

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
October 28, 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 would apologize in advance to the audience but he was going to go directly into non-public session at the start of the meeting this evening.

He didn't think that they would be particularly long but that is the order of 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.

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson stated that they were back in regular session and would entertain a motion to seal the minutes of the non-public session.

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

Second: Vice Chairman Pitman

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson stated that he would note that no action was taken during the course of the non-public session although they will be taking action starting right now.

Chairman Robertson stated that he was going to attempt to do this in two groups.

He would entertain a motion as he looks at the potential deed list for back taxes. He would entertain a potential motion to waive deeding of the following properties:

Tax Map 405, Lot 53	Tax Map 208, Lot 76
Tax Map 208, Lot 74	Tax Map 416, Lot 72
Tax Map 405, Lot 4	Tax Map 416, Lot 1
Tax Map 209, Lot 40	Tax Map 422, Lot 15

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to waive deeding of the properties mentioned

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson stated that he would be reading properties that they will be deeding.

Tax Map 420, Lot 66	Tax Map 405, Lot 19
Tax Map 208, Lot 3	Tax Map 405, Lot 76
Tax Map 208, Lot 26	Tax Map 208, Lot 22

Tax Map 418, Lot 25
Tax Map 418, Lot 62
Tax Map 204, Lot 33

Tax Map 418, Lot 26
Tax Map 201, Lot 21
Tax Map 204, Lot 28

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to deed the properties mentioned for back taxes

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson stated that in turn, they have to sign the deed notices and give them to Kelly Roberts.

Chairman Robertson stated that there is a property that is not on their list.

2020 Budget Review:

Highway Department – Page 42-53

Chairman Robertson stated that the highway agent was in attendance and asked if he could give an overview of his budget and if he had anything else that he wanted to talk to the Board about while he was in attendance to feel free.

Mr. Young stated that first of all, he wanted to apologize for not being there last week. If he had known that he was on the agenda, he would have been there.

With that being said, whether it was his mistake or not and the chairman stated that they had enough to talk about without him.

Mr. Young stated that his budget was level spending as usual. The only thing that they really need to do is that they found that from winter warrant article that they used \$60,000.00 out of that so they need to refund that with a warrant article.

Chairman Robertson stated that the Board had a question for him. They had briefly talked as a Board about floating a warrant article for road repair and road reconstruction, not specific to any specific road. He didn't know how Mr. Young felt about it. If they did it and got it passed, are there some roads that they could work on?

Mr. Young stated that he thought that it was a good idea because what they could do is add that to the road reconstruction budget.

Mr. Young asked what the number was that they were thinking to which Chairman Robertson stated that it didn't exactly have a number, he thought. They had talked, at least in his head, roughly \$250,000.00 unless he thought that it was absurd.

Mr. Young stated that they spend \$256,000.00-\$258,000.00 on the roads now, or something like that so it would put them up to \$500,000.00 which would allow them to do twice the paving, that's for sure.

Chairman Robertson stated that he has heard from some members of the community that they should be doing more and he was sure at voting time, they will hear from some members of the community that say they should be voting less.

Mr. Young stated that he thought that it was the best way to go about it. Just let the people make the choice and do it that way. He thought that it was an awesome idea.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that it would be kept separate, correct?

Chairman Robertson stated that they would keep it separate from the highway budget so it doesn't jeopardize his budget. He asked if they should keep it non-specific, just put it as road reconstruction budget for the highway department to figure out.

Mr. Young asked if it could be worded as an expanded road reconstruction budget.

Chairman Robertson stated that it could but that when they have named specific streets in the past everyone that doesn't live on that street has voted it down without too much consideration.

A generic road reconstruction article might work better.

Chairman Robertson asked the Board if they had any questions for the road agent.

Mr. Young asked the Board if they wanted to know what the road projects would be next year to which the chairman stated that he definitely would.

Mr. Young stated that instead of doing hard core reconstruction, they would concentrate on some shimming and overlay of existing pavement which would catch them up in some really, rough places.

