have no idea how I would set it up but I... it would seem somewhat possible.

Selectman Huebner: I think it's something we can work on outside this meeting, right? We're not making a motion...

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Huebner: so...

Selectman Dill: Yes.

Selectman Huebner: ...let's just move on I guess and we'll have to discuss how to approach the idea of a warrant article.

Chairman McGarry: All right, uh, is that it for you, Matt, now?

Matt Fisher: Yup.

Chairman McGarry: Okay. Thanks, Matt.

Matt Fisher: Thank you.

Selectman Dill: Thanks, Matt.

Matt Fisher: Have a good night.

Chairman McGarry: All right, um, we gonna take up Pete next?

John Harrington: Yes.

Pete Schibbelhute: Um, I generated a little list, put some pictures and, um... (inaudible, walked away from the mic) ... pass them around. These are just some numbers to go by for equipment repair and some potential purchases that if the selectboard decides to do it. Um, one of them was for, to do some repair work on the grater. Um, the graters a nineteen eighty-six. Um, I went over to Milton Cat and, um, they have some repair records on the grater. In two thousand fourteen they did some work on the hydraulic pumps. Um, it's miscellaneous work. Um, new graters are, you know, two hundred fifty thousand plus, um, and my short time here, Matt, excuse me, Paul's already been on the

grater three or four times and, you know, it performs what we ask it to do. Um, you know, we're not out building highways and stuff like that. We're asking it to do a lot of work. It does a lot of work but, you know, not mega work where you need a brand-new machine to do that so, I went to Milton Cat and asked them to give us a price quote to rebuild the engine and they do that. That price quote that I sent you is for a rebuild prior to the engine failing, um, and what that does is it gives... they give you a core credit for the block of the engine. So... and one of the only things that would determine whether or not that works is whether or not the crankshaft on the engine is still good or not, okay, um, there's the engine itself, probably has some blow by and what that means is that there's pressure lost on the rings between the rings and the engine blocks so it might smoke a little but, um, like I said, you know, Paul used it three days last week grating roads prior to the weather we just had. So, I mean, it still serves its function and, you know, giving it a little TLC, you know, we can probably make it last longer. Um, we have two trucks. An F-450 and an F-550, uh, you guys had got a repair quote from Grappone earlier this year and they said they needed, like, fifteen thousand dollars to fix that truck and the other truck is at Bob Heon's right now. We're waiting on an estimate from Bob to see what kind of work we need to do to that truck and I put some estimates on that sheet just in case, you know, there's some other miscellaneous things we need to fix on those trucks and I also put the price of a new truck on there so you have something to compare and I gave you a couple of pictures of new trucks, um, potentially, you know, you guys can look into, you know, whether or not you want to spend that kind of money. The pictures that I showed there are not exactly how the truck would be set up but it's just the basic to get started. Um, the other thing I put on that list was, potentially, if the town wanted to buy a used loaded that would be specifically for the highway department and it's a hair bigger than the one that they use at the dump only because it's, um, the size of the machine would expedite some of the works that need to be accomplished by the highway department. Not that the one at the dump is incapable of doing it, it's just a little bit slower cause it's smaller.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Pete Schibbelhute: And that's from my years of experience in knowing that sometimes bigger is better not necessarily cheaper but you get things done quicker. One of the other things that I did put on the list there was miscellaneous tools, you know, as far as chainsaws we need to get tag chains, uh, lifting chains and things. We don't have any tags on them. Those are OSHA violations, you know, if they were ever to walk in there and they look at the chains, there's no tags on them, we could get fines for those. Um, if we were ever using a chain and something happened, the chain broke and somebody got hurt, it's a whole other set of issues or something like that happens. Um, a couple other things I put on there was, uh, potentially, getting a reverse osmosis filter for the highway department. You might even be able to use something like that on the town hall. Um, you know, depending how many gallons of water you want to produce, you know, that could potentially be cheaper than drilling a new well, you know, cause you could drill a new well and still come up with contaminated water.

Chairman McGarry: Right. Exactly.

Pete Schibbelhute: Um, as far as... it's more just some numbers for you guys to look at and say okay, well, let's do this, let's not do this, you know, obviously getting new equipment's nice but we can make what we have and we can get some more years out of it, you know, it's worth... because, I mean, it's like a brand-new truck, I mean, minimum fifty or sixty thousand dollars, you know, and if we can get some repairs done on the trucks we have... the five fifty we have, physically is in good shape. It's just that engine work needs to be done, unfortunately that's, they're expensive.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Pete Schibbelhute: You know, um, when you own trucks, they're high maintenance vehicles. I mean, I had to put a frame on a truck last year and an engine. It was fifty thousand dollars but it's still cheaper than two hundred thousand for a new one...

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Pete Schibbelhute: ...you know, um...

Selectman Dill: On the grater, on the grater Pete, sorry to interrupt you.

Pete Schibbelhute: No problem.

Selectman Dill: Um, they're doing the motor... if they do the motor... the other thing I've noticed is there's a lot of leak.

Pete Schibbelhute: I would have... that's they the quote for the motor there is like thirty-three thousand.

Selectman Dill: Okay.

Pete Schibbelhute: I put forty on there so we could have them do some, you know, potential leak work. I mean...

Selectman Dill: It's leaking a lot.

