

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
August 5, 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

Chairman Robertson stated that he was going to take things out of order from the agenda.

Selectmen have in their packets, an estimate for roof repair to the gazebo, roof replacement and they've had Ray there and can answer any questions they had about that and they could give him some direction as they wanted him to proceed. It's the handwritten proposal and Ray won't have to sit there and listen to the Board for the rest of the night.

Mr. Ellis stated that basically, it's the gazebo. He sent some pictures and didn't know if Mr. Harrington passed the pictures on but the roof is leaking pretty good.

They took the square plug out of the middle of the ceiling and went up in the gazebo to look around and there's probably about 14 or 15 holes in the roof. He stated that you could actually see right outside. It's leaking pretty good. There's black mold on the inside, on the edge where it's coming down the rafters so that will have to be removed and painted at some time but the shakes are pretty much gone.

He stated that he asked if he could get a quote to redo the shakes. Shakes are a time-consuming project and they're quite pricey so Charlie ~~Weaver~~ Wheeler gave him a quote that was \$10,750.00 to re-shake what is there now which would be to take off the old shakes, he was going to put some more vents in the soffits because it isn't breathing properly.

When they went up in there, it was hot all the way up the middle and the cupola on the top of the roof is closed up. He was expecting it to be like a chimney and they had shingled right over the top of that and there was less than probably a 4 inch hole going up in the middle so that should be opened up and a few more soffit vents put in if they redo the roof to let it breathe a little bit better and maybe they would get a little more longevity out of it.

He said that he got talking with Mr. Harrington afterwards when the price came in as it was a little high, he asked if he could get another price to possibly put shingles on it, architectural shingles.

They looked at that and that particular ceiling was strapped so there is no plywood or anything on that so that would all have to come off and they would have to re-plywood it and then shingle it. It was a lot cheaper. He came in at \$7,200.00 and it was stated that they could get 35 plus years out of those.

The ones that are up there now are around 20 years old as near as he could figure since they were up there since it was built.

So that is where they were at and was looking for a little direction on what the Board feels. He would hate to lose the gazebo. It's a beautiful building and he can see it leaking and starting to see some mold there so he'd like to try to bring it back if they could make it look better.

Chairman Robertson stated that he didn't know what the Board's pleasure was or if they had questions for Mr. Ellis.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he would definitely be in favor of stripping it, putting the plywood on it and putting the 35-year shingles on and get it over with. Wooden ones are not going to hold up. If he can do it for that price and still be \$3,000.00 less.

Mr. Harrington stated that the town still has an escrow fund that was put aside when the, he is assuming, when the gazebo was originally built. There's approximately \$6,600.00 in there that they could put towards any roof repair at the present time.

Chairman Robertson stated that they wouldn't have to scrape up too much then to which Mr. Harrington agreed.

Mr. Harrington continued that they could probably make up the difference.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that they could worry about the mold after it all dries out after the new roof is put on. Hopefully he can make the copula vent without leaking.

Mr. Ellis added that they could put some bleach and water on that and clean that off because that's not a real wood anyway, so it would scrape right off.

Vice Chairman Pitman remarked that he had included ½ fir cdx which is what they would want because of the moisture to which Mr. Ellis agreed.

Mr. Ellis added that he would have them put some water shield over the plywood also before they shingled it.

Chairman Robertson asked if there were any more questions for Mr. Ellis.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if they needed a motion and Chairman Robertson asked Mr. Harrington if he would like one to which he answered that he would.

Selectman Shute stated that one the shingles, try to get some of the shingles that are imitation to the shake stuff. Some of the architectural ones are pretty close.

Mr. Ellis stated that they hadn't talked about what color or to even make it look similar to the shakes that are on there now. It was just a thought on how much cheaper it would be to go with asphalt shingles versus the shakes that are up there now. And it also would be stronger by putting the plywood on it.

Mr. Ellis stated that if this is the route, they figured that they can figure out what the Board wanted regarding color. He stated that he hadn't looked at a chart. He offered to bring a chart down but told him that he wanted to go with step one first.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that they went with weathered wood or wood blend, it would look like a shake to which Mr. Ellis agreed and added that they would get more longevity out of it.

Selectwoman McHugh asked if they were looking at \$18,000.00 to clean up the gazebo?

