

**Town of Deerfield
Finance Committee**

Minutes of the Meeting of October 16, 2023

Joint meeting with the Planning Board and Select Board, held via Zoom.

Members present: Mark Brennan, Beth Brown, James Cambias (secretary), Julie Chalfant (chair), John Paresky, David Sharp.

Also Present: Brenda Hill, Pat Kroll, Denise Mason, Trevor McDaniel, Kevin Scarborough, Carolyn Shores-Ness, and Kayce Warren.

Materials Presented:

- Revised draft Warrant for the Special Town Meeting of October 23.
- Chapter 179 Proposed Zoning Revisions
- "3600 Conservation Subdivision Design — Town Meeting Version"
- "Deerfield Floodplain Bylaw Section 4300, Town Meeting Version With State DCR and Counsel Commentary"
- "Future Numbers for Storm Damage" by Kevin Scarborough and John Paciorek
- "Finance Committee Comments on Special Town Meeting Warrant" (draft) by Julie Chalfant

Ms. Chalfant called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. on Monday, October 16, via Zoom.

The Committee had some questions for Ms. Mason about Section 4307 of the Floodplain District bylaw revisions for the October 23 Town Meeting. The members wanted to know if the removal of section f would affect the status of existing lawful structures. Ms. Mason didn't believe that would be the case.

Mr. Paresky moved to recommend Article 9 of the Draft Warrant, governing the Floodplain bylaw changes. Mr. Cambias seconded the motion. The motion to recommend passed, 6-0-0.

There were additional questions about Draft Warrant Article 8, on the Conservation Subdivision design. Members had questions for Ms. Mason and Ms. Shores-Ness about why a Conservation Subdivision would be preferable to a standard one, and the rationale for the bylaw changes.

Mr. Cambias moved that the Committee make no recommendation on this Article as it would have minimal effect on Town finances. Mr. Brennan seconded the motion. The motion to make no recommendation passed, 6-0-0.

Ms. Chalfant moved to re-open discussion of the emergency road repair borrowing authorization Warrant Article. Mr. Brennan seconded the motion. Considerable discussion followed. Mr. Scarborough presented some new figures: \$4,176,060 covering work done, quotes for future work, and estimates. Ms. Shores-Ness mentioned that River Road will need more extensive work to prevent future problems, beyond repairing the current damage. Mr. McDaniel pointed out that increasing the borrowing amount a second time would require another election for debt exclusion, and prefers to do it all at once.

Mr. Sharp moved to call the question. Mr. Cambias seconded the motion. The motion to call the question passed, 5-1-0.
The motion to re-open discussion failed, 2-4-0.

Mr. Sharp left the meeting.
The Select Board adjourned.

Mr. Cambias moved to accept the Minutes of the October 11 meeting. Mr. Brennan seconded the motion. The motion to accept passed, 4-0-1.

The Committee agreed to post a meeting for 6:30 p.m. on the 23rd, immediately before the Special Town Meeting, in case any business needs to be considered.

Mr. Paresky moved to adjourn. Mr. Cambias seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.