

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
January 17, 2023
MINUTES**

Call to Order

5:30 – Chairman McGarry called the meeting to order

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

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Review of Outstanding Minutes:

Vice Chairman Pitman makes a motion to approve the outstanding minutes from January 3, 2023 as written. Selectman Dill seconds the motion. All in favor. Motion passes. John Harrington asks the board to wait on voting as Selectman Huebner will be joining via Zoom shortly. The board agrees Selectman Huebner does not need to vote on the minutes.

Selectman Huebner joins the meeting via phone. Chair McGarry makes a motion for Selectman Huebner to join the meeting remotely. Selectman Dill seconds the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion passes.

Regular Business

Vouchers & Payroll Manifest/Accounts Payable Manifest:

- Payroll Manifest – Chairman McGarry states the board already voted and signed off on Payroll ending January 4 2023.
- Accounts Payable – For January 17th in the amount of \$54,189.52 – Selectman Dill makes a motion to approve the accounts payable manifest in the amount given. Selectwoman McHugh seconds the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion passes.
- Accounts Payable - \$143,788.98 - Selectman Dill makes a motion to approve the accounts payable manifest in the amount given. Selectwoman McHugh seconds the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion passes.

Signatures and Correspondence:

- Signatures - Multiple refund requests for the second half of the 2022 tax bill due to overpayments. Map and lot numbers provided. M418 L79 and L49 for \$73.00. M204 L2 for \$169.02. M413 L52 for \$55.36. M413 L7 and L8 for \$932.00. Vice Chairman Pitman makes a motion to approve the refunds in the amounts provided. Selectman Dill seconds the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion passes.
 - Tax Map maintenance proposal for the town submitted by TAI Technologies with a total of \$2,700.00. Selectman Dill makes a motion to approve in the amount provided so they can discuss. Selectwoman McHugh second the motion. Discussion ensues. John Harrington explains that this company provides all the online maps for assessing and this is the renewal notice for the annual maintenance fee. With no further discussion roll call vote. All in favor. Motion passes.
 - A memorandum from Kelly Roberts for deposit authority due to having a new Deputy TC/TX. Chairman McGarry reads the memorandum. Selectman Dill makes a motion to approve the memorandum and sign. Selectwoman McHugh seconds the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion passes.
 - Refund request from Kelly Roberts with regard to resident over payment in the amount of \$25.00 for the renewal of a motor vehicle registration. Vice Chairman Pitman makes a motion to approve the refund. Selectwoman McHugh seconds the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion passes.
 - 2023 MS-DTB Default Budget for the Town of Deerfield. John Harrington explains this is the state DRA copy of the 2023 MS-DTB that will be posted around town before the deliberative

session. Selectman Dill makes a motion that they sign it and display it. Selectwoman McHugh seconds the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion passes.

- Application for property tax credit exemption that is for solar energy exemption in the amount of \$14,400.00. This is for Dana Stewart at 50 Raymond Road. Vice Chairman Pitman makes a motion to approve. Selectwoman McHugh seconds the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion passes.

- Oaths of office to sign for people working various positions at the election. Chairman McGarry reads off all the names and each person's position. Terms for of these end 12/31/2023. The board will come to the offices to sign all of these when they have a chance. Selectman Dill make a motion to approve all the people and their positions. Selectwoman McHugh seconds the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion passes.

- Correspondence – No correspondence.

Town Administrator's Report:

John Harrington states he has one question for the board and two presentations, one for water treatment and one for the highway spreader hanger. Mr. Harrington lets the board know that requests are starting to come in about renting the Town Hall and he was wondering if the board had a reopening date. They discuss reopening date options and they decide that since the Town Hall will be open for voting on March fourteenth that they can leave it open until the rented event on the 18th and then close it back down and hear from Ray how difficult or not difficult it was to open and close it before they provide an official reopen date.

Mr. Harrington then goes into the most current warrant articles and states there are three that they need to revisit. The first to revisit is Article 16 and the veteran's tax credit. He explains that when the DRA reviewed this article, they decided it needed to be broken into two articles. It is now warrant article 16 and warrant article 17 and they are now considered two new article and the Board will need to recommend them. The Board discusses warrant article 16 and 17 and, in the end, these are ones that have to be there per the state so they will leave them as is. Chairman McGarry takes a roll call vote for article 16 to recommend or not recommend. All in favor of recommending. They do the same for article 17. All in favor of recommending.

