

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
May 20, 2019
MINUTES**

Call to Order

5:30 pm – Chairman Robertson called the meeting to order

Present: Andrew Robertson, Chairman; Richard Pitman, Vice Chairman. Fred McGarry, Jeff Shute and Cindy McHugh, Selectpersons.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Chairman Robertson asks all to rise and pledge allegiance to the Flag

Tax Warrant:

Chairman Robertson stated that this is the tax collector's warrant, the property taxes levied for the State of New Hampshire and stated that the Board of Selectmen did come in and sign it and he would read the significant portion.

"In the name of the State, you are hereby directed to collect the property taxes in the list herewith commented to you amounting to \$6,618,788.50 and with interest at 8 percent per annum from July 17, 2019 thereafter on all sums not paid on or before that day."

Dr. Jeff Garness - UNH College of Life Sciences and Agriculture

Dr. Garness introduced himself and stated that he is a professor at UNH, in the Department of Natural Resources and the Environment.

He stated that he is studying, among other things, insects that affect our forest in New Hampshire and beyond.

One of the things that he studies intensively, is the emerald ash borer. He stated his is going to presume that most of the people there have heard of this insect and are relatively versed in what it stands to bring to our communities unfortunately which lamentably, is a lot of dead ash, especially in the larger age classes.

What they have been pursuing in the last number of years, in his lab, through a number of students, including Breanne, who just finished her master's degree and continuing on with a PhD thankfully to help solve these problems.

It is using biological control agents, and specifically asking questions about how the biological control agents function in our landscapes and the potential for controlling the severity of the damage from the emerald ash borer.

He stated that he wouldn't go into great detail about it but the focus of the project is actually on the trees themselves.

They intend to study what is called "ontogenetic resistance" which is a mouthful but it basically means how resistance to insects or pathogens changes over the age of a tree.

Big ash trees are highly, highly susceptible, pretty much without exception. There may be a few lingering ash trees that they are seeing that harbor some resistance but pretty much 99 percent of trees are going to succumb to the ash borer.

In the smaller tree cohort, there seems to be some level of resistance but what they don't know if whether this is just physical resistance like the thickness of bark or just the habitat that the insect experiences or if it has to do with the chemical signature of the trees which tends to change over the age of the tree and across a lot of tree species.

It is a very common phenomenon in other trees but they didn't understand it in this system so what they would like to do in this experiment. This involves four sites in New Hampshire along the advancing edge of the emerald ash borer invasion because we don't want to study it where it hasn't gotten yet, of course, because of the potential to introduce it where it hasn't yet gotten and we don't want to study it in the aftermath forest, we call it, where everything's just devastation because the populations are too high and we have lost a lot of the trees already. We're sort of restricted to this band of the advancing front and Deerfield is one of those places.

Two of the sites that they intend to study are green ash and two are white ash and Deerfield, right across the street at the ballpark, there happens to be both, green ash below the ball field down by the conservation area and then white ash up above.

It is sort of ideal from that perspective and also ideal because it contains that range of size classes of trees that they are interested in, basically from, and he stated he uses centimeters, but three centimeters, about a little bit more than an inch, so very small trees all the way up to about 15 centimeters, about six inch trees, so they're talking about relatively small trees and not to terribly many of them either.

They need 48 trees per site and that's across all of these age classes, equally distributed in 3 to 6, 6 to 9, 9 to 12 and 12 to 15 size range.

In other words, the biggest trees there would be only 12 of them per site that they would need to utilize.

From the Board's perspective, especially the bigger trees, but eventually the literal of trees too, will succumb to this beetle whether or not they study them as it happens so in a sense, taking out the bigger trees will maybe save a little bit of maintenance in terms of not having to deal with hazard trees that are lingering on the property.

Ash tends to crumble as opposed to fall down wholesale, so it's a little bit less dangerous from that perspective but it also can be a hazard.

Briefly, a little bit more about the experiment itself, they want to institute three treatments and two are relatively benign, one is just a "control treatment" where they do nothing.

Another is what is called an "inducement treatment" which is where they take a plant hormone called methyl jasmonate and apply it to the tree and that initially tricks the tree to initiating its chemical defensive cascades so it tricks the tree into thinking it's being attacked and they can then look at the chemicals that result from that pseudo attack.

The third treatment, which is the most complicated from the Board's perspective, is that they want to actually see what happens when the emerald ash borer attacks these trees so in the third treatment, this would be 12 trees per site, a total of 24 if they consider Deerfield to be two sites, depending on the Board's approval, of course.

