



Deerfield Selectboard/Board of Health

February 9, 2022 5:00 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 was held on February 9, 2022 at 5:00 pm at the Deerfield Municipal offices, Main Meeting Room, 8 Conway Street, South Deerfield, MA, Meeting was recorded by FCAT. Meetings normally held at the Municipal Offices are being held remotely, with adequate, alternative means of public access, and where required, public participation provided, in accordance with the Governor's March 12, 2020, Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law M.G.L. c.30A § 20.

Board members present: David Wolfram, Trevor McDaniel, and Carolyn Shores-Ness

Also present Kayce Warren, Town Administrator; Jennifer Gannett, Assistant Town Administrator; Kate Federoff Town Counsel; John Paciorek, Chief of Police; Alex White, Health Agent; Corrine Coryat, Aide for Representative Natalie Blais; Natalie Blais, Massachusetts State Representative; Jo Comerford, Massachusetts Senator; Elena Cohen, District Director for Senator Comerford; Tim Hilchey, CPC/Conservation Commission Chairman; Denise Mason, Chair of the CCI Committee, Analee Wulfkuhle, Chair of the Planning Board; Lili Dwight, Chair of the Senior Housing Committee; Kimberly MacPhee, FRCOG and members of the public.

1. Wolfram calls the meeting to order at 5:00 pm
2. Executive Session 5:03 pm

Motion to enter executive session pursuant to the following items: - McDaniel

- *Pursuant to G.L. c.30A, §21(a)(3), and subject to the Chairman's declaration and a roll call vote, the Selectboard will meet in Executive Session to discuss Strategy with respect to collective bargaining with MASSACHUSETTS COALITION OF POLICE, I.U.P.A., AFL-CIO (Police) and UPSEU (Highway) if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Town; and*
- *Pursuant to G.L. c.30A, §21(a)(2) the Selectboard will meet to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel or contract negotiations with the Town Administrator if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Town.*

Second: Ness

Vote: Wolfram – aye, McDaniel – aye, Ness – aye; (3-0-0)

The Selectboard returns to open session at 6:35 pm

3. Schedule Hearings
4. Appearances

- 6:30 pm– Senator Comerford and Representative Blais
 - Blais speaks to the importance of meeting with communities during budget season. Comerford speaks to Covid-19 funding, Police Reform, funding for communities including mosquito control, Chapter 90, and Local Aid.
 - Mason gives a presentation describing the vision of the Connecting Community Initiative group to Rep. Blais and Senator Comerford. Paciorek illustrates the current Senior center and the park project in relation to the overall vision of the community. Ness speaks to the Senior Housing and Paciorek speaks to the overall debt load for the Town as large projects are consuming funding at an astronomical amount.
 - Discussion on potential grants and funding options and the large necessity for further earmarks. School reimbursement waiver request.
- 7:00 pm- Ember Gardens, Cannabis Establishment, 198 Mill Village Road, Deerfield MA HCA for review and approval (Postponed)
- 7:30 pm- Kimberly MacPhee, Bloody Brook Project Update
 - MacPhee presents an update on grant work within the Bloody Brook Watershed by reviewing existing reports and observation work to craft Stormwater Management and Flood Resiliency Practices for the Town. Stakeholder group & Conservation Commission would be considered to discuss with FRCOG to work on concerns on respective properties. The final report subsequently approved by DEP would allow the Town to be eligible for 319 (Non-point Source Competitive Grants) funding. Ness and Paciorek would be in favor of a longer-term maintenance plan for the streams and work with the Conservation Commission.

5. Selectboard Reports/Announcements

- MIIA Insurance Credit for Attendance of Training(s)
- Grant Funding Opportunities
- WWTP Finance Meeting Update

6. Board of Health Reports/Announcements

- Covid-19 Updates, Emergency Measures/ Policies
 - Ness describes Covid numbers declining and updating the board that Deerfield Academy tested all students and did not have any cases. The consideration for lifting the mask mandate with Spring edging closer and potential for outdoor classes. The board is in support of opening the Town Hall for Monday through Thursday normal hours and give Friday by appointment only to allow for focus on work. Warren

describes the challenges with staff shortages and would support by appointment only on Fridays. Gannett describes further challenges with Hybrid meeting scheduling and logistics.

- White shows slides regarding Massachusetts Covid-19 Data from the DPH Health Dashboard and Deerfield Positivity Rate. Recommended vaccinations, continued mask wearing, and handwashing. The Vaccine Clinic is tentatively scheduled for the 25th.

Motion to lift the Town Wide including Employees Mask Mandate on February 18th - Ness

***Second: McDaniel
(3-0-0)***

Vote: Wolfram – aye, McDaniel – aye, Ness - aye;

Motion to open all Municipal Buildings under the control of the Selectboard on February 21st on Monday through Thursday for regular business hours with offices closed to the public on Friday - Ness

***Second: McDaniel
(3-0-0)***

Vote: Wolfram – aye, McDaniel – aye, Ness - aye;

7. Minutes

8. Discussion/Decision Items

- FY 2023 Selectboard/Board of Health Budget Review
 - Wolfram asks clarifying question regarding the fee structure of the Board of Health and the ability for the collected fees to cover a significant portion of the salary. Ness speaks to this and states that the Town Accountant has provided information and the fees have been up so far this year.

Motion to approve the Health Agent Salary line \$80324– McDaniel

***Second: McDaniel
(3-0-0)***

Vote: Wolfram – aye, McDaniel – aye, Ness - aye;

- BOH Health Expenses
 - Ness describes the increased cost of gas and supplies for the health agent such as a Town issued phone for business purposes. Additionally, Serve Safe recertification and Soil Evaluator Certification training is included in the costs. White speaks to the potential for taking a higher level Serve Safe course to teach other community members for renewals. McDaniel is supportive but would like to have funds set aside for the nursing program within the Town Hall as FRCOG will no longer be supporting

the town in this manner.