What he had written down there was to shim and overlay Middle Road from South Road up to the discontinued bridge road which would be up by George Thompson's on that back side.

The second one would be South Road from Middle Road up to the discontinued part of South which would be just above where Jan Foisy used to live.

Shim and overlay Candia Road from Church Street to Cole Road.

He would say that it would probably take care of what they had for money within the budget. That is quite a lot of road.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that it is quite a lot of miles.

Chairman Robertson stated that he thought that the patches that he did a couple of weeks ago made a real difference.

Mr. Young stated that it made a huge difference. Just in those little areas, it makes the rest of the road look good.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he couldn't believe the number of people commented on what he calls the "Five Corners" came out.

Mr. Young stated that the intersection was going downhill really, really, really fast.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the Highway Department budget

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson asked if he had anything else to talk about with the Board and Mr. Young asked if they wanted to talk about the furnace situation now to which they agreed.

Mr. Young stated that he would like to give them his opinion. He would really like to see an oil furnace put back in there. He has a bunch of reasons why.

They already have an oil furnace and have 300 gallons of home heating oil in the barrel now. To him, it makes more sense putting back what was there and not trying to reinvent the wheel, so to speak.

He continued that they get more BTU's out of oil. It takes a gallon and a half of propane to equal the number of BTU's of one gallon of oil.

He understands that Rymes is willing to put in a bigger tank so if they had an outage, they wouldn't run out of propane for the generator and run out with heat.

Then again, bidding on propane every year, and if they don't get the bid, Rymes is going to take their tank with them unless the town buys the tank.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that if they don't get the bid, they will take the tank to which all agreed and Mr. Young added, unless the town bought the tank.

Rymes would be willing to give the town a tank to use as long as they are filling it but he would think that they would want a contract with the town for so long before they would let the town keep the tank.

They are going to have to dig a line from the propane tank to the building and they already have the well line there, the propane line that goes to the generator plus the power line that goes to the diesel fuel tank, all in that corner there if they want to change the tank so that's something that if they do decide to go propane, they are going to let Rymes dig that ditch because there is just too much buried there for himself and his guys to do it.

Mr. Young stated that he was talking to some different heating guys and this is where he got the information. The average heating costs for the person using propane is 20% higher than the person using oil because of the BTU difference. They are burning half again as much fuel to make the same BTU as one gallon of oil.

He stated that this was his concerns but that the Board could do what they wanted to do but this was his thinking, that's all.

Chairman Robertson stated that Mr. Young's preference was that he didn't want LP to which Mr. Young stated that was correct and one of his biggest concerns is that they pipe gas into that building, there's a leak, they're changing cutting edges, they are welding, they are using an open flame all the time and while he was highway agent, he would just not want to take that chance.

Chairman Robertson asked how the rest of the Board felt. He totally speaks for himself, that they looked at the estimates that they had, estimates from three or four contractors. Each had provided an oil option and a gas option and the gas option was considerably less. It wasn't a huge amount but it was in the order of \$1,800.00 less for the gas furnace as opposed to the oil furnace.

Chairman Robertson didn't know what stage they were at and asked the town administrator who stated that Mr. Ellis just met with Al Terry today to do preliminary work. Their biggest goal today was how to get the old furnace out of the building which is going to be a task but nothing has started yet.

Chairman Robertson stated then that they weren't too late.

Mr. Young stated that he was there when they were and he told them that he wasn't sure whether they were going gas or oil yet, that they would know tonight and that someone would let them know tomorrow.

Chairman Robertson asked what the rest of the Board thought?

Selectman McGarry stated that they had cost differential between a gallon of LP verses a gallon of heating oil and did they know if there was a difference in the efficiencies of the burners of propane verses oil.

Mr. Young stated that he did. The oil furnace was 85% efficient and the propane furnace is 90%.

Selectman McGarry stated that it was a 5% difference.

Mr. Young stated that when they were figuring that in, you have to figure what a gallon and half verses a gallon.