They would actually apply emerald ash borer eggs to the tree and that's done by ordering up eggs that are produced in the Michigan rearing facility, which there is quite a big facility, that is the animal, plant health inspection service that rears emerald ash borer in order to be able to rear its parasitoids, its biocontrol agents.

They send them eggs and carefully check which ones are viable and then literally tape them to the trees and cover the bowl of the tree where the eggs have been placed with this Tyvek building material that keeps the rain off because if they get wet during their initiation phase, they'll die.

So, for a short period, maybe four to six weeks, June/July, they would be 12 trees per site that would have this Tyvek tent placed over the trees and then basically, nobody would really be able to tell any difference between those trees and any other trees in the forest and again, they were talking about small size classes up to about so big.

They would then come in and harvest the trees in about October and the reason that they do that is because they don't want to let any of their experimentally infested trees produce any adult emerald ash borer, the EAB is what they call it.

The minimum time for development from egg to adult is one year at a very minimum and then usually it even takes longer than that, up to two years sometimes.

By taking them out within the same season in October, they would effectively be removing anything that they brought to the site.

Additionally, they would also be releasing parasitoids which is something that would most likely be done anyway. Bill Davidson, at the Department of Forest and Lands at the State of New Hampshire has been releasing a suite of parasitoid wasps, little tiny wasps, don't sting, don't bother anybody, probably too small to even notice that they were there, all along the advancing front throughout New Hampshire. He is doing a really good job of establishing these populations in order to study how their treatments would affect these wasp populations. They would also release them. Those would have the effect of suppressing emerald ash borer densities at the site, if anything.

He stated that he didn't want to go on and on and he thought that the best way to manage this is to answer any questions.

He closed by saying that they did quite a lot of scouting throughout this advancing front and in collaboration with Bill Davidson, who he just mentioned, found these two sites that are particularly attractive to them because they are the right size and the right numbers and they are both green and white ash.

From their perspective, very convenient, but of course there are other sites, if there are considerations that are beyond my control that influences the Board's decision but that he was happy to answer any questions about their concerns.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked what was needed from the Board to get going?

Dr. Garness stated that he needed nothing but the Board's permission. They would come in, if the Board granted permission for them to do the project. They would walk with as light a foot print as possible. They would need to tag the trees at the base, just so that they could find them again. That's how they make sure that they don't leave any behind. They would probably do some flagging just to be able to find them easily and their field crews would be coming as much as once a week, maybe not quite that often, once every two weeks to take various measurements and then they would do a final harvest in October. They would then peel the trees.

Up until now, they have been using the Boscawen plant state nursery for their "peeling party" they call it because it is quite a lot of work to peel all the trees and count all the emerald ash borer larvae and all the parasitoids but that would be removed offsite.

The only thing they would leave behind and that is negotiable, if it is a problem, but they typically leave the tops behind just because it's easier to do so and they haven't been infested so there's no risk but if the Board prefer them to be removed because they are unsightly or for whatever reason, then they could certainly do that.

Chairman Robertson stated that he thought the information that Brea gave the Board had a schematic of exactly where this is. This is sort of down over the bank from the ballfields across the road here headed where the conservation land abuts the town owned land on the backside of Bicentennial Field.

Dr. Garness agreed with the chairman and continued that it is down the conservation trail, the Lindsay-Flanders Trail, as soon as you get past the little ramp that goes up to home plate, on both sides of the trail, there's a fairly restricted area where you find the green ash. If you go too far, there are hemlock. There's no ash. It is really right there.

It wouldn't upset anybody that was at the ballfield. People might see them if they walk their dog in the trail but that they wouldn't be in a place that is bothersome to anybody there.

The site that he didn't have a chance to scout as much as he was hoping to as he got there a bit later than he wanted to, but is right across the street, adjacent to the parking lot on the topside of the ballfield, is the white ash site. They're not exactly mixed but they're sort of separated.

Chairman Robertson stated that he thought that he had mentioned to Brea in conversation earlier that they've got some ongoing projects from UNH right now on town property, both on land and in streams under the direction of Serita Frey, so this is certainly nothing new. He thought that there was some significant benefit to figuring out how to get a handle on the emerald ash borer.

Selectman McGarry asked how they applied the material that makes the tree think it's under attack.

Methyl jasmonate and they use a cotton soaked in methyl jasmonate. It's just a plant hormone that is used to ripen fruit and do all sorts of things. It's a common compound and they literally soak it and attach it to the bark and it soaks through the bark surface.

