

**Deerfield School District Deliberative Session**  
**February 12, 2011**  
**9 A.M. Deerfield Town Hall, Deerfield New Hampshire**

MINUTES OF THE 2011 DEERFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT DELIBERATIVE SESSION

Moderator: Jonathan (Jack) Hutchinson

Moderator: Jonathan (Jack) Hutchinson opened the meeting at 9 A.M.

There is no smoking anywhere in this building.

In recognition of the labor and sacrifice of those who created, defended and refined the privilege of a democratic government under which we assemble this morning, please rise and Pledge your Allegiance to our Flag. As we conclude our pledge, please remained standing for a brief meditation passed down from Joe Brown.

The Pledge was recited.

The meeting was opened by the Moderator: Jonathan (Jack) Hutchinson. The Moderator asked the audience to stand in silent meditation asking guidance and conduct of this Deerfield School District Meeting that may prove an effective self government for us all, guide us in our voting by a sense of purpose and human understanding. In our hands today lie the business affairs of the school for the future, grant us the sense of fairness to allow all citizens to participate regardless of experience, help us to express ourselves with restraint and dignity that we may work together harmoniously for the well-being of our school district in the coming year. Please be seated.

Welcome to the first session of the 2011 Deerfield Town Meeting. The Town Officials seated before you this morning are the School Board, Bonnie Beaubien, Kevin Barry, Don Gorman, Maryann Clark, Gregg Williams, Superintendent Peter Warburton is assisted by his assistants, Helene Bickford and Patty Sherman, Assistant Superintendents, Paul Yergeau, Deerfield Community School Principal, Kathy Peahl, School District Attorney, Peter Aubrey, Business Administrator. Diane Valade, Meredith Briggs and Cherie Sanborn Checklist Supervisors, Barbara Daley, Cindy Tomilson, and Roger Hartgen are the Ballot Clerks.

TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT IN THE TOWN OF DEERFIELD,  
QUALIFIED TO VOTE IN DISTRICT AFFAIRS:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Deerfield Town Hall in said District on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2011 at 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon to deliberate upon the warrant articles below. This session shall consist of explanation, discussion, and debate of each warrant article. Warrant articles may be amended subject to the following limitations: (a) warrant articles whose wording is prescribed by law shall not be amended and (b) warrant articles that are amended shall be placed on the official ballot for a final vote on the main motion, as amended.

Moderator: And not noted here, but they can not be amended to say "to see."

Voting on warrant articles will be conducted by official ballot at the second session scheduled for March 8, 2011 at the Deerfield Town Hall from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.

The Chair recognizes Kevin Barry, for the purpose of making a presentation.

Kevin Barry: The Deerfield School Board would like to give Bonnie Beaubien a little present to show our appreciation for all the hard work she has done for the district over the last few years.

Bonnie Beaubien: Thank You.

Moderator Hutchinson repeated the rules:

- Each member who wishes to vote at this meeting should have checked in with the ballot clerks and received a voting card and a sheet of ballot. If you are a registered voter and have not checked in yet, please do so now.
- The rules of the meeting will be Roberts Rules of Order as modified by the Moderator in accordance with the laws of the State of New Hampshire. Our meeting today is for the transaction of all business other than voting by official ballot. This first session shall consist of explanation, discussion, and debate of each warrant article. Our business today is to consider and within the limits of the law, determine the details of those articles to be voted by official ballot at the March 8<sup>th</sup> second session.
- Amendments to articles are in order and will be voted at this meeting however at the conclusion of the deliberation on each article we will not vote, instead the chair will instruct the School district clerk to place article on the official ballot.
- Our order of the day is the School District Warrant. The Chair will read each article and make a motion to place it on the official ballot, and request a motion and a second for that motion. The maker of the motion will have the first opportunity to speak. Then the floor will be open to all. If you wish to address the meeting please approach the one microphone. The chair will recognize members at the microphone in turn. When it is your turn to speak, please step up to the microphone and speak directly into it. It is voice activated and your remarks are recorded so the clerk to make an accurate record of this meeting. All remarks are confined to the merits of the pending question or questions of order or privilege and must be addressed to the Chair. When you are recognized please state your name. Each speaker will be allowed three minutes to state his or her views. You may speak as many times as you wish, but all members who wish to speak will have a first turn, before any will have a second. The overriding principle in all cases is fairness. A speaker may address the currently pending question or he may move to close debate but he may not do both in the same turn. This means if a speaker argues for or against a motion, he may not then conclude his remarks with “and I move the previous question.” We adopted this rule a number of years ago and with the support of the assembly will follow it in this meeting.
- A secret ballot will be conducted when requested by 5 members in writing, prior to a hand vote. Such request must be for a specific vote, not for all votes in this meeting. Or all amendment to this article. The secret ballot provision exists to offer secrecy and is not intended to be used as a tactic of delay. If you wish to request a secret ballot, approach the microphone, when recognized, make the request. Then pass the written request to the moderator. Otherwise, votes will be by a show of voting cards. If the Chair cannot judge a clear majority, we will move to a division. Likewise if a member is not satisfied that the

