

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
June 3, 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 E. O'Neal, Vice Chairman; Rebecca Hutchinson, Richard Pitman and R. Andrew Robertson, Selectmen

**Also Present:** Leslie A. Boswak, Town Administrator

**Recess Meeting to Open a Public Hearing - Barn Preservation Easements**

Chairman Barry opened the Public Hearing by reading the posting description. The purpose of the hearing is to review the existing preservation easement on the Barn located at 72 Mountain View Road (The Hogue Barn) and to consider additional easements for Barns located at 45 Griffin Rd (the Dill Barn) and 141 Middle Rd (the Sanborn Barn). It was noted that the current easement on the Hogue property is at 40% of the assessed value. Selectman Robertson expressed that he is comfortable going forward with a maximum allowable easement of 75% of the assessed values for all three properties. He added that they all meet the criteria that they are viewable from the road, are at least 75 years old, are used in their original agricultural purposes and are aesthetically pleasing. The Board reviewed the current assessed values and tax revenue of all three properties, an easement of 75% would result in revenue loss to the town of less than \$400 per year.

With no further public input the public hearing closed @ 5:40p - Selectmen's meeting reconvened.

**Motion:** Selectman Robertson moves to grant the maximum property easement of 75% on all three properties

**Second:** Selectman Pitman

**All in Favor - Motion Carries**

**Misc:** Selectman Robertson noted for the record that Mr. Dill is an employee of his firm and that did not sway his opinion in any way.

**Scheduled Appointments**

**PSNH - D118 Upgrade Project -**

Several individuals from PSNH were on hand to discuss the D118 Upgrade Project including the Project Manager, Project Assistant, Line Engineer, Line Arborist and Community Relations, Permitting, Human Relations individuals. Selectwoman Hutchinson opened conversation by expressing her concern that the requests made by the Board of Selectmen to PSNH at the last meeting with PSNH, concerning the changes to the letter to project abutters, were not done. She was disappointed that such a small request was not met. Mr. Snow, the Project Manager noted that the letter to abutters had been edited following their conversation with the Board, but agreed that it fell short in spelling out that the Project was "pending approvals". He offered to re-send a letter to the abutters if it is the Board's pleasure.

The Board's second concern was with the height of the new poles. At the last meeting PSNH had indicated that there would be no "significant difference" in the height of the replacement poles, the Board wanted to clarify what exactly that means. Vice Chairman O'Neal requested PSNH supply a list of current poles and their heights along with the new poles and those heights. The PSNH line engineer noted that most will increase 5-6 feet as the cable weight will be increasing.

Selectman Robertson's reason for wanting PSNH to return to speak with the Board was that he has received several emails from residents with concerns about the project. However he noted, none of those individuals were present at

this meeting. Mr. Snow indicated that the PSNH team has had several first hand communications with residents and that conversations with affected property owners are ongoing.

**Highway Department - Alex Cote -**

Alex provided the Board with an update on the Backhoe, the equipment is still not in operation, he is waiting on repair parts. The parts have been discontinued and it is a work in progress to locate the needed internal seals. The Department can rent a backhoe to do the work needed, that expense would be taken from the gravel line. If this is the way they proceed there will not be funds for a crusher this year. The Department will be looking to purchase a new piece of equipment in the 2014 budget cycle.

Reconstruction of Nottingham Road was delayed, but they are expecting paving to be done this coming Friday and completing Monday/Tuesday of next week. Selectman Robertson voiced his pleasure in seeing grass irrigation mats going in on the ditching. Paving of Reservation Road has been completed.

Regarding the through trucking issue brought up at the last meeting, Alex and Leslie have confirmed that there is no existing RSA to address the problem. They can post the road, but cannot legally enforce the issue. Alex would like to see signs put up for people unfamiliar with the area. Chairman Barry suggested posting the road at a 10 ton weight limit and putting up additional signage. The Board will look into whether a Public Hearing is required to do so.

The State had done a site walk for the crosswalk to be put in front of the George B. White building. Bill Lambert, the DOT Traffic Engineer, sees no issue with the location and Alex expects approval of the project this week. The state will put up signage and paint the road for the initial installation and it will be up to the Town to maintain. Alex anticipates painting would be needed approximately every two years and will obtain work quotes for this.

The retaining wall in front of the Police Department is in need of maintenance. Alex has solicited work quotes and the estimate for the work to be done is approximately \$3,500. Chairman Barry asked if there was money in the Budget available for this work and Alex and Leslie answered no.

**Motion** - Vice Chairman O'Neal moves to repair the retaining wall at an estimated cost of \$3,500 and for the funds to be pulled out of the Building and Infrastructure Fund.

**Second** - Selectman Robertson

**All in Favor - Motion Carries**

**Regular Business**

**- Minutes of May 20, 2013**

Selectwoman Hutchinson asked that under Citizens Comments there be a change to line 1 to strike the language from "concurred" through "she" so that it reads, "H. Cady feels that there is not enough information available."

