

**Town of Deerfield Finance Committee  
Minutes of the Meeting, Friday September 30**

**Attending:** Mike Brennan, Beth Brown, James Cambias (secretary), Julie Chalfant (chair), John Paresky

**Also Present:** Kayce Warren, Carolyn Shores Ness (via Zoom), Brenda Hill (via Zoom), Tim Hilchey (via Zoom).

Ms. Chalfant called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. on September 30.

Mr. Cambias moved to approve the Minutes of the September 27 meeting. Ms. Brown seconded the motion. Mr. Paresky noted an error in the vote count for approving the Minutes on September 27, as he had not yet arrived. The motion passed 4-0-1.

The Committee began examining the updated Warrant for the October 24 Special Town Meeting. Articles 6-8, and 15-17 will be considered later.

Ms. Brown moved to recommend Article 1: \$60,000 for Contracted Services — 50K for engineering for the Leary Lot project, the rest for grant writing and technical assistance. Mr. Paresky seconded the motion. Several questions to Ms. Warren and Ms. Hill about the \$10,000 sum and whether it belongs under Contracted Services rather than a separate article. Motion withdrawn until the Select Board can make a decision.

Mr. Cambias moved to recommend Article 2: \$5000 for Select Board staff. Mr. Paresky seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0.

Mr. Cambias moved to recommend Article 3: a sum of money to cover accrued fees and interest on past unemployment claims, so long as it is less than or equal to \$30,000. Ms. Brown seconded the motion. This is money the Town neglected to pay in the past and the penalties are only increasing. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Brennan moved to recommend Article 4: \$34,000 for tuition and transportation for a Smith Vocational student. Mr. Paresky seconded the motion. The Town is legally obligated to spend this. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Brennan moved to recommend Article 5: \$30,000 to complete funding for the Deerfield 350th celebration. Ms. Brown seconded the motion. Ms. Ness submitted a rough budget estimate for the event. The motion passed 4-0-1.

Mr. Paresky moved to recommend Article 11: to approve the Local Incentive Application of NUPRO for the former Oxford Pickle property. Mr. Cambias seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Warren briefed the Committee about the Leary Lot/Hamshaw land swap situation, covered by Articles 12-13. The description of the tracts in Articles 12-13 is too vague so no motion to recommend was made.

Mr. Paresky moved to recommend Article 14: Home Rule petition to exempt three Deerfield Police officers from mandatory retirement. Mr. Cambias seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Chalfant moved to recommend Article 18: funding the Tilton Library expansion project. Mr. Paresky seconded the motion. Considerable discussion of the mechanics of the December special election and what happens if the Article passes the Town Meeting vote but fails the ballot, or vice versa. Ms. Chalfant displayed graphics about the potential impact on debt and borrowing. The motion failed 0-4-1.

Mr. Cambias moved to recommend Article 15: sewer bylaw change. Ms. Brown seconded the motion. Extensive discussion. The Committee urged leaving the upper spending limit in place and removing the lower limit. Motion withdrawn pending revision.

Mr. Cambias moved to recommend Article 16: new sewer bylaw. Mr. Brennan seconded the motion. Considerable discussion of the new law, especially pertaining to the regulations incorporated existing sewer bylaws. The motion passed 3-0-2.

Discussion of Article 17: repeal of Chapter 236 (old sewer regulations). No motion proposed because more information is needed.

Next meeting scheduled for 4:30 p.m. October 21.

Mr. Cambias moved to adjourn. Mr. Paresky seconded the motion. Motion to adjourn passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned 8:27 p.m. on September 30, 2022.