Selectman McGarry stated that they didn't have to apply it underneath the bark and Dr. Garness agreed and continued that it's right through the bark.

Selectman Shute stated that he wasn't sure when your time to be behind the backstop and they were talking about a project with the town to take care of that erosion and they were going to cut some trees down so they may want to hook the doctor up with the road agent or whoever is doing that work to make sure that they aren't cutting the trees down that they want to study.

Dr. Garness stated that he appreciated that and if that project is going to go forward this summer and it's too difficult to manage then it probably would make it so that the site wouldn't be useful to them so they really need to know that in advance and would be happy to do the groundwork to speak with whoever he needed to speak with.

Chairman Robertson stated that he didn't think it would negate the project and Dr. Garness stated that he hoped not.

Selectman Shute stated that he was trying to look at the map what was sent to them.

Dr. Garness stated if you look in the white rectangle which is a little hard to see unless its printed in color, but literally right behind the backstop. He thought it was a little generous in how long it is as to him it is wider than long but he didn't draw the rectangle.

Selectman Shute stated that the work they were talking about was behind that other backstop. If you are looking at the map, it's over to the right which is where the hill drops off there.

Dr. Garness stated that it would be great to connect with somebody just to know exactly where they are talking about.

Selectman McGarry asked, just for his information, the mature ash trees, what is the appearance on the tree itself to know that it is being attacked by the emerald ash borer.

Dr. Garness stated that unfortunately, it is actually very hard to detect it in the early stages of infestation. What is usually seen is woodpecker damage.

The woodpeckers are keen to find these larvae that live underneath the bark and usually in the second or third year after they become infested, the winter after that second or third year, the woodpeckers start going crazy and they pick off the bark and the bark comes off in little flakes and underneath it is kind of yellowish and they actually call that "blonding".

When you see the tree start to exhibit "blonding" and there's evidence that woodpeckers have been doing that, unfortunately, at that stage, it's pretty late. To catch it before then, you can look at canopy dieback and there can be a number of causes for canopy dieback including another disease that they deal with in ash so it's a little hard to know. If there is a particular tree that he would like them to look at, they might be able to help.

Selectman McGarry was wondering if the trees at the top of Church Street and the chairman didn't know if it was road salt or emerald ash borer or a combination of the two.

Dr. Garness stated that there is also a fight for plasma which is a disease that's vectored by a little leaf hopper, little tiny insects that have been affecting the ash for some time. It could be Ash Yellows, it could be just road salt or root compaction or something, who knows, but if the Board would like them to take a look at specific trees, they might be able to diagnose it a little bit better.

If the Board was interested, there are chemical treatments that you can use for high-value trees. It's up to your discretion of course. People sometimes prefer just to remove them or wait until they die naturally or a chemical, emamectin benzoate, which is a root injection that protects the tree for up to four years.

It buys some time, depending on how many trees that you want to protect, it can become expensive but that the price but the price as actually dropped and it's relatively ecologically friendly although they are studying that as well this year to understand how it moves through the ecosystem.

Selectman McGarry stated that if he had chance to go out Church Street at the top of the hill or as you approach the top of the hill, the trees on the right-hand side of the sharp curve (you can't miss them).

Chairman Robertson stated that he didn't know what the pleasure of the Board was but he thought other than discussing which trees they were going to remove for the erosion control project, other than that, does the Board have any objection?

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves that they approve UNH to move on the emerald ash borer project

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson stated that they would appreciate it if they would touch base probably through the town administrator, John Harrington, to make sure that the erosion control, plants and tree removal aren't removing the trees that they're looking to study.

He would also like to thank Nick Lawrence, who actually first contacted Brea about this because it looked like a Parks and Recs site and Nick referred her to the Board.

Nick Lawrence – Donation to Parks and Recreation; Rec van surplus decision

Mr. Lawrence stated that he would first like to start by publicly congratulating a local senior high school student that approached him. His name is Forrest Mackenzie and he was selected as the Gatorade New Hampshire Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year.

Just a little bit about that. The Gatorade "Play it Forward" initiative works in conjunction with the Gatorade "Player of the Year" program to empower student athletes to provide resources to sport organizations in their communities.

Though the "Play it Forward" Program, all 678 "Player of the Year" Award winners, which Forrest was one of, have the opportunity to select youth sports organizations to receive a \$1,000.00 grant to help the next generation of athletes reap the benefits of sport.