Chairman Robertson stated that the two quotes that they had from Al Terry that they went with, they had estimated an 80% rate on the LP gas and they didn't give a percentage on the oil for efficiency.

The oil was a "high-boy" style oil furnace, Granby, brand name, 66,000 BTU with a 3-ton blower and the gas was a "Goodman", 80% LP gas furnace, 64,000 BTU with a 4-ton blower.

The total price for the gas installation was \$5,009.00 and the total price for the oil installation was \$6,983.00 and he didn't have the bid price for fuel oil and propane with him and he didn't know if Mr. Harrington did but Mr. Harrington stated that he could look it up.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if Al Terry was the low bidder as he wasn't at that meeting and the chairman stated that he was for propane but not for oil.

Chairman Robertson stated that the high bid on oil was \$15,000.00. LeBlanc gave them a quote of \$15,623.00 for the oil burner and Logan gave them a price of \$6,000.00 for the oil burner so Al Terry was definitely the lowest for gas. Logan was the cheapest for oil.

It was asked where Logan was out of and the chairman replied that they were from Deerfield.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated, that more than price, Mr. Young's comment about the open flame and second of all, with propane and how they scatter around with bids, they don't need switching lines and tanks.

Chairman Robertson stated that he is comfortable with it if the road agent has a preference, it's going to come out in the wash over the years when they buy fuel anyway. He didn't have a problem going with oil at this point but he didn't know how the rest of the Board felt.

Selectwoman McHugh stated that she didn't agree. If they have to come in and dig the lines, she was sure that was going to cost them more money than was quoted for propane than oil.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he like the idea that they own their own tank and it's in the building. It's efficient, it's new, it's done.

The road agent stated and that the tank is full.

Chairman Robertson stated that they wouldn't have to pump 300 gallons out.

Mr. Young stated that they would have to burn it in the waste oil furnace.

Vice Chairman Pitman thought that it was going to cost more than \$900.00 to go and do what will need to be done to change over.

Mr. Harrington stated that the cost of propane is \$1.099 and heating oil is \$2.279 and the chairman repeated those for the Board.

Chairman Robertson stated that it would be his preference as they selected Al Terry at the last meeting and the Board made a motion to accept their bid, if they decide to switch from gas to oil, he thought that he would recommend staying with Al Terry so that they didn't feel that they were treated incorrectly in regard to a bid process.

If the Board is going to proceed along those lines, he would need a motion to change their decision on the heating arrangements for the highway shed from LP to oil and to use the Al Terry bid of \$6,983.00.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if this company is the ones that they would use for service for its career as we haven't been using them.

Mr. Harrington stated that they have been using LeBlanc for the furnaces and that's who initially discovered the issue.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that his question is, will Al Terry service it to which it was stated that they could.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves that they go with Al Terry for the price on the quote for an oil furnace of \$6983.00 for the highway shed

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 3, Nay 1, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman Robertson asked if Mr. Young had anything else to which he stated that he had one other item.

Mr. Young asked if he could make a request. We are doing this thing with Southern NH Planning, and he didn't know exactly what it was called and the chairman stated that they are calling it a road survey, if he could be included in the discussion on that and not getting a phone call from Mr. Harrington saying that he had to meet with, or they are going to be calling you to set up a meeting and he not knowing why and having no idea.

If he could be a part of the discussion beforehand, that would be awesome.

Chairman Robertson apologized for that and it was clearly an oversight on his part. It was, to his mind, a good deal as well as the rest of the Board because NHDOT pays for half.

They used to do this on a pretty much, on an annual basis with NHDOT and they stopped doing it and why they are ponying up the money.

Mr. Young stated and while talking to them, what they are going to get out of it will be lots of useful information. They are going to do culvert plotting, update maps. They are not going to give them the condition of them or the size but they will have the locations on them now.

He thought that they were all striving for the same thing.

