

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
March 2, 2020
MINUTES**

Call to Order

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

Present: Andrew Robertson, Chairman. Fred McGarry, Jeff Shute and Cindy McHugh, Selectpersons.

Excused Absence: Richard Pitman, Vice Chairman

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

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

Chairman Robertson stated that Robert Pitman has an excused absence as he is attending a family event.

The next thing that he would like to note, is although she is not on the agenda, he would recognize Denny.

Initially, he thought she wanted to say a few words regarding COVID-19.

Denny Greig – Emergency Management

Good evening. She stated that she just wanted to give them an update with respect to some of the activities they have been working on in town.

She stated that they have posted some information on the website with respect to resources and they have done some outreach to various partners within the community including the Inn at Deerfield, Deerfield Community Church, Longview School as well as Deerfield Community School with respect to guidance coming out of the CDC.

As residents, they encourage them to stay updated with respect to information on both the CDC website and/or the state public health website. Both of those links are on the town's website. Anyone that does not have computer access and would like information, they can feel free to call her at the town offices at 463-8811, ext. 310 and they would be happy to give them information.

They have been sending information to the department heads as well as various town employees and there is a department head meeting scheduled tomorrow morning so there will be updates there as well.

So, that is some of the things that are happening on that front.

The other thing that she wanted to address is the town emergency operations plan grant.

Chairman Robertson stated that it was the \$8,000.00 grant and if she would just give them a quick overview of that, they have the paperwork to sign this evening.

Ms. Greig stated that she has been before the Board a couple of times with asking permission to move forward. They have received approval and now this is the final grant language, the actual contract itself, with the feds.

What it requires is approval from the Board and then signatures from three Board members with respect to the grant.

This is for the town's emergency operations plan which has to be updated every five years and provides them with **(couldn't transcript)** with regard to emergency response in town and it is also one of those mandates that they have an updated EOP for receiving disaster assistance as well other federal and state grants.

Chairman Robertson asked the Board if there were any questions for Ms. Greig.

There were none and the chairman thanked Ms. Greig for her updates.

Chairman Robertson stated that moving onto their next order of business, they had an appointment scheduled with Jason Franklin regarding his subdivision on Mt. Delight/Kettle Rock Road and he stated that he was welcome to take Mr. Kelley to the microphone as well.

He was assuming that this was more about the Kettle Rock portion of the subdivision to which it was answered that it was.

Jason Franklin – subdivision on Mt. Delight/Kettle Rock Road

He stated that he had been working with Skip on some concepts and this is the latest one but it is apt to change and probably will change but it will give the Board an idea of what they were thinking of.

So, they met with the Planning Board a few weeks back for just an informational meeting for a potential subdivision on Mr. Delight and Kettle Rock Road. Following their recommendations, they are there meeting with the selectmen to see what their recommendations would be or improvements to Kettle Rock to allow this subdivision to move forward. That is pretty much it in a nutshell.

Chairman Robertson stated that the Board has not discussed it at all or reviewed site plans. At this point, he is drawing a blank as to the status of Kettle Rock at this point.

Selectman McGarry stated that it is a Class VI. He stated that he just looked it up this afternoon and it appears that it is still owned by the town. There was no mention as to when it had been discontinued. He didn't know if Jason had any other information to which he stated that they have not found out that information.

Mr. Franklin continued that Rick Pelletier was going to look into that and that it is a Class VI road due to lack of maintenance. It is not actually closed or anything like that and so Rick is looking into that for him.

Selectman McGarry stated that the statutes do allow for the Planning Board to approve a plan, basically, to effectively reopen that road but the board felt that it is the selectmen's responsibility regarding the highways in the town and therefore any recommendations should end up coming from the Board of Selectmen rather than the Planning Board.

Chairman Robertson stated that having been through this in the past, there are a couple of options. They could make a recommendation. They could re-lay the road out as a Class V.

What he was thinking of, there are two residences at the end of Kettle Rock, to which it was answered yes.

Mr. Franklin stated that yes, one was Tim Godbois' house who is a Deerfield resident and the other beyond him is actually in Allenstown but those folks use that road.

