

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
April 24, 2023  
MINUTES**

**Call to Order**

5:30 – Vice Chairman McGarry called the meeting to order

**Present:** Vice Chairman Fred McGarry, Selectwoman Cynthia McHugh, Selectman Will Huebner and Selectman Steve Barry

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.**

**Town Bid Opening; Town Mowing RFB's, Town Fuel RFB's, Highway RFB's:**

**Town Mowing RFB's**

Town's building grounds mowing and trimming:

First Bid - Mark Tibbets - \$6,395.00

Second Bid – Blue Sky Landscaping - \$6,350.00

Athletic fields mowing and trimming:

First Bid – Blue Sky Landscaping - \$4,850.00

Second Bid – Mark Tibbets - \$4,858.00

Cemetery mowing and trimming:

First Bid – TNT Landscaping - \$14,500.00

Second Bid – Blue Sky Landscaping - \$12,100.00

Transfer station and transfer station hill mowing and trimming:

First Bid – Mark Tibbets – transfer station at \$750.00 for weekly mowing and transfer station hill at \$875.00 per mowing

Second Bid – Blue Sky Landscaping – transfer station at \$1,600.00 and transfer station hill at \$800.00 per mowing

**Highway RFB's**

Roadway Reconstruction Materials - 7 items:

1. 1 ½ inch processed gravel
2. ¾ inch processed gravel
3. 3 inch minus bank run
4. 1 ½ inch stone
5. ¾ inch stone
6. 2-to-4-inch erosion stone
7. 6 inch minus erosion stone

First Bid – FL Merrill Construction Inc. out of Loudon –

1. 1 ½ inch crushed gravel - \$11.00 per ton picked up
2. 1 ½ inch crushed gravel - \$17.05 per ton delivered
3. ¾ inch crushed gravel - \$11.50 per ton picked up
4. ¾ inch crushed gravel - \$17.55 per ton delivered
5. 3 inch minus bank run gravel - \$7.25 per ton picked up
6. 3 inch minus bank run gravel - \$13.40 per ton delivered
7. 1 ½ inch stone - \$13.50 per ton picked up
8. 1 ½ inch stone - \$19.65 per ton delivered
9. ¾ inch stone - \$13.30 per ton picked up
10. ¾ inch stone - \$19.45 per ton delivered
11. 6 inch minus erosion stone - \$13.30 per ton picked up

12. 6 inch minus erosion stone - \$19.45 per ton delivered
13. 1-to-3-inch erosion stone - \$13.30 per ton picked up
14. 1-to-3-inch erosion stone - \$19.45 per ton delivered

Second Bid – Northeast Earth Mechanics, LLC out of Pittsfield –

1. 1 ½ inch processed gravel - \$18.00 per ton (\$27.00 per cubic yard/1.5 tons)
2. ¾ inch processed gravel - \$19.34 per ton (\$29.00 per cubic yard/1.5 tons)
3. 3 inch minus bank run - \$17.50 per ton (\$24.50 per cubic yard/1.4 tons)
4. 1 ½ inch stone - \$25.00 per ton (\$33.75 per cubic yard/1.35 tons)
5. ¾ inch stone - \$25.00 per ton (\$33.75 per cubic yard/1.35 tons)
6. 2-4 inch erosion stone - \$25.00 per ton (\$33.75 per cubic yard/1.35 tons)
7. 6 inch minus erosion stone - \$25.00 per ton (\$33.75 per cubic yard/1.35 tons)

Third Bid - Pike Industries, Inc out of Belmont, delivery fee is \$10.50 per ton -

1. ¾ inch crushed stone base - \$9.00 per ton
2. 1 ½ inch crushed stone - \$9.50 per ton
3. 3 inch crushed stone base - \$9.50 per ton
4. 1 ½ stone - \$13.50 per ton
5. ¾ stone - \$13.25 per ton
6. 4-6 inch erosion stone - \$16.00 per ton
7. 2-4 inch erosion stone - \$15.45 per ton

Forth Bid – Manchester Sand, Gravel & Cement Co. Inc out of Hooksett, delivery fee is \$6.25 per ton but is subject to adjustment for fuel costs –

1. 1 ½ inch processed gravel - \$10.00 per ton
2. ¾ inch processed gravel - \$10.00 per ton
3. 3 inch minus bank run – No Bid
4. 1 ½ inch stone – No Bid
5. ¾ inch stone - \$12.00 per ton
6. 2-4 inch erosion stone – No Bid
7. 6 inch minus Erosion Stone - \$12.00 per ton

Selectman Barry asks Vice Chairman McGarry if the bids could be handed off the Road Agent for the decision making and Vice Chairman McGarry agrees.