Chairman Robertson stated that their concern is for the Board wanting information is that everything is fine for as long as he was road agent but if he decides that he is sick of being road agent or don't wake up one morning, they are pretty much in the dark as to what's there and what the condition of the roads are.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he agreed with Mr. Young and he made his point clear.

Mr. Young stated that it was all that he had.

Chairman Robertson stated that there were a couple of other budget items as asked Mr. Harrington if he had budget numbers for insurance.

Mr. Harrington stated that he talked to William Bald on Friday. He was hoping to have insurance information then but apparently Tufts was having computer issues which held it up so he was anticipating that he would hear from him this week.

Chairman Robertson stated that he didn't have his numbers from Blue Cross or Tufts either.

Mr. Harrington stated that the revaluation bid RFP is not due until November 13th so it will be some time after that.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if they could back up to his motion on the highway budget and put a number in it for the budget.

Chairman Robertson stated that he had \$551,548.00. That might be a buck short.

Mr. Harrington stated that just as a reminder, they have the bridge repair stuff separate as well as dams which might as well be brought up separate.

Chairman Robertson asked if \$551,548.00 jive with what Mr. Harrington had which he did.

For the record, let that show that \$551,548.00 is the number that Vice Chairman Pitman moved with his motion for the budget.

And then they have a \$1.00 for Bridge Repairs to hold that line open and they had \$400.00 for dam fees and maintenance.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve \$1.00 for Bridge Repairs line and \$400.00 for dam fees and maintenance line

Second: Selectman Shute

Discussion:

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

Regular Business:

Review of Outstanding Minutes of October 21, 2019

Motion: Selectman Shute moves to approve the minutes of October 21, 2019

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 3, Nay 0, Abstained 1 – Motion Carries

Accounts Payable Manifest - \$36,918.13

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the accounts payable amount of \$36,918.13

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Signatures:

Chairman Robertson stated that they had a request for a raffle permit from the Inn at Deerfield. This is for a calendar raffle that they would like to hold to raise funds for activities for their residents. They will be selling raffle tickets for \$5.00 a piece or calendar raffle tickets for \$5.00 a piece if the Board would grant their permission to do so.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to grant a raffle permit to the Inn at Deerfield

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson stated that a copy needs to be sent to the police chief just in case the raffle gets out of hand.

Personnel Action Request:

This is to put Cherie Sanborn back on the payroll as assessing clerk. The present assessing clerk has had a health issue that will keep her out of the office for six weeks or so.

Cherie has graciously agreed to come out of retirement and step back in until the other party is better.

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to put Cherie Sanborn on as the assessing clerk at a rate of \$25.00 per hour and having the Chairman sign the personnel action request

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion: Chairman Robertson stated that this would be for twelve hours per week

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

Chairman Robertson stated that they had a second Personnel Action Request for Judith Marshall and it is from the Deerfield Conservation Commission and the request is as follows:

“Please approve an increase of \$290.00 in the part-time employee line in the DCC 2020 budget approved by the Board on September 26th, 2019. It does not include this change. Please increase as necessary to support the approved hourly rate increase for this part-time employee.”

Chairman Robertson stated that basically what the Conservation Commission would like the Board to do is to move Judith's hourly pay from \$15.26 to \$18.00 for the 2020 year and if the Board approves it, reflect that change in the 2020 budget.

As noted, there will be a \$290.00 annual effect on their budget.

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to approve the Personnel Action Request for Judith Marshall as presented

Second: Selectman Shute

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson stated that they had a contract from Milton-CAT and this is the maintenance agreement for the generator which was discussed by Mr. Pelletier last week.

It's a three-year contract. They will charge the town \$721.97 for the year 2020, \$766.01 for 2021 and \$812.02 for 2022.

This is for service conducted in September of each year on the large generator located at the school.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if it was the once a year oil change and Mr. Harrington stated that they go over the entire maintenance of the generator that they have in place.