Chairman Robertson stated that the other thing that comes to mind is that he didn't know if they have gotten, and typically they would have an agreement with the occupants of a Class VI road like this indicating whether they were going to handle the maintenance or whether the town was.

If it has been discontinued, it sounds like a prior Board may have been negligent with regard to that and he was just thinking like Thurston Pond Road and Breakneck Hill Road, those roads, that type of thing. They met with the potential residents or developers, drew up binding, legal paperwork that they had them sign regarding maintenance and the town's capability is in expectations and their expectations and he didn't think that any of that exists for Kettle Rock.

The chairman continued to say that if they could give the Board a little bit of time to look at the plan, maybe get Mr. Pelletier involved and find out what he has found and identify whether they have got anything on file with regards to maintenance of Kettle Rock Road and then the Board could move forward and make a recommendation unless other board members have any thoughts?

No Board members spoke.

Chairman Roberson stated that they would be back in touch as soon as they were able. As far as their timeframe, did they have a particular date that they were looking for a response by other than as soon as possible?

Mr. Franklin stated that obviously they are waiting for a direction before they move forward so the sooner, the better.

Mr. Franklin stated that one other thing he would mention, and he believes it would be relevant.

They talked about the possibility of doing a Smith Ordinance subdivision with laying the road, if you will, directly over the Class VI road. There is a little less of a requirement for one of those. Just so they know that they have been trying to look at all possibilities.

Selectman McGarry stated that speaking to the "Smith Ordinance", right now the Smith Ordinance specifically limits it to four lots so they were looking at three lots in the subdivision plus two other lots being served by that road so the Smith Ordinance would not work.

Mr. Franklin stated that he should also point out that obviously, the property is not listed for sale, there hasn't been any word put out there anywhere but people are hounding him to see if they could buy a lot out there. That is a great location at this point but seriously, they have a very serious buyer who wants to buy, if you are looking at your plans, he wants to buy two of those, and in fact, he has a verbal agreement with him, that if they are moving forward in this direction that they are going to, they are not going to look for seven lots. He doesn't want two separate lots; he wants it all as one. There will effectively be 400 feet of frontage.

He stated that he was just telling the Board for informational purposes because he thought that the final plan that they will present is going to be for six lots but again, not cast in stone at this point. Before he would do this with this individual, he would have a substantial deposit and agreement from him.

Chairman Robertson stated to let them do their homework. Find out what they had for paperwork on file, if any and then they would have to decide whether they want to re-lay out the road or a portion of the road or how they want to proceed.

The only real delay to that that he is aware of is if they do that, there are some public hearing specifications they have to follow before they change the status of the road.

Selectman McGarry stated that he thought that if they laid it out beforehand, he was sure that Mr. Kelly wouldn't mind but, conceivably they would be faced with a road that is far substandard and he thought that the layout would occur after all the improvements were done when they accept it.

Chairman Robertson stated that they would have to think, and he is thinking back to when Mr. Pelletier came with someone from Middle Road adjacent to the Old Ridge Road Extension and he ended up building an identical road 50 yards in to the road down to Thurston Pond because there was great opposition to the layout but they had to hold a public hearing before they could determine whether they were actually going to lay that out and set standards forward and it was one of the few times other than Northern Pass, that they had this room fully packed with folks to let them know how they felt.

Mr. Franklin asked if there was a ballpark idea when they might hear back?

Chairman Robertson stated that he thought that they were going to need at least two weeks to put together an answer and if indeed the decision will be that they layout a portion of it, he forgot the posting requirements exactly but he thought it would be at least another ten days.

Mr. Franklin added that it sounded like it would be early April.

Chairman Robertson stated that as soon as they have some information, they would let them know and go forward.

Andrea Boulton, Tina St. Peter – DCS PTO Triathlon

Ms. Boulton introduced herself as the PTO president at the Deerfield Community School and she was there tonight to ask permission to host their triathlon again this year. It will coincide with Old Home Day on Saturday, August 15th. It will also include the 5K that the Old Home Day already has.