Selectman Huebner asks if they need to all be bought from the same supplier and Vice Chairman McGarry states that typically they do not.

Roadside Mowing:

First and Only Bid – Fife Brush-Hogging Services LLC out of Salisbury – \$8,400.00

**Motion:** Selectmen Barry makes a motion to award the roadside mowing bid to Fife.

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

Selectwoman McHugh asks if this is the same company that did this work last year and Ray Ellis says it is not the same company.

**Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries**

Winter Sand:

First Bid – FL Merrill Construction Inc - \$10.50 per ton picked up - \$16.65 per ton delivered

Second Bid – Northeast Earth Mechanics, LLC – \$16.80 per ton delivered – No pick price provided

Selectman Barry asks the Road Agent, Pete Schibbelhute, who was running the winter sand this year and Mr. Schibbelhute replies, Earth Mechanics. Selectman Barry then asks if he was satisfied with their service. Mr. Schibbelhute states he would need to look at the bids to make a decision. Selectman Barry hands the bids to Mr. Schibbelhute to review.

### **Town Fuel RFB's**

Town Diesel Fuel with an estimate of 8,000 gallons to be delivered:

First Bid – Haffner's out of Lawrence - \$3.399 per gallon fixed

Second Bid – Irving - \$2.937 per gallon variable (\$0.326 over rack (daily) price)

Third Bid – Davis Fuels of Epsom - \$4.349 per gallon fixed

Selectman Barry states that diesel at the moment is somewhere around \$3.50 to \$3.60 cost and selling for over \$4.00 so he doesn't trust the second bid's pricing. The Board agrees that it looks like Haffner will be the one to go with.

Town Heating Oil with estimate of 14,200 gallons for the town + 12,000 gallons for the school, totaling 26,200 gallons:

First Bid – Haffner's - \$3.049 per gallon fixed

Second Bid – Palmer - \$3.349 per gallon fixed

Third Bid – Davis Fuel - \$3.559 per gallon fixed

Fourth Bid – Irving - \$2.948 per gallon fixed

Fifth Bid – Rymes - \$3.499 per gallon fixed

Town Propane with an estimated total of 4,750 gallons for town buildings and 7,000 gallons for the school totaling 11,750 gallons:

First Bid – Haffner's - \$1.799 per gallon fixed

Second Bid – Palmer - \$1.999 per gallon fixed

Third Bid – Davis Fuel - \$2.459 per gallon fixed

Fourth Bid – Rymes - \$1.815 per gallon fixed

Fifth Bid – Irving - \$1.825 per gallon fixed

Selectman Barry explains he would like to get away from the big companies for oil. He goes on to say that Irving is selling to the smaller businesses and then undercutting them on the town bids. He then asks if they have to choose based on price only or can service be included. Vice Chairman McGarry states they have the right to reject any one of the bids and choose who will best service us but typically they end up going with the low price.

Ray Ellis steps up to the mic to give his recommendation. He explains that Rymes was bought out and since then we have had issues and he does not feel they are not worth it. He states that that is what you get with the big companies. He explains that rented space, Charlie's, just switched over to Haffner for a \$1.10 a gallon cheaper than Eastern Propane. Mr. Ellis explains that Haffner does offer services but does remind the board that they are out of MA. He then tells the Board that during the past six years he's been with the town, Irving has been with the town on and off and they have been trying and they have been doing pretty good job for a big outfit. Haffner has not been with the town but he does know someone who has been working for them for a number of years but doesn't know the day to day. Selectman Huebner states it sounds like Haffner sounds good for services and the prices are locked in and are low and Mr. Ellis agrees. Selectman Huebner then asks if anyone could give a reason not to go with Haffner and Vice Chairman McGarry states, no.

