

TOWN OF DEERFIELD, NH
MUNICIPAL BUDGET COMMITTEE
George B. White Building
8 Raymond Road, Deerfield, NH 03037
6:30pm Tuesday, 21 January 2015
SUPPLEMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING
MINUTES

Call to Order 6:31pm

1. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

2. Moment of Silence/Prayer

3. Roll Call

Present: Kevin Verville, Chairman; James Spillane, Vice Chairman; Fred McGarry, David Carbone, Karen Cote, Members, Andrew Robertson, Select Board Rep Member; Zach Langlois, School Board Rep Member

Excused Absence: Brendan O'Donnell, Carol Levesque, Steve Giovinelli, Troi Hopkins, Members

Also Present: Jan Foisy, Town Administrator; Jeff Shute, Chairman of Parks and Recreation Commission; Joe Manzi, Parks and Recreation Director

4. Review of Warrant Article #10

Chairman Verville states that this hearing is was called because the Department of Revenue Administration has said that it wants the Municipal Budget Committee and the School Board to give a recommendation on the ballot for Warrant Article #10 which is to raise and appropriate \$20,000 to supplement the revolving account fund monetary and in-kind donations at Hartford Brook Field.

Chairman Verville reads from a letter dated 1/15/16 from the Law Offices of Upton and Hatfield pertaining to Hartford Brook Field. After review, they have decided that this warrant article is lawful. However, if it is approved, the fund must be accounted for separately from the revolving fund.

Chairman Verville states that his interpretation is that this money could go into the general fund

Vice Chairman Spillane asks if it can go into the general fund or does it need to stay in its own separate account.

A. Robertson responds that he is not sure if it needs to be in its own separate fund or if it can be put into the general fund. This would need to be looked into.

Vice Chairman Spillane states that based on how this letter is written, these funds could not be used for anything other than this purpose.

Jan Foisy, Town Administrator, states that it can not be used for anything other than Hartford Brook Field and it cannot spend over \$20,000.

5. Citizen Comments

Harriet Cady comments that a simple way to handle donations and unanticipated revenue is to hold a public hearing and that keeps it for that purpose in the general fund.

H. Cady states that there was not a posting at the Post Office for tonight's hearing.

J. Foisy responds that it was posted at the Post Office last week.

D. Carbone asks who would be responsible for deciding how funds would be expended.

A. Robertson replies that the Select Board would look to Parks and Recreation for their recommendations about how funds would be expended. Any money spent by Parks and Recreation like this money goes through the Select Board's manifest.

F. McGarry asks if there are any specific goals that petitioners had.

Jeff Shute, Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Committee, responds that there is a list of items; irrigation, electrical work, fencing, new building, well, permanent backstops, benches, dugouts, soccer goals, signage, Little League, Majors, Softball, improve facilities for programs that need space.

Vice Chairman Spillane asks if the field will be available for the new football program. He also asks if there will be lighting.

J. Shute responds that there is not a plan for lights now. The intention is for football or lacrosse to be able to use the field.

F. McGarry asks how much of the list with the \$20,000 accomplish.

J. Shute responds that the list totals approximately \$64,000. Now the building being built is donated, there is also a \$10,000 gift. The goal is to complete the well, irrigation, field, electrical, and backstops.

Vice Chairman Spillane asks if there will be a concession stand. Also, if football will be able to host games.

J. Shute responds that the concessions are in the building. The availability for the football program will be based on scheduling. This will not be a full-sized soccer field.

Vice Chairman Spillane comments that the concessions may be able to sustain the field.

J. Shute states that the money goes back in to the program but it depends on how successful concessions are.

Motion: A. Robertson moves that the Municipal Budget Committee recommends this warrant article.

Second: Z. Langlois

Discussion: Chairman Verville states that he does not feel comfortable weighing in on a petitioned warrant article.

Vice Chairman Spillane asks how the \$20,000 was arrived at.

A. Robertson responds that \$64,000 is estimated for expenses for improvements. The building is a gift and there is also a gift of \$10,000

J. Shute responds that money from the revolving fund will be used too.

Z. Langlois comments that there are a lot of ambitious people in town to see this project through.

Vice Chairman Spillane comments that \$20,000 only covers one third of the entire project. The Revolving Fund is not for creating new fields. It is meant to maintain existing fields.

J. Shute states that what is being done is not building a field but rather upgrading the field. This field has previously been used.

Vice Chairman Spillane asks if Joe Manzi, Parks and Recreation Director, would like to speak.

Joe Manzi, Parks and Recreation Director, comments that the estimated \$64,000 includes the building which is now being donated. J. Manzi continues and says that it is difficult to make commitments to what can be done for football at this point. J. Manzi also states that the use of the Revolving Account for this is consistent with how the revolving account has been used.

Vice Chairman Spillane asks if it will be possible to have football games in Deerfield.

J. Manzi responds that they would need to have more information about goal posts and minimum field space.

Vice Chairman Spillane comments that games create revenue.

J. Manzi states that it depends on what the football program's need are and what can be accommodated.

Vote to recommend Warrant Article #10: Yay: 6, Nay: 0, Abstained: 1- Motion Carries.

6. Adjournment

Motion: A. Robertson moves to adjourn.

Second: Vice Chairman Spillane

Vote to adjourn: Yay: 7, Nay: 0, Abstained: 0-Motion Carries