Numerous members stated no, that it was \$7,000.00.

She asked about the painting to which the chairman stated that they were primarily going to worry about the roof right now and the vice chairman added, it would allow it to dry out.

Selectwoman McHugh asked if he was going to do one thing as a time to which it was stated yes.

Mr. Harrington stated that while he was looking at it, they asked him to give them quotes on the painting, the ceiling needs to be touched up and some of the structure up at the cupola is starting to wear. The plywood is delaminating so he just wanted quotes on everything so that they would know what they were looking at going forward but the roof is primary right now.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that the roof will stop the rot.

Mr. Ellis stated that he and Mr. Harrington have pictures if the Board would like to see them also of what is over there.

Chairman Robertson stated that they almost had a motion on the floor.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to go with the asphalt shingles and the fir plywood with Charlie Wheeler, Jr., Tandy Road, Deerfield, NH for the price of \$7,250.00

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson stated that it wasn't spelled out on the agenda that they had but saw that the police chief was there and they had some more in there which was a request to add an officer.

Chief Duquette stated that he wasn't adding an officer, just replacing one which was Dan Deyermond. He stated that he has been trying to fill since the beginning of the year and after some time, he finally found someone who he thinks will work real nicely.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that it is not replacing Dan's detective/lieutenant position but adding a patrolman. He also asked if he has been to the academy to which Chief Duquette stated that he hadn't and didn't have any experience whatsoever.

Hopefully Chief Duquette will get him into the next academy which starts September 3rd but he won't know until the middle of August. If not, they will have to wait until January.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if he lived around the area to which the Chief stated that he was from Pembroke.

Chairman Robertson stated that this would bring them back to the full compliment of officers and the chief stipulated in the letter that this is a probationary offer for one year after graduation from the academy so they have a long way to go.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to hire Nicholas Berube of Pembroke as a new police officer

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Chief Duquette also asked if he could bother the board for just one quick minute before he goes, as they are hosting a “National Night Out” event tomorrow night at the gazebo.

“National Night Out” takes place the first Tuesday of every August. It’s a national thing that has been going on for a lot of years. There’s a lot of police departments that participate in it in all 50 states around the country. It’s just kind of a way to try to build that relationship with our community members.

We are going to have some food. We have some games set up for the kids. They have some folks from the fire department and rescue joining us.

It’s at the gazebo tomorrow night from 5 pm to 7 pm and while he had their attention, if you find your way to get down there and stop in and say hi, that would be great. I just wanted to invite everybody down.

Regular Business:

Review of Outstanding Minutes of July 22, 2019

Motion: Selectman Shute moves to approve the minutes of July 22, 2019

Second: Vice Chairman Pitman

Discussion:

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

Accounts Payable Manifest - \$233,985.19

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the accounts payable manifest in the amount stated

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion: Chairman Robertson had one quick question and was hoping Mr. Harrington could answer. He noticed that they were paying for bus transportation for Parks and Rec, or maybe Selectman Shute could answer and is that because the bus they have isn’t big enough or...

Selectman Shute stated that they don’t have a driver for it he believed.

Mr. Harrington stated that they have been trying for months to attract and hire drivers but the competition main bus companies around are offering much more and signing bonuses and we have been unable to attract anybody with the proper license and certification.

The bus is ready to go. It’s usable but they just have no drivers.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if this pretty much wrapped up the paving to which the chairman stated that he thought and they did a great job. He came down over Nottingham Road this weekend and it’s in excellent shape. Really nailed the two spots that were going to pieces and he didn’t know if they did it the same time because he hasn’t been down there but they were going to do the beginning of Coffeetown Road, put a shim or some such thing. He didn’t know if that had been down yet.

There was about \$131,000.00 in there for paving.

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

Chairman Robertson stated that there were two items in the “Signature” file. One of them he signed as chair for the police officer that they’re hiring.

The second is a request from Kelly Roberts, the town clerk, tax collector.

She had accrued comp time that she accrued while she was working as the deputy town clerk/tax collector. She’s no longer eligible for comp time and given her duties as town clerk, she’s finding it difficult to sue the comp time that she’s accrued without leaving the office in the lurch.

What she is requesting is that they pay her the comp time that she accrued while working as a deputy town clerk/tax collector.

