

Special Town Meeting
October 7, 2024

I, Kathlene A. Sanderell, duly appointed and qualified Town Clerk of the Town of Deerfield hereby verify that the following votes were taken at the Deerfield Special Town Meeting held on Monday, October 7, 2024, in the Frontier Regional School Auditorium, 113 North Main Street in the Village of South Deerfield, with 363 voters in attendance. Moderator, Daniel Graves Esq., called the Special Town Meeting to order at 6:04 pm, declaring that the warrant was in order, and the quorum requirement was met.

Moderator led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moderator's Motions:

Voted that the reading of all articles be waived and that prior to the reading of a motion under the article, the Moderator briefly summarize the content of the article to be considered; and, further, that unless an objection is raised, the reading of detailed motions be waived where the article as printed can, in the opinion of the Moderator, be incorporated by reference in any motion presented.

Motion carried, so declared the Moderator.

Voted the following people be allowed to address the audience during the Town Meeting:

- Attorney Lisa Mead, Town Counsel
- Brenda Hill, Town Accountant
- Dan Pallotta

Motion carried, so declared the Moderator.

The following business was transacted:

Article 1 – PASSED OVER the motion to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum (or sums) of money to pay for unanticipated prior fiscal year bill(s).

Motion passed over, so declared the Moderator.

Article 2 – VOTED to transfer \$29,730 from Free Cash to provide for the installation of 3 additional mini-split air conditioning units at Deerfield Elementary School.

Motion carried, so declared the Moderator.

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Article 3 – PASSED OVER the motion to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide \$130,000.00, or any other sum, to complete restoration work as required by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, pursuant to an Administrative Consent Order, Enforcement Document Number 000018562, in relation to emergency work undertaken by the Town to address July 2023, storm damage.

Motion passed over, so declared the Moderator.

Article 4 – VOTED to transfer \$300,000 from Free Cash to General Stabilization.

Motion carried, so declared the Moderator.

Article 5 – VOTED that the Town appropriate \$3,806,825 for the “1888 Building Project” request, and to meet said appropriation, transfer \$3,585,000 from the Community Preservation Fund Undesignated Fund Balance, \$121,825 from the CPA Fund Reserve for Historic Preservation and \$100,000 from the Community Preservation Fund Budgeted Reserve, all in a manner consistent with the proposal submitted by the Selectboard and approved by the Community Preservation Committee, said funds to be expended within five years under the direction of the Selectboard in accordance with the terms of an agreement to be entered into by the applicant and grantor, and any unused funds to be returned to the Community Preservation Fund as required by statute.

Motion carried by 2/3, so declared the Moderator.

Article 6 – VOTED that the Town authorize the Selectboard to convey, sell or otherwise dispose of the parcel of land identified as approximately 2.1 acres +/- set forth in the Assessor’s records as Map 169, Lot 14, and owned by the Town of Deerfield by deed recorded in the Franklin County Registry of Deeds, Book 8306, Page 228, for purposes of Senior Housing; and that the Selectboard be authorized to enter into and negotiate all necessary and related documents, subject to such restrictions and limitations as the Selectboard deems appropriate, in order to effectuate the disposition of said parcel accordingly.

Call the Vote/Passed, so declared the Moderator

Call to Order- additional speakers in line/Motion Successful, so declared the Moderator

Call the Vote/Failed, so declared the Moderator

Call to Order- Resident speaks more than twice/Motion Successful, so declared the Moderator

[**Article 6 AMENDMENT** – Resident Motion, proposed amendment in writing – To add language – Subject to approval by Town Meeting after the agreement is reached

Motion Failed, so declared the Moderator.]

Motion Carried by 2/3, so declared the Moderator.

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Article 7 – VOTED that the Town establish permanent protection of land located on Pine Nook Road, Deerfield, Massachusetts and as shown on the Town of Deerfield Assessor’s Map 81, Lot 3, including 18 acres, more or less, whose deed is recorded at Book 731, Page 33 of the Franklin County Registry of Deeds, for the exclusive purpose of conservation as Town Forest in accordance with Article 97 of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Motion Carried by 2/3, so declared the Moderator.

Article 8 – PASSED OVER the motion requesting the Town establish permanent protection of land located on Old Pine Nook Road, Deerfield, Massachusetts and as shown on the Town of Deerfield Assessor’s Map 80, Lot 1, including 63 acres, more or less, whose deed is recorded at Book 731, Page 33 of the Franklin County Registry of Deeds, for the exclusive purpose of conservation as Town Forest in accordance with Article 97 of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Such transfer and designation shall exclude the portion of land leased to Cingular Wireless PCS, and exclude the portion of land leased to Western Massachusetts Electric Company, the successor in interest to Deerfield Cable Systems, Inc., as shown on the plan in the Lease recorded in Book 1604 Page 273 of the Franklin County Registry of Deeds, and further exclude that portion of the property, if any, that includes any easements and or appurtenances from the adjacent cell tower owned by Delta Sand & Gravel Inc., whose deed is recorded as Parcel VII in Book 1632 Page 344 of the Franklin County Registry of Deeds.

Motion passed over, so declared the Moderator.

Article 9 Citizen’s Petition – VOTED that the Town authorize and request the Selectboard to take the necessary steps to purchase 300 electronic vote tabulators and associated equipment and any subscription services, if applicable, to be used for voting at all Town Meetings.

[**Article 9 AMENDMENT** – Resident Motion, proposed amendment in writing – To add language – Purchase of more than 300 Clickers dependent on Selectboard recommendation.

Motion carried, so declared the moderator.]

Motion Failed, so declared the Moderator.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:05PM