**Motion:** Selectman Barry makes a motion to award the propane bid to Haffner.

**Second:** Selectman Huebner

**Discussion:**

**Vote:** Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries

The Selectman move onto the Diesel bids. Selectman Huebner recaps the diesel bids.

**Motion:** Selectman Barry makes a motion to award the diesel bid to Haffner.

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

Mr. Ellis agrees that Haffner sounds like the best choice.

**Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries**

Lastly the go to the heating oil bids. Selectman Huebner recaps the bids for heating oil.

**Motion:** Selectmen Barry makes a motion to award the heating oil bid to Haffner.

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

Mr. Ellis thinks it's a great idea to give Haffner a try.

Selectman Barry feels that giving all the fuels to one company gives them more of an incentive to work harder and Vice Chairman McGarry agrees.

Selectman Huebner would like to know if it's worth the difference in price between Irving and Haffner to go with Haffner.

Mr. Ellis does state that going with Irving does save quite a bit of money and we have used them before so he would recommend to use Irving.

Selectman Barry withdraws his motion.

Selectwoman McHugh withdraws her second.

Vice Chairman McGarry states that the motion has been withdrawn.

**Motion:** Selectmen Barry makes a motion to award the heating oil bid to Irving.

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

**Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries**

The Selectboard goes back to the Highway RFB's. Mr. Schibbelhute steps up to the mic. He goes over bid pricing and concludes that they will probably go with 3 of the vendors. Manchester Sand, Pike and Merrill. He will go over it more with John Harrington and they will talk to the vendors, as he has a few questions, and then put a chart together with all the pricing to present to the Board with Mr. Schibbelhute's recommendation. Highway RFB's are tabled until the next meeting on May 10th.

Selectman Huebner goes back to the mowing and Mr. Harrington states that he typically makes a spread sheet for that as well and he will have it ready for the next meeting and Ray Ellis will provide his recommendation at that time as well. Town mowing RFB's are tabled until the next meeting on May 10th.

**Jeff Shute – Deerfield Rec Commission with a Potential Contract with the granite State YMCA:**

Mr. Shute introduces Craig Houston. He is a citizen in Deerfield and presented this idea to the Parks and Rec and Board. He then reminds the Board that Eric has left and Deb is on an extended leave so there are no adults to run the after school and summer camp programs so they have been put on hold until next year. He would like to talk about Summer Camp specifically this evening. He explains that Mr. Houston had come to a Parks and rec commission meeting the other night and said he was willing to speak with the YMCA and get a contract together from the YMCA for them to provide a summer camp program here in Deerfield out of the George B. White building. He states that Parks and rec needs 2 things. One is permission to use the facilities, GBW and the sport fields. The second is for them to look at the memorandum of agreement, which does need some tweaking.

**Motion:** Selectmen Barry makes a motion to approve the YMCA to use the facilities and sport fields if they can come to an agreed upon contract between the YMCA and Deerfield Parks and Rec.

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

Mr. Shute explains that the YMCA will staff the whole program and if anyone else is needed they may bring back some of the previous staff here in Deerfield. He then explains that once they have the Boards the approval, they will survey the parents of Deerfield to see how the numbers will work out.

Vice Chairman McGarry asks about the pricing compares to parks and rec pricing. It would cost more; he doesn't have the exact pricing. Selectman Huebner states that he was reading it would

be \$185.00 for people in town and \$210.00 for people from out of town. The \$185.00 seems to be the same pricing as parks and rec pricing.

Mr. Houston speaks to the price point and feels this is a great price point and the parents of Deerfield would like to keep their kids within the town for childcare during the summer. He explains that the YMCA stated that it would be an easy move to bring some of their staff and then use the employees previously hired within parks and rec makes it a very easy move because they wouldn't have to hire a whole new staff. He states that the pushing issue is that parent's need to know that care will be available for their kids here in Deerfield and that the minimum number of students to be signed up can be met and that the personnel previously hired for summer camp are still available for the YMCA to tap into.

Selectman Huebner asks Selectwoman McHugh for her opinion since she represents the Board on the Parks and Rec Commission. Selectwoman McHugh states that she is in support of this. Selectman Barry reiterates his motion and states that, yes, there are further details to iron out but he really wants to get the ball rolling.