He didn't know how the Board felt about this. He thought at some point, they would have to pay her, is his understanding. If they didn't give it to her now, we have to carry it forward and continue to carry it forward until she becomes unemployed by the town.

He didn't know what the Board's pleasure was. She has 148.81 hours of accrued comp time. Her deputy hourly wage was \$16.88 so they would be looking at a check over \$2,500.00 and that would be before retirement, FICA and Medi.

Selectman Shute stated that he thought there was a note that says it would come out of her overtime budget.

Chairman Robertson stated that she does and the town clerk feels that she has the funds for it and also copied the FLSA Compensatory Time Off procedure for them.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked the chairman to give him the numbers again.

Chairman Robertson stated that it's \$16.88 an hour, accrued comp time of 148.81 hours and she has calculated it at \$2,511.91.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve payment to Kelly Roberts for accrued comp time as stated

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson stated that he didn't think that they had anything to sign for this except when it comes up in the payroll manifest, so they'll be good.

In the correspondence folder, there were minutes from the Board of Adjustment, a statement of what they do with an eye towards budget time from the Richie-McFarland Children's Center, Planning Board notes, a report from Ted Gatsas as to what the Executive Council has been talking about and they had the potential Rockingham County Fiscal Year 2020 budget here as well for review or if folks are interested.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked what the town's part of the county budget was and the chairman stated that it doesn't show the Deerfield's part would be and read that the Commissioners proposed 2020 budget is \$85,716,949.00 and that is a 3.9 percent increase over the prior year.

Vice Chairman Pitman remarked that they had no say at all to which the chairman stated that they didn't other than they could go to the meeting and say but he didn't think that they spent a lot of time listening.

Town Administrator's Report:

Mr. Harrington stated that several years ago, they were offered a copy machine from Jim Spillane which the Parks and Rec has been using to success for the last couple of years.

During the recent transfer of copies and update of copiers to the building, that copier no longer became necessary to be used so he has been trying to find a possible home for it. It still works. It still a good copier so he reached out to the Historical Society which is due to move into a new building and asked them if they may be interested in taking this on.

He spoke with a representative of the Historical Society and she was very interested in taking it on and would really appreciate it but he said that he would need it to be approved by the Board and wanted to make the Board aware that they did have someone who would like it if you folks would approve of it.

Chairman Robertson asked if the Board was in general agreement that the Historical Society would be a worthy recipient to which they did agree. Mr. Harrington confirmed that they are in agreement to which they stated they were.

Mr. Harrington continued and stated that the Board also had a copy of the updated surplus listing based on some questions that Selectwoman McHugh had at the last meeting. He thought it was inclusive of everything they were looking at.

If they all agree, then he would move forward with the process, get it published and start taking bids from anybody interested in these materials.

Selectman Shute thought that there was one item from Parks and Rec which was the jump house to which Mr. Harrington stated that it was listed as the "inflatable outdoor water slide" It's second on the list.

Selectman Shute stated that this item was the bouncy house to which Mr. Harrington stated that it's not a house, it's an inflatable outside waterslide.

Chairman Robertson asked if they still had the bouncy house to which Selectman Shute stated that he thought that they did.

Mr. Harrington stated that this is what they called it, a bouncy house, but when he saw it inflated, it's not actually a house and Nick verified that to which Selectman Shute stated okay.

Mr. Harrington continued that it includes the Chevy Impala police cruiser that has been totally stripped and is ready to go.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked Selectwoman McHugh if they didn't get \$1,500.00, is there somebody that will pay the town that to which she stated, no.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he thought it would be worth at least that amount to which she stated that she would think so.

Mr. Harrington asked if they were talking about the Cascade to which they stated yes. That was a quote that Chief Fisher received from someone in the business that he does work with, that said it would be a fair price to ask for it.

Chairman Robertson stated that he would be more surprised if they got \$4,900.00 for a 2010 Impala with 95,000 miles on it.

He continued, if there is no further concern, he thought they should authorize Mr. Harrington to move ahead and if they find that there is something that is missing, they could certainly add it to the list.

Mr. Harrington asked if there was a general agreement to move forward and the chairman stated that there was a general agreement to move forward.

Mr. Harrington stated that this was all he had today but added that the roof seems to be holding nicely. They had a minor leak at first but it was a gasket that needed to be tightened but the new roof seems to be working well.