So, Forrest chose the Deerfield Parks and Recreation Department, on behalf of the department, he would like to thank Forrest for the generosity of the donation and wish him the best of luck in the future and ask for the Board's blessing to accept that donation as well.

Motion: Selectman Shute moves to accept the \$1,000.00 donation

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson also would note that Forrest is actually going to UNH on a running scholarship so you can still see him running.

Secondly, Mr. Lawrence stated, the van, the red Ford E-250 van is what he was talking about, that was their utility van, is no longer of use as some of you know already to them.

It won't currently pass inspection as it needs quarter-panel work and fender well restoration as well. He consulted O'Neal's in town about this and right out of the gate he recommended that it probably wouldn't be something that was able to be done to pass inspection, making it virtually useless to the department going forward.

He stated that he called five body shops and all five of them did state that they don't perform that type of work on vans with the amount of rust that is on it.

With that confirmation, he did go ahead and submitted the form for "surplus property disposition" request with the fair condition value through Kelley Blue Book, which if you look at the van, it doesn't seem like it falls under fair condition but the values are there. There is about \$2,500.00 in private sale value or \$1,500.00 in trade-in value.

He was just looking to see what the Board's recommendation with that van moving forward.

Chairman Robertson stated that having a look at the van and understanding that their not going to get it inspectable for anything less than what's listed here is fair value, which he didn't think it actually meets fair condition criteria, that they probably would want to surplus it but he didn't know what the rest of the Board felt.

Selectman Shute stated that the question was, how do they surplus it? Is it over a thousand or under a thousand?

Chairman Robertson stated that it is up to the Board he guessed.

Selectman Shute stated that they had talked about putting it out on the street with a "For Sale" sign on it to see if someone in town might want to use it.

Chairman Robertson stated that typically they would accept sealed bids or something along those lines for it. That has been done in the past with vehicles. He didn't know what the Board's pleasure was.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that they still could put it aside the road and others added with a sign stating that they were accepting sealed bids.

Ms. Cady from the audience asked that before they voted, she would mention that the trade schools do work for towns, schools, whatever. So, you have Concord, Manchester, Exeter that may want to do the work on it and then it could be usable again. She didn't know.

Chairman Robertson asked what the Board's pleasure was at this point.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he would definitely like to surplus it and start by putting it on the side of the road over there with an invitation for accepting sealed bids.

Selectman Shute stated that they could put something on the website with pictures and Chairman Robertson added that any advertising that they could do and that they need to do to set a deadline for the sealed bids.

Chairman Robertson asked the Board if they wanted a reserved minimum on it? Having been through this a few times before I know sometimes the highest bid is sometimes been like \$212.00. Do they want to state that it is subject to a \$500.00 minimum to which a few members agreed that would be a good idea?

Selectwoman McHugh asked if the van was unsafe or was it just cosmetic?

Mr. Lawrence stated that it's mostly cosmetic but it also needs exhaust too so that's another piece that comes off of it.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that someone in town might like it.

Chairman Robertson asked if the Board was in agreement that they will move forward with accepting sealed bids for the surplus of the van to which all agreed yes.

Selectman McGarry stated to Mr. Harrington that he could set whatever timeframe, cutoff date for that.

Selectwoman McHugh asked what would replace the van.

Mr. Lawrence stated that currently they are using their passenger van so basically everything that they need to do, they can just hook the trailer up whether it's for a big event like Old Home Day. They've been getting by without it.

Chairman Robertson stated that they haven't used it for at least six months.

Mr. Lawrence stated that it hasn't been inspected since last September.

Chairman Robertson asked if that was all that Mr. Lawrence had to which he stated yes.

Chairman Robertson stated that the following isn't on the agenda but if there's no objection from the Board, Mr. Paul Pintress is here this evening and wanted to talk briefly about the use of the Town Hall for contra dances.

Mr. Pintress stated that he appreciated giving him the time. There has been a monthly contra dance in Deerfield for going on 30 years although he wasn't sure exactly how long but it's somewhere in the neighborhood of 30 years. He himself, has taken over the operation of this dance for the last four or five years.

This year talking with Ray Ellis, he told him that they were going to be some new guidelines as far as using the hall. They use the upstairs and they have always used the upstairs hall.

Apparently, the fire chief has put restrictions on the number of people that can be up there because he is concerned about egress from the building in case of an emergency.

While he hoped to increase attendance at the dance, he understood his concerns because he is a former fire fighter and he wouldn't buck what he requests. He has limited it to 40. They have been running between 30 and 35 dancers so he thought that they were well within the guidelines.

