

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

September 8, 2022
Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order by Chair

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Present - Bonnie Beaubein, William Huebner, Zach Langlois, Jocelyn Messier, Terry Roy, Kevin Verville, Bill Von Hassel

Excused Absence: Joshua Cresswell, Maureen Quinn

Unexcused Absence: Phil Bilodeau

Mr. Von Hassel called for a Moment of Silence for Fred McGarry's wife who passed earlier; after the moment of silence, the date & time of the funeral were noted.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Mr. Langlois to approve the minutes from the 2/1/22 meeting, seconded by Ms. Beaubein. Vote to approve minutes as written was unanimous.

Mr. Von Hassel reviewed the attendance RSA. Mr. Von Hassel also stated that if members need to participate via Zoom, that he needs to know in advance.

New Business:

Board Vacancy: Ms. Bradbury has moved out of state, leaving a vacancy on the MBC. Ms. Beaubein nominated Kendra Cohen to fill the vacancy, seconded by Ms. Messier. Mr. Verville nominated Jenifer Lee to fill the vacancy, seconded by Mr. Roy. Both candidates introduced themselves and stated why they feel they would be assets to the MBC. Mr. Von Hassel asked Ms. Cohen if she would abstain from voting on school items as she is the school district clerk. She said she would. Other board members had concerns about Ms. Cohen's other commitments to other boards in town. MBC members asked Ms. Lee about her education and qualifications. Vote was 3 in favor of Ms. Cohen, 3 in favor of Ms. Lee. Mr. Von Hassel voted to break the tie for Ms. Lee. The board welcomed Ms. Lee to the MBC and thanked Ms. Cohen for her consideration. Ms. Lee joined the other board members at the table to listen to discussion but will not be voting until she is sworn in.

AV Person: Mr. Von Hassel stated that someone is needed to run AV equipment during MBC meetings. Mr. Verville suggested MBC members get training to run equipment themselves. Mr. Von Hassel said it may be difficult to run equipment and pay attention to meeting. The board is doubtful that they will be able to hire anyone to do it. Mr. Langlois made a motion to advertise the position for an AV person to gauge interest in the job, with pay to be discussed once it is determined if anyone is interested in applying for the position. Mr. Verville asked where funds for paying this person would come from. Mr. Von Hassel said he would approach the selectboard to take money from the general fund for this year and he had included an extra \$600-\$800 for next year. Ms. Beaubein suggested that maybe a high school student would volunteer. Mr. Verville said he won't support the motion, wants MBC to learn to use the equipment before spending money. Mr. Roy agreed with Mr. Verville. There was discussion of pros & cons of hiring vs finding volunteer vs MBC being trained to do it themselves. Mr. Langlois amended his motion to include "unless able to recruit a volunteer." Mr. Von Hassel said he would like to at least attempt to gauge interest in hiring someone. Mr. Langlois moved the question. Vote on motion to hire an employee to run AV equipment during MBC meetings: Yay 3, Nay 3, Abstain 0. Mr. Von Hassel voted to break the tie in favor of the motion. Motion passed. Mr. Von Hassel said he prefers not to wait until the next meeting to act on this.

Schedule of Upcoming Meetings: There was discussion about upcoming meetings for this season. Mr. Von Hassel said the meetings have all been posted but not carved in stone if the schedule needs changing. Mr. Langlois said that the meeting in January on a Thursday usually ends up a conflict for the school. Mr. Von Hassel said that the town expects to have their budget to the MBC by October 11th. Mr. Verville made a motion to cancel the next meeting on 10/4 since the budget won't be ready until the 11th and to schedule meetings instead on 10/11, 10/18, & 10/25.. Motion was seconded by Mr. Roy. There was discussion about conflicts with other boards and the necessity of adding more meetings to the schedule. The vote for the motion to cancel the 10/4 meeting and schedule meetings on 10/11, 10/18, & 10/25 was: Yay 1, Nay 3, Abstain 2. Motion did not pass. Mr. Langlois said there is a high school contract and will be a teacher contract, both of which will be warrant articles that can be discussed before the budget is ready if so desired by the MBC.

Election of Vice Chair: Mr. Verville nominated Mr. Roy to serve as Vice Chair. Ms. Messier nominated Ms. Beaubien to serve as Vice Chair. Vote was 3 in favor of Mr. Roy, 3 in favor of Ms. Beaubien. Mr. Von Hassel voted to break the tie in favor of Mr. Roy. Mr. Roy was elected Vice Chair.

Citizens Comments: None

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Mr. Roy. All were in favor of adjourning.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM by the Chair. Next meeting is 10/4 at 6:00 PM.

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