Chairman Robertson asked Mr. Harrington if he wanted to talk about the sick leave this evening to which he stated yes.

Mr. Harrington stated that they all had a copy of an updated sick leave policy.

The main change of this policy is down at the bottom, they will see where the allowable uses and, on the back, they will see the actual definition of family as it relates to this policy.

What he has down is that he has spelt out what is acceptable language in most common sick policies to include your immediate family and in-law family and also to allow use for which is currently going on, any dental appointments, medical appointments, therapy, is a standard usage of sick time and the town's policy did not reflect what they were actually practicing.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that they weren't adding or taking away anything through this and Mr. Harrington stated that they weren't.

Mr. Harrington stated that this was just defining what they were actually doing.

Chairman Robertson asked the Board if they were in general consensus with this.

Selectman McGarry stated that there was one correction, he guessed, would be the second paragraph, starting off with "any unused sick leave", the second sentence in there reads "a maximum of 1864". He thought that the "1" was erroneous and should be stricken.

Mr. Harrington stated that this was the original language which he didn't change so he will make that correction and thanked Selectman McGarry.

Chairman Robertson stated that it might be construed as 1864 instead of 864.

The chairman thanked Mr. Harrington.

Chairman Robertson stated that he didn't know if this was supposed to be in their folders or not but he would certainly bring it up in his.

They've got a schedule of the Deerfield Highway Block Grant Aid that they are getting and he thought that Mr. Harrington had shown them the check but they got an actual payment of \$46,721.56 on July 19th. They should get another \$46,721.56 in October of 2019 followed by two payments of \$31,147.00 in 2020, one in January and one in April.

He was assuming that they have use for that in the highway budget. Depending on how hard it snows, we might have use for all of it right away.

Selectman McGarry stated that he was out on his bike last week and he could certainly identify quite a few roads that could use it.

Chairman Robertson told him to stay off his because he is weaving around on a motorcycle.

Unfinished Business:

Chairman Robertson asked board members if they had anything else that they would like to bring up at this time.

Selectman McGarry stated that he would probably put this under unfinished business since they had briefly talked about putting in something for the police station.

The Southern NH Planning Commission had a meeting last month with the Department of Agriculture and in the discussions that they had, apparently there is grant and loan money available for community facilities and it's for communities with a population of 20,000 or less, which certainly we would qualify for and funding priorities for communities of 5,500 or less and we would certainly qualify for that as well.

The funds can be used for public safety services such as fire departments, police stations, prisons, police vehicles, fire trucks, public works vehicles or equipment.

He stated that he talked briefly to the woman who handles the program for New Hampshire and mentioned that we were in need of a police station.

She stated that she would be willing to come in and talk to the Board. They have some specific requirements for design and construction of the facilities.

Selectman McGarry thought that the Board would want to talk to her before they proceeded with any design-build or any other concept that they were considering.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked how soon they could have her come in and Selectman McGarry stated that he would give her a call and find out.

Chairman Robertson thought that the sooner, the better and stated that it was great news. He thought that they should certainly ask her about the fire station as well.

The chairman asked if there was any other new or unfinished business?

Hearing none, he stated that there were a few things on the agenda.

He stated that they had the amended, Town of Deerfield seasonal dock permission which now includes the mooring permission as they discussed a meeting or two ago.

He stated that they had Mr. Harrington verify with the Department of Safety and he also believed that he had the town attorney, Bart Myers, take a look at it and this is what we've got in final format. This is essentially the permission that we gave Gulf Road property owners who don't own the lake side of the road to place a dock as well as gives them the ability to have a mooring provided that it's granted through the appropriate state channels. The town isn't granting them a mooring but we're giving them permission to have one if they qualify which he assumed they did as they wouldn't have been asked to change the language.

Vice Chairman Pitman noted that they had the President of the Pleasant Lake Preservation Association, John Duffy, in the audience.

Mr. Barnett went to the microphone and stated that he is with Pleasant Lake Preservation Association and lives on Gulf Road and he is an abutter to the town line.

He stated that they have gone through a lot of problems with the mooring balls and the docks on that and he fought very hard with DES, DOS, everything else on that.

He truly feels that if the town allows this, that they are going to open up a can of worms.