**Motion to approve the minutes as corrected** – Selectman Robertson

**Second** - Vice Chairman O'Neal

**All in Favor - Motion Carries**

**- Minutes of May 29, 2013**

**Motion to approve the minutes as written** – Selectman Pitman

**Second** - Selectman Robertson

**All in Favor - Motion Carries**

**- Payroll Manifests - \$85,410.59, \$508.87 (voided), and \$79.50 totaling \$84,981.14**

**Motion** – Vice Chairman O'Neal moves to approve

**Seconded** – Selectman Robertson

**All in Favor – Motion Carries**

*Selectman Robertson notes for the record that his daughter is on this manifest*

**- Repurchase Agreement - Property of Jack Higgins, 6 Cotton Road**

**Motion**– Selectman Robertson moves to sign the agreement

**Second** - Vice Chairman O'Neal

**Discussion** - Chairman Barry noted that with this agreement, the Town is receiving back taxes plus costs.

**All in Favor - Motion Carries**

**- Timber Tax Levy - \$1,231.42 - to Sanborn and Fry**

**Motion** – Vice Chairman O’Neal moves to approve

**Second** - Selectman Robertson

**All in Favor - Motion Carries**

**- Current Land Use Change Tax - 162 Mt. Delight Road - Housekeeping Purposes - \$0 impact**

**Motion** – Vice Chairman O’Neal moves to approve

**Second** - Selectman Robertson

**All in Favor - Motion Carries**

**- Zoning Board of Adjustment Appointment - Anthony DiMauro**

**Motion** – Vice Chairman O’Neal moves to approve

**Second** - Selectman Robertson

**All in Favor - Motion Carries**

**- Letter from the Deerfield Fire Department to the Deerfield Fair Association**

The Fire Department will provide Fire Services to the Fair for 2013 at a cost of \$8,000. The Fair Association is asked to pay wages first with the remainder to be paid as a donation to the equipment fund, the letter is signed by Fire Chief Tibbetts.

**- Town Hall Rental Fee Waiver Request - Coffee House to be held 11/9**

**Motion** – Selectman Pitman moves to grant the waiver

**Second** - Vice Chairman O’Neal

**All in Favor - Motion Carries**

**- The Planning Board is to hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, June 12 to discuss the adoption of a public plan for the energy chapter**

Selectwoman Hutchinson attended a recent ZBA hearing where the Helicopter Port issue was addressed. The Zoning Board voted 3-2 in favor of re-hearing the issue as to whether the ZBA is the proper place for this item to be decided, versus the Planning Board directly as it is a commercial property

**- The Board was provided with an overview of the work being done by the Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission**

**Unfinished Business**          None

**Town Administrator’s Report**

- Leslie is working with the SNHPC on a project for the regionalization of shared services and purchasing access.
- Chiefs Greeley and Tibbetts will be meeting with Rockingham County on Tuesday to discuss an effort to charge the Towns that utilize dispatch services. A variety of prices have been discussed, including \$1/per person based on a Town’s population, up to a flat fee of \$8,000/year. More details will follow, this fee is expected to take effect January 2014. Chief Greeley added that this fee is being driven by the County Commissioner’s office, they are doing a \$500,000 upgrade to their systems and as a result are looking to pass along the cost. Selectwoman Hutchinson asked if this was expected to be a one time fee? Chief Greeley answered no, it will be an annual contractual fee. Leslie added that towns that have their own dispatch services do so at a high cost, for example the Town of Auburn pays some \$31,000 for Fire Dispatch services alone. Vice Chairman O’Neal suggested the Board review the minutes of the County Commissioner’s recent meetings to get a better handle around this proposal.

**Other Business**

Selectman Robertson requested that the Police Department make an effort to keep tabs on the use of Agricultural license plates in Town. He stated that the qualifications for the plates are pretty clear, the vehicle needs to be hauling agricultural commodities/supplies. The Town is taking a huge hit on these registration fees and he feels many are being misused. It was suggested the PD start with monitoring at the Transfer Station.

**New Business**

Vice Chairman O’Neal asked how the Pleasant Lake parking situation had been. Chief Greeley indicated there have been no issues with the parking on the road since signage was put in place. Selectman Pitman shared that cars were not parking on the road, but that they were double and triple parked in the lot. An additional sign was requested.

**Citizens Comments**

H. Cady suggested that since the Board does not seem to be familiar with the County Budget and how things work at the Commissioner's office that the County Commissioner and State Representatives be invited to a meeting to come and explain what is going on.

**Meeting Adjourns at 6:50p**

**Motion** - Selectman Pitman moves to adjourn

**Second** – Selectman Robertson

**All in Favor - Motion Carries**

**Next Meeting Monday, June 10<sup>th</sup> @ 8:00am**

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