results announced by the Chair is correct, he should request a division. Division will be a count of the raised cards. Seven members who question any non ballot vote immediately after it is announced may request a written ballot vote. If the margin of a division vote is narrow the moderator may also move to a ballot vote. Five voters may request a re-count of a written ballot vote providing that the vote margin is not more than ten percent of the total vote cast. In this case the re-count shall take place immediately following the public announcement.

- If there is something you wish to accomplish here but are uncertain how to proceed, please ask. You can do that at anytime during the meeting, at the microphone, or you can approach any of us during a recess. Similarly, if during the meeting something is not clear to you, please rise to a point of inquiry and ask for a point of explanation.
- Finally, the role of the moderator is to fairly organize and regulate the meeting according to rules agreeable to the members. Ruling of the moderator are subject to appeal by any member. An appeal must be made immediately following the ruling, a second is required. The ruling and the appeal will be explained to the meeting then the members will vote to sustain or reverse the ruling.

So, we are ready to move to the Warrant: Yes, Ms. Cady.

Ms. Cady: Point of Order. Mr. Moderator, as I have told you, I object strongly, and always have, to advocacy within a meeting. This is a meeting according to RSA 40:14 and they have set up a table promoting advocacy of articles that are on the warrant. If that is fair, then next year the Deerfield taxpayers shall have informational sheets here also.

Moderator: You are welcome to bring those; you are welcome to bring those. Noted. We have had that type of advocacy in the past also. Please do. Your advocacy in this meeting is noted. Thank you.

Moderator: So the order of business today is this warrant.

Moderator: Article 1: Shall the Deerfield School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$11,703,104? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$11,781,485 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the school district, or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

[Note: Warrant Article #1 (operating budget article) does not include separate Warrant Articles #2, #3 and #5.]

*School Board Recommends Approval  
Budget Committee Recommends Approval*

Moderator: Do we have a motion to place this Article on the official ballot?

Mr. Spillane: Mr. Moderator, I would move that Article as written.

Moderator: Do we have a second?

Don Gorman: Second.

Moderator: It's been moved and seconded to have the Article placed on the ballot as printed. The Chair recognizes Mr. Spillane.

Mr. Spillane: The Municipal Budget Committee worked pretty hard at this, looking at the numbers on this budget, the School Board did a great job coming in with a lower proposed budget than the default. We feel it's a fair number and we have recommended the budget that we put forward.

Moderator: Is there further discussion on this Article?

Maryann Clark: Mr. Moderator, I would like to amend the article to include a...

Moderator: Wait a minute, whoa, whoa, whoa, Ms. Clark, am I right?

Maryann Clark: Yes, that's right.

Moderator: O.K. what's your amendment?

Ms. Clark: To increase the Article by \$55,580.

Moderator: Can we put that on a line item?

Maryann Clark: It's for salary and benefits.

Moderator: Can you tell us the page?

Maryann Clark: It's the very first line item, under teacher's salary, and I would add \$36,622 to that and the remaining.