It will start at Veasey Park with a swim and then a 10-mile bike and then a three and a half mile run and it all end at the town hall.

Chairman Robertson stated that the Board has generally been, has looked very favorably on the event. He thought the only caveat that they would put out there is to make sure that the chief of police is on board with it because of the road safety concerns and that Nick at Parks and Rec is on board.

Ms. Boulton stated that the people that they have asked permission from or ask help from, Veasey Park, rescue, police, Parks and Rec, the Board of Selectmen, the order that it is suppose to go in, she doesn't know who is supposed to say "yes" first.

They have hit Parks and Rec, to let them know that they would like to join in their festivities, they have gone to the Board of Selectmen, the order goes like that.

They haven't asked the police yet, but they will. They know now that they have to hire them because of the new budget system so that is in their budget for this year. They volunteered their time last time. Hopefully, as long as their day is free, we will get everyone involved.

Chairman Robertson asked if the Board had any objection to the triathlon?

Selectman McGarry stated that he assumed that everything went well this past year, there were no issues?

Ms. Boulton stated yes and the chairman added that no one called them.

Ms. Boulton stated that they had one biker that had an accident but she felt like the way that it was handled was really well. The way that they all found out was the people and by the time that she got to Cindy, she was already there and the biker finished the race.

Chairman Robertson stated that he thought that they had the blessing of the Board and if they have already cleared it with Parks and Rec and they are good to go, he would just coordinate with the police chief because of the road use and the road safety.

Ms. Boulton thanked the Board.

Kelly Roberts – Town Clerk/Tax Collector – Quarterly Report

Ms. Roberts stated for revenue she stated that she has collected over 96 percent of the 2019 regular property taxes committed to her by warrant. A chunk of that was collected in January because of the due date.

She stated that she filed the MS-61 with the Department of Revenue. That just needs to be audited. It is the biggest financial report that she has to prepare and she is confident in that.

She submitted to the Board, the lien and deeding schedule and asked if they had looked at it to which the chairman stated that they had. She thought last year, it worked very well.

If all goes well, the lien date for unpaid 2019 taxes will be August 31st, 2020 of this year and the potential deed date for all unpaid liens 2017 and older will be September 4th, 2020. She stated that she moved it up a little bit this year because last year it was really late.

As far as some statistics, she thought it might be interesting to share with them since she brought in electronic payments which is credit cards, ACH and transfers.

Last year in tax revenue, they collected over \$5,354,396.00 in ACH so that is huge and for credit cards for taxes, they collected \$45,056.00 which is pretty good for credit cards. Less people pay their taxes with a credit card because of the charges.

On the clerk's side, which is motor vehicle, dogs and everything else, they collected over \$101,000.00 in ACH payments and over, and this is huge, \$308,579.00 in credit cards for motor vehicles. People don't think twice about swiping for their cars because they want to get those points. So that is kind of exciting.

For an elections update, they had a very successful presidential primary. They had over 1,822 ballots cast for a 52 percent voter turnout which is fabulous for a primary. She stated that they were usually around seventeen to twenty-one percent.

Expect the numbers to be very big this year. People are going to come out to the poles. There is going to be a lot of national attention, watching the results and how everything is handled. They do a great job.

She also wanted to thank Cindy McHugh, fire and rescue and Dick Pitman for helping them set up the poles. That was very, very helpful. She appreciated it a lot.

The polls on March 10th, will be open from 7 am to 7 pm at the town hall on Church Street. The clerk's office will be closed for that election. She kept the clerk's office open for the primary and she will keep the clerk's office open for the state primaries in September but for the general town and the general November, she will need all the help she can get at the polls, so she will close for those two.

She continued that she has to be open next Friday, the 13th, between 3 and 5 for the candidate recount period so that if there is a candidate on the ballot that wants a recount, she would have to be open during those hours. Once that recount period ends, they will be available for anyone that wants to be sworn in immediately.

The following Tuesday, March 17th, is the last day to request a recount on a question such as a warrant article.