Chairman Robertson stated that they have used Milton-CAT from the beginning and he would need a motion for the chairman to sign the agreement.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to sign the maintenance contract with Milton-CAT for the generator at the school

Second: Selectman Shute

Discussion:

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

Refund Request from the Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Refund to David Gazzola of \$27.00 from the MSRP of a 2019 vehicle that was entered incorrectly and when corrected, the town owed David \$27.00.

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to refund David Gazzola \$27.00

Second: Selectman Shute

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson stated that there is nothing in the Correspondence File that needs action. The only thing that they did have was the note from the Conservation Commission regarding Judith Marshall's rate of pay.

They have some information from John Reagan's office regarding funding amounts for the new ongoing education fund grants as well as the ZBA minutes and a report from Ted Gatsas of the Executive Council on what actions they have taken.

Town Administrator's Report:

Mr. Harrington stated that most of the Board have seen the draft 2020 BOS schedule and if they would take some time and review it and possibly make a decision to accept that schedule, that would be the future meetings and make sure that it gets posted.

They will also find a preliminary tax rate sheet in their folders.

Based on the information that the Board provided last week, DRA was able to give him that. There are still two areas that the Board can adjust. One would be the overlay amount which currently rested at just below \$250,000.00 and also the Reserve Fund which they will see on the back page. They could adjust that percentage which he believed it was currently at 10.35 percent.

If the Board wanted to make any changes with that at this time, he could pass that information onto DRA or if they would like to discuss it and review it.

Chairman Robertson asked what they had for a time frame, they had another week or two before they had to respond?

Mr. Harrington stated that time is closing in because Kelly is getting ready to prepare her first tax bills.

Chairman Robertson asked if folks wanted to take a little harder look at this before they set the tax rate?

Board members decided that they would review it and do it next week and Mr. Harrington stated that he would put it on the agenda.

Selectman Shute asked if \$500,000.00 is equal to \$1.00 to which the Chairman stated that it was just a little over \$500,000.00.

Mr. Harrington stated that it was about \$579,000.00 was equal to \$1.00 tax rate.

The gazebo roof, for those who haven't noticed, the work on the roof has started and they hope to be wrapped up in six to eight days. It was going well the first day.

Selectman McGarry asked if there were any surprises to which Mr. Harrington stated that there were.

There was a lot of moisture underneath, a lot of wet wood but they are going to repair it. It looks like the entire cupola needs to be replaced. He thought that they had funds to support that because this will completely clean out the gazebo escrow fund but he was going to tap into some of the community partnership grant money that they have been getting from Wheelabrator so they will be able to cover that cost because it would leave the cupola unfinished.

Charlie Wheeler stated that he could repair it as most of it is going to have to be replaced unfortunately.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if it were going to look as it did and Mr. Harrington stated that it would. He asked if it was worth keeping the cupola and asked if it was functional and Mr. Harrington stated that it was. It was an airflow for the whole structure.

Selectman McGarry stated that he was looking for "happy" surprises.

Mr. Harrington stated that last, depending what the Board wanted to do the furnace at the highway garage to which they voted to put in the oil furnace at \$6,983.00 but they never gave approval to use the municipal building trust fund so if he could get a motion so that he could attach that to the request to the trustees to withdraw that money.

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to withdraw the money for the furnace repair at the highway shed from the Municipal Building Trust Fund

Second: Selectman Shute

Discussion:

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

Unfinished/New Business:

Selectman McGarry stated that someone had mentioned that John Emerson had passed away and apparently it has gone to estate and there is a lien on that property and was wondering how much money that was. It wasn't a tax lien, it was a separate lien.

Mr. Harrington stated that he was aware of a court claim that was filed. He has been in touch with the estate and the town's attorney, Bart Myer, has been in touch with their attorney so they are on top of it. They are working diligently trying to clean it up. They are aware of this document and everyone is on the right page.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked Selectman McGarry if anything positive has come out of stopping that subdivision off of Gulf Road in Northwood.

