

**Town of Deerfield
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
July 25, 2016
MINUTES**

Call to Order

5:30p - Chairman Barry called the meeting to order.

Present: Stephen Barry, Chairman; Fred McGarry, Andrew Robertson and Jeff Shute Selectmen

Excused: Richard Pitman, Vice Chairman

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

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

Scheduled Appointments

Police Chief Duquette - Police Details

Chief Duquette spoke that he recently completed an analysis of the Special Detail rates at six neighboring communities. Deerfield's rate of \$53/hour set in 2009, with \$34/hour allotted to the Officer and \$19/hour to the Town, was the lowest of those surveyed. Chief Duquette recommends adjusting the rate to \$60/hour with \$40 allotted to the Officer and \$20 to the Town. This would bring the Town in line with other communities, it was noted Raymond's rate is \$70/hour.

Motion: Selectman Robertson moves to accept the recommended adjustment

Second: Selectman McGarry

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries

Veasey Park

Travis McCoy of the Veasey Park Commission provided an update that the paddle craft launch is close to being finished. There is some remaining work, including installing a safety perimeter and solar lighting, that still needs to be done. It is estimated the remaining items will cost approximately \$5,000 to complete. The Commission noted that they were unable to secure a Swim Instructor for this Summer Season and as a result that budget line of \$5,280 will go unspent. They suggested reallocating those funds to the launch area the Board was in favor of the suggestion. It was noted that the Town's Insurance Representative had been consulted and that any tree work the Commission does on the property would not be covered, the group will speak with local tree removal experts to collect bids for the work to be done. Selectman Robertson thanked the volunteers for their work to date and noted that the path looks fantastic. The other members concurred.

Mr. McCoy updated that the Commission would like to upgrade the plumbing system at the Park with a submersible pump and permanent fixture. The cost estimate for the project was \$1,800 to \$1,900 and the group believes the work is something that can be done through the Parks Repairs and Maintenance line.

Finally, Mr. McCoy spoke of the ongoing problem with non-residents, or vehicles without stickers using the facility. At a recent survey of the lot 14 of the 19 vehicles were without a sticker. They would like to proceed with putting in ordinance in place so that those vehicles in violation can be ticketed. The Commission will put together a proposal for the ordinance in the next few weeks.

Joe Manzi - Parks & Recreation Grant Update

J. Manzi reported on the progress of the Land Water Conservation Grant. The Department is putting in for a \$25,000 matching grant with fifteen other applicants. The applications total some \$2M of work and

there is \$1M in funding available with finalized submissions due September 30. He will continue to keep the Board apprised of the progress. The Board thanked Mr. Manzi for his work on the Grant.

Regular Business

Minutes - July 11, 2016

Motion: Selectman Robertson moves to approve

Second: Selectman Shute

Discussion: Selectman McGarry noted that, in the Town Administrator's Report on page 3, "Curried Rd" should be corrected to "Currier Rd".

Vote to approve as amended: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries

Accounts Payable - \$104,287.86

Motion: Selectman Robertson moves to approve

Second: Selectman McGarry

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries

Payroll Manifest - \$0 - Void/Reissue of Check(s)

Motion: Selectman Robertson moves to approve

Second: Selectman McGarry

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries

Notice of Computer Adjustment - Abatement of \$5,000 of the 2011 and 2012 taxes on Map 422, Lot 10, at 23 Currier Rd

Motion: Selectman Robertson moves to abate

Second: Selectman Shute

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries

Appointment of Alternate Members - Trustee of the Trust Funds - Glen Meyers & Carol Levesque

Motion: Selectman Robertson moves to approve

Second: Selectman McGarry

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries

Town Clerk/Tax Collector - Refund Request - \$40 to Heather Overson due to an Automotive Registration Error

Motion: Selectman Robertson moves to approve

Second: Selectman McGarry

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries

Appointment of Alternate Member - Heritage Commission - Nancy Brown McKinney

Motion: Selectman Robertson moves to appoint

Second: Selectman McGarry

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries

Non Contemporaneous Business - July 18th, 3 Members Signing

Payroll Manifest - \$272 (\$268.06 net)

Non Contemporaneous Business - July 15, 17 & 18 - 3 Members Signing

Payroll Manifest - \$58,365.99 (\$44,504.33 net)

Accounts Payable - \$33,507.22

Correspondence

Penny Touchette has sent the Board a Memo regarding the housekeeping matter to disqualify 1.31 acres of the 55 acres originally classified as current use for Ivan Nelson. There is no penalty or associated dollar amount with the correction.