Pete Schibbelhute: Yeah...

Selectman Dill: And it's stuff that...

Pete Schibbelhute: ...actually, I went over with Paul what he had done. He had plugged up some of the lines that were going to the wing plow so, I mean, those things should probably be taken care of so that we can use the wing plow if we ever need it. You know, so far, we've been pretty lucky but, you know, if we get a massive snowstorm, grates the way to go for clearing the roads, um...

Selectman Dill: Is Milton offering any off-season deal, like, or is... would that be cheaper to fix now than fix in the summer?

Pete Schibbelhute: Um...

Selectman Dill: I know they used to but I'm guessing they're probably so busy they're not.

Pete Schibbelhute: They're pretty busy right now. Yeah, they have a repair shop full of equipment so, um, it depends, sometimes they do make offers, you know, it depends sometimes in the middle of the winter if they are slow, they'll give a better deal. Um, you know, there's different levels of repair work on an engine. They can actually test the engine and kind of a diagnostic on it and say, you know, they can drop the pan, they can look at the see if the crankshaft's okay and then it's a, what they call a lined engine. There's pistons liners that can be replaced so they pull out the liners and they put a new liner and a new piston in. You use the same crankshaft. They put new bearings in and things like that on there so there's things they could do, um, so, obviously, you know, things that I didn't, you know, put in that number, I mean, obviously, you know, new tires or... and things like that and just repair leaks. So, I mean, you... we can spend forty, you know, we could spend a little, we could spend a little less and we can kind of figure, okay let's do this, let's do that. You know, maybe we tackle one thing this year or you tackle something else the next year, you know with the way the usage of the machine is, we just want to make sure that the motor is good and, you know, it's not a high-speed machine. It's meant to go slow and grate.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Pete Schibbelhute: Um, and that's what we're asking it to do and I think if we put money into it, we can probably get some more years out of it.

Selectman Dill: What scares me on this is trust fund that we're talking about, we hope we establish, we have fifty grand in it and we're gonna blow through that on maybe one repair.

Pete Schibbelhute: These are numbers for you guys...

Selectman Dill: I know but I'm just saying it kind of shows how fast fifty thousand goes in the repair world these days.

Pete Schibbelhute: ...with equipment, you know, Dick knows, I mean, when you start buying equipment it just eats up that money.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Pete Schibbelhute: You know, it just does. So, it's more of an issue of, you know, you know those two trucks that we have, you know, I want to definitely take a look at those and get them fixed if we can because, you know, those are, they're both capable of plowing snow. They're also capable of going around town and picking up this. You don't necessarily always need to drive around with the six-wheeler...

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Pete Schibbelhute: You know, um, obviously regular vehicle maintenance, you know, tires, oil, changes, all that basic stuff, you know, it's just, it's more expensive now and it's harder to get it completed because there's less people doing it and it just takes longer to get things fixed.



Selectman Dill: So, Bob hasn't given you an estimate?

Pete Schibbelhute: Yeah. I'll contact him when he comes back from his trip.

Selectman Dill: Oh, I didn't realize he was... I forgot he was away.

Pete Schibbelhute: He's gone for a couple of weeks.

Selectman Dill: I mean, I think fixing the F-450 would be first priority in my mind. Getting that back on the road. If he can get the parts for that because that's the problem with the F-550, is we can't get the parts.

Pete Schibbelhute: Yeah. There's probably other people we could probably contact too on some of this. To take a look at it and see what they think it's gonna cost. Um, sometimes some of the other repair shops don't even want to touch it, you know, they can get the easy work and do easy work and not get involved with us...

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Pete Schibbelhute: ...you know.

Selectman Huebner: So, what are we looking for here? Is there any motion or any action...

Pete Schibbelhute: No, this is, uh, Will, this is just a, um, an idea for you guys to toss around and talk about as far as, you know, how much money you think you can expend in repairing equipment at the highway department. Um, you know, obviously, I know that there's a lot that... there's x amount of dollars to go, you know, around and it's a matter of, you know, where the priority is of what we think we need to accomplish.

Selectman Huebner: Well, we just submitted our... we just submitted our budget, uh, to the MBC, it's been reviewed from the highway department budget and if there's changes to be made that needs to be this week because just tomorrow, we're voting, uh, to move the bottom line to the voters. So, are you suggesting that we perhaps should increase the highway budget, uh, to reflect these needed repairs that we don't have in there now? You know, do we need... now's the time to speak up.

Pete Schibbelhute: Oh, no, I understand that, I mean, I guess I'm kind of putting the ball in your quarters. I mean, how much more would try to want to get. I mean, those are just cursory numbers that we got to work with. I mean, you know, I guess the question is... go ahead John.

John Harrington: Uh, correct me if I'm wrong, I thought this was also an option for the board selectman to help create the list of uses for the ARPA money?

Pete Schibbelhute: True.

John Harrington: Not necessarily the budget, Will, but in prioritizing what use you want to make for the ARPA.

Selectman Huebner: Right.

Pete Schibbelhute: So, that's where you guys have to make a decision, whether you want to use ARPA funds for that or you want to try to increase the budget for the highway department.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Pete Schibbelhute: So...

Selectman Huebner: Well or do a warrant article which in case the budget doesn't pass we could have a warrant article to repair the highway department vehicles.