Selectman McGarry stated that they had a meeting with the Northwood Planning Board that they had agreed to that yes, they do have a problem and the people that live to the east and was using the road as they were standing there, there was probably 100 to 150 feet is only sufficient width for one vehicle. The road is 13 feet wide and Selectman McGarry stated that his driveway is 12 feet wide.

Chairman Robertson stated that he thought that the other concern has always been that Northwood brought, up until this project, if any sort of snowbank is there, emergency vehicles are fairly limited in there.

They did have a meeting and sent a request through Sylvia to talk to Jim Raymond, number one, would, if the Planning Board agreed to a reduced number in this proposed subdivision, reduced number of lots for the town, would it expose itself to liability basically, for exposing them to conditions of additional buildings to access Gulf Road. That was one question.

The other, is there anything that we, the Town of Deerfield, could end up doing to prevent development on undeveloped lots in Northwood using Gulf Road and to prevent anybody from adding additional dwelling units on to existing houses there.

He didn't know what the possibility on that is. The statute doesn't really address that issues but Jim Raymond hopefully will talk about it.

He thought that they, as a Board of Selectmen, should, once they get some recommendation back from Jim Raymond, they, as the Board of Selectmen, should send a letter to the Northwood Board of Selectmen, just advising them that they will not support any additional development out there until a separate access is provided by Northwood.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that they needed to put the heat on them or they won't do it if they don't.

Selectman McGarry agreed.

Selectman Shute stated that they hoped that they get the teeth they need from Mr. Raymond.

Selectman Shute asked Selectman McGarry is there was any way for them to get a second access.

Selectman McGarry as well as others on the board stated that there was.

Selectman McGarry stated that there was but it would cost the town money, Town of Northwood money.

Chairman Robertson stated that they could drive a jeep through there. There's a spot where there used to be a bridge but he didn't know if the bridge had been fixed so maybe they couldn't get through there.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that they could do it.

Chairman Robertson stated that it comes out by the boy scout camp on top of the ridge.

Selectman McGarry stated that the Northwood Planning Board members had said that maybe they go around, basically around Pleasant Lake using, not using because they would have to become town roads, but make all the private roads there, town roads and make that another access. It didn't really make a lot of sense.

Chairman Robertson stated that it would be a lot of layout and a lot of cost.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that there is also the rock wall at the end of Willow and they have tried to remove it in the past and lost that battle.

Selectman McGarry stated that if they try to make those town roads, they would be faced with possibly even having to take some of that if they decided to do it and he was sure that Northwood would be faced with it as well.

Chairman Robertson stated that 20 years ago, they had this discussion and actually met with Northwood Board of Selectmen and the planning boards had met too and he knew basically discussion stopped when it became apparent that about the only way to proceed would be eminent domain proceedings on private property to try to improve access from the Deerfield side.

Selectman McGarry stated that it would be a lot of properties to proceed with eminent domain on.

Chairman Robertson asked if there was any other business, new business.

Citizen's Comments:

Harriet Cady – Old Centre Road

She stated that she had a couple of concerns.

The Planning Board meeting on Wednesday night. It's going to be well, they did receive comments for the capital improvements plan and in it were the police station and the fire station for next year and she heard that the selectmen voted to put it off for a year so some words that got changed and it would appear that they had a short time between now and March for warrant articles for January for warrant articles to decide what.

She asked Selectman McGarry if he knew if the selectmen had contacted Farmington, the builder of their fire station or had gone over and seen it, that had been built for two point three million dollars with eight bays and he didn't know, he didn't know if they had kept the information Andy.

Chairman Robertson stated that he had actually seen the facility and had discussed their proposal with them and what they had done.

The second thing is the roads that were presented in the contract for the roads to be, roads that were not up to what they should be and her concern is that a good deal of the roads on there were Class VI roads in the majority.

For instance, Perry Road. Last time she knew, there were only a couple of houses that were on town road. The rest of it was all Class VI road.

Perkins Road, they've got something mixed up there because there is no bridge on Perkins Road. She thought that they meant Blakes Hill Road so they were going to re-review it but in this is what Mr. Young said earlier.