Moderator: O.K. we are going to have to move a little slower please. The \$1,960,000 number gets increased by? Can you say that again?

Maryann Clark: \$36, 622.00

Moderator: OK, next.

Maryann Clark: Is on page 7 of 8, 2900-220- the line is the FICA line.

Moderator: Alright, It's about in the middle of the page. It has a short name, FICA, O. K.

Maryann Clark: I would add \$2,802.

Moderator: Alright, there are a lot of lines here; I am going to read what the meaning of the data is. Jim you might find the lines for yourself. The salary line is increased by \$36,622; the FICA line by \$2,802; life insurance by \$483; retirement by \$3,322. I think what matters here is the bottom line,

but I want it recorded in the record of the meeting that we reviewed these lines. Disability is \$102; employment \$98; workers compensation by \$201 HMO2 Group Insurance \$11,034; and dental insurance is \$916; for a total of \$55,580, which is the number we need to consider here now.

Moderator: Is there a second for this motion?

Kevin Barry: I second the motion.

Moderator: It has been moved and seconded to increase the budget of the warrant article by \$55,580 across 9 line items. The amendment is now open for discussion. Yes, Ms.Clark.

Maryann Clark: Yes, this is the salary and benefits we have added in for one additional teacher at DCS. We have been back and forth on this teaching position. We had it on the original budget that was presented to the MBC and it was taken out. At the public hearing, again, we re-visited the same teaching position. What we did was we asked the Administration to go out and determine what we were expecting for kindergarten and first grade enrollment and to move that enrollment up so we could get a better idea of what we were expecting for students, incoming students. As it turns out, we have a better understanding now that we will need that extra teaching position and so we are adding it back in.

Moderator: Do you want to say anything about what the better understanding is or what the numbers are or anything?

Maryann Clark: Right, So, the kindergarten registration that we had is generally done in May and we moved it up to February, and when we did that registration we ended up with 43 students who have registered. If we take that and divide it into two classes, then we would have 21.5 children in a class with a school board recommended policy of keeping 14 in. That's a number we try to shoot for, for kindergarten. Considering that we are doing this registration so early there will be additional students that will move into the district, which will drive that number even higher, so what we have chosen to do is to split the two classes, into three classes, which would require that one extra teacher.

Moderator: Further discussion on the amendment to increase the budget by \$55,580.00

Mr. Spillane: I just wanted to make a statement to the fact that we did look at this as well, several of us of the Budget committee actually went and looked at the school and to the classrooms. I feel that there are other alternatives to adding another teacher that has not been fully investigated. The kindergarten classes this year are 20 students a class. I understand that if we have more than that it might be hard to handle, however, the first grade could go to three classrooms and keep the 20 kids per class. There are other options for other grades that could be reduced from 3 classes to two classes in order to move some teachers around and allow this to still function with the current staffing levels instead of adding another position. Adding another position also impacts the space in the school. I would like to know from the School Board where is this class going to go? who is going to be moved into the modular now? and how are we going to handle that with the new security system when the modular is out of the security zone, so to speak. It's a hassle to get kids in and out of that modular on a classroom type of basis and there is no bathroom out there, which means the kids are going in and out of that modular routinely to go to the bathroom, which means they need to be escorted through the security system in that type of situation. Adding one extra teacher adds one extra class adds a need for more space and I think that things need to be looked at in other ways to make things work without adding that position back in.

Moderator: Other speakers, anyone else on the amendment?

Debbie Boisvert: I am curious about how many students were added on between your survey in May and the beginning of the school year. Do you have any idea of like in past experience, how many students have been added after you did the survey and you did the survey much earlier this year?

Maryann Clark: Can I have our principal answer that question.

Mr. Yergeau: Last year because we did it late in the year I think we had a pretty accurate count and there was the big discussion about full day versus half day and I think that really brought everyone out of the woodwork so we really tended to have the numbers at the end of May tended to be the numbers we had at the end of August. But we have never done it this early before.

Kathryn Ford: Point of Clarification. There are currently three kindergarten teachers and you are actually trying to keep it the same, is that correct?