They will be hosting another rabies clinic and licensing event on Saturday, April 11th from 9 am to noon. Dr. Elliot Moore from Derry Animal Hospital will be administering the shots. He will be assisted by a couple of his techs.

This event is only staffed by volunteers and it is for cats and dogs only. It is a family friendly event. The cost is \$20.00 per shot. They would like to make it a cash-only event this year for the doctors as it is easier at the end of the day to give him his money.

The clerk's office will be open during this time to issue dog licenses and they would also like to stress that this is a licensing event. They are trying to get as many dogs licensed as well so they want everyone that comes that they get their dog licensed as well. This was very popular last year

Coming up for her there are various municipal and state audits as well as elections. They may have a little bit of a break after the town election but it will start picking up in the summer for them once the state filing starts.

This time of year, is when their workshops start so she will be going to a couple of those which will help her keep up to date with her certification.

Also, an ongoing project that she is working on is a big archive project which has a ton of, lots of different facets of which one of the areas that they are looking at this year. Last year they got the clerk record binder done and this year they are looking to archive and catalog all the select board minutes, what do they have and making a catalog for that and making it available. She was talking about the old, old ones.

Chairman Robertson asked the Board if they had any questions for Ms. Roberts.

Selectman McGarry stated that he had a question regarding paying their taxes via a credit card. He asked if there was a fee that went along with that?

Ms. Roberts stated yes. You can pay your taxes with a credit card but it is 2.97% and that adds up really quickly. Most people, they pay their taxes with ACH. There is only one that costs \$1.50.

Selectman McGarry asked what ACH was and Ms. Roberts stated that it was like an electronic check. You get your checkbook out and go through a series of prompts and you are basically putting in your checking account information. It is very safe and secure and it is only \$1.50 so ...

Selectman McGarry stated that so it is not paying with a credit card to which Ms. Roberts stated no. He was thinking if it would be worthwhile if they pay the 2.97%, would the extra miles from whatever credit card they would use.

Ms. Roberts stated that it seems like people, when it comes to the points and the miles, like for zero to \$500.00 they are okay with that, like with a car. Once it goes over \$500.00, people aren't so apt to do it and write a check or pay with cash.

A member of the audience asked, on the ACH question, he asked what percentage overall pay that way? Did she have that information?

Ms. Roberts stated that a little less than half. The reason why they received \$5,300,000.00. They worked with the banks to set up the transfer and it is a lot easier for them than for us to transfer the funds into the town's account. Literally, they get a file and press a button and pay the taxes. It has been amazing. They used to have to enter every single check and now it is just the click of a button.

Chairman Robertson stated that he was glad to hear that she was organizing all the old select board minutes because like things they were discussing earlier this evening, particularly regarding roads, that type of thing, that is

often times the only type of record they have of decisions made and on more than one occasion with things that he has been involved in, they haven't been able to find any indication easily.

Ms. Roberts stated that if she had all the time in the world, she would love to do all that type of clerk stuff as far as the archival stuff. Really, really love that and it is important and it is going to get done and she is really excited about that.

Regular Business:

Review of Outstanding Minutes of February 17, 2020

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to approve the minutes of February 17, 2020

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Vouchers/Payroll Manifests/Accounts Payable:

Accounts Payable Manifest - \$1,049,334.53 (\$1,000,000.00 to the school)

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to approve the Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$1,049,334.53)

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Signature File:

Turning to the signature file, he was going to start with the Emergency Management Performance Grant that Denny spoke to them earlier about. It is an \$8,000.00 total project; \$4,000.00 of it is a grant from the State, \$4,000.00 is a match from the town.

They discussed this with Denny and he believed that they actually approved it but he would still like to get a motion if he could to accept the terms of the Emergency Management Performance Grant as presented in the amount of \$4,000.00 to update the community's local emergency operations plan. Furthermore, the Board acknowledges that the total cost of this project will be \$8,000.00 in which the town will be responsible for a fifty percent match of \$4,000.00.

Motion: Selectman Shute moves to accept the terms of the Emergency Management Performance Grant

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson stated that there are a bunch of places to sign and initial. He is assuming that they are classified as the sub recipients.