If Mr. Young had been put with them to go over the roads, there would have been someone who knows which roads are open and which roads were closed.

They do not have to keep up any Class VI road. They sign, and she was hoping that they had the signed and recorded building permits for Class VI roads still going on.

It used to be that the Selectmen would get those at their meeting and signed to them. She hadn't heard of them at a meeting in a long time.

One of the things when she moved here, Brown Road, beyond the dump, was a closed, Class VI road and somewhere along the way, it started being maintained once the town starts maintaining, even puts a truck on the road, it becomes a town road to maintain from that point on and she knew it was being maintained because she remembers Alex (Cote) coming in and paying for gravel and stuff to be put up there.

She thought that they should take the map that Joanne (Wasson) did, showing the vote of every road that was closed in this town by town vote and a road can only be reopened by a town vote.

Since she has been here, they haven't voted to open any road except the portion of George Owen's property on Perkins Road which became her son's lot. She was really at a loss for what's going on with roads.

The third thing is that they have a problem with boards and persons on the boards who do have a conflict of interest and the example here is Fred (McGarry) and Dick (Pitman). Dick being a member of the Deerfield Fair Executive Committee and Fred being the chairman of the Southern NH Planning Commission who should not be voting on any contracts to the Southern Planning Commission or Dick on anything to do with the fair.

Under the Office of Public Integrity in the Attorney General's Office, they could read the restrictions on that.

It is very clear, a conflict of interest exists when a person has two masters, if you serve on the Executive Board or if you serve as chairman of a board, there's two masters.

She stated that she would like that clarified and corrected.

Chairman Robertson thanked Ms. Cady for her comments.

Selectman McGarry stated that Mrs. Cady reminded him that he was going to mention to the Board that the Planning Board had requested the fire chief and probably the chair of the police study committee. He's coming to the Planning Board's next meeting to specifically to address the Capital Improvement Plan.

The issue had been raised at the Planning Board was that they were showing the 2 million for the fire department and the 1.4 million for the police department separately and why weren't those two combined into one structure.

Chairman Robertson stated that he would be happy to go and talk to the Planning Board about that. He would presume that the police chief would be happy also to which Selectman McGarry stated that they didn't need the police chief, that the chairman, as a member of the committee, he thought, would be fine.

Mr. Rhodes

Gentlemen and ma'am. A quick question.

There was occasioned by, he thought, by the discussion over the furnace at the garage at the town shed, is it a normal part of the bidding process to request from the vendors, sort of a total cost of ownership analysis so that they could see what the ultimate cost to the town would be?

Chairman Robertson stated that it was not a consideration in this particular process and he suspects, speaking for himself, but just the size of this and Mr. Rhodes added that this project was small potatoes.

Chairman Robertson stated that they didn't request that and in fact the bid process was very informal. They contacted multiple contractors and asked for bids.

Mr. Rhodes asked if they normally asked for total cost of over the life of expected life of an asset?

Chairman Robertson stated that off the top of his head, he couldn't recollect whether they did that with the town hall furnaces or these furnaces there.

Mr. Rhodes stated that where they would have significant annual costs up front number may in fact be misleading when they are talking about spending funds over a 20-year period and making a decision with the up-front cost may end up being more expensive over time. If that was part of the town's process to look at that kind of thing, they might end up saving money or actually finding out sort of, you know, what it is really going to end up costing.

This was just a question, not a suggestion.

Chairman Robertson acknowledged that and stated that he would certainly take that under advisement and he knew that they had used similar analysis for things like the lighting in town buildings, that sort of thing.

Chairman Robertson stated if there were no further comments to which Selectman McGarry stated that he would like to clarify one item.

He stated that he is no longer the Chair of the Southern NH Planning Commission so Mrs. Cady could drop that concern with regard to serving two masters.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to adjourn

Second: Selectman Shute

Discussion:

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

Next Meeting: Monday, November 4, 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*