Another stipulation that Ray shared with him is that he wanted to reserve the hall on a month-by-month basis and he explained to him that in operating this contra dance, he really needed to do it up to a year in advance because there is the matter of making arrangements with bands and callers and there's other contra dancers in southern New Hampshire that are in competition for talent and if he doesn't get on people's schedules, he won't be able to do it.

Apparently, Mr. Harrington has agreed to be able to schedule a year in advance and that works for him.

The third thing, however, that was recently shared with him is that Mr. Harrington asked that they become an official, nonprofit organization.

When he first took over this dance about five years ago, he actually did apply to the state, or contacted the state and they sent him the packet of information.

In looking it over, it was going to be tough for him to do primarily because he is the sole operator in this. He wished it wasn't that way but he is in a situation, like the story of the Little Red Hen where everybody likes to go to the dance but nobody wants to help out so he is the chief cook and bottle washer. He does just about everything.

As far as establishing a nonprofit organization where the state requires that you actually have officers on the board, he would be putting his name on every category and he didn't know how that would fly. He added that he didn't know if he wanted to take on that kind of bureaucratic paperwork. He does this on a volunteer basis. He's retired now and everything he does is volunteer. As an example, he was the last editor for the Communicator in town before the funding group FOCUS pulled their support.

This is another thing that I do for the benefit of the town. He makes nothing in the way of monetary remuneration. Any money they take in goes back to the bands and the callers at the end of the evening.

He understands how from a standpoint of dotting "i's" and crossing "t's" that Mr. Harrington may want him to show that they truly are a nonprofit. If that is really going to be required, he'll just walk away from it because he really doesn't care to take on that kind of a burden. It's not why he is in this from the get go.

He told the Board that they can tell him which way they wanted him to go, whether they actually really want that or can they forgo it?

Chairman Robertson stated that he thought that they probably get him a decision. He thought that they would most likely would want to talk to Mr. Harrington and Mr. Ellis before they make that decision which they could do fairly quickly.

He would say that, he is certainly familiar, he hadn't been to a contra dance for a number of years but he moved to Deerfield in 1989 and there were active contra dances and went to a number of them. He also stated that he has recollection that the early contra dances helped raise funds for the restoration of the upstairs so he would feel somewhat remiss if they push the contra dancers out from the tradition that has certainly spanned 30 years and actually helped pay for the renovation in some capacity of the upstairs.

Mr. Pintress stated that contra dancing is a tradition that goes back to the earliest days of colonial America and when he moved into Deerfield several years ago, it's part of what made it attractive to him to live in this town, part of small town America, that and editing the town newspaper, it felt like it made me a part of the community.

Chairman Robertson asked to give the Board another meeting and they will get some information about concerns that John and Ray may have but speaking for himself obviously, but he doesn't want to run the long-standing contra dance tradition out of town if they don't need to.

Selectwoman McHugh asked why he needed to be a nonprofit?

Mr. Harrington stated that the request was not that he has to become a nonprofit. If he wanted to pay the nonprofit fee, he had to show proof. He doesn't have to become a nonprofit.

Mr. Pintress stated that there might be a communication breakdown.

Mr. Harrington stated that there was no request that you become a nonprofit but he stated that it was indicated to Mr. Ellis that you were a nonprofit and that is when he said that you'd need to show the documentation. He thought that there was a communication issue.

Chairman Robertson stated to give the Board another meeting. They will talk with John and talk with Ray and see if they could come up with something amenable for him.

Cemetery Maintenance Bids:

Chairman Robertson stated that they had recommendations from the Cemetery Trustees. This is from Dana van der Bijl.

"The Cemetery Trustees would like the town's approval to award the 2019 cemetery maintenance contract to Tyler Partridge at TNT Landscaping.

As you can see from the attached bid comparison, his price was much better than similar competitors.

We also took into consideration the fact that TNT is a Deerfield company and is already familiar with our cemeteries.

Please let me know if you need anything else."

Chairman Robertson stated that these were the bids that they referred to her.

TNT was \$11,800.00.

The next closest bid was \$17,000.00.

This is for May through October cleanups, mowing of Old Center Cemetery, Fellows, Sanborn, Hanes, and Parade as well as spring cleanup and fall cleanup.

The chairman asked if Mr. Harrington had more and stated that the last page is the actual agreement from Tyler that he dropped off today and you'll see that that price is lower than the original bid.

After discussing, the cemetery trustees took out a couple of cemeteries so his cost went down.