Selectman Huebner goes over financials. He states that with the \$185.00 per camper would be going to the YMCA this year and not the parks and revolving fund and that if a new director was hired or the assistant director came back then they wouldn't be involved in summer camp because it's being run by the YMCA. He also states that parks and rec wouldn't have any money coming into the revolving fund so the funds for maintaining other things would have to come out of the budget. Mr. Shute states that that is all correct but this is a one time thing, for one summer. Mr. Houston states that this is also a benefit to a new director because once hired they wouldn't have to jump directly into summer camp. They could learn and get up to speed with the job beforehand. Mr. Shute explains that it will not be an increase to the town because there are other programs being run that will contribute to the revolving fund so the town will not have to pay for anything just like it currently isn't. Selectman Huebner then asks about extra programs this summer since the YMCA will be running summer camp. Mr. Harrington explains that the intent is to have the previously hired staff for parks and rec to get hired with the YMCA for the summer and there is not a new director just yet and they do not have a return date for the assistant director so the bandwidth for extra programs isn't really there. Selectman Huebner then asks about the liability in the draft contract for if a child gets hurt. He wants to make sure Deerfield already has the insurance for this. Mr. Harrington clarifies and states that the contract states it will not be responsible for any negligence on the premises. The provider does and will maintain general liability for their program. Selectman Huebner states that's his last concern, town liability. Mr. Harrington then reminds the Board that this is just a template and that it will be cleaned up before anything moves forward.

It's agreed that they will come back to the next Board meeting with he cleaned up contract for the Board to review and sign.

**Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries**

## **Regular Business**

### **Review of Outstanding Minutes 4/10/2023:**

**Motion:** Selectman Barry makes a motion to approve the minutes as written.

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

#### **Discussion:**

Selectwoman McHugh states the for trustee of trust funds appointment it is Leah McHugh not William McHugh and that it needs to be fixed in two spots. Mr. Harrington states that he will correct it.

**Amended Motion:** Selectman Barry amends his motion to approve the corrected minutes.

**Second:** Selectwoman seconds the amended motion.

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

**Vouchers/Payroll Manifest/Accounts Payable Manifest:**

- Payroll Manifest – No Payroll this week.
- Accounts Payable – \$51,066.62

**Motion:** Selectmen Barry makes a motion to approve the accounts payable.

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

**Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries**

**Signatures/Correspondence:**

- Signatures –  
-Intent to cut. Reservation road. Map 418 Lot 62-4. 67 of 81 acres to be cut. Roscoe and Kathleen Blaisdell.

-Intent to cut. Nottingham Road. 10 acres of 322 acres to be cut. Carl Schlichte.

-Intent to cut. Dow Road. 12 of 14 acres to be cut. Jeff Eames and revocable family trust. Planning Board approved an earth excavation permit for this property as well. Mr. Schibbelhute comes to the mic to state that he went up to the property and spoke to Mr. Eames about the cutting as well.

-Current use application. Roscoe and Kathleen Blaisdell. Reservation Road. 63 acres to be put into current use. Per assessor, the taxpayer meets the statutory requirements to qualify for current use.

**Motion:** Selectmen Barry makes a motion to approve the current application for Roscoe and Kathleen Blaisdell.

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

**Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries**

-Current use application. Townsend Family Trust. 101 Candia Road. 10 acres to be put into current use. Per assessor, the taxpayer meets the statutory requirements to qualify for current use.

**Motion:** Selectmen Barry makes a motion to approve the current application for Townsend Family Trust.

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

**Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries**

-Current use application. 51 Church Street. 8.676 acres to be put into current use. Currently 1.476 acres are in current use. New total of property in current use, 10.152 acres.

**Motion:** Selectwoman McHugh makes a motion to approve the current application for 51 Church Street.

**Second:** Selectman Barry

**Discussion:**

Selectman Barry asks if there is a notation from the assessor on the application stating it meets the standards. Vice Chairman McGarry states that there is not a notation but it does state that it's approved by the assessor. Selectman Barry states, that will work.