Chairman McGarry: That would be in the trust...

Selectman Dill: I thought that was, uh...

Chairman McGarry: ...the highway trust fund.

Selectman Dill: The trust fund, yeah.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah.

Selectwoman McHugh: Do we have... how much do we have in that trust fund?

Selectman Dill: Right now, zero.

Chairman McGarry: Right. We don't have one.

Selectman Dill: We're asking for fifty.

John Harrington: There's a new highway trust fund warrant article established and funded and I believe fifty...

Selectwoman McHugh: This article nine is new?

John Harrington: Yes, brand-new...

Selectwoman McHugh: Okay.

John Harrington: ...establishing it for the for the first time.

Selectman Dill: Because we never had any of that.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Dill: But this is kind of showing you, fifty is not going to go that far.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah. For sure.

Selectman Huebner: So, I'm anticipating, based on the public hearing, that article nine as written for fifty thousand dollars to establish a highway trust fund for vehicle maintenance is going to fly, I would guess, and so it seems like we're asking for fifty here, you know, we're not going to ask for anymore in the budget. We may need to appropriate more out of the ARPA funds to go towards this as well. Si, it just seems like there's several avenues of funding this.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Pete Schibbelhute: That's basically what you guys will have to make decisions, say, okay, we're going to do x from here and x from there and then, you know, get something started so that there's, uh, some money available to fix certain things. Obviously, we're not going to be able to get everything all at once and I understand that. It's a matter of, you know, we're going to have to make a decision on what we want to fix or what we want to buy. Um, that's kind of where we're at with that and it's just... go ahead Dick.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Can you get back to us with this so we can...

Pete Schibbelhute: What's that?

Vice Chairman Pitman: Can you get back to us with a priority?

Pete Schibbelhute: What we would want to fix? If I had to prioritize tonight the grater and the two trucks. Those are the things that we should fix. So, between those things right there... between let's say the grater repair I have it at forty and those two trucks, one is at fifteen and I think the other one I put at twenty, so, you're at thirty-five, that's seventy-five thousand dollars right there.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Pete Schibbelhute: So, it doesn't take long to chew up the money to repair stuff.

Vice Chairman Pitman: So that's...

Selectman Huebner: So, if we use seventy-five from the ARPA funds, let's say, and assign that to these three vehicles and then we had fifty thousand approved by voters for general maintenance of the other vehicles and other, uh, highway maintenance, that seems like a fairly healthy position for the town to start maintaining something that's been neglected for a long time.

Chairman McGarry: Dick.

Vice Chairman Pitman: It was very obvious last week that's where the taxpayers that were here wanted to go.

Selectwoman McHugh: Yeah.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah.

Selectman Huebner: So, I would say that's probably one of our path forwards, assuming that we do assign ARPA funds to this and we get a positive response from voters on the warrant article, that should put us in pretty shape for Pete to maintain these vehicles.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy.

Selectwoman McHugh: I was...

Chairman McGarry: Alden.

Selectman Dill: I was gonna ask you Pete, um, if we can get a number together for the, uh, culvert repair on Haynes Road.

Pete Schibbelhute: Well, we're going to go into that next. Then go to Cindy next.

Selectwoman McHugh: So, I think what we need to do is take Pete's list and add it to your list from the other night so we can get some ARPA money towards the highway.

Pete Schibbelhute: Yeah, I mean, you're gonna have to say, we'll take x to do... we'll try to accomplish this and then, you know, that's who we'll work it and if you can get a trust fund start, you know, that means we can start getting something over the years, we can start fixing stuff, you know, I mean, just a little makes this stuff go a long way. I mean, you know, it doesn't always have to be brand-new, even though it's nice, it doesn't have to be.

Chairman McGarry: I guess specifically for the warrant articles, why don't we take a vote on establishing, uh, this article number nine, the highway vehicle and equipment maintenance expendable trust fund.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Seventy-five.

Selectman Dill: Yeah, I think that's very obvious, Dick. Fifty is not going to be enough.

**Motion:** Vice Chairman Pitman makes motion for the highway vehicle and equipment maintenance dependable trust fund warrant article at seventy-five thousand dollars be put on the warrant.

**Second:** Selectman Dill

**Discussion:**

Chairman McGarry: Movement seconded at seventy-five. Any further discussion? Hearing no discussion, I'll call for the vote. 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: But we still have a cap of three hundred thousand but, uh, it'll be a while before we come to that.

John Harrington: Who made that motion.

Selectman Dill: Dick did. I seconded, yeah.

Chairman McGarry: Any, uh, maybe if we can get, uh, Pete's list circulated copies of that for the rest of the board, all the members and then we can have that to, uh, look at further.

Selectman Dill: Then we also have the three fifty for the, uh, um, article two which is a Pete article as well.

Selectman Huebner: Didn't we already vote on that or not?

Selectman Dill: I think we did but... John?

John Harrington: (inaudible, someone talking) ...you just haven't recommended.

Selectman Dill: I'll make a... we haven't voted to put it on here then?

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Dill: Okay.

**Motion:** Selectman Dill makes a motion that they put the warrant article for three hundred fifty=three thousand dollars for repairs slash reconstruction of existing roads etcetera on the warrant.

