Deerfield Selectboard/Board of Health/Sewer Commissioners
January 21, 2026, 6:00 pm
8 Conway Street, South Deerfield MA 01373

Pursuant to a notice duly filed with the Town Clerk, a meeting of the Deerfield Selectboard/Board of Health/Sewer Commissioners was held on January 21, 2026 at 6:00 pm at the Deerfield Municipal offices, Main Meeting Room, 8 Conway Street, South Deerfield, MA, Meeting was recorded by FCAT and/or Town of Deerfield Staff. This meeting was held in a **Hybrid** fashion for both in person and remote participation in accordance with House Bill Number 58 of the 193rd General Court, which extended the Governor's March 12, 2020, Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. c.30A § 20, until June 30, 2027. In accordance with M.G.L. c.30A, anyone intending to record the meeting must identify themselves to the clerk and provide their name and address for the record.

Board members present: Tim Hilchey, Trevor McDaniel, and Blake Gilmore

Absent:

Also present: Christopher Dunne, Town Administrator; Greg Snedeker, Assistant Town Administrator; Alex Galloway, Town Planner; Ned Saviski, Health Agent; Chief Joshua Sparks, South County Emergency Medical Services; and other members of the public.

1) Call to Order
2) Public Comment – Two-minute maximum per speaker, up to 20 minutes total
   Ma Swedlund, Sugarloaf Condominiums: Expressed concern for the large increase in property taxes and request the Board to consider abatement opportunities for Seniors & Veterans.
3) Hearings and Appearances
   a) Joshua Sparks, EMS Chief Regarding Position Goals and Objectives for Fiscal Year 2027
      i. The Board and Sparks reviewed goals and objectives for the period between March 2026-2027, which include clinical excellence, workplace safety, quality, fiscal management, human resources, monthly reporting, and intermunicipal agreement review. Sparks discussed his excitement about the Community EMS project and establishing a capital fund to ensure sustainability. The Board also approved a new ambulance with a rebranded design, which Joshua visited in Syracuse, New York, and plans to debut in the coming weeks.

      Motion the Selectboard Approve the Proposed Goals and Objectives for FY27 for South County EMS as Presented and Authorize the Town Administrator to Sign as required– Hilchey
      Second: Gilmore Vote: Hilchey – aye, McDaniel – aye, Gilmore – aye, (3-0-0)
   b) Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) Regulations for Sanitary Sewer Hearing
      McDaniel Read the Hearing Notice into the Record.
      i. Dunne, Saviski, and the Board briefly discussed FOG Regulations proposed to support the Wastewater Treatment Plant operation. Ensuring reduction/elimination of any items not permitted to flow into the system.

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ii. Statement of Purpose:

"The Purpose of these Regulations are to Protect Residents, Businesses, and the Environment within the Town of Deerfield from blockages of the Town Sanitary Sewer System The purpose of this Regulation is to protect residents, businesses and the environment within the Town of Deerfield from blockages of the Town's sanitary sewer system caused by Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) discharged from Food Service Establishments. All new and existing facilities that generate and discharge FOG in the wastewater flow of the Town's sanitary sewer system shall install, operate, and maintain a FOG pretreatment system, as further defined herein. The requirements of this Regulation shall supplement, and be in addition to, the requirements of the Town of Deerfield Sewer Use Regulations, Massachusetts State Plumbing Code and the Massachusetts State Sanitary Code."

Motion to Close the Hearing– Hilchey
Second: McDaniel Vote: Hilchey – aye, McDaniel – aye, (2-0-0)

Motion to Approve the Board of Health Regulations on Fats, Oils, and Grease Management Regulations Effective Date February 1, 2026– McDaniel
Second: Hilchey Vote: Hilchey – aye, McDaniel – aye, (2-0-0)

