

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

December 7, 2021
Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order by Chair at 6:02 PM

Roll Call: In Attendance: Bonnie Beaubien, Phil Bilodeau, Zach Langlois, Jocelyn Messier, JoAnne Bradbury, Maureen Quinn, Terry Roy, Bill Von Hassel
Absent: Kevin Verville, Joshua Cresswell, Alden Dill (All excused)

Approval of Meeting Minutes: Ms. Bradbury noted a typo in the Town Hall paragraph on page three of the minutes from the 11/30/2021 meeting. The minutes should read "1.00", not "1,00". Motion by Mr. Langlois to approve minutes as amended, seconded by Ms. Quinn. Vote to approve with correction of the typo was unanimous. Motion passed.

New Business: Jeff Kelley, chairperson of the Deerfield Community School (DCS) Building Expansion subcommittee, and Lance Whitehead from Lavallee Brensinger Architects were present to discuss the building expansion project at DCS. The school board has been working on this project for about a year and a half and they are now ready to present Warrant Articles to be voted on this year. Mr. Whitehead discussed several ways the current school building is not meeting the needs of the students and staff. There are systems that are failing due to age ie; ADA issues, energy efficiency issues, the current electric system is undersized due to being designed before current technology usage. The roof is original. Mr. Whitehead discussed space deficiencies ie; usage of modular classrooms, a lot of undersized classrooms not meeting current Dept of Education standards, the cafeteria is too small, special needs spaces and one on one meeting spaces not available and being done in stairways. Per national fire protection code, Kindergartens and First Grades are not to occupy second floor spaces without a dedicated means of egress. DCS' first floor is full so library, art, and music classes are all on the second floor and are all used by kindergarten and first grades, in violation of code. This needs to be corrected as soon as possible. Mr. Whitehead discussed spaces that DCS does not have but needs ie; four 3rd grade classrooms, a kindergarten classroom, four additional classrooms. DCS does a lot of shuffling to accommodate fluctuating population in grades. Mr. Whitehead discussed the feedback from staff ie; paving staff parking lot, power in classrooms, lack of bathrooms, overcrowded cafeteria, outdoor learning space, and need for common areas for extra help or special needs and meetings. Mr. Whitehead then discussed feedback they have received from the community so far ie; comfort in the building, temperature in warmer months, maybe consider air conditioning, common use space, wanting students to be fully supported, lack of hands on learning space, and need for middle school identity.

Mr. Whitehead explained the proposed solution will renovate the current space at DCS and will add on an addition on the right side of the building for a self contained middle school and also an addition to the left side of the building for a community center which would be able to operate independently of the rest of the building. Mr. Kelley stated that the addition of the community center space would be a separate Warrant Article from the renovation/addition of the rest of the building.

School Budget: Mr. Langlois said that the school budget has been finalized and that binders are being completed. The school budget will be ready for presentation at the next MBC meeting.

Old Business:

At the last meeting, Ms. Bradbury had stated that she thought the MBC should reconsider the \$18,000 addition to the Health Agencies budget as she had done some more research.

Motion by Ms. Bradbury to reconsider the \$18,000 addition to the Health Agencies budget, seconded by Mr. Bilodeau. Vote: Yay - 6, Nay - 1, Abstain - 0. Motion passed.

Ms. Bradbury explained she had spoken with Chief Fisher, who said he will not spend that entire amount in one year as his plan is to establish a 5-6 year rotating schedule for employee physicals. Chief Fisher would like the line for employee physicals restored to the \$4,500 he had originally asked for.

Motion by Ms. Bradbury to reduce the employee physical line of the Health Agencies budget by \$18,000 and restore the budget amount to \$9,700.00, seconded by Ms. Messier. Vote: Yay - 6, Nay - 1, Abstain - 0. Motion passed to restore the budget amount to \$9,700.00.

Citizen's Comments: None

Motion to adjourn by Ms. Quinn, seconded by Ms. Beaubien.

Meeting adjourned by Chair at 7:47 PM.

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