**Second:** Selectman Huebner

**Discussion:**

Chairman McGarry: Movement seconded. Any discussion? Hearing none I'll call for the vote. Will?

Selectman Huebner: Aye.

Chairman McGarry: Alden?

Selectman Dill: Aye.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy?

Selectwoman McHugh: Yes.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Yes.

Chairman McGarry: Dick and McGarry, yes.

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

Chairman McGarry: All right, Haynes Road culvert.

Pete Schibbelhute: So, Steven Keech called me today. I had called him last week. He got your message...

Chairman McGarry: Yeah.

Pete Schibbelhute: ...and, um, he's working it, um, sent his wetlands guy to Haynes Road to look at it and, um, it's in the hundred-year flood zone. It's, um, right now his, um, he's thinking that the sizing is going to be four feet high by nine feet wide.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

Pete Schibbelhute: So, it's a pretty good-sized culvert.

Chairman McGarry: Yep.

Pete Schibbelhute: Um, and I think you guys said you had about a hundred twenty-eight thousand in there, roughly.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Pete Schibbelhute: So, once he has a, uh, a basic design we can start looking for a serious quote on what the actual culvert itself will cost.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Pete Schibbelhute: Cause in the past what we've done, uh, particularly after the two thousand seven floods and some of the other ones in and around that time, the town purchased the culverts or the bridges and that sometimes expedites how soon they get built as opposed to waiting to put it out to bid and then waiting for it to be built and then delivered, then installed. So, um, the amount of money that, uh, that has been allotted or the town has to work on that particular culvert, I'm sure will probably be used completely based on, you know, the prices of culverts these days.

Selectman Dill: Okay. That was what I was going to ask, if that was going to cover or if we should do... I was thinking we should do a separate warrant article but if you think that's gonna...

Pete Schibbelhute: That covers probably the purchasing of the culvert not necessarily installation, the installation. There's going to be the road work as well because the profile of the road will probably have to be, um, the road will have to be cut back, probably, based on my discussions with Steve. Potentially a hundred to a hundred and fifty each way so that's three hundred feet of road that will have to be ripped up and paved and boxed out.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Pete Schibbelhute: Um, until we get the actual design and profile and it'll also be retaining walls so I'll have to go on all four corners of the culvert, um, and, you know, obviously it's gonna have to go before DES to get approved so they'll have engineering work that's going to have to be done as well. So, all that stuff is gonna factor in in the hundred and twenty-eight thousand that we have will probably get chewed up pretty quick.

Chairman McGarry: You know, and Will had asked at one point about getting, uh, flows for, a fifty-year storm and a twenty-five-year storm but, uh, talking with Steve, uh, the state would... because of the requirements that they have now for this, this, the rating of that particular stream it would end up having to be designed for and being able to handle a flow of a hundred-year storm...

Pete Schibbelhute: Right.

Chairman McGarry: ...period.

Pete Schibbelhute: That's what Steve said today.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah. So, we wouldn't have any option as to, uh, downsizing it.

Pete Schibbelhute: No that's going to be the design criteria and that's being decided by the state.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Dill: So, I was just thinking that we could put a warrant article together on that but I don't think we're going to have everything together in time to turn a warrant article around.

Pete Schibbelhute: Um, that's going to be, I mean, if he had it done by next week that would be yeah, I could say yeah but, you know, it's not done.

Chairman McGarry: Yup.

Selectman Dill: Yup.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

Pete Schibbelhute: The next thing, um, Mr. Harrington and I went to...

Chairman McGarry: He's like Columbo.

Pete Schibbelhute: Mr. Harrington and I went to a meeting last week up at DOT for the, uh, box culvert they need to build over... for route 107. We're on the agenda to have it put out to bid for March and, and you know potentially get, uh, an award in April and then they have to build it and that could take, you know, some time. This potential that that culvert on route 107, I'm not saying it is but based on John and I's, uh, attendance at the meeting, it could, you know, go all the way out to the end of next year. So, it could potentially be ready before the fair or it could be ready right at the fair which means we can't do it until after the fair and, um, so, that's where the town stands on that. Unfortunately, um, we're at the mercy of the state. Um, so, last Friday I did some, uh, I set up a benchmark on a telephone pole on the south side of the bridge and, uh, put a nail in it and, um, the water on the east side of the culvert, southeast side, was two feet higher than the water on the west side, on the south side and I shot it again today and in three days it's gone down three inches. So, there's a two-foot dm inside the culvert right now. Um, so, the water is flowing slowly so, um, in seventy-two hours it's gone down three tenths. Um, somebody, yesterday, decided to pull a board out of the dam and left it along the side of the dam, um, thinking that might expedite the flow of water and, unfortunately, the actual dam now is inside that culvert...

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Pete Schibbelhute: ...so, it's, backing the water up two feet. Um it's, you know, back to all the way back up towards, uh, Blake's Hill, you know, we were out there this summer looking at that and the water is basically right up to the top of those bankings where we were standing, um, and, uh, you know, the only thing I guess we can say is that, uh, hopefully DOT can come back with some sort of a remedy to get that water to go through the culvert a little bit faster. The problem that they're having is, is banking's that the existing channel that goes through the culvert is... has rotted away and they're afraid of losing the two... the channel walls which are made out of rumble, they're afraid that the water will go out behind the walls and scour the dirt out and collapse the rest of it. So, they're kind of... they're watching it very carefully, um, it's just a matter of how, you know, how much rain we get, you know, and they're looking at potentially getting another inch of rain or so this week. So, John, has been getting quite a few phone calls, um, so I really don't know... we haven't talked to the state since last week. Um, we made them aware of what's going on, you know, so every couple of days I'll go out and check the grade of the water just so we have a record of what's going on.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah.