Moderator: Who would speak to that?

Maryann Clark: I can speak to that. Yes, we would keep it the same. We are seeing increases in students in first grade, currently we have three and we would expand that to four. I think what we look at initially are those numbers. But, what I didn't mention before, what is even more important than that are the needs of the individual students because you can have a group of students that you can very easily divide into a two, based on student needs and take the same number of students and not be able to divide that it in two because of the individual needs of the students you would need to divide it into three. We have seen that with our current 4<sup>th</sup> grade classroom, which has two classrooms, the same number of classrooms in our current 3<sup>rd</sup> grade cannot be divided into two; it needs to be divided into three, particularly based on not just the numbers but on individual student needs. That again is what we as a School Board look to our Administration for, for feedback and it's not because our Board hasn't pushed that and said we could divide that into two, it's because of individual needs.

Kathryn Ford: Can I make a follow-up?

Moderator: Yes.

Joelle Ford: I would like to strongly support what Maryann is asking for. I have sons in kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade and they have both been in classrooms with an average of 20 students. I have been in each of those classrooms as a volunteer at various points throughout the year and anything that can be done to bring those numbers down; especially because there are students in those classrooms with extra needs I'm a huge advocate of. Those classrooms get very noisy and I don't feel as if when we get up to 20-21 students we are in an environment that is conducive to strong learning. I'm just a huge advocate of what you are pushing for.

Moderator: Other speakers on the amendment?

Yes, Ms. Cady:

Harriet Cady: When I go around and I get my statistics, I call other schools in our area of the same size. When I find out that we have so many more teachers than Candia, than Epsom, than Northwood. Northwood has 47 in Special Ed. I just find it is something to do with the management and the scheduling rather than the necessity. The other thing I would like to point out is, just how many families are in foreclosure in this town whose kids are being affected because they will have to move somewhere else when the houses are gone. I saw this year's ago when the school raised the budget, a family with 5 kids ended up in a rented house and the mother went to work where she had been home with her kids. I saw a \$750 increase in my taxes this year, just how much more are you putting a burden on the taxpayers of this town because you won't recognize that 14 kids is not a reasonable number.

Moderator: Anyone else on the amendment?

Linda Royer: Just to say what Ms. Cady said about Northwood School. Currently, I am a para-educator at Northwood School and I am also the Title 1 Project Manager. We currently have three first grades. Last year we were trying to decide whether we would have three first grades and two second grades or two first grades and three second grades. We decided to go with three first grades because of the individual needs of our students. So, I do support a smaller class size based upon your reasoning.

Moderator: Any other speakers on the amendment? Are you ready for the vote? The vote is on the amendment to increase the budget by \$55,580.00 across a set of nine items who's net impact is one teacher. So, it's all the cost of a teacher.

As many as are in favor of the amendment please signify by raising your voting cards and keeping them raised. Thank You, Cards down.

Those opposed raise your voting cards?

The Aye's have it, the amendment is adopted.

So, we are now back on the main article, does somebody have a new amount? The bottom line, add the amendment in and tell me where we are. We are now back on the main article, article 1 in the amount of \$11,758,684.

Further discussion on the main article?

Maryann Clark: Mr. Moderator, I would like to point out some individual points about this budget. This proposed budget is \$22,801 less than the default for this coming year. And it is 4.2% less than the current year's budget that we are in. The affect of this amended proposed budget is reduction in the tax rate of .29 cents. Some areas of the budget of significant change, include that line, and I'll point these out for you as we go, for high school tuition. If you look at page one, in the middle, the high school tuition line. We have fewer high school students and we have improved our accounting of those students we, so have a better idea of where they are going, so that high school tuition line is \$303,531 less than our current year. I would also like to point out that our SAU has negotiated a much better tuition rate at CHS, the increase this year was just 1.42 % and I'll just remind you that last year was 8.9%, which is a significant difference. The next line I would like to point out, the special education out of district placement and costs, that is on page 2 of 8 toward the bottom, there is a reduction in that line of \$379,037 as compared to the previous year. There is also a major

reduction in our special education transportation costs of \$63,194. O.K., so that's on page 7 of 8, in that section, pupil transportation. So those are some areas of major savings when you compare to current budget.