Selectman Huebner is curious to know how the property previously only had 1.476 acres in current use when there is a 10-acre minimum. Erroll Rhodes steps up to the mic to help out. He states that this lot has had a lot of activity in the last 7 years and he's not sure how the 1.476 acres were put into current use but the assessor put it in current use years ago and the current owner is now putting the remaining amount of acres needed for current use to bring it to minimum amount needed for current use and is happy to do so.

Selectman Barry states that he would like to withdraw his second and have the application sent back to the assessor. He would then like the assessor to provide an explanation on how all this happened.

Selectwoman McHugh agrees so her motion is withdrawn.

Vice Chairman McGarry states it will be sent back to the assessing office for an explanation.

**Vote: Motion withdrawn. No vote taken. Application will be sent back to the assessor's office for explanation.**

Selectman Huebner suggests that they could vote on it and then ask for an explanation from the assessor. Selectman Barry states he doesn't want to get into until they have an explanation. Mr. Rhodes explains the property again and that the 1.476 acres hasn't been in the current tax assessment for 5 years now. Selectman Barry reiterates he would like the assessor's explanation.

-Application for elderly property tax exemption. Wanda Mandigo. 274 Middle Road. 65 to 74 years age exemption category of \$70,000.00. The assessing card shows the value of the home at \$165,000.00 so with the exemption only \$95,000.00 will be taxed.

**Motion:** Selectman Barry makes a motion to approve the elderly property tax exemption for Wanda Mandigo.

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

Selectman Huebner states that he's surprised there are not more of these applications coming to them. Mr. Harrington states that a lot of people are already signed up for it. Selectman Huebner states that this is for any citizen from age 65 to 74. Vice Chairman McGarry agrees and explains there are other categories of 75 to 79 and another for 80 and over. Vice Chairman McGarry then reads the note from the assessor that the taxpayer meets all the statutory requirements.

**Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries**

-Application for elderly property tax exemption. Deborah J. and John Doggett. 87 Griffin Road. 65 to 74 years age exemption category of \$70,000.00. Assessing shows the property's current value is \$357,600.00. \$70,000 will come off the current value and that is what will be taxed. Note from the assessor that the taxpayer meets all the statutory requirement for the elderly exemption.

**Motion:** Selectman Barry makes a motion to approve the elderly tax exemption for Deborah J. and John Doggett.

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

**Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries**

-Veteran's tax credit. Kathleen O'Donnell. 340 North Road. For \$750.00 veteran's tax credit plus \$4,000.00 for total disability veteran's tax credit.

**Motion:** Selectwoman McHugh makes a motion to approve the veteran's tax and total disability veteran's tax credits for Kathleen O'Donnell.

**Second:** Selectman Barry

**Discussion:**

**Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries**

-Report of Wood or Timber cut. Calgary Mackenzie. 25 acres cut. Raymond Road. Tax levy amount to be collected is \$3,990.82.

**Motion:** Selectwoman McHugh makes a motion to approve the collection of the timber cut tax levy of \$3,990.82.

**Second:** Selectman Barry

**Discussion:**

**Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries**

-Report of Wood or Timber cut. Susan M. Reed Revocable Trust. South Road. Tax levy amount to be collected is \$236.91.

**Motion:** Selectwoman McHugh makes a motion to approve the collection of the timber cut tax levy of \$236.91.

**Second:** Selectman Barry

**Discussion:**

**Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries**

-Oaths of Office. Josh Freed and Wes Golomb. Conservation Commission. 3-year terms.

**Motion:** Selectwoman McHugh makes a motion to approve the appointments of Josh Freed and Wes Golomb to the Conservation Commission for 3-year terms.

**Second:** Selectman Barry

**Discussion:**

**Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries**

-Special off cycle payroll manifest for an employee's separation. \$2,811.15 gross. \$2,137.21 net.

**Motion:** Selectman Barry makes a motion to approve the off-cycle payroll.

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

**Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries**

-New Hire Personnel Action Request. Richard Cruz. Transfer station attendant. Part-time, 32 hours a week at \$18.00 an hour.

**Motion:** Selectwoman McHugh makes a motion to approve the new hire personnel action request.

**Second:** Selectman Barry

**Discussion:**

Selectman Huebner asks if this brings the transfer station staff back to 3 employees. Mr. Harrington replies, that is correct.

**Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries**

-Oath of Office. Andrea Hotaling. Deputy Town Treasurer.

**Motion:** Selectman Huebner makes a motion to approve Andrea Hoteling's appointment as Deputy Town Treasurer.

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh



**Discussion:**

**Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries**

Oath Request forms. Welfare Administrator, Health Officer, Deputy Health Officer and Building Inspector.

Health Officer, John Dubiansky at 13 Church Street. Deputy Health Officer, Kevin Lemieux from Durham. Welfare Administrator, Doreen Schibbelhute at 222 Raymond Road. Building Inspector, Kevin Lemieux from Durham.

**Motion:** Selectman Barry makes a motion to approve the appointments for Health Officer, Deputy Health Officer, Welfare Administrator and Building Inspector.

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

**Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries**

- Correspondence –
  - Accounts payable manifest from April 17, 2023. \$83,293.68. Already approved and signed by the Board.
  - Payroll Manifest for the week ending April 12, 2023 with a check date of April 18, 2023. Gross \$112,308.17. Net \$73,205.09. Already approved and signed by the Board.
  - Invitation from the library to the annual Elsie Brown Volunteer of the Year Award ceremony on Saturday, April 29, 2023 at 10:00am.
  - Revenue report from the Town Clerk for the Month of March. Town Clerk revenue is \$149,492.00. Tax Collector revenue is \$106,542.90.
  - Letter from Breezeline. It is about the franchise agreement between the Town of Deerfield and Breezeline. Attached to the letter is documentation detailing the system performance for the calendar year of 2022.
  - Email from Susan Seitz. Cole Road. She is requesting that Cole Road not be paved. She explains that since potholes have been filled people are driving much faster down the road. She fears if the road is paved it will increase the speed of drivers even more so she truly fears for the safety of everyone who lives on the road.
  - Letter from Vegetation Control Services about the work on the New England Co-op right of way. It includes maps of what they are proposing to cut.
  - Memo from Executive Counselor Gatsis that includes the activity in Concord for the Executive Council.
  - Rockingham County Commissioners. Copy of the commission's fiscal year of 2024's proposed budget.

**Town Administrator's Report:**

John Harrington states, one item.

1. Mr. Harrington would like the Board to motion and vote for the utilization of the Fire Departments vehicles and equipment expendable trust fund for repairs to Rescue 1 in the amount of \$6,300.00.

**Motion:** Selectman Barry makes a motion to approve the use of the Fire Department vehicle maintenance and equipment expendable trust fund for repairs on Rescue 1 in the amount of \$6,300.00.

**Second:** Selectman Huebner

**Discussion:**

Selectman Huebner asks what work is to be done for this amount of money. Selectwoman McHugh states she believes it's for the framework and tie rod end and Mr. Harrington says, correct. He then explains the work is done and Rescue 1 is back on the road. He states that the Fire Chief wants to use the trust fund to pay for the repairs.

**Vote: Yea 3, Nay 0, Abstained 1 - Motion Carries**

**Unfinished Business**

Selectwoman McHugh wants to go back to the culverts in people's driveways. She's not understanding why the town would pay to fix people's culverts when in RSA it states the town is not supposed to. Mr. Schibbelhute steps to the mic to explain the culverts and the town right-of-way. Selectwoman McHugh says the RSA states that we can fix it if the property owner pays for it. Mr. Schibbelhute states that there are culverts that need to be put in or fixed that some homeowners might not have the wherewithal to buy or fix a culvert and it will be up to the Board to decide if the Town will install or fix them or let the road get destroyed. Selectwoman McHugh is concerned this is opening a big can of worms and everyone in town will want the Town paying for these things. Selectman Barry asks if it's in the Town right-of-way and it's a problem and causing a problem to the road and the Town asks the person to replace it and they say no, what do we do. Selectwoman McHugh says the RSA states that then the town replaces it and they charge the property owner. Vice Chairman McGarry explains that the town right-of-way goes up to the stone wall so if the culvert is within that right-of-way the Town is not going onto the private property and it's the Town's right to work on the culvert. They all agree that they can't worry about the past and look to the future and talk to the property owners. Selectman Barry states that it needs to be on case-by-case basis but when it comes to a bad culvert destroying a Town road and action needs to be taken then it will have to be taken and a bill sent. Mr. Schibbelhute would like to avoid that at all costs. They all agree to move forward.