Pete Schibbelhute: And, uh...

Chairman McGarry: Go ahead, Dick.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Why?

Pete Schibbelhute: Why am I checking the water?

Vice Chairman Pitman: Why are you hanging... (Inaudible, very soft spoken) ...state government.

Pete Schibbelhute: Why am I doing it?

Vice Chairman Pitman: Yeah.

Pete Schibbelhute: Because we get phone calls every day about the water and they're asking us to pull boards out of the dam that we do control and it's doing nothing. So, if we have some data, we can what's going on if something happens. That's all. It takes me about five minutes to do.

Vice Chairman Pitman: That's what we tell people that wonder why we're involved in the state.

Pete Schibbelhute: It's just so we have an idea. It's going to affect our bridge up on Blake's Hill too.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Pete Schibbelhute: So, the water's backed up quite a ways back.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy.

Selectwoman McHugh: Should we, um, be channeling these people to the state? I mean, they're calling...

Pete Schibbelhute: They're calling, they are. Go ahead, John.

John Harrington: I am already forwarding the calls. Well, anybody that calls gets the contact number and a name up at the state and he's been taking the calls.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Thanks, Pete.

Selectman Dill: At least we're watching.

Pete Schibbelhute: Well, yeah, it's just a matter... so, you guys know if people ask you.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Dill: Tide is in. It's the highest I've ever seen it.

Vice Chairman Pitman: We're hoping it's this year.

Pete Schibbelhute: That's the... well, the way it's looking, based on our attendance of the meeting, they're talking at least eleven months, right?

John Harrington: Right.

Selectman Dill: I don't think that's sustainable for eleven months.

Selectwoman McHugh: No. that's what I was thinking.

Pete Schibbelhute: So, what I had talked to one of the residents and I said that you guys need to take pictures and send them to DOT and you guys need to call them every day. Okay, because...

Selectman Dill: I mean, the difference... the other day when we got called when they first were going to shut that down and do an emergency repair, the difference between how they were first talking of the sky was falling on that culvert and it was done to, oh yeah, we were in here for three hours and now we're done. Kind of really surprised me to be honest with you. So, I'm glad you're watching it cause I wasn't impressed with that DOT response.

Pete Schibbelhute: It's just so we have a little bit of information.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Pete Schibbelhute: You know, that's all.

Chairman McGarry: Will, did you have a question for Pete?

Selectman Huebner: Well, I was just asking, is there any alternate proposal that we can enact other than waiting for the state to fix this at the end of two thousand twenty-three? You know, I mean, what's our alternatives? Do we have any?

Chairman McGarry: Not on that road. It's a state highway So we have no control over it.

Selectman Dill: Yep.

Selectman Huebner: Right. So, other than appealing to the state to act sooner rather than later that's all we can do?

Pete Schibbelhute: That's what we have to do.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Huebner: Okay.

Pete Schibbelhute: I called Ted Gatsas and talked to him already.

Chairman McGarry: Thank you, Pete.

Vice Chairman Pitman: A lot of info in one night.

Selectman Dill: Thanks, Pete.

Pete Schibbelhute: You know, you told us to go to a meeting that's about it.

Chairman McGarry: All right.

Pete Schibbelhute: Have a good night.

Selectman Dill: Have a good one, Pete.

Chairman McGarry: Review of outstanding minutes for public hearing on the fifth and the business meeting also on the fifth.

**Motion:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Second:** Selectman Huebner

**Discussion:**

Chairman McGarry: All those in favor of the motion signify by saying Aye... roll call. Will?

Selectman Huebner: Aye.

Chairman McGarry: Alden.

Selectman Dill: Abstain.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy?

Selectwoman McHugh: Yes.

Chairman McGarry: Dick?

Vice Chairman Pitman: Yes.

Chairman McGarry: And McGarry, yes.

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

Chairman McGarry: All right, uh, vouchers and payroll. All right, we have payroll manifest of, uh, gross payroll of eighty-two thousand eight hundred and forty-two dollars and seventy-five cents (\$82,842.75) with a net payroll of fifty-three thousand one hundred and ninety dollars and thirty-two cents (\$53,190.32).

**Motion:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Second:** Selectman Dill

**Discussion:**

Chairman McGarry: I'll call for the vote. 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: All right, accounts payable. We have accounts payable in the amount of seven hundred eighty-two thousand two hundred and eight dollars and seventy-seven cents (\$782,208.77) of which seven hundred fifty thousand (\$750,000.00) is for the school. A motion?

**Motion:** Selectman Dill

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

Chairman McGarry: I'll call for the vote. Will?

Selectman Huebner: Aye.

Chairman McGarry: Alden.

Selectman Dill: Aye.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy?

Selectwoman McHugh: Aye.

Chairman McGarry: Dick?

Vice Chairman Pitman: Yes.

Chairman McGarry: And McGarry, yes.

