

Board of Selectmen Meeting

Minutes – February 4, 2015

A regular meeting of the Deerfield Board of Selectmen was held on Wednesday, February 4, 2015, at the Town Offices, 8 Conway Street, South Deerfield.

Present: Carolyn Shores Ness (Chair), David Wolfram, Mark Gilmore

Also Present: Kayce Warren, Town Administrator

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

Minutes

Minutes of the January 28th meeting were reviewed.

It was MOVED by Wolfram, SECONDED by Gilmore

To approve the minutes as recorded.

VOTED: 3,0,0.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Selectmen's Comments/ Announcements

The Rec. Dept. will hold a "Frozen" party on Friday, February 6, 2015, at 6 PM at town hall. The public is welcome.

Ms. Ness spoke of the super job that the highway department is doing to keep the roads safe, noting especially the time spent on Saturday clearing snow drifts.

Board of Health Comments/ Announcements:

Ms. Ness reminded members that flu season is here. Keep washing those hands.

Pipeline (Docket # PF 14-22) – There is an informational meeting at GCC tomorrow night (2/5/2015) presented by the proponents of the pipeline. Ms. Ness reported she attended a meeting today at FRCOG presented by Peggy Sloan at which she learned that the meeting will be in a trade show format with booths where people can talk with representatives. She said Representative Steve Kulik has filed a bill regarding payment of royalties to landowners. Attorney Bonifaz has filed a suit in Federal Court, claiming that taking of property by eminent domain for private enterprise is unconstitutional.

Ms. Ness reported that she and Police Chief, John Paciorek, Jr. attended a meeting of MEMA at which potential terrorist activity at a railroad yard was discussed. There will be a planning session on March 31st followed by a tabletop event on April 28th.

Hearings/ Appearances before the Board

There were no hearings or appearances.

Town Administrator's Report

Ms. Warren reported that Tim Neumann, director of PVMA, has offered to spearhead a funding campaign to raise funds to repair the Civil War Statue, a national monument owned by the town.

Ms. Warren attended a meeting of Town Administrators (Conway, Sunderland, & Whately) plus the Superintendent and Business Manager at Frontier to discuss issues facing the towns. The theme of the meeting was, "How can we help each other."

Finance and Capital Improvement committees have met to discuss budgets. Ms. Warren attended the Finance Committee meeting and can provide information from those meetings.

The Business Manager would like a few minutes at the next BOS meeting to present a letter of support for a grant for repairs of the elementary school roof. She will provide copies ahead of time for the board to review.

Lake Street Developers would like to meet with the board. Mr. Wolfram said he thought the company was interested in obtaining a letter of support for a proposed solar farm project near Woolman Hill. More information is needed about this and other potential projects. Ms. Warren will contact Beth Greenblatt in an effort to obtain advice for moving ahead with solar issues. A question was raised as to the reason that the elementary school is not participating in the HCOG contract for electricity.

Ms. Warren has scheduled a meeting of department heads to update them.

A letter of request was received from Fr. Randy Calvo in regard to the Town's Representative to the Board of Directors of Frontier Community Access Television. Fr. Calvo offered to serve in that position.

It was MOVED by Gilmore, SECONDED by Wolfram

To appoint Fr. Randy Calvo as the Town's representative on the FCAT Board of Directors

VOTED: 3,0,0

A letter of resignation was received and read.

It was MOVED by Gilmore, SECONDED by Wolfram

To accept the resignation of the Michelle Dugay as Police Department Administrative Assistant, effective February 2, 2015

VOTED: 3, 0, 0.

A letter from Police Chief John Paciorek was received, requesting two part-time appointments to fill the vacancy.

It was MOVED by Ness, SECONDED by Gilmore,

To appoint Joanne Carney and Pat Patterson as Temporary Assistants to the Police Department at the rate of \$20.03/ per hour

VOTED: 3, 0, 0.

Discussion/Decision Items

Budget Discussion

Several budgets were reviewed.

It was MOVED by Ness, SECONDED by Gilmore,

To approve the Selectmen's Expenses Budget

VOTED: 3, 0, 0.

It was MOVED by Ness, SECONDED by Gilmore,

To approve the Legal Expenses Budget

VOTED: 3, 0, 0.

It was MOVED by Gilmore, SECONDED by Ness,

To approve the Veterans District Assessment Budget

VOTED: 3, 0, 0.

It was MOVED by Ness, SECONDED by Gilmore,

To approve the Town Office Expense Budget

VOTED: 3, 0, 0.

There was a lengthy discussion about long term obligations, such as funding the retirement of future retirees.

There was also discussion about the Streetlights budget. Ms. Warren explained how she arrived at the proposed number. Also noted was that the town consider purchasing LED lights to replace the current lights, as the power company is not interested in funding replacements.

It was MOVED by Gilmore, SECONDED by Wolfram,

To accept the Streetlights budget

VOTED: 3, 0, 0.

Oxford Property Purchase and Sale

It was MOVED by Ness, SECONDED by Gilmore,

To enter into Executive Session as allowed by MGL c. 30A §21(a)(6) to consider the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property, as an open session may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the town.

ROLL CALL VOTE: NESS – Y, GILMORE –Y, WOLFRAM –Y

The Chair announced that the board would not reconvene in open session.

Respectfully submitted,

Priscilla Phelps

Document List

- 2015-02-02 – LETTER – fr Michelle Dugay to Chief John Paciorek Jr - Resignation
- 2015-02-02 – LETTER – fr Chief John Paciorek, Jr. to BOS – request for appointments
- 2015-02-03 - LETTER - Fr Randy Calvo to BOS - Re FCAT Representative