Chairman Robertson stated that he has a couple of items that don't need motions that he will start with down the line.

Notice of Intent to Cut Wood/Timber – 300 tons of whole tree chips, 40 cords of cordwood, Tax Map 420, Lot 53, 7 ½ acres off of South Road – Joseph Carpino

Notice of Intent to Cut Wood/Timber – Tax Map 419, Lot 76 – looking to take 300 tons of biomass chips and 4,000 board feet of oak and 25,000 board feet of white pine – Anthony Brocks

The next item will require a motion.

They have a report of a timber cut from Dalton Forestry on Avis Rosenfield and Timothy Mallet's property up off of Nottingham Road. They have the report with certification of taxes assessed and he needed a motion to levy a timber tax in the amount of \$1,075.42.

Motion: Selectman Shute moves to collect the timber tax levy in the amount of \$1,075.42

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

There are two spots to sign: one on the certification and assessment and one on the actual levy.

The chairman continued that they had an abatement request that will require a motion and that is basically to correct a mistake. Roscoe Blaisdell billed for land use change tax of \$8,900.00 and it should have been billed to Realty Trust and both the assessor and the town clerk are looking for the Board to grant the abatement.

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to approve the abatement

Second: Selectman Shute

Discussion: Selectman Shute asked if it was the full abatement and the chairman stated that the LUCT was \$8,900.00 and it should have gone directly to the Realty Trust and not Mr. Blaisdell and they have backup from Avatar explaining what happened.

The chairman stated that there are multiple places that they need to sign it.

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

They have three requests for Veteran's Tax Credits for Exemption.

The first is for James Lee Gargano. He is seeking the standard Veteran's Credit of \$500.00. His paperwork appears to be in order and forwarded from the town clerk's office.

Selectman McGarry had a question regarding these credits.

Assuming the town votes in favor of the articles increasing that credit, would it be better for them to apply after that vote to which the chairman stated that no, they looked into this and it would roll automatically, the status of everyone that has filed prior as well.

Motion: Selectman Shute moves to approve the Veteran's Tax Credit of \$500.00 to Mr. Garganeau

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Brian K. Durst, South Road – Veteran's Tax Credit of \$500.00

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to approve the Veteran's Tax Credit to Mr. Durst for \$500.00

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Andrew Hanson, Pleasant Hill Road, Veteran's Tax Credit of \$500.00 and the service-related total disability veteran's tax credit of \$2,000.00. The chairman stated that everything appears to be in order with the paperwork.

Motion: Selectman Shute moves to approve both tax credits as presented

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

The chairman stated that they had a number of appointment forms that the Board needs to make motions on and sign.

The first is to reappoint Cindy McHugh as the Animal Control Officer with a term of office to expire on April 30, 2021.

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to reappoint Cynthia McHugh as Animal Control Officer with a term of office to expire on April 30, 2021

Second: Selectman Shute

Discussion:

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

The chairman will do the next two together. It is to reappoint Richard Pelletier as the building inspector with the term to expire April 30, 2021 and the second is to reappoint Richard Pelletier as the Health Officer with the term to expire April 30, 2021.

Motion: Selectman Shute moves to appoint Richard Pelletier to the offices stated

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Denise Greig – To reappoint Denise Greig as Welfare Administrator with a term to expire April 30, 2021 and to appoint Denise Greig as co-director of Emergency Management with a term to expire April 30, 2021 and request to appoint Denise Greig as the deputy Health Officer serving with Richard Pelletier with a term to expire April 30, 2021.

Motion: Selectman Shute moves to approve Denise Greig into the positions brought forth

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Kevin Barry as co-director of Emergency Management with a term to expire April 30, 2021 and serving with Denise Greig

Motion: Selectman Shute moves to approve Kevin Barry as co-director of Emergency Management

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Correspondence File:

A request from Courtney Torre, of the Lazy Lion wondering who to speak to regarding the use of the Park and Ride? They have a wedding in September, he is assuming at the family home and would like to that for excess parking, Saturday, September 12th.

