

TOWN OF DEERFIELD, NH
MUNICIPAL BUDGET COMMITTEE
George B. White Building
8 Raymond Rd. Deerfield, NH 03037

January 12, 2021 6:00 PM via Zoom
Meeting Minutes

Meeting Called to Order by Chair at 6:00 PM.

Roll Call: Present - Herman Pretorius (Chair), Andrew Robertson, Zach Langlois, Bonnie Beaubien, Phil Bilodeau, JoAnne Bradbury, Jocelyn Messier, Maureen Quinn
Not Present - Bill Von Hassel (Vice-Chair, excused), Terry Roy (unexcused)

Approval of Meeting Minutes: No minutes to approve

Review of Town Warrant Articles: Mr. Pretorius read each of the Warrant Articles and Mr. Robertson provided comments and explanations.

Article 1: Mr. Robertson made a motion for the MBC to recommend the town's proposed operating budget in the amount of \$4,542,412.00. The motion was seconded by Ms. Beaubien.

Vote: Yay - 8, Nay - 0, Abstain - 0. **Motion passed.**

Article 2: Mr. Robertson made a motion for the MBC to recommend Article 2, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$200,000.00 for the purpose of repair and/or reconstruction of existing roads, associated drainage improvements and tree removal. Seconded by Mr. Langlois.

Mr. Robertson noted that tree removal had been removed from this warrant article. Discussion was had whether to remove the tree removal or not. Ms. Bradbury made a motion to change the Article to include tree removal, seconded by Ms. Beaubien. The amendment to the motion did not pass.

Much discussion was had with regards to punctuation. Ms. Bradbury moved to include a question mark at the end of the second sentence of the Article, seconded by Ms. Messier. The motion passed unanimously.

Vote on motion to recommend Article 2: Yay - 8, Nay - 0, Abstain - 0. **Motion passed.**

Motion by Mr. Pretorius, to re-open Article 1, for the purpose of adding a question mark to the end of the first sentence in Article 1 as well, seconded by Mr. Langlois. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Pretorius, to add a question mark to the end of the first sentence in Article 1, seconded by Ms. Beaubein. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Pretorius, to approve Article 1 as amended, seconded by Mr. Langlois. Motion passed unanimously.

Article 3: Mr. Robertson made a motion for the MBC to recommend Article 3, to see if the town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$31,200.00 for a part time Fire Fighter/EMT position in the Deerfield Fire/Rescue Department, seconded by Mr. Langlois. Mr. Robertson noted that should this article pass, it would only be funded in the event that the proposed town budget fails to pass.

Vote: Yay - 8, Nay - 0, Abstain - 0. **Motion passed.**

Article 4: Mr. Robertson made a motion for the MBC to recommend Article 4, to see if the town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,000.00 to be used by Northwood Lake Watershed Association to control milfoil in Northwood Lake.

Vote: Yay - 8, Nay - 0, Abstain - 0. **Motion passed.**

Article 5: Mr. Robertson made a motion for the MBC to recommend Article 5, to see if the town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500.00 to be used by the Pleasant Lake Preservation Association to increase the number of hours for trained attendants to provide courtesy boat inspection at the public access ramp on Gulf Road to prevent the introduction and spread of exotic aquatic plants, like variable milfoil, and aquatic nuisance animals like zebra mussels from entering Pleasant Lake.

Vote: Yay - 8, Nay - 0, Abstain - 0. **Motion passed.**

Article 6: Mr. Robertson stated that this article does not require a recommendation from the MBC as it does not involve any appropriations. Article 6 asks if the town will authorize the Selectboard to appoint one or more highway agents pursuant to RSA 231:62 that shall have additional duties as the Selectboard shall prescribe in accordance with RSA 261:63. The appointment authority shall continue in effect until changed by majority vote at an annual or special meeting.

Review of School Warrant Articles:

Article 1: Mr. Langlois made a motion for the MBC to recommend Article 1, seconded by Mr. Robertson, to approve the proposed school budget in the amount of \$15,145,434.00. Mr. Langlois also stated if the proposed budget fails to pass, the default budget will be \$15,018,402.00.

Vote: Yay - 8, Nay - 0, Abstain - 0. **Motion passed.**

Mr. Pretorius moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:56 PM. Meeting adjourned at 6:56 PM.

These minutes were transcribed and respectfully submitted by Tina St. Peter,
Recording Secretary
Pending approval by the Municipal Budget Committee