The very last page is his agreement and that's \$10,800.00, he believed.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to award the cemetery maintenance to TNT, Tyler Partridge, \$10,800.00 for the 2019 cemetery mowing and cleaning

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Regular Business:

Review of Outstanding Minutes of May 6, 2019 – Discretionary Easement Hearing

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the minutes of Discretionary Preservation Easement Barn Plan hearing from May 6th.

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Review of Outstanding Minutes of May 5, 2019

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2019 Select Board meeting

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion: Selectman Shute had a correction on Page 1, Line 57 to read "just to be clear, money for the mowing of the fields would come out of the Parks and Rec revolving account."

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

Payroll Manifest - \$73,359.47 (gross), \$49,284.77 (net)

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to approve the payroll manifest as presented

Second: Selectman Shute

Discussion:

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

While the Board is signing the Payroll Manifest, he would note that a quorum of the Board signed the Accounts Payable Manifest from May 13th, 2019. The total amount of \$62,153.93.

Account Payable for May 20, 2019 - \$45,312.20

Motion: Selectman Shute moves to approve the accounts payable manifest as presented

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Cemetery Lot – Regina Bowler – Old Center Cemetery - \$400.00

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the purchase of said lot

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Current Use Change Tax Collector's Warrant - \$610.00 – Amy Smith, 379 Currier Road

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to collect the Current Use Change Tax

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Recommendation from the Assessor to deny an abatement: Lisa and George Thorn, 4 Loon Ledge

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to approve the denial for abatement for Lisa and George Thorn

Second: Selectman Shute

Discussion: Chairman Robertson stated that Avitar attached a fairly long explanation why they would recommend denial of the abatement

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

Timber Tax Levies Due –

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| Charles Huckins | \$ 835.22 |
| Melinda Geddes | \$1,977.92 |
| Anthony Plots | \$ 96.36 |
| Roscoe Blaisdell | \$ 11.75 |

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to approve the collection of the timber tax levies due

Second: Selectman Shute

Discussion:

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

Timber Tax Levies Due –

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Adam St. Germain – Lang Road | \$ 19.65 |
| UNH Woodland and Natural Area | EXEMPT FROM TIMBER TAX |
| Tukcor Real Estate and Development | \$ 420.17 |
| Kerry and Sarah Vos – Middle Road | \$ 70.75 |

For a total of \$510.57

Motion: Selectman Shute moves to approve collection of the Timber Tax Levies listed

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Intent to Cut Wood/Timber

Molly Grant – Middle Road

Charles and Cynthia Kelsey – off Woodman Road and Lower Deerfield Road

Memorandum of Agreement – Chief Duquette – Deerfield Police Department

They are looking to apply for a Homeland Security grant for radio reprogramming. Chairman Robertson stated that he didn't think it was a slam dunk but the police chief would like to apply for it and needs the memorandums signed by the Board.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to sign the Memorandum of Agreement as presented

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion: It was asked by Selectman Shute if it were a matching grant and was told it was a full grant.

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

Chairman Robertson stated that they had a request for a signature on a letter from Courtney Torre at the Lazy Lion Restaurant and they would like to expand their business to the upstairs to one of the upstairs rooms over the restaurant. The purpose of that expansion would be a painting and wine as he understands it, primarily type setup. This is apparently fairly common that you offer a program where people can have a glass of wine and get painting instruction or drawing instruction.

They have the space. They would like to get permission from the New Hampshire Liquor Commission to move forward with it and get a permit but they need a letter from the selectmen acknowledging that the selectmen are aware that this is happening and do not object.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve signing the letter for the Lazy Lion Restaurant

Second: Selectman Shute

Discussion: It was asked if they could do it without handicap accessibility to the second floor to which the chairman stated that he didn't know and he believed that the permit that they apply for from the liquor department will probably address that.

It was asked about what they are going to do for parking to which the chairman stated that it didn't say but that was a concern.

Selectwoman McHugh asked if there was a second egress from that floor to which the chairman stated that he wasn't exactly familiar with the egress but that he knew that there have been residential apartments there that have been approved for use. There is a fire escape on the back of the building and there is also a stairway on the side of the building in front of it as faces 107 and goes to all floors.

Selectman McGarry asked what the current use of the second floor to which it was believed to have been used as an art and writing space by an after-school program.

Selectman McGarry stated that he was wondering if with the expansion of their activity to the second floor whether that they should end up going to the Planning Board for a site plan review and the Planning Board should address the parking issue.

