

TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

June 14, 2006

MINUTES

1. Meeting Convenes at 7:30 p.m., Deerfield Municipal Offices.
2. Present: J. P. Paciorek, C. Shores Ness, B. Kubiak
Absent: M. Gilmore
3. The Selectmen opened the floor for public comment.
 - A. G. Oakes of the Finance Committee explained that the Board should reduce the Wastewater Treatment Plant Budget by \$60,000 to meet a predicted shortfall. He explained that the gap between the appropriation and the receipts funding the operations required a vote by Town Meeting to clarify the appropriation. He also advised that an estimate, available to both the Selectmen and Finance Committee prior to the Special Town Meeting, be used to determine the reduction.
4. J.P. Paciorek invited Selectboard comments:
 - A. J.P. Paciorek advised residents that B. Austin was now the Building Inspector, explaining that a decrease in building activity warranted a reduction in hours for that position. B. Austin holds office hours on Monday 8:00 – 10:00 am and Wednesday nights from 5:00 – 8:00 pm, completing inspections as scheduled.
 - B. C.S. Ness noted that the Board of Health had put up Shelter-in-Place signs, indicating how residents can protect themselves in case of a wide-spread emergency.
 - C. The Board listed the articles submitted for consideration at Special Town Meeting on July 12, 2006, noting that they had previously voted to close the Warrant on June 14, 2006 at 8:00 pm.
 1. Article #1 requests the Town perform a land taking by Eminent Domain of two properties on Lower Road for the purpose of replacing a damaged culvert on that town way,
 2. Article #2 proposes to purchase two air conditioners at the Frontier Senior Center,

3. Article #3 extends the Inflow and Infiltration Removal Program to December 31, 2006, reducing the rebate from \$500.00 to \$350.00 for sewer users, as well as allow a portion of the original appropriation to be used for administrative purposes,
 4. Article #4 reduces the Wastewater Treatment Plant budget by approximately \$60,000.
5. Public Hearing – Drainage Easements for Culvert Replacement on Lower Road:
- A. J.P. Paciorek requested that parties interested in speaking to the issue of the Public Hearing must sign in. He noted that there is no requirement for the Board to hold this hearing, but that the Selectmen felt that the issue was best discussed in a public forum.
 1. J. Toth, Franklin Regional Council of Governments Engineering/Planning Department, explained the project briefly. He described the necessity of the culvert replacement, as well as the process by which the repair would take place. Particular attention was paid to the water main problem, development of the land taking aspect of the project, and process by which the NOI was submitted to Conservation Commission.
 2. J. Evans (representing Mark W. Trust) and P. Gilroy, landowners affected by this project, questioned the need for the project. They further berated the Board about notification of negotiation meetings on these easements and for using Eminent Domain to obtain permanent access to the site. Requests for information included the names and qualifications of the appraisers compiling the land valuation, specifications on velocity of the water flowing through the repaired pipe versus the current culvert, type of material it is made of, and concerns that tree removal will devalue the surround land. The question of what the results of not repairing the culvert came up; without repair collapse of the road is imminent, which makes this a public safety necessity.
 3. After further discussion, C.S. Ness motioned to close the hearing; J.P. Paciorek seconded, unan. approved.
 - B. The Board invited the Regional Program Director for the Connecticut River Valley of the Trust for Public Land to speak. Clem Clay updated the Selectmen on the progress of Conservation

Visioning in preparation to apply for future conservation grants. C. Clay proposed further meetings to complete the first phase of this project; setting goals for conservation in Deerfield. One key component is accepting the Open Space and Recreation Plan; The Board agreed to hold a public hearing on June 19, 2006 at 7:30 for public discussion on it. The Selectmen thanked C. Clay for his assistance in this conservation effort.

- C. The Town Administrator's contract was discussed at length. J.P. Paciorek requested two language changes; add "whereas" continue with "and" in highlighted sections. He also requested the following change on page 3, paragraph D from "termination by unanimous vote" to "termination by majority vote" for the length of this contract year. B. Kubiak described a change in professional association membership after brief question from J.P. Paciorek, noting the dues were based on percentage of salary, as is done by the MMA. C.S. Ness motioned to accept the contract; J.P. Paciorek seconded; unan. approved.
 - D. B. Kubiak briefly described the transfer request from reserve fund for Street Lights line item. Account is overdrawn due to increases in electricity costs. C.S. Ness motioned to approve transfer of \$3,600 to Street Light account; J.P. Paciorek seconded; unan. approved.
 - E. The Board discussed Police Department insurance issue. B. Kubiak noted that though different, both part-time and full-time officer coverage complies with state requirements.
 - F. There were no announcements.
 - G. There was no correspondence to discuss.
6. C.S. Ness motioned to adjourn at 9:15 pm pending signature of Warrant; J.P. Paciorek seconded; unan. approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kayce D. Warren
Administrative Assistant

☐ Approved

☐ Not approved

Date: _____

Corrections: _____

_____.