Motion: Selectman Robertson moves to approve

Second: Selectman Shute

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries

The Board received a letter from Jack Hutchinson and the 250th Anniversary Committee thanking the Board and various Town employees for their many points of support for the Event.

Eversource will be conducting flyovers July 25th - 29th.

The 250th Anniversary fund balance is currently \$29,386.92.

The Republican and Democratic Ballots were received.

Chairman Barry noted that the Northern Pass Defense Fund received \$7,325 in contributions and had expended \$5,528, leaving \$1,766, an amount the Town expects to exhaust in the next six weeks.

Town Administrator's Report

J. Foisy reported that a large number of the 2017 Department Budgets have been received. She asked that the Board begin to reflect on the Warrant Articles it would like to put forward so that appropriate language can be put together.

The bids for heating and other fuels have been put out and will be opened at the August 8th meeting.

The George B White Building Construction has begun. Additionally, Jerry Coogan has been working on the Town's Capital Improvement Plan and Jan would ask that anything the Board foresees as a need be included. A truck for the Highway Department, a Grader, and George B. White Building repairs are a part of the plan.

J. Foisy noted that a State Helicopter was over Town on Friday, they were searching for a forest fire in the area.

Selectman Shute asked whether the George B. White Building roof work was complete, J. Foisy answered yes and confirmed that the Town has the warranty in place.

Unfinished, Other or New Business

Selectman Robertson asked that the Town do something to recognize and show appreciation for the work that Jack Hutchinson did with the 250th Anniversary. He brainstormed that a plaque or some other way to commemorate the efforts would be in order. The Board agreed.

Selectman Shute spoke that he has been approached about being able to launch boats with motors at the Veasey launch. Chairman Barry responded that he believes the Warrant Article and terms of use specified that the use be for non-motorized paddle craft. Selectman Shute noted that they may receive a letter outlining a similar request directly.

Citizens Comments

Kathy Shigo agreed that it would be wonderful to recognize Jack Hutchinson for his work and asked that the Board also consider something to thank Rebecca Hutchinson for her contributions to the event.

Jeanne Menard provided a Northern Pass update. She spoke that answers to the Intervenor's questions have been posted. August 1st is the deadline if further clarification around the answers is needed. The local group has been tracking other the questions and responses from other communities. The Public Council recently emailed regarding a new opportunity where Towns are able to meet with experts to discuss the projections made around local economic impacts. Ms. Menard feels this is a great opportunity to be take advantage of.

Harriet Cady spoke that she reviewed the Conservation Commission's minutes and that they did not contain the letters being sent to intervenors, but that the group voted to approve sending the letters. This, she noted, is a violation of Right to Know, and as far as she could tell it appeared the circulation of the letters was done outside the minutes. J. Foisy will check into the matter.

Jim Page of 67 South Road spoke that he recently attended the Planning Board meetings regarding the Tree Cutting being done in Town. When he initially received the card from Eversource he made it clear that no cutting was allowed on his property without his written consent. He met in person on his property with representatives from both Eversource and Lewis Tree Service. Both individuals on both occasions assured him that minimal removal would be needed, flagging a single tree to be taken down. When he returned home last week he found at least a dozen trees had been taken down. Mr. Page spoke that the law is clear that if the property owner does not agree with the plans for removal, Eversource is required to come before the Town to reach an agreement before proceeding. Mr. Page went on to describe the situation on Reservation Road. He spoke that an 85 foot wooden structure had been taken down and left in a large and unsafe pile along with sharp, dangerous ground wire left coiled on the ground. Some seven weeks post-work the mess remained along with a 7 foot deep hole of which he alerted the Deerfield Police Department. He expressed concern and frustration with the way Eversource is treating the Town of Deerfield. Chairman Barry noted that the Town will contact Eversource regarding the Reservation Road safety concerns and asked if there was any way the Board could assist regarding Mr. Page's personal property? Mr. Page responded that he will be meeting with a representative from Northern Pass on Tuesday morning. Chairman Barry closed by saying that if, after the meeting, Mr. Page feels there is something the Board can do to support him to please contact the Town Administrator. Chairman Barry thanked Mr. Page for coming forward to present the situation.

Adjourn

Motion: Selectman Robertson moves to adjourn the meeting of July 25, 2016

Second: Selectman Shute

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries

Next Meeting Monday, August 8, 2016 @ 5:30p

*The Minutes were transcribed and respectfully submitted by Katherine A. Libby, Recording Secretary.
Pending approval by the Board of Selectmen.*