

Connecting Community Initiative Committee (CCI)
Joint Meeting with Selectboard
October 13, 2022 6:30 pm

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 Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022 which extended the Governor's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. c.30A § 20, until March 31, 2023.

Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4136658576?pwd=Q1BtT0NBTKFPSzJzdGNhaHN4Wmozdz09>

Meeting ID: 413 665 8576

Passcode: musicHeals

Phone:

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 413 665 8576

Passcode: 6601007780

Minutes

- 6:30 - Call to order
Meeting Guidelines: speak one-at-a-time: follow Deerfield Code of Conduct (respectful, considerate, courteous): concise, non-repetitive

- Members present:

- ~~Jim Gambias~~
- ~~Julie Chalfant~~
- ~~Lili Dwight~~
- ~~Tim Hilchey~~
- ~~Kate Lawless~~
- Andrea Leibson
- ~~Denise Mason~~
- Trevor McDaniell
- Darius Modestow
- ~~Carolyn Ness~~
- ~~John Paciorek~~
- Jennifer Remillard
- MA Swedlund
- Analee Wulfkuhle
- Satu Zoller

Guests:

- 6:35: Approve minutes from: September 15th- approved unanimously
- <https://docs.google.com/document/d/13MUGJd2JC6NA4M62ArGOZXWnffFWrvHpHTHyIpaLIUU/edit>
- 6:40 - Committee updates report
 - Which Committee does Tim Hilchey represent now - Selectboard projects? Cons Comm needs to appoint someone. Lili add CPC to her representations. What to do about Jennifer Remillard's committees that she represents? Denise can check in w/J.R.
 - Library- potential revision in debt status of sewer to not affect the debt limit
 - Fund raising ongoing & Public Relations push in advance of Special Town Meeting

- Next big \$\$ push after the T.M. vote
 - Campus - brief Sept. meeting. On Jim's piece for outreach- on 1 page, copies at Town Hall, more for the Special Town Meeting
 - Julie-Finance has reviewed warrant articles- hearing on sewer by-law on Wednesday 19th, Finance will vote the rest of the articles after that
 - Developed scenarios for Library and debt service impact, to be presented at Selectboard meeting after sewer bylaw discussion
 - Debt limit - via Tom Scanlon : section 7 is all the plain old debt. Section 8 debt is exempt, sewer falls into that, so we are nowhere near our debt limit, likely won't hurt bond rating. BUT our ability to raise funds does affect the bond rating (prop 2 ½)
 - TBAC- have OPM, have designer/architect (BH&A), 1st meeting tomorrow w/Kayce, then TBAC meets on Tuesday @6:15
 - Senior Housing- see Committee report
 - Tim- Geo-thermal application completed and submitted in time- phase 1 is feasibility and design, phase 2 is build; December get feedback, then decide.
 - Selectboard got proposal from non-profits to meet w/SB to hire an engineering company to look at the Old Deerfield Sewer Plant, feeling good about being able to be close to revenue neutral,
 - Sewer bylaw discussion- bring us into alignment with state; eliminate the lower and upper ends, possibly suggest an upper cap. Section 150.10.5 needs clarification, too
 - Town Common- has not met since our last meeting. Mass DOT meet w/Selectboard to align work on the Common w/surrounding state owned roads. Meeting next Thursday.
 - Leary Lot?- warrant article, proposing swap to create access road to Elm Street
 - CIPC- approved 50K for engineering of Leary Lot (ARPA has overwhelming paperwork)
 - Have preliminary design from MVP program, but will work w/Town Common Committee and Berkshire Design
 - UMass group doing a solar planning opportunity (solar canopy?)- looking for greenscaping, trying to reduce the blacktop, deal w/water
 - Bring visuals to Town Meeting
 - Park- answering questions from DEP; good that paper published that we got the grant
 - Painting town hall
 - Meeting w/architect on 1888 building
 - Quebec hydro is buying the dams on the Deerfield and Connecticut- safety - letter to FERC on relicensing, make sure all dams are in good shape
 - Complete Neighborhoods- Elm Circle ?
 - Got final approval for Complete Streets crosswalks- late spring/summertime. Go back to FRCOG to get more for the school area
 - Meeting w/grant writer on the regionalization grant - reaching out for letters of support
 - Best Practices grant - DEI incorporated into hiring, etc. + another for shared energy infrastructure- reviewing language to re-use
 - GEI - their management team wants the town to sign a release form letter saying that although they prepared the package they are not responsible for it.
- Continue discussion on Community Outreach Work Group and determine how/when to move forward with dissemination of information to greater community
 - All of our responsibility to share the information with our committees
 - Synopsis of each project on the town web page suggested by John Paciorek.
- Other business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours before
- Next meeting: Nov 9, 2022 at 6:30
- Adjourned at 8:00 pm