Selectman Huebner brings up article 18 (get rid of SB2 and go back town meeting) to discuss. He would like the board to change their recommendation to no recommendation. It's 3 to not recommend and 2 to recommend so the Boards recommendation will be removed from the article.

Selectman Huebner brings up article 1, a zoning amendment, and how the Board did not make a recommendation as it's zoning but the MBC made a recommendation on it because there could be a financial impact on the town. The Board discusses whether this is allowed and, in the end, they take a vote to remove the MBC's recommendation from the article. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion passes.

Mr. Harrington states that's all for warrant articles and now he has Pete and Ray here to present information to the Board.

Ray Ellis, Water Filtration System at the George B White Building: Ray Ellis recaps the water filtration system not working and he had received a quote form Lindsay while they were out looking at the system and per the Boards request, he got more quotes. He went over the water test results and notes that the radon was high and the PH was high and over the limit. The water is potable and with the new filtration system it will be drinkable. Mr. Ellis reads the quotes: Lindsay water - \$24,000.00, Culligan - \$13,895.00, Capital Water System - \$28,615.00, Secondwind Water system - \$12,919.00. Vice Chairman Pitman makes a motion they go with Ray's recommendation of Secondwind at \$12,919.00. Selectwoman McHugh seconds the motion. Discussion included talk of Secondwind being a reputable company, there are warranties on the systems, and that it is recommended to have the system looked at checked on once a year. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion passes.

Pete Schibbelhute, Highway Spreader Hanger Building: Mr. Schibbelhute explains that the equipment they use to hang the spreaders are not safe and they are looking to use impact fees to build a structure to that makes working on the spreaders safer. Mr. Harrington believes there is about \$54,000.00 in the impact fees. Chairman McGarry explains why impact can be used for this project. Mr. Schibbelhute feels this is the best option to use the impact fees for as it will keep his crew safe. Mr. Harrington now has the actual balance of the impact fees. The balance is \$51,562.00. Ray Ellis provides 4 quotes and they will purchase through Reese Lumber for the project. Selectman Huebner makes a motion to use Reese Lumber to purchase what is needed for the project and to use impact fees to this. Selectman Dill seconds the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion passes. Discussion, Vice Chairman Pitman makes a point that it will cost more than \$41,000.00 to build this. Roll call vote. 3 ayes and 2 nays. Motion passes.

Mr. Schibbelhute brings up the repair work on the grater. The grater is working but it leaks more than it used to. He reminds the Board that the estimate he previously provided to have the grater repaired is \$40,000.00. He states they could move forward with fixing it or they could just keep using it and doing general maintenance until it stopped working for good. He then goes on to explain that he's been pricing out used graters that are the same year as the one they have and they price is 30 to 50 thousand dollars. Newer used graters can be as high \$100,000.00. In the end they decide to have the grater evaluated by Caterpillar so they can then make a decision of what to do next. Selectman Dill makes the motion to have the grater sent to caterpillar to have it evaluated. Selectwoman McHugh seconds the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion passes.

Unfinished Business

No unfinished business to go over.

New Business/Other Business

Chairman McGarry states that they have a letter from the Division of Parks and Recreation that states they will be doing work on two campgrounds. Jericho Mountain State Park and Pawtuckaway State Park. No start date is provided and no information on the extent of the work is provided. They do, however, provide a list of why they didn't choose the other four campgrounds. The Board asks Mr. Harrington to call the state to find out what work they will be doing in Pawtuckaway.

Citizen's Comments

- Harriet Cady asks about used graters and if they are able to take a look at them to what work has been done on them prior to buying one. Selectman Dill states, Municipal yes, State maybe, private no. She feels they should ask to see the record on them no matter what.
- Unknown person speaks about getting fire wood together and coordinating with Doreen Schibbelhute and the churches to get it distributed to those in need. He states he's very interested in the upcoming Eversource cut and states they are willing to work with them and do anything they can to help to get logs that they can process into firewood and get it out to people in need. He asking to be tied in with Eversource so he can be in know and help. Chairman McGarry informs the citizen that Eversource will be at the next meeting on the 30th.
- Pete Schibbelhute brings up a potential warrant article for a culvert and bridge trust fund for future repairs and needs. He just wanted to put the idea out there and then leave it to the Board to decide to do it or not.

Vice Chairman Pitman makes a motion to adjourn. Selectman Dill seconds the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion passes.

Meeting adjourned by Vice Chairman Pitman.

Next Meeting: January 30, 2023 at 5:30 pm

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