The areas of the proposed budget with significant increases I just wanted to point out are under health insurance, which would be on page 7 of 8, about in the middle there, that health insurance line. And that is an increase over this current year of \$136,399. The premium increase was a 6.3%, however, we had a lot of employees enroll and take advantage of our health insurance so that's why there is a significant increase in that number. And, additionally we have seen an increase in teacher retirement, which is in that same section, about half way down. That increase is \$31,716.

Moderator: Thank You. Is there further discussion on Article 1?

Yes, Mr. Spillane.

Mr. Spillane: I just want to once again thank the School Board for diligently working to reduce this budget and bring it in underneath the default, and thank Paul as well, for his work on it and both Peter's. Thank You.

Moderator: Further discussion? Yes, Ms. Cady.

Ms. Cady: I would like to point out that this really isn't a decrease. You turned \$550,000 back last year. Which means if we took \$550,000 off this budget, we are still up.

Moderator: Further Discussion? I see none...then the clerk will place Article....Please use the microphone and tell me what it is that you are asking.

Maryann Clark: I need to amend the Default Budget. The teaching position we just added back in just previous to this,

Moderator: Yes

Maryann Clark: was at a lower rate than what we had originally added in as was educationally necessary in the default budget. So I need to amend the default budget to represent that. When we created the default budget (not a completed sentence)

Moderator: Wait, does this make sense to you?

Peter Aubrey: Basically with new information on a default budget which is basically by us reducing this position that we intended to put in right from the beginning. Anytime you have new information that would lower or increase the default budget, you can do so up until the ballot.

Moderator: But we are not changing any virtual teacher at this point.

Peter Aubrey: In the Default budget right now, the Board's position was to increase that because it was necessary educationally, it is in the default as a higher number. So, all they are doing is going through transparency rules to lower that down to the new amount they just put in which would be \$12,508 difference, to lower that default that much to make it go along with what they've just done at this meeting.

Moderator: If you place that as a vote before this meeting and the meeting votes not to do it, then you don't have transparency? Does this meeting decide whether we have transparency?

Peter Aubrey: Again, we are trying to act in good faith, because this question could come up because that is in the current default at a higher amount.

Moderator: I'm not questioning the good faith part I'm just not sure this is the right process.

Peter Aubrey: Well, we had to do it last year on a high school issue and again we can change this default anytime and have it posted prior to the ballot vote in March. So, we are just doing it at this meeting so everybody is aware of what the numbers are before the vote.

Moderator: I would like you three to put your heads together to make sure this is the right thing to do. It's new to me, I go with the Attorney, I haven't studied this stuff, but I'm asking a question. The three of you, at least, tell me if you think it's the right think.

Yes,

Don Daley: Point of Information: Member of the Budget Committee. It is my understanding from being at LGC seminars and so forth that the Deliberative Session can't change the default budget, however, the governing body can change the default budget before the ballot is printed. At a meeting of their own.

Moderator: Thank you. That is helpful too, that sounds like it makes sense to me. Why would we vote on something that is supposed to be calculated? If we put it up here, we have to be able to say yes, or no.

Peter Aubrey: Point of Information: Jack, the Board intends on lowering the default by \$12,508.

Moderator: That sounds right, right? O.K. Thank You. Any further discussion on Article 1? Seeing none, the clerk will place Article 1 on the ballot, as amended, in the amount of 11,758,684.

Moderator: Article 2: Shall the District vote to raise and appropriate the cost items set forth in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Deerfield School Board and the Deerfield Education Association for the 2011/12 fiscal year, which calls for the following estimated increases in salaries and benefits totaling:

2011/12	\$92,655
---------	----------

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$92,655 for the 2011/12 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year?

Note: Pursuant to RSA 273-A:12, if approved, the terms of this collective bargaining agreement, including the pay plan, but excluding cost of living increases, will continue in force and effect until a new agreement is executed.