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

Chairman McGarry: All right, signatures. All right, we have a, uh, personnel action request from the town clerk for hiring of an individual for a counter clerk. For twenty hours a week, part-time at seventeen dollars an hour what, uh, what action would the board want to take on this?

**Motion:** Vice Chairman Pitman

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

Chairman McGarry: Any discussion? Hearing none, I'll call for the vote. Will?

Selectman Huebner: Nay.

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 4, Nay 1, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries**

Vice Chairman Pitman: For the record, this was highly recommended by Kelly.  
Chairman McGarry: Yes.

Selectman Dill: Yes.

Selectman Huebner: My only reason for voting nay was, uh, I just don't have enough information to make an informed decision so I just... I'm not necessarily against the candidate, I just don't have the information.

Chairman McGarry: All right and we have the... just the minutes in here?

John Harrington: Yeah.

Chairman McGarry: We already got those taken care of. Correspondence. We have a report from, uh, Ted Gatsas with regard to what's happening with the executive council. We have a copy of a letter which went to the planning board, um, with regard to proposed subdivision off of Mount Delight Road. The board of selectmen was copied on this, um, and this, uh, email to the board of selectmen from Eric Berglund. This was a model public hearing. It was exceptionally well attended. Many very good ideas were put forth for the use of these funds, the ARPA funds. Attendees were interested in understanding the projects presented and, in many cases, offered enhancements top strength ideas. The atmosphere was encouraging and positive. People enjoyed contributing to solutions for their town. There were several project ideas suggested for town highways and roads. I would like to suggest another project that has been studied but never moved forward. There's the improvement of the intersection of Route 107 and 43, Church Street and Candia Road. I think this is a dangerous intersection that deserves consideration for the use of ARPA funds. And, uh, we wouldn't be using ARPA funds for that since it's a state highway.

Selectman Dill: And the state did put us... give us an idea of what they wanted to do on that the other day and our cost share was, uh, hefty.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah. I didn't get what the cost share was.

Selectman Dill: Well, no it just had the total. It didn't give us the cost share. I'm just going to guess it's hefty when the total was in the tens of millions.

John Harrington: When I put this back there wasn't a cost share.

Selectman Dill: There wasn't a cost share?

John Harrington: No.

Selectman Dill: That was just the state doing it.

John Harrington: Correct.

Selectman Dill: Oh. Even... I take back my entire comment then.

John Harrington: It's a matter of when it comes up for...

Selectman Dill: Oh.

John Harrington: ...consideration.

Chairman McGarry: Ten-year plan.

Selectman Dill: Okay. I misread that entire...

Chairman McGarry: All right, then we have, uh, a letter from George Thompson with regard to Thurston Pond, Ridge Road. The letter reads, I received John Harrington's letter dated eleven twenty-eight twenty-two and a picture he received from Mr. Adams. So, I went to my lot on Saturday. Mr. Adams only put a small amount of crushed stone in the bottom of the trench. You need to fill the trench with crushed stone or eliminated the hump, uh, I have included a picture I took while I was there. Please instruct Mr. Adams to comply. And there's a picture in here that any board members want to take a look. All right, um, town administrators report.

John Harrington: There was a question from the eleven twenty-eight meeting as to what the cost or well installation at the transfer station. That was eighteen thousand nine hundred dollars (\$18,900.00) to have that done. Uh, the pump still hasn't been installed.

Vice Chairman Pitman: (Inaudible, soft spoken)

John Harrington: Correct. Uh, you have a copy of an estimate for repair. This was the police department Ford Explorer that was turned over to the town. Uh, we wanted to get it right out to get an estimate to find out whether or not the board wanted to go forward and repair this vehicle. Uh, the body is in good shape. It seems to have a coolant leak and the idea that it might be the water pump, uh, is what the mechanic is saying at this point. The estimate right now is eighteen seventy-three. If going forward it's determined it's not the water pump, they will stop.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

John Harrington: But I need direction from the board if you want to put money into this vehicle. This would be a potential replacement for the building inspectors' vehicles.

**Motion:** Selectwoman McHugh makes a motion to spend eighteen seventy-three fifty-six to fix the Ford Explorer.

**Second:** Vice Chairman Pitman

**Discussion:**

Chairman McGarry: Seconded. Call for the vote, oh, any discussion?

John Harrington: So, that was Dick and Cindy.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah. Or Cindy and Dick.

John Harrington: Cindy and Dick.

Chairman McGarry: All right, hearing none I'll call for the vote. 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**

John Harrington: Okay. We'll move forward with that.

Chairman McGarry: Good.

John Harrington: I also want to let the board know that there was a resignation at the transfer station, Steve Murphy. One of the transfer station attendants. His last day will be December twentieth. That position has already been posted, uh, into, uh, in hard copies and on our website to replace that position. Um, a question for the board, uh, with plans moving forward for the new restaurant going in at GBW, the new tenant is looking to replace the sign out front. I want to know whether the board would support moving the George B. White sign out to the front at the road edge and the restaurant sign behind as it is opposed... as what opposed to what it is. Right now, the restaurant sign's out front.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Whatever we got to do to get rid of the scrolling sign.

John Harrington: We could take it down.

Vice Chairman Pitman: What a waste of electricity.

