

Board of Selectmen Minutes  
Meeting – October 23, 2013

**Present:** Selectmen - Carolyn Shores Ness, David Wolfram  
Interim Town Administrator – Wendy Foxmyn

**Absent:** Mark Gilmore

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm at the Deerfield Town Hall, 8 Conway Street.

**Hearings/Appearances before the Board:**

- **7:00 Sewer Rate Setting** – Present- Barbara Hancock (Assistant Treasurer/Collector)  
Ms. Hancock presented information about ways to calculate sewer rates for FY'14. The rate for the previous year, based upon water consumption, was \$5.42. The Board chose to take the matter under advisement. At the request of the Chief Operator, an informational insert will accompany statements to remind people of what should not be flushed.
- **7:45 Sewer Connection Request** – Bayer Corporation  
Present: Bayer Corporation – Shaun Gaus, Gary Griswold, Mike Petrin (T&B)  
Dick Calisewski, health agent

Mr. Gaus said Bayer Corporation was back to follow-up on the discussion at a previous meeting, and was prepared to submit a formal application, to hook into the South Deerfield waste water system. Bayer Corporation is located in the Whately Industrial Park which is adjacent to the Deerfield park.

During the discussion a number of points were made: 1) Bayer plans to expand its facility and needs to increase its wastewater capacity. 2) Bayer currently has 100 employees; using DEP standards that is comparable to adding three houses to the system. 3) If a permit is issued it cannot be taken away. 4) There are several vacant buildings in the park right now. 5) A small septic system would take care of Bayer's needs. 6) There may be easement issues with property owners DEDIC and the Town. 6) The area includes an Indian burial ground site which cannot be disturbed.

Moving forward, in addition to the application, which was submitted at this meeting, there was a request that Bayer make a presentation to address costs to the Town, demonstrate benefits to the Town, and clarify the right of Deerfield to inspect a system in another town (Whately). This matter will be discussed again at the November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Mr. Wolfram said the original plan included the village from Long Hill to the center and Mill Village Road without a pump station. When the system was first built the water level dropped more than two feet. Once sump pumps were removed from all the houses the water level began to rise again. He wants to meet with the highway supervisor and the chief operator to research this further.

Minutes: Minutes of the August 21 meeting were approved.

**Public Comments:** Jack Ciesla, a DEDIC member, appeared and spoke of his concern about allowing a firm located in another town access to the Town's sewer system. He said the capacity of

the South Deerfield plant is not known and he thought that the party making the request for access would be better off with a subsurface system.

**Selectmen's Comments/Announcements:** Ms. Ness reported the South Deerfield Halloween celebration, sponsored by the Police Department, will be on October 31<sup>st</sup> at 5:45 pm at the elementary school. The hayride begins at 6:00pm. In case of rain activities will be in the cafeteria. The Old Deerfield Halloween activities, sponsored by the Old Deerfield Fire Department, will be at the Old Town Hall 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm.

**Board of Health Comments/Announcements:** Ms. Ness reported on a very successful Emergency Dispensing Drill at which 570 people received their flu shots in three hours. She thanked everyone for turning out, providing an opportunity for volunteers to practice being prepared in the event of a real emergency event. There were words of praise for the police and EMS people, and especially for the work of the highway department getting everything set up for the event and put away afterward.

**Discussion/Decision Items:**

- **ACO Inter-municipal Agreement:** Present – Dick Calisewski (Health Agent) and Calin Giurgiu (Animal Control Officer). Mr. Giurgiu, an employee of Greenfield, is a fully trained ACO who will handle animal problems in Deerfield. He began work on October 1<sup>st</sup>. The proposed agreement was discussed briefly; Ms. Ness described a ticketing system that has yet to be developed. **A motion was made by Mr. Wolfram, seconded by Ms. Ness, and voted, to approve the agreement, as presented.**
- **FY'13 Audit:** **A motion was made by Ms. Ness, seconded by Mr. Wolfram, and voted, to sign a letter of engagement for an audit of Fiscal year 2013.** Reasons for doing this at this time are the departure of the accountant and preparation for bonding of the public works building project.
- **Notice of retirement:** **A motion was made by Ms. Ness, seconded by Mr. Wolfram, and voted, to accept with regret the notice of retirement of Don Chappell, the Chief Treatment Plant Operator, effective July 1, 2014.**
- **Appointments:** A motion was made by Ms. Ness, seconded by Mr. Wolfram, and voted, to appoint Rachel Blaine, Carol MacBurnie, and Piper Pichette for a term expiring 2014 and Doug Tierney, John Cavacco, and Reba-Jean Shaw Pichette for terms expiring 2015 to the Cultural Council. A second motion was made by Ms. Ness, seconded by Mr. Wolfram, and voted, to appoint Jay Savage to the Agricultural Commission for a term ending 2014.
- **United Nations Day:** A motion was made by Mr. Wolfram, seconded by Ms. Ness, and voted, to declare October 24, 2013 United Nations Day.
- **Special Town Meeting (STM):** Ms. Ness announced the STM will be held on October 28, 2013 at 7:00 pm at Frontier Regional High School. She said there are several capital items as well as the Regional EMS question on the warrant. The Board reviewed the articles, the accompanying motions, and decided who would move them. The Planning Bd. will hold a public hearing at 5:30 pm, prior to the STM to discuss the overlay district plan for medical marijuana. A meeting will be posted for a BOS meeting at 5:00 pm to address any last minute needs.

**WMECO Storm Rate -** Ms. Ness reported that WMECO is trying to recoup some of the expenses associated with recent storms by obtaining approval to establish a storm rate. She suggested the Board send a letter to the state requesting that it look into WMECO's preventive maintenance plan to

see that it adequate. She thinks WMECO is not doing as much preventive work as it should be. She began to make a motion which was not completed. Ms. Foxmyn offered to prepare a letter for the Board.

Information from Mr. Paciorek, the Town's FRCOG representative, notifies of the availability of district local technical assistance funding. Monies from this source were used for a regional emergency medical service study. Ms. Foxmyn offered to prepare an application for a Community Innovation Challenge seeking funding to cover start-up expenses for the regional ambulance service. She feels the application, due November 22, is highly fundable as it supports shared services and regionalization.

Ms. Foxmyn reported that another grant is being prepared through Berkshire County to establish an on-line permitting system for building and other inspections, including Board of Health. The system in use by several Berkshire County towns use the reporting forms required by the state.

Assessors: Present – Bruce St. Peters

Mr. St. Peters reported on setting the tax rate. He said the preliminary certification had been approved, but there were problems that needed to be discussed with DOR. He predicted that it could be December before tax bills could go out.

There being no further business before the Board, a motion was made, seconded, and voted to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,  
Priscilla Phelps