The complaints have gone to the governor the last couple of months about the docks, saying they're not legal. He was involved with that. Several phone calls, lots of hours with the work. He thinks if they did that, they are opening up a lot of can of worms because the person and the persons that are involved with protesting those docks and moorings, will get right back involved with this and saying why are you separating these four houses on that one stretch of road of 5 houses. One is a lot.

The rules are that it has to be 50 feet of water frontage and a couple of lots don't have 50 feet. He was just there to say that as a member, if they do that, they might open up a huge can of worms with the people who can see the lake, have property behind the lake, it's just may not be a good deal for Deerfield or the lake association.

Chairman Robertson stated that he appreciated his input. As he mentioned, they did run this by the director of the Department of Safety as well as town counsel.

John Duffy, North Road, Deerfield. President of the PLPA.

He stated that he needed to respectfully disagree with John. If he wants to move forward and offer those moorings to the property owners in Deerfield, he is fine with that.

In Northwood, it's grandfathered in so they have that. That property used to, before the road was put in, they had deeded rights to the lake.

There's not a consensus here on the PLPA side.

Chairman Robertson stated that just to clarify Mr. Duffy, they were certainly not offering them mooring. They were changing the language so that if they qualify via the state channels to have a mooring, they can do it. Just so the town isn't standing in their way.

Mr. Duffy stated that he understood and the chairman stated that they had no authority and happily they had no authority regarding moorings.

Chairman Robertson didn't know what the Board's pleasure was but they had discussed this, changed the language, made sure that it was appropriate.

Selectman McGarry stated that his interpretation of it is to only allow those properties that abut Gulf Road and who basically would front on the lake if the road wasn't there.

Chairman Robertson added that they were properties that they had already given this permission for their docks.

Selectman McGarry continued that it really doesn't fit in this circumstance here would be that if somebody was several properties away from the frontage on the lake and then trying to get a mooring, he could see a concern there.

Chairman Robertson stated that these are those specific properties they've already given the dock permission to.

He continued that he thought that they would need a motion.

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to approve the seasonal dock and mooring permission slip as amended

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Other Business:

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant.

(d) Consideration of the acquisition, sale, or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community.

Second:

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson stated that no action was taken in the non-public session and would entertain sealing of the minutes of the non-public session.

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to seal the minutes of the non-public session

Second: Selectman Shute

Discussion:

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

Selectman McGarry stated that their next meeting is August 19th and the following meeting would be technically on Labor Day, September 3rd. He was trying to give the woman from USDA a couple of options.

Selectman Shute stated that the next is the 19th and the following is Labor Day so it would be the week before or after.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if they could have the meeting the Tuesday after Labor Day in order to keep it going every two weeks to which the chairman thought that they could.

Chairman Robertson asked if the Board was in general agreement that they should try to schedule a meeting on the Tuesday following Labor Day so they stay on their two-week interval?

All members were in agreement for September 3rd.

Selectwoman McHugh asked if they should ask the police chief to this meeting also to which the chairman stated that they should.

Chairman Robertson stated that what they have right now for a schedule is August 19th, September 9th which we just agreed that they should probably change to Tuesday, the 3rd, September 16th, September 23rd. Starting September 30th, they were going to weekly as they start to review the budget essentially. It's pretty much every Monday once they get past Labor Day.

Mr. Harrington asked for the record that September 9th is going to become Tuesday, September 3rd.

Citizen's Comments:

Mrs. Cady, Old Centre Road:

She stated that her question goes to the police department evidence room which has stuff in it that they used to do an auction to and she thought she heard him say Mr. Harrington would be putting it out for people to buy rather than an auction.

Chairman Robertson stated that they had talked about not using the auction for the surplus list that we have but he didn't believe that includes anything from the police department.

Mr. Harrington stated that he talked to the chief of police and he didn't offer anything from the evidence room. He could certainly revisit that with him to see if there are any items that he would like to add to this list before they publish it.

Mrs. Cady stated that she knew when she went through the evidence when Chief Greeley was here and there was jewelry, there was hunting knives, there was all kinds of things that might be bought so she thought that they needed to go through the evidence to see whether or not there's enough there to do it.

She noted that she knew that they usually did a bid on the car that is surplus.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to adjourn at 6:15 p.m.

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Next Meeting: Monday, August 19, 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*