*School Board Recommends Approval  
Budget Committee Recommends Approval*

Moderator: Do we have a motion to place this Article on the ballot as printed?

Bonnie Beaubien: Mr. Moderator I make a motion to place this Article on the ballot as printed.

Moderator: Do we have a second?

Don Gorman: Second.

Moderator: It has been moved and seconded to place the Article on the ballot as printed. The article is now open for discussion. Ms. Beaubien.

Bonnie Beaubien: Thank You. The total cost of this includes an increase for teachers at the top of the pay scale, 1.5%, and 1 step increase for any teacher who is not at maximum. We are also advocating the instructional day increases 30 minutes per day. Non-residence teachers will no longer be able to enroll their students at Deerfield Community School. Those who are there now may still apply through 8<sup>th</sup> grade because they did start at Deerfield Community School. We have changed some personnel illness language, so that it defines immediate family differently, to include spouse, life partner, significant other, unmarried children, or dependant family residing in the family's household. The sick leave bank, we have had a sick leave bank, but now all teachers will be able to deposit a day at the beginning of the school year. In the past, some were not able to belong to the sick bank since it was already at maximum and they could not give a day. Child Rearing Leave has changed to extend to adoptive parents. The health insurance language has changed, which we have tried to put into the contract for two or three years, is that the current health insurance provider may be changed with the Association agreeing. An alternative health provider may be offered to the Association at any time, which gives the school district a chance to investigate other companies for offering insurance. Thank You.

Moderator: Further discussion on Article 2? Seeing none, the Clerk will put Article 2 on the ballot as printed.

Moderator: Article #3. Shall the District vote to raise and appropriate the cost items set forth in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Deerfield School Board and the Deerfield Paraprofessionals Association for the 2011/12 fiscal year, which calls for the following estimated increases in salaries and benefits totaling:

2011/12	\$48,684
---------	----------

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$48,684 for the 2011/2012 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year?

[Note: The total cost associated with the collective bargaining agreement above is \$2,000. The remaining \$46,684 will compensate the paraprofessionals (who are hourly employees) for an additional 30 minutes per day if the teachers' contract passes.]

Note: Pursuant to RSA 273-A:12, if approved, the terms of this collective bargaining agreement, including the pay plan, but excluding cost of living increases, will continue in force and effect until a new agreement is executed.

*School Board Recommends Approval*

Mr. Gorman: Mr. Moderator, I move the Article as written.

Maryann Clark: Second.

Moderator: It has been moved and seconded to place the Article, as written, on the ballot. The Article is now open for discussion. Yes, Mr. Gorman.

Mr. Gorman: Thank you Mr. Moderator, members of the audience. We negotiated a very difficult contract both for the teachers and the paras. The bottom line on the para's contract basically, was to remain flat, they did not ask for increases due to the economic conditions in the town and in the state. The additional monies that had to be in there, or put in there, is the contract for the teacher passes. The Teachers will be working an extra half hour per day; the para's are paid on an hourly rate so they would then be required to be at the school for the extra half hour. What this money represents is the pay that they would receive for that extra half hour of work, if the teacher's contract passes.

Moderator: Further discussion on Article 3? Seeing none, the Clerk will place Article #3 on the ballot as printed.

Moderator: Article #4. To see if the Deerfield School District will vote to change the purpose of an existing Building Repair Expendable Trust Fund to the Facilities Repair and Improvement Expendable Trust Fund. (2/3 Majority Vote Required)

Moderator: Do we have a motion to place the Article on the ballot?

Mr. Barry: Mr. Moderator, I would like to make a motion that we put the Article on the ballot as written.

Moderator: Do we have a second?

Mr. Gorman: Second.

Moderator: It has been moved and seconded to put Article 4 on the ballot as printed. The Article is now open for discussion. Mr. Barry.

Mr. Barry: This Article we've had this special expendable trust in the past and basically what the Board would like to do this year is to expand the use of the trust. Originally, it was for the roof and now we would like to have the ability to use any surplus funds in this trust for building maintenance, which would include the furnace, possibly failed septic system, basically catastrophic failures at the school and we wanted to be able to use this money for that.