Chairman Robertson stated that they could certainly recommend that. He asked if they wanted to make their signatures contingent upon finding out if they have gone to the Planning Board yet to which it was agreed yes.

Chairman Robertson stated that just to clarify the motion is to support this if and when they present their plans to the Planning Board and get approval from the Planning Board.

Selectman Shute asked if what we are being asked if the Select board is okay with them using it. Chairman Robertson stated that he would read the exact tome.

Basically, when you apply for a permit to expand operations from the Liquor Commission. You have to have a letter from the Board of Selectmen stating that the town is aware of the use and has no objection and the letter, just to see if she's getting more clarification here, and she has received approval from the fire chief for the permit to operate a place of assembly already.

And the letter reads:

"We, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Deerfield, are aware of and have no objection to the use of the paint studio or of alcohol being served there. The studio is on the second floor above the Lazy Lion Restaurant located at 4 North Road in Deerfield."

Selectman Shute added that will add that we get Planning Board Approval?

Chairman Robertson stated yes and that is any establishments that serve alcohol, have to come to the Board of Selectmen in order to have music, in order to have dancing, in order to have exotic dancing which is specifically spelled out in the RSA's. This falls under that same thing. You have to have general endorsement.

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

Chairman Robertson stated that they recommend that they approach the Planning Board and then we will sign the letter as long as there is not an objection for them.

Personnel Action Requests:

This is essentially hiring Madison Thorne as a part-time lifeguard for Veasey Park – a 32 hour a week position at \$12.00 per hour.

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to approve the hiring of Madison Thorne at \$12.00 per hour

Second: Selectman Shute

Discussion: Selectwoman McHugh

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

Chairman Robertson stated that they had a request for the naming of roads. This is for 60 Ridge Road which if you are somewhat familiar with Ridge Road where the power line is at the top of the hill on Ridge Road, this is a long dirt driveway that extends to the west.

You can't really see the house. The house is almost in the power line and they would like to apparently, and he didn't know if this is involving a subdivision.

Selectman McGarry stated that the Planning Board had granted them a "Smith Ordinance" and he thought that there's only one additional lot in there.

Chairman Robertson stated that they would like to name the drive, essentially leading to the subdivision.

They've given the Board three choices. Choice number one is High Woods Road, choice number two is Hummingbird Road and choice number three is McGrath's Motorcycle Ranch Road.

The first choice is what they would prefer is High Woods Road.

Selectman McGarry asked what their policy was in regard to private roads?

Chairman Robertson stated that they still ask them to come to the Board for approval.

Selectman McGarry stated as far as “road” versus “lane”.

Numerous members stated that “lane” is on the lake only and Chairman Robertson continued that they ask that it have either a relation to natural or historic values in the area. It’s on top of a ridge and it’s got some woods.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the name “High Woods Road”

Second: Selectman Shute

Discussion: Selectwoman McHugh asked if that wouldn’t be too confusing with High Meadow?

Chairman Robertson stated that he liked it better than McGrath’s Motorcycle Ranch Road.

Someone from the audience stated that there is a Hummingbird Lane.

Selectwoman McHugh stated that she was just thinking about fire and rescue.

Chairman Robertson stated that he knows the significance of the third choice when they have the dirt bike weekend that runs through Deerfield. They use their driveway and actually eat down there. You can still see some orange arrows going down their driveway.

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

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to approve the appointment of Bob Cote as a Southern NH Planning Commission member.

Second: Selectman Shute

Discussion: Chairman Robertson stated that he had a copy of the minutes that recommended Bob Cote as the representative to Southern NH Planning Commission

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

Chairman Robertson stated that that was the end of the correspondence with one exception. They have a unique payroll manifest page that needs to be signed free and clear of the regular payroll manifest and this is for \$184.70.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the payroll manifest as presented

Second: Selectman Shute

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson stated that while Board members were signing the manifest, he would get to the reason for the separate payroll manifest.

It is because it is the 10-year anniversary of Cynthia McHugh’s service to the town as Animal Control Officer and he would like to present Cindy with the longevity award and the bonus that comes with that.

Chairman Robertson stated that they had already read the payroll manifest from the 13th and he thought that he would turn to Selectman McGarry because it’s probably more new business but it’s in his correspondence file and that is an agenda request form from the Upper Lamprey Scenic Byway Council and they are looking for us to appoint new representatives and he knew that Selectman McGarry was going to address this.