Selectman Dill: It's not that. It's just that you can't read the thing.

Selectwoman McHugh: You can slow down.

John Harrington: That can be taken down.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Try unplugging it a while. See if we get any comments.

John Harrington: Sure.

Vice Chairman Pitman: But, yes, we ought to get his sign up on...

Selectman Dill: My question is...

Chairman McGarry: The question is...

John Harrington: The question is, do you want to swap them around and put the George B. White sign on the road with the restaurant to the interior. Right now, the restaurant sign is on the road end and the sign for the building is on the interior.

Vice Chairman Pitman: I see what you mean.

Chairman McGarry: Right now, the restaurant is getting top billing and we're getting second billing.

Selectman Dill: I'm sure the restaurant prefers top billing but I think having this known as the GB White building... we do a ton more stuff than just the restaurant.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Dill: It seems more important to me.

Chairman McGarry: I would agree.

Selectman Dill: Maybe the sign could also say, Deerfield Town Offices in slightly larger print.

John Harrington: So, that is a yes to swap the signs around?

Chairman McGarry: Right and have the town sign out, uh, front, up to the... closest to the road.

John Harrington: Okay.

Chairman McGarry: You okay with that, Will?

Selectman Huebner: Yeah, I agree.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

John Harrington: And I will be back to you, probably next meeting, with recommendations for encumbrances with all of these new costs coming in I just want to get a balance of what we're working with before we decide on that.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

John Harrington: All right, that's all I have for tonight.

Chairman McGarry: So, that takes care of the, basically, takes care of the unfinished business.

Selectman Dill: Uh, not to be beating a dead horse but the, uh, school lights... the school light still isn't working. I know the chief called the other day.

John Harrington: Right. Uh, it's a timing issue so another call went to the school. We're not sure who is responsible for... (inaudible, someone starts talking over).

Selectman Dill: I, I never thought it would be this confusing. It's really just... can we just go back to eastern standard time, I mean, day light savings time or whatever it was before we'll just change everybody and the light will be correct.

John Harrington: I will make sure another call is made. I'm not sure why it's not fixed yet.

Chairman McGarry: So, we all set John?

John Harrington: Yes.

Chairman McGarry: All, right, new business, um, I got a... received a call from Kevin Verville asking if, uh, this meeting area could be used for an informational session with regard to school choice and, uh, wanted to pass that by the board to see if there were any objections to that.

**Motion:** Vice Chairman Pitman makes a motion to allow Kevin Verville to use the meeting space in the GBW building. February seventh two thousand twenty-three.

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

Chairman McGarry: Any discussion? Alden.

Selectman Dill: I guess the question would be, is it statewide school choice or is it Deerfield school choice?

Chairman McGarry: I guess based on what, uh, Kevin Verville was telling me, was Deerfield school choice.

Selectman Huebner: I think there's implication of both. It's experts from the state giving a panel discussion of school choice laws in New Hampshire educational law and how it would apply to Deerfield if we entertained the idea of having the school choice. So, it's a great opportunity I think, for citizens to ask questions about, uh, what's going to be a warrant article, I think, on the ballot about, uh, how the citizens feel about the school choice issue and so, I think, it would serve the citizens quite handily to have this, uh, this venue with this kind of expertise being in the room and citizens being allowed to ask questions.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy.

Selectwoman McHugh: I think the video capabilities too, will help get some word out there. I think they want to use that too.

Chairman McGarry: Dick.

Vice Chairman Pitman: I just made the motion because the town hall we voted to close down. This is the next best.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah, right.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Like with Cindy said with the video.

Selectman Dill: Agreed. I just, the only hang up I have is that it seems more of a school issue than a town issue.

Chairman McGarry: I would agree with you on that, just a matter of, he's asked specifically if we can use this, if he can use this room and, uh...

Selectman Huebner: It's mainly cause of the capacity of the room and the audio-visual capability of the room.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah. Any further discussion? Hearing none I'll call for the vote. Will?

Selectman Huebner: Aye.

Chairman McGarry: Alden.

Selectman Dill: Nay.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy?

Selectwoman McHugh: Yes.

Chairman McGarry: Dick?

Vice Chairman Pitman: Yes.

Chairman McGarry: And McGarry, yes.

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

Chairman McGarry: Any other business? All right, uh, we don't have any non-publics, correct?

John Harrington: No.

Chairman McGarry: Citizens comments. Mr. Rhodes.

Erroll Rhodes: In a similar vein to the last issue, um, just wondering, uh, I'd spoken to Mr. Harrington about this, he said he would bring to your attention the request to perhaps having a candidate's night down here prior to the, uh, election in March. So, uh...

Selectman Dill: Who's...

Chairman McGarry: Typically, the school does that.

Selectman Dill: Or PTO used to run it.

Chairman McGarry: PTO, right.

Erroll Rhodes: We haven't had on for a couple of years now.

Selectman Dill: I guess the only thing with that is...

Erroll Rhodes: ...is proposing to do it with focus.

Selectman Huebner: Yeah, I think last time it was done by the friends of library.

Erroll Rhodes: What's that?

Selectman Huebner: I think the last one was sponsored by the friends of the library I believe. The PTOs didn't sponsor it and then the friends of the library took it up on the last time which was two years ago I believe.