The chairman stated that unless the Board objects, he would refer her to the town administrator and Mr. Ellis who would keep the schedule of any events happening at this building. He stated that he would have no objection to it.

Selectman Shute stated that his only concern would be soccer and what would be going on.

Mr. Harrington stated that according to the Parks and Rec director, there would be no interference at that time they are running the wedding.

Chairman Robertson stated that it is an evening wedding and they anticipate needing parking from 3:00 pm to 10:00 p.m. and he should have also read that Mr. Harrington checked with Parks and Rec and there is no interference with the programming that day.

He stated that as a selectman, he would have no problem with this. He didn't know if any other members did and it sounds like the town administrator has already checked the schedule.

The chairman would note that they signed (three or four of them) an Intent to Cut Wood/Timber on February 19, 2020 for someone that was in a rush and needed their intent signed.

Also, a majority of the Board signed an Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$53,327.62 on February 24, 2020 and also signed a Payroll Manifest dated February 25th, 2020 in the amount of \$79,509.50 (gross), \$50,880.49.

There are other minutes and correspondence for the Board's reading pleasure.

He would also note, and he thought everyone got a letter from the Governor essentially explaining why he is right regarding his thoughts on HB1502 regarding metering.

They also had a letter from the Rockingham County Commissioners indicating that they want a fiscal year 2020 supplemental appropriation of \$700,000.00 for an integrated delivery network and funding of such network. There will be a public meeting on February 21st at 1:30 pm in the Maureen Barrows Conference Room at the Rockingham

County Nursing Home which to note has the best milkshakes in Rockingham County if you are going in there for a meeting at 117 North Road.

Commissioners are requesting the funding source for the supplemental appropriation be from current and unassigned fund balance. It will have no impact on the tax rate.

The chairman stated that he would be interested in what an "integrated delivery network" is. There is no explanation of it but he assumed that this is notice, more or less, that they are doing it and you can go and here the details if you like.

Selectman McGarry stated that he would have to get back into his time machine to get to February 21st to which the chairman stated that this was a good point.

The chairman stated that he was also going to put in an e-mail in there from a concerned citizen, William Monty, 1 Beau Acres, Deerfield, NH raising some concern and asking about community strategy and implementation in regard to dealing with Coronavirus.

Town Administrator's Report:

Mr. Harrington stated that he had a few updates this evening for the Board.

First is, they were well aware, they had replaced most of the town's computers due to the upgrade and lack of support of the old Windows operating system and he has gotten several requests from staff that if they are not going to have any purpose for those computers, they would like to have them.

He stated that he is going out to see if there is any residual value prior to this so that he can report to the Board and if they can get some value for them, then they would try to cover that. If not, he would let them know at the next meeting.

Mr. Harrington continued to state that Mark Young wanted to let the Board know that he has posted the roads with weight limits. You may have noticed those out. The weather is warming up.

Mr. Harrington stated that he was alerted today that there was a typographic error on the recent voter's guide that went out under Warrant Article Number 5 which has to do with the Library's full-time position. The narrative was a repeat of the Warrant Article regarding the COLA for town employees.

He stated that he has corrected the narrative. It is posted on the town's web site. It has been posted on Facebook and they will have a placard on voting day for voters to see as they walk in to vote with this change to notify them of the error in the voting guide.

Chairman Robertson stated to follow up a little bit on that, at least one of the library trustees wanted to know if the town could redo the voter's guide and remail it and Mr. Harrington apprised them that they didn't have the time, they don't have the resources and it would be also extremely difficult to find a printer this late in the stage of the game to do it because they are printing everybody's municipal paperwork.

It was also discussed whether a handout would be appropriate and that seemed like it would raise more questions than having a large sign or something as you would approach the building and entryway to advise people.

If anyone has any other suggestions that don't run afoul of legal voting requirements and information, feel free to let them know.

Mr. Harrington stated that last but not least, Bear Paw presented a plaque to the Board of Selectmen, which Andy will read and once accepted, will hang in the George B. White Building.