4) Selectboard Reports/Announcements
   - 1888 Building Progress and Walk Through
   - MMA Conference
   - 1888 Building and Library Solar Opportunities
5) Board of Health/Health Agent Discussion Items/Reports/Announcements
   - 91, 97 Stillwater Road Update
6) Minutes – Executive Session for January 7, 2026, January 7, 2026 (regular meeting)
   Motion the Selectboard Approve the Minutes as Presented – McDaniel
   Second: Hilchey Vote: Hilchey – aye, McDaniel – aye, Gilmore – aye (3-0-0)
7) Discussion/Decision Items
   a) First Reading: Citizen Petition Deadline Policy for Annual Town Meeting
      i. Dunne provided background on the proposal for the Policy regarding Citizens Petitions with support from the Town Clerk. By creating a deadline for submissions of Citizens Petitions approximately 60 Days prior to the close of the Town Meeting Warrant, that would allow for verification of signatures and vetting through Town Counsel. Further investigation would occur as adoption may require a Bylaw Change.
   b) One Day Liquor License: Yankee Candle Village 2/14/2026 for annual Valentines Day event
      Motion the Selectboard Approve the One Day All Alcohol License for Yankee Candle Village on February 14, 2026 Contingent Upon All Departmental Approval and Receipt of Required Documents and Fees– McDaniel
      Second: Hilchey Vote: Hilchey – aye, McDaniel – aye, Gilmore – aye (3-0-0)

   c) Auction License (2026): Doug Bilodeau, Douglas Auctioneers, 241 Greenfield Rd

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Motion the Selectboard acting as the Local Licensing Authority Approve the 2026 Auctioneers License for Douglass Auctioneers, LLC at 241 Greenfield Road as Presented Subject to All Applicable Local and State Requirements– McDaniel
Second: Hilchey Vote: Hilchey – aye, McDaniel – aye, Gilmore – aye (3-0-0)

d) First Reading and Possible Vote: Environmentally Preferred Purchasing (EPP) Policy
Motion the Selectboard Adopt the Environmental Preparable Procurement (EPP) and Sustainable Purchasing Policy As Presented replacing the Town's Former Bio Recycle Policy Notification Requirement and Direct the Town Administrator, Chief Procurement Officer to Implement Policy– McDaniel
Second: Hilchey Vote: Hilchey – aye, McDaniel – aye, Gilmore – aye (3-0-0)

e) Third Amendment to Lease Agreement and Amended and Restated (A&R) Notice of Lease with Deerfield Renewables for landfill solar - clerical items
Motion the Selectboard Approve the Third Amendment to the Lease Agreement and the Amended and Restated Notice of Lease with Deerfield Renewables for the Landfill Solar Project and Authorize the Town Administrator to Execute all Related Documents and Take Considerate Actions to Effectuate the Signing – McDaniel
Second: Hilchey Vote: Hilchey – aye, McDaniel – aye, Gilmore – aye (3-0-0)

f) Priorities for District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA) from Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG)
   i. Dunne and the Board discussed projects that the FRCOG could support the Town with through the DLTA program. These included Mutual Aid Structures, Inter Municipal Agreements, Updating Membership with South County EMS, Signage Plan/Comprehensive Branding for Downtown, Redevelopment of Public Spaces/Underutilized Properties, 1821 Building Use Cases, and Cyber Security. Further Discussion would occur to narrow down a priority list to submit to FRCOG.

g) Letter of Support - Resubmission of MassTrails Grant Application
Motion the Selectboard Approve the Letter of Support for the Resubmission of the Town's Mass Trails Grant Application as Presented – McDaniel
Second: Hilchey Vote: Hilchey – aye, McDaniel – aye, Gilmore – aye (3-0-0)

8) Board-Committee Applications, general appointments/resignations
   a) Application of Bruce Dolan to Energy Conservation Committee
Motion the Selectboard Appoint Bruce Bowen to the Energy Conservation Committee for a Term to Expire June 30,2026 contingent upon approval by that Committee – McDaniel
Second: Hilchey Vote: Hilchey – aye, McDaniel – aye, Gilmore – aye (3-0-0)

9) Correspondence
10) Town Administration Updates
11) Items Unanticipated 48 hours prior to posting *

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12) Upcoming Regular Meetings: February 4, 2026
13) Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn at 7:07 pm – Hilchey

Second: Gilmore Vote: Hilchey – aye, McDaniel – aye, Gilmore – aye (3-0-0)

The matters listed are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which **may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed **may** in fact be discussed, and other items not listed **may** also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Alex Herchenreder

Documents List:

- Selectboard/Board of Health/Sewer Commissioners Revised Meeting Agenda, January 21, 2026
- Selectboard/Board of Health/Sewer Commissioners Packet, January 21, 2025

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