

TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

January 25, 2006

MINUTES

I. Meeting convened. 7:32 p.m.

Attendance: Carolyn Shores Ness, Chair -- present
John P. Paciorek -- present
Mark Gilmore -- absent

II. Minutes from 10/18/05 -- John Paciorek made a motion to accept the minutes from 10/18/05. Carolyn Ness seconded the motion. Vote passed unanimously (2-0).

Minutes from 12/28/05 on hold until end of meeting.

III. Public Comments – none

IV. Selectmen's Comments

- Boston Conference – “The Good, The Bad and The Ugly” was the name of one class that was taken. The class pertained to dealing with difficult people.
- Circuit Breaker - tax credits – people over 65 can get 10% of after tax annual income. They will need to pay property taxes and then when they file their income taxes, they could get up to \$830 back from the state as long as they are over 65 years old; their house value is under \$600,000 and they make less than \$40,000 annual income as a single filer or less than \$60,000 annual income as a joint filer. Further information is available on the front table at the Deerfield Municipal building or from the Selectmen's Office. You can also call the Department of Revenue or Senator Stan Rosenberg's office for more information. Additional note: this refund is not based on assets or money in the bank. It is based only on actual income.
- The Town of Deerfield received information back from the state on our Commonwealth Capital application. We increased our score to 88, which is one of the highest small town scores in the Commonwealth. By participating, we are eligible for a lot of programs such as Chapter 90 and community policing.

V. Board of Health items

- Flu Prevention Practices -- The bird flu is not in the United States and has not mutated person to person.
 - In order to stay healthy, it is critical that we all practice thorough hand washing. It is not necessary to use antibacterial soap but it is important to wash for at least 30 seconds.

- The Board of Health has inventoried the Town's food supplies and there isn't more than 2 or 3 days supply. Our residents need to stock up on food, toilet paper, prescriptions, pet food, etc. it is important to think about and stock up on anything that we would need in order to stay at home – shelter in place.

VI. Discussion/Decision Items

- Chief Wozniakewicz announcement -- Gray Volkswagen Jetta or Audi or Passat in connection with some house break-ins that occurred on Monday in the early afternoon during the snowstorm. If anyone sees this 4-door gray sedan in the Upper Road or Meadowwood Road area, call the Deerfield Police Department. Two house break-ins were forced entry and had similar items taken – electronics, computers and alcohol.
- Two Part-time Police Officer Openings – Chief Wozniakewicz would like the Board to appoint two new officers tonight.
 - Donald Bates of Ashfield is the first candidate. He is a full time officer in the Town of Whately.
 - Michael Kelly of Turners Falls is the second candidate.

Chief Wozniakewicz said that they both would be welcome additions to the Police Department. Ms. Ness said she liked both candidates also because when she met them, they were both personable and they embody the community policing philosophy.

Ms. Ness made a motion to approve and to appoint Donald Bates and Michael Kelly to the Deerfield Police Department. Mr. Paciorek seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously (2-0).

- Retired Police Cruiser – The 2001 Ford Crown Victoria police cruiser is now considered surplus and is at the Board's disposal. It has 155,000 miles. Whatever the Board would like to do with it is fine. The Chief feels it may be worth about \$2,000. Mr. Paciorek thought perhaps the car could be used by Town employees to cut back on the amount of mileage that is being paid out. The Town could have the Highway Department look it over and if repairs were extensive, the Town could just opt to get rid of it. The car gets roughly 16 mpg.
- Bullet Proof Vests – Chief Wozniakewicz spoke about his September memo about purchasing new bulletproof vests. At the same time, the Chief also applied to the Department of Justice Bullet Proof Vest program for assistance. They have approved \$1,942.50. They paid for half of the \$3,800.85 bill. The September program that was applied to was to solely replace faulty zylon vests from the Department's 2002 purchase. The Department is hoping to collect \$5,100 from the pending lawsuit regarding the faulty vests. The lawsuit paperwork was filed during the first week of January. The vests will be paid for out of the drug forfeiture account and any money that comes back in will go back that account.

- New Radio Program -- \$10,000 grant – radios are in and the system is being tested now. A memo was received from the Shelburne Falls Control Dispatch Center stating that there was an unforeseen expense of \$1,080 to maintain this radio program, the tower sites, the electric bills and radio maintenance contracts.
- Gas – The Police Department is a little overdrawn on the gas account. There is no cause for concern at this time. They are currently paying \$2.15 per gallon.
- PVMA Craft Fair -- Tim Newmann of PVMA requested permits for the Old Deerfield Annual Craft Fairs as well as a transient vendor waiver.

Mr. Paciorek made a motion that the Board approve the Craft Fair request for Old Deerfield Craft Fairs by PVMA for June 24 & 25 and the following September 23 & 24 and also include the transient vendor waiver for both events. Ms. Ness seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously (2-0).

- Sewer Commitment – Mr. Paciorek made a motion to approve a request from the Collector to approve sewer commitment 1A for \$1,129.02 that covers five sewer bills that did not go out in the first billing batch and need to be collected. Ms. Ness seconded. Vote passed unanimously (2-0).
- Open Space and Recreation Plan – Mr. Paciorek made a motion to authorize Mark Capuano and Betsy Clark to the Steering Committee. Ms. Ness seconded. Vote passed unanimously (2-0).
- Ms. Ness made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss strategy (reason #3). Mr. Paciorek seconded the motion. C. Ness-aye; J. Paciorek-aye.

VII. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Kroll

☐ Approved

☐ Not approved

Date: _____

Corrections: _____