Chairman Robertson stated that basically Bear Paws Regional Greenways is presenting this Al Jaeger drawing of a beaver in pen and ink of a very detailed beaver on either a dam or logs that they are working on with the inscription that:

"The Bear Paws Regional Greenways thanks the Town of Deerfield with regard to the 178-acre Boisvert Conservation Easement. This remote town property is located in one of Bear Paw's original greenways and gives over 1,000 acres of contiguous conservation land. The exposed ledges, historic cemeteries and

undeveloped watershed area make this a truly unique land for generations of people and wildlife to enjoy this special property.”

Chairman Robertson stated that for those wondering, the Boisvert property is easily accessed just over the Deerfield line into Epsom. There is a dirt road that goes off to the right. It has a bunch of signs telling people to keep out and various other things but it leads to public land and that stretch basically runs from that section of Epsom, back over to Griffin Road. There is a large parcel of state that is a hunting management area, 200 to 300 acres in there, it borders a few hundred acres at the Lyon's and the Freese property comes in there as well. It is a large, large chunk of protected forest that is not broken up at all.

Chairman Robertson stated that he also believed that they had another one of these painting that Al provided them with previously that somehow made its way off the wall and into storage and Mr. Harrington has located that and are going to put both of them on public display.

Chairman Robertson stated that he would note that the town's annual reports are out. Everyone has one this evening. If you need one, he assumes that folks can stop in and see the town administrator or Pete and get a copy during the day.

They will also be available at election time certainly and Mr. Harrington added that it is also posted online.

Unfinished Business:

Selectman McGarry stated that this is probably just a follow up as they had discussed about Kettle Rock Road and he was wondering if they should get an opinion from town counsel as to timing-wise, if they laid it out as a Class V road before the improvements being made, would the developer conceivably be in a position to say to the Planning Board that now it is a Class V road and now it is officially frontage.

Chairman Robertson stated that there are a very specific series of options and process that they will follow and they need to talk with Bart and have that so as they determine what they want to do, if anything, they follow that process.

He thought that the last time they went through this, the development he mentioned on Middle Road which was Mr. Pelletier's development and they decided not to lay the Class VI road and made him construct a new road.

New Business:

None

Chairman Robertson stated that he would mention that they will have to go into non-public session. He didn't anticipate that it will be for a long time and he thought that it was under "e" to which the town administrator confirmed it was.

Motion: Selectman Shute moves to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II(e) Consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation which has been threatened in writing or filed by or against the public body or any subdivision thereof, or by or against any member thereof because of his or her membership in such public body, until the claim or litigation has been fully adjudicated or otherwise settled. Any application filed for tax abatement, pursuant to law, with any body or board shall not constitute a threatened or filed litigation against any public body for the purposes of this subparagraph.

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Chairman Robertson stated that no action was taken in the non-public session.

Citizen's Comments:

Tim Godbois, Kettle Rock Road

Mr. Godbois stated that he couldn't get there and he presumed that the original Kettle Rock would have been during new business. He presumed incorrectly.

He knew that they didn't need to respond but he was curious where this stands? He has heard lots of proposals about what Mr. Kelly wants to do with that property because when he original moved in twenty-six years ago, that was when Mr. Sanborn was here, Mr. Mailhot, Jim Alexander were also board members.

They were very clear that it was a Class VI road and he was not going to be able to get his permits to build on the property. Subsequently, he found out, that the piece of property that he actually lives on in Deerfield, was an actual taxable property before zoning came in so what he had to do was go to the ZBA to get grandfathered to be able to build.

But along with that, the select board at that time went over and said they would possibly give him a discount on the town portion of the tax bill for being on a Class VI road. That has never happened and he was fine with that because this way, if it stayed Class VI, no one is coming in.

Himself and his neighbor actually live on Kettle Rock but the Allenstown portion, they have put over \$15,000.00 of personal money on Kettle Rock Road from where David Aston's barn ended or actually where the town stopped plowing because they had to plow the first part of Kettle Rock Road because the school bus used to turn around there.

Now the school bus doesn't turn around there anymore.