Erroll Rhodes: Right. but this would be a great venue for it.

Chairman McGarry: Particularly with the video capability.

Erroll Rhodes: Here, here.

Selectman Huebner: Yeah, I agree.

Selectwoman McHugh: Can we get the speaker system fixed?

John Harrington: Actually, there wasn't a speaker problem. That was the size of the crowd and the background noise that was causing the problem.

Selectwoman McHugh: Well, I can... we can just barely hear Will now too.

John Harrington: Well, the speakers are pointed out towards the audience and it's loud enough out there.

Selectman Dill: The only problem with this room is it doesn't... it amplifies background noise in a huge way.

John Harrington: There's a certain point you can turn the microphones up and then it starts, uh...

Selectwoman McHugh: Yeah, we know. We need to get that fixed. There's gotta be a way to fix it.

John Harrington: I can call Tim Griffin back in to see if we can amplify it.

Vice Chairman Pitman: That's be a good choice.

Chairman McGarry: All right, uh, Mrs. Cady.

Harriet Cady: Keep it short, huh? I have a concern. It's been a concern back maybe when officer Greely was here and that is, we don't keep our equipment somewhere we know where it is. We aren't logging old stuff. We aren't putting things, um, voting as surplus and for instance I'm told that we have the vehicle that we bought for the fire department parked at the, um, Matt's family business. Well, if that locked up or if Matt's gone out of town it's not useable to the assistants with the padlocked gate they have. The policies are not being followed. You're not voting to surplus stuff, uh, we have some piece of equipment that we voted to spend twenty-eight thousand, I believe, Matt asked for, they bought. Where did the old piece go? I understand that we bought the new compressor for the fire department because the other one wasn't fixable and we let Mr. Pelletier buy it for two hundred and fifty dollars. He fixed it. Where was that voted? It wasn't at this meeting. Somethings gotten out of control in this town and the law requires the selectmen to vote to surplus or dispose. We used to have an auction once a year. I want to see this equipment logged in and kept on town property.

Chairman McGarry: Mr. Dubiansky.

John Dubiansky: Yeah, I just wanted to throw my two cents in on the ambulance issue because unfortunately I was at work last week. Um, so, I've been with, starting with Deerfield Rescue in nineteen ninety-eight. I drove the M ten ten war wagon that sat outside and you had to take the ice off it in the winter and fight the yellow jackets in the summer because it sat outside and the XJ that Harriet found for us and then the, which was the most fun of the vehicles we had to drive cause that thing could turn on a dime and then now the van that we've had for, uh, eighteen years. Um, I think it is time for us to move on a transport vehicle. I think there's, um, a lot of confusion bouncing around as far as different funds, different vehicles because even if we have a transport ambulance we're still going to need some sort of secondary EMS vehicle whether that becomes rescue two whether we repair or replace rescue one we're going to need something to carry backup EMS equipment because if we start transporting our primary vehicle with all our EMS equipment will be leaving town for, I disagree with the three hour number, in my experience in upstaffing our contract ambulance or mutual ambulance it's about ninety minutes before you're available again. You might not necessarily be in town but you've left the hospital and are heading back but there is a turnaround time. Funding is going to be up to you guys. Uh, I think using the ARPA fund was a very good idea, um, there was some fantastic ideas floated out last week. Um, the letter this week, I am definitely not a fan of the intersection up here. There's a dent in the side of my truck to testify to that. Um, but I think the ARPA money was a good way to go because it softens the blow to our tax payers. I'm well aware I'll get dirty looks from several directions if I call it free money. It's not free money. It's still tax payer money but it softens the impact by greatly increasing the service that we're able to provide to our citizens and it distributes that impact over a couple million taxpayers instead of a few thousand and I do think we're ready. I did some research while I was watching you guys, excuse me, I was not watching you guys at work, after work, I would absolutely not watch YouTube at work, um, afterward and we did a hundred and two medical calls my first year with the rescue squad. I believe I just put, uh, call four hundred forty-seven in the books the other night. That's fire and EMS. So, take seventy-five percent of that because probably what EMS is. Um, we have gotten busier. EMS has changed. A basic provider could tremendously more for a patient that we could twenty years ago when I started and I think it's time. One way or the other, whether it's ARPA funds or a warrant article, uh, when I first started there'd be six people from Deerfield rescue that would show up to every call and Raymond could easily staff all four of their trucks. Now at night we get one or two people and sometimes Raymond has to re-tone to get one truck out the door. They often have to re-tone to get two trucks out the door and it's been a long time since they've staffed more than two trucks at once. This would provide us with a very quick turnaround for the patients we could handle and an excellent backup for those situations as we slowly transition to being our own transport service at which point the same mutual aid that exists for everything else, you know, we have a structure fire or a bad car accident would take over if our ambulance was unavailable, we would pull on mutual aid. I think we are very much at that precipice now and you got to remember, it'll take two years unless we buy a demo rig or something, it'll take two years between when we sign on the dotted line and when we're backing it into our station. So, we really do not want to kick this can to far down the road. So, my, I guess that was maybe four cents that I wasn't able to provide last week. Thank you.

**Motion:** Vice Chairman Pitman makes a motion to adjourn at seven twenty-five.

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

Chairman McGarry: Movement seconded. 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**

**Next Meeting: December 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*