- Discussion on specific line items for the Board of Health Budget including: Part Time Nurse, Maven services, Tick Testing, Animal Control, Mosquito Control, Shared Vehicle, Trainings/Conferences
- Transition from FRCOG Health Program, Agreements for review and approval

Motion authorizes the Chair of the Selectboard to sign the Transition letters from FRCOG Health Program to switch to Greenfield's Program by March 1st on behalf of the Board of Health - Ness

Second: McDaniel Vote: Wolfram – aye, McDaniel – aye, Ness - aye; (3-0-0)

- Selectboard Salaries

Motion to approve Selectboard Salaries as presented- McDaniel

Second: Ness Vote: Wolfram – aye, McDaniel – aye, Ness - aye; (3-0-0)

- Selectboard Administrator Expenses

- Discussion of stipend for business mobile phone for critical personnel as the potential for pay equity discrepancies may occur. Further discussion will occur at a future meeting.

Motion to approve Selectboard Administrator Expense of \$13810- McDaniel

Second: Ness Vote: Wolfram – aye, McDaniel – aye, Ness - aye; (3-0-0)

- Legal Expenses

Motion to approve Legal Expense line item of \$75500- McDaniel

Second: Ness Vote: Wolfram – aye, McDaniel – aye, Ness - aye; (3-0-0)

- Personnel Board

Motion to approve Personnel Board budget line item of \$750- McDaniel

Second: Ness Vote: Wolfram – aye, McDaniel – aye, Ness - aye; (3-0-0)

- IT Hardware Budget

Motion to approve IT Hardware budget line item of \$5000- McDaniel

Second: Ness Vote: Wolfram – aye, McDaniel – aye, Ness - aye; (3-0-0)

- Consultant Budget
 - Discussion for future MVP grant applications and the ever-changing state match for expenses. King's Service work regarding the organization of files is discussed for future work including the storage. McDaniel is curious if the amount listed is enough for trainings. Warren discusses the final line-item value may change and might be greater. Additionally, she would like to see Planning and Zoning services included in this budget item. The board is in support of this as well as additional staff for grant writing.

- Open Space Budget

Motion to approve Open Space budget line item of \$250- McDaniel

Second: Ness Vote: Wolfram – aye, McDaniel – aye, Ness - aye; (3-0-0)

- Agricultural Commission

Motion to approve Agricultural Commission budget line item of \$100- McDaniel

Second: Ness Vote: Wolfram – aye, McDaniel – aye, Ness - aye; (3-0-0)

- Town Office Expense

Motion to approve Town Office Expense budget line item of \$14000- McDaniel

Second: Ness Vote: Wolfram – aye, McDaniel – aye, Ness - aye; (3-0-0)

- General Insurance Expense

Motion to approve General Insurance budget line item of \$66000- McDaniel

Second: Ness Vote: Wolfram – aye, McDaniel – aye, Ness - aye; (3-0-0)

- Emergency Management

Tabled until the next meeting

- ADA Coordinator

Motion to approve ADA Coordinator budget line item of \$250- McDaniel

Second: Ness Vote: Wolfram – aye, McDaniel – aye, Ness - aye; (3-0-0)

- Unfunded Sick Leave and Vacation

Motion to approve Unfunded Sick Leave and Vacation budget line item of \$10000- McDaniel

Second: Ness **Vote: Wolfram – aye, McDaniel – aye, Ness - aye; (3-0-0)**

- Proposed Change(s) to Public Comment on Selectboard/Board of Health Agenda(s)

**Motion to approve Public Comment Procedures on February 9th as presented-
McDaniel**

Second: Ness **Vote: Wolfram – aye, McDaniel – aye, Ness - aye; (3-0-0)**

- Placeholder: Annual/other Permits for approval
- Placeholder: Purchase & Sale agreement, Nupro LLC (Map 168 Lot 21, parcels 2-1, 2-2) for approval and signature
- Placeholder – Appointments/Resignations

Motion to accept the resignation of April Fernandez of South County EMS- McDaniel

Second: Ness **Vote: Wolfram – aye, McDaniel – aye, Ness - aye; (3-0-0)**

9. Mail

- HRA Annual Update
 - Gannett discusses housing rehabilitation funding for those who are fiscally diminished opportunities. The Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment is a great asset and those in need should contact them for assistance.

10. Town Administrator’s Report/Updates

- Warren speaks to current items on her radar including Jennifer Remillard as the Senior Center Director first successful week. Senior Center meet and greet on February 25th from 10:30 to 12pm at the Holy Name Parish Hall. Litigation and Legal work with town council. MOU with Deerfield Academy update. CIPC Chair discussion on capital projects and the timeline for projects over the long term.

**Motion to authorize the chair on behalf of the Selectboard to sign the MOU with
Deerfield- Ness**

Second: McDaniel
(3-0-0)

Vote: Wolfram – aye, McDaniel – aye, Ness - aye;

11. Public Comment

12. Items Unanticipated 48 hours prior to posting

- Charlemont EMS Assistance

13. Upcoming Meeting – February 23; Mar 9, 23; Apr 6, 20, 25; May 4, 18; June 1, 15, 29, 2022; Joint w/Fin Comm: Feb 15, 22; Mar 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; Apr 5, 12, 19, 2022

14. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 9:30 pm - Ness

Second: McDaniel Vote: Wolfram – aye, McDaniel – aye, Ness - aye; (3-0-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Alex Hercheneder

Documents List:

- Selectboard/Board of Health Agenda, 02/09/2022
- Selectboard/Board of Health Meeting Packet 02/09/2022