Selectman Barry brings up the culvert on Haynes Road that the Town has been working on and asks where they are at with it. Mr. Schibbelhute explains that the last time he spoke to Mr. Keech, Mr. Keech had gone to the state about permits and what needs to be done to comply with state requirements. They then go over the size of the new culvert and how much precipitation it will be able to handle. Mr. Schibbelhute then explains that as soon as he receives a set of plans for the culvert he'll bring it to the Board for review and he feels that they should buy the box culvert immediately and then bid out the labor and installation. They then go over the money for fixing this and where it will come from. At this time there is a grant coming NH DOT to pay for a large portion of it. Town cost is estimated to be \$180,000.00 but they won't know for sure until there is a set of plans. Selectman Barry asks how much ARPA money is left and Mr. Harrington replies, approximately \$278,000.00 with no plans for it. Selectman Barry feels they should designate some of that money for this culvert project and Vice Chairman McGarry reminds the Board that \$350,000.00 was voted in for road work this past election. They agree to wait and see the cost before deciding where the money will come from. Mr. Schibbelhute states that he will double his efforts with Keech to get this done because we're running out of time.

Mr. Schibbelhute states he needs a compactor for his guys to work on culverts and presents three bids to the Board. They are from ATS in Candia and then two from online. They all agree this is a good decision for long term savings and the health of the Deerfield culverts. The one from ATS is \$6,200.00 and this is the cheapest and it helps that they are close if any repairs or parts are needed. The second is for \$7,375.00 and the third one is for \$8,499.... (could not hear the cents amount).

**Motion:** Selectwoman McHugh makes a motion to go with ATS for the compactor at \$6,200.00.

**Second:** Selectman Barry  
**Discussion:**

**Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries**

Mr. Schibbelhute then presents the rates for all rental equipment that will be needed throughout the season. (Cannot hear where all the bids are from as Mr. Schibbelhute is not at the mic). Mr. Schibbelhute goes over how it would work if the Town rented his personal business's equipment. He goes over the amount of work that needs to be done in Town. He goes over a lot of the work that needs to be done around town. Selectwoman McHugh brings up that they are waiting for the list of what needs to be done first to last from Mr. Schibbelhute. Mr. Schibbelhute goes over that there are a number of priorities but with the money they have culverts, gravel and tree cutting on the top priorities. He explains that he pretty much has a list but is waiting to see how it goes with the Haynes Road culvert before finalizing it. Selectwoman McHugh asks if there is a rental policy because she doesn't want anyone to be able to say there is a conflict of interest for Mr. Schibbelhute. She wants to protect him. Per the discussion there is no policy but the highway agent can rent their own equipment to the town at a competitive rate but the competitive rate is also offset by the fact that the Town doesn't have to pay for the equipment to just sit there when it's not being used. They agree that John will keep all the bids on file and that they will call Mr. Schibbelhute with any questions at any time. No vote is necessary. They will go by the rates provided per each piece of equipment.

Selectwoman McHugh brings up the Rescue's command vehicle. She explains that Rescue 2 is now out of service because it was run the entire time Rescue 1 was out of service. She feels that when the Fire Chief is out of town or not around that the command vehicle should go to the Assistant Fire Chief to try to alleviate some of the pressure on the other apparatuses. The Board agrees that this is a reasonable request.

#### **New Business**

Vice Chairman McGarry reads an email he received from Jack Hutchison about locust trees growing on the banking that is below Bicentennial Field and he would like to cut a few of them to use for posts at the Deerfield Community School in their Forest structures. The Board has no objection to Mr. Hutchinson cutting those trees down and Mr. Harrington will get in touch with him to let him know.

#### **Other Business**

No other Business.

#### **Citizen's Comments**

No Citizen's comments.

#### **Adjournment**

**Motion:** Selectman Barry makes a motion to adjourn at 7:43pm.

**Second:** Selectwoman McHugh

**Discussion:**

**Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries**

**Next Meeting: May 8, 2023 at 5:30 pm**

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