He is concerned that if Mr. Kelly is allowed to build on the Class VI road, that would open it up to more traffic and the money that they have spent to fix their road and if they have been on Kettle Rock Road, it is better than a lot of Deerfield roads because they invested time and put down the bed properly. When it was first built, it was like a tarmac but time eats away at it.

So, he was curious if they would respond as to where they stand?

Chairman Robertson stated that he could and give him a very good idea as to where they stand right now and that is that they have made no decision at all. This was the first time that they have been approached by the developer. They told them that they would research the issue and discuss what options were available to the Board and move forward from there. They have done none of that in this short time frame.

They told the developer that would work towards coming to some sort of direction that the Board in or provide an answer, yea, nay, what have you in two weeks and advised them that there were a number of options to be considered that the Board could move on or not move on. That is where they are at right now.

Mr. Godbois asked what the proposal was? Is he proposing, how many house lots on Kettle Rock? He stated that he has heard some many stories and speculations around the area and he was curious because he can't get a straight answer.

Chairman Robertson stated that he thought that he would have to go to the Planning Board to get the specifics of what he is planning.

Selectman McGarry stated that they didn't provide that information.

Selectman McGarry continued to stated that Mr. Kelly had come into the Planning Board with a proposal to subdivide on Kettle Rock Road and of course with it being a Class VI, the road is simply not considered to be frontage at all and because it is still owned by the town, the road itself, the Planning Board referred them to the Board of Selectmen because the Board of Selectmen have the authority and the responsibility for the town roads.

He has proposed four lots that would be partially, totally on Kettle Rock Road. Actually, there are three of them that would be fully on Kettle Rock Road. That is what his proposal is.

Selectman McGarry stated that if Mr. Godbois wants, he can provide him with a copy of his suggested subdivision to which Mr. Godbois stated that he would like it just so he can have it for his records.

Mr. Godbois stated that further he believed that a Class VI road goes back over thirty-something years since the town closed it. He has been here twenty-five and at that point, Mr. Sanborn went over and told him exactly where his pin was, you go past Mr. Godbois' house over the little knoll and Mr. Sanborn told him exactly where the line was Class V and then they discontinued it because there was no one there. That would make sense. Why spend the money when it would not ever be used.

Mr. Godbois' only concern is when they open it up, there are already a lot of idiots that try to drive through Kettle Rock Road, up Kettle Rock because it bumps into Swamp in Epsom and the more traffic comes by, the neighbor on the end, who is technically in Allenstown, their road just gets destroyed. He is just afraid that if that happens, then everything that they have put into it, will be for not.

Chairman Robertson stated that the Board appreciates his concerns.

Selectwoman McHugh asked Mr. Godbois what year did he build there?

Mr. Godbois stated that it was about twenty-five years ago, around 1994-1995 so its back if they are looking through minutes, twenty-five years ago was when he started his process to move in there but then it had been a Class VI for, he presumed the way that they talked about it, for many years so it could have been a Class VI for 30-40 years.

Chairman Robertson asked for other citizen's comments.

Ms. Cady – Old Centre Road

The county, and they were speaking tonight that they were going to be spending over \$600,000.00 in leftover funds reminded her that the county has now proposed to have a bond issue this coming year which means the public hearing on the budget has already gone by so it is our state reps would be the ones that would need to be contacted, are going to build a Deeds center and a prosecutor's office and move it out of where in the county court house they rent space and build down on North Road where the complex is now.

That will add some to the cost of the prosecutor already traveling to the court house whereas now they are in the court house so she didn't know if that has been thought of but that is going to come into our budget.

She thought that they should be asked to send this proposal.

Chairman Robertson stated that if there were no other citizen's comments, he would entertain a motion to adjourn

Motion: Selectman Shute moves to adjourn

Chairman Robertson stated that before he accepts that motion, he would like to recognize and thank Jeff Shute for the two terms that he has served on the Board of Selectmen. Hopefully for him, this is his last selectmen's meeting unless he chooses to come back for some reason other than being required to be there so thank you Jeff. It has been enjoyable working with him.

Selectman Shute stated that it was enjoyable working with town.

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

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

Next Meeting: Monday, March 16, 2020 at 5:30 pm

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