

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
January 28, 2013
MINUTES**

Call to Order

5:30pm: Chairman, Steve Barry called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Chairman Barry asked all to rise and pledge allegiance to the Flag.

Present: Steve Barry, Chairman; Alan O'Neal, Vice Chairman; Bill Perron, Richard Pitman and R. Andrew Robertson
Selectmen

Also Present: Leslie Boswak, Town Administrator

Recess to Public Hearing – Board of Selectmen & School Board – Should the MBC Determine the Default Budgets

Chairman Barry read the posting of the legal notice: "the below legal notice was published in the January 20, 2013 edition of the Concord Monitor - Public Hearing Town of Deerfield, NH The Board of Selectmen and School Board will hold a joint public hearing for the purpose of accepting public input about the adoption of RSA 40:14-b by both the Town of Deerfield and the Deerfield School District. RSA 40:14-b delegates the responsibility of determining the default budget to the Municipal Budget Committee. The public hearing will be held on January 28, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room in the George B. White Building, 8 Raymond Road, Deerfield NH."

Ms. Cady commented that passing this initiative will create a check on the default budgets. She explained that current State law does not require a review by the MBC, but that she is in favor of establishing such a process. Chairman Barry read a letter from Citizen Erick Berglund stating his opposition to the proposal. He stated that he feels the School Board and Board of Selectmen are intimately familiar with the default budgeting needs. Vice Chairman O'Neal asked if the MBC as a unit had weighed in on this issue and Chairman Barry answered no.

With no further public comment the Hearing was closed at 5:35pm.

Reconvene Selectmen Meeting

Regular Business/Signatures

- Approval of Minutes from January 14th

Motion – Selectman Pitman moves to approve the Minutes as written

Second – Selectman Robertson

All in Favor – Motion Carries

- Approval of Minutes from January 22nd

Motion – Vice Chairman O'Neal moves to approve the Minutes as written

Second – Selectman Robertson

All in Favor – Motion Carries

- Accounts Payable – Two manifests, \$49,472.92 and \$262.60, totaling \$49,735.52

Motion – Vice Chairman O'Neal moves the accounts payable

Second – Selectman Robertson

All in Favor – Motion Carries

- Land Use Change – 117 North Road – Housekeeping Release to Current Records on File

Motion – Vice Chairman O'Neal moves to approve the clarification and use change form as presented

Second – Selectman Robertson

All in Favor – Motion Carries

- Federal Excise Tax Diesel Exemption Certificate

Motion – Vice Chairman O'Neal moves to sign the certificate as presented

Second – Selectman Robertson

All in Favor – Motion Carries

- Veteran Tax Credit – Application Status Updated, Linda Keuger, Raymond Rd

Motion – Vice Chairman O’Neal moves to approve

Second – Selectman Robertson

All in Favor – Motion Carries

- Application for Veterans Tax Credit – William & Margaret Claffy, 263 North Rd

Motion – Vice Chairman O’Neal moves to approve

Second – Selectman Robertson

All in Favor – Motion Carries

- Pole Petition & License – NH Electrical Co-Op on Reservation Rd

Motion – Selectman Pitman moves to approve

Second – Vice Chairman O’Neal

All in Favor – Motion Carries

Unfinished Business

Selectman Perron asked if any progress had been made on getting a microphone for the Town Administrator to use during the meetings.

Town Administrator’s Report

- Newsletters for the Deliberative Sessions are at the printers and expected to hit the mail on Tuesday or Wednesday
- L. Boswak sought the Board’s approval to dedicate the 2012 Town Report to Liz Murphy – all agreed
- Next Monday the Parks and Recreation Committee had scheduled a work session with the Selectmen – it was agreed that 5:30 was the preferred time for start.

Other Business

Chairman Barry noted that the Deliberative Session on the Town Budget is scheduled for Saturday, Selectmen Perron and Pitman will not be present; the remaining three will be in attendance.

Selectman Robertson noted that he attended a recent Planning Board meeting where it came up that Consultant Fees may be being charged separately from Planning Board fees paid to Mr. Coogan. In doing some research Selectman Robertson found that there is an RSA that allows the Planning Board to levy fees against an applicant for Third Party Consultant or Third Party Administrator Services and in reviewing the Planning Board’s minutes found that on a few occasions, primarily as related to subdivisions, such fees were paid to Mr. Coogan. It is Selectman Robertson’s opinion that Mr. Coogan, being contracted for employment by the Town would not be considered a Third Party.

The Board of Selectmen agreed to obtain a Legal definition of what qualifies as a Third Party and to then meet with Planning Board Chair Fred McGarry on February 11th to discuss the issue and review the concerns.

New Business None

Citizens Comments

Harriet Cady recently attended the Lamprey River Association meeting and has been asked for a copy of the site plan for the proposed Safety Complex; the Association would like to see it as soon as possible. She feels the way the Northern Pass Petition items are presented, giving two questions to voters, is unclear and the format seems incorrect. Regarding the Planning Board issue, she is of the opinion that a third party should be someone impartial to both sides, and does not see how someone under contract with the Town and Planning Board could be viewed as an impartial party.

Nonpublic Session:

6:00 pm Vice Chairman O’Neal made a motion to enter a Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3,II (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant. Seconded by Selectman Robertson.

Roll Call Vote: Pitman-Yes; Perron-Yes; Robertson-Yes; O’Neal-Yes; Barry -Yes

The Selectmen briefly reviewed the properties scheduled for tax deed in order to determine if any property owners had requested relief due to inability to pay or poverty.

Motion – Vice Chairman O’Neal moves to end the non-public session

Second – Selectman Robertson

All in Favor – Motion Carries

6:10 pm The Nonpublic Session ended.

No Action/No Decisions:

Chairman Barry asked that the record show no action was taken during the Non-Public session.

He presented Tax Deeds on the following properties:

- Allen Lusted, 123 Nottingham Rd
- Augustus Lord Heirs of c/o Town of Deerfield – Sandpit Avenue
- Steven Kelley – 278 South Road
- Wayne Hussey Trustee, BMI Realty Trust – 4 Corey Road
- Jack Henry Higgins – 6 Cotton Road
- Group Five Limited Partnership – Off Raymond Rd
- Michelle & Ronald Forsythe – land Pinecrest Rd
- Deirdre Doyle – 10 Range Rd

Motion – Vice Chairman O’Neal moves to accept the tax deeds of the properties listed

Second – Selectman Robertson

All in Favor – Motion Carries

Motion – Selectman Pitman moves to adjourn the January 28th meeting

Second – Selectman Roberston

All in Favor – Meeting Adjourns at 6:15pm

Next Meeting Monday, February 4th @ 8:00am

*The Minutes were Transcribed and Respectfully Submitted by Katherine A. Libby, Recording Secretary.
Pending Approval by the Board of Selectmen*