Selectman McGarry stated that he had received this request and he thought that they had three representatives that were supposed to be coming from Deerfield and the Upper Lamprey Scenic Byway runs through Candia, Deerfield and in Northwood. He didn’t think it went into Nottingham.

Originally it was going to include Raymond but Raymond thought that there was some kind of grand conspiracy of having this byway go through. Chairman Robertson stated that Deerfield did too for a time.

Selectman McGarry stated that he would certainly recommend that the Board try to come up with three volunteers.

Chairman Robertson stated that they could certainly put the word out. There's not much information about the time commitment.

Ms. Cady stated that she served and it was once a month for a 3- or 4-hour evening.

Chairman Robertson stated that if they could move forward with this and could make notice on the website.

Town Administrator's Report:

Mr. Harrington stated that he had one item this evening.

The highway road agent would like to notify the Board that they started crushing in the pit and they'll be working with Steve Rollins again this year.

Selectman Shute asked if the highway department was on a four-day week to which Mr. Harrington stated that they were.

Unfinished Business:

Chairman Robertson stated that he didn't know if board members had any unfinished business. They have the Rainbow Bridge project listed.

If there is no other unfinished business, the chairman would jump to that and would start by saying that he thought they needed to give these people a decision. They've had the public hearing and they need to know whether they should be approaching the Planning Board or not.

He continued that he would just say to start the commentary, the only public comment he has heard has been not in favor of the project and he guessed that he was not as concerned about potential damage to the neighborhood as he is a little bit concerned about entering sort of a public/private business relationship and he was not sure what kind of precedent that sets for the town and he didn't think that there's enough revenue coming out of it to maybe make it worth the town being involved in it.

He understood why they were interested in the municipal property because the landfill being permanent already but he thought maybe they open the door to other folks coming forward. He didn't know how the rest of the board feels.

Selectman McGarry stated that assuming that there's not a great deal of revenue that's for sure but he certainly thought that there is a need and he would defer to Vice Chairman Pitman as far as the frequency with regard to large animals in town and the vicinity that may need to be composted as such.

The process that they described, he is somewhat familiar with. If it is done properly, it doesn't result in any odors that would be emanating it.

He knew that one concern that did come up to him anyways, it was raised by one of the abutters which was the infestation apparently of rats possibly leaving the landfill and he was wondering what might have caused that to occur and whether we, as the town, did anything to try and correct that situation? That's a separate issue entirely.

He stated that he was somewhat sympathetic but he would see the chairman's point as well in regard to granting an approval.

Chairman Robertson stated that he was familiar with the process and if it is done correctly, it works very well but as he said, he is a little leery of the town opting into an arrangement with a private business and he didn't know if that was going to sit well with everybody in town and he is also not sure that they're not opening up the door for other people to come forward and say, hey, we like the looks of that gravel pit and about you going into business with them.

Selectwoman McHugh stated that she was thinking that she was all for this process but after our legal counsel reviewed it and didn't understand it and talking to people, she stated that they said it did smell and for them to do a small business like they

were saying that's not going to be profitable for them so she didn't see how they wouldn't bring more other animals. She thought that it was going to snowball.

She stated also that she still hasn't been able to get the answer regarding the euthanization chemical that's used and would seep into the ground that seems to not go away and where will that go afterwards.

She didn't think the Board should put themselves behind something that could come back and get them, especially for the amount of money the town would get.

Chairman Robertson asked if it were the general agreement of the Board that we will tell them that we don't wish to have them operate on the town landfill property?

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he didn't have an issue of the project operating on private property but he agreed with the Chairman regarding having it operate on town property.

Selectman Shute stated that he had a couple of people that just didn't like the idea of it. He thought the idea is fine but again he thought the chairman's point is good as he hadn't thought about that as to the agreement.

Chairman Robertson thought that a motion was in order something in the effect that they're denying the Rainbow Bridge project proposal as proposed.

Motion: Selectman Shute moves to deny the Rainbow Bridge project proposal as proposed

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson asked Mr. Harrington to advise Rainbow Bridge that they would prefer this to happen on private property as opposed to town.

New Business/Other Business:

None heard

Citizen's Comments:

None

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if their next meeting would be June 3rd instead of June 17th to which the chairman stated yes and that would get them back on their every other week schedule.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to adjourn

Second: Selectman Shute

Discussion:

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

Next Meeting: Monday, June 3, 2019 at 5:30 pm

*The Minutes were transcribed and respectfully submitted by Dianne L. Kimball, Recording Secretary
Pending approval by the Board of Selectmen*