Moderator: Further discussion on Article 4? O.K., seeing none. Yes, Ms. Cady.

Ms. Cady: In reading the school board minutes, I understand you had contacted Fred McGarry for problems with the septic system, possible failure. Are you saying you didn't budget any money in this budget to take care of that?

Mr. Gorman: Mr. Moderator, if I can, I would give an answer. One of the sub-duties that I have taken on as a board member is the facilities and grounds. The warrant article which has been with this town for many, many years, is for catastrophic or unusual situations that we do not budget for. For example, at some time our rubber roof is going need to be replaced. Do we budget it this year, next year, last year, we don't know. What this fund is for is when the roof has the problem and needs to be replaced we will have the money in the kiddy to take care of it. This warrant article is only for catastrophic, unforeseen situations such as a septic system failing.

Ms. Cady: Don, you are so good at putting words together, but you didn't answer the question. The question was in your minutes it says: The school board has found it has a problem with the septic system. I asked, are you telling me you didn't budget for what you know is happening.

Mr. Gorman: Well, we didn't budget for a septic system that we didn't know when it was going to fail, it failed. And this is what this fund is for. Something we don't see. The well may go dry next year, I don't know. If it does go dry we will have to drill a new one.

Moderator: The answer to the question though, is that there is nothing in the budget for the septic system that you are in discussion about.

Mr. Gorman: That is correct.

Ms. Cady: May I ask why we discontinued the \$25,000 a year to go into this, if in fact, we know there are other problems, because definitely as you said, the roof is going to fail at some point and then this money could have been used up and we're going to end up paying for a roof in total.

Moderator: O.K. is there further discussion on Article 4? Seeing none, the clerk will place Article 4 on the ballot as printed.

Moderator: Article #5. To see if the Deerfield School District will vote to create an Expendable Trust Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, to be known as the Playground Expendable Trust Fund, for the purpose of building a new playground at Deerfield Community School and to raise and appropriate the sum of up to \$25,000 (from surplus) towards this purpose. The Deerfield School Board are agents to expend these funds.

*School Board Recommends Approval  
Budget Committee Recommends Approval*

Moderator: Do we have a motion to place this article on this ballot?

Mr. Williams: I make a motion to change the language.

Moderator: No, not yet.

Mr. Williams: O.K. I'll move the motion.

Moderator: Do we have a second?

Maryann Clark: Second.

Moderator: Alright, the chair recognizes Mr. Williams for the purpose of making an amendment.

Mr. Williams: O.K. I am looking to make a motion to change the language, it's basically provision language. We noted that the provision language as RSA 31:19-a as written, is a town provision. We are looking not to change the intent at all, but to change the language to RSA 198:20-c which is a school provision. I'll give that to you Jim.

Moderator: So this is changing 31:19-a to 198:20-c?

Mr. Williams: Correct.

Moderator: Do we have a second?

Kevin Barry: Second.

Moderator: It's been moved and seconded to change the language in Article 5 from RS 31:10-a to RSA 198:20-c. Further discussion?

Mr. Williams: Sure, What we are look at is the playground.

Moderator: Stay on the amendment, we are only talking about RSA numbers right now.

Mr. Williams: No I'm not, let me change.

Moderator: Is there any other discussion on the RSA numbers?

Moderator: Are you ready for the vote? The vote is to change the RSA number in the Article from 31:19-a to RSA 198:20-c.

Moderator: As many of you who are in favor of changing the RSA number please signify by raising your voting cards and keep them raised. Thank You. O.K., cards down.

Moderator: Those opposed, please signify by raising your voting cards. No one is opposed. Could have had a unanimous consent there, it would have been nice. And I could have used it. Maybe we should do that anyway.

Moderator: So, now we are back on the main Article as amended, Mr. Williams.

Mr. Williams: Yes, I would just like to speak. The total cost right now, or the projection is \$50,000 to replace our existing playground. I think a lot of us were there when we built the playground some 20 years ago and that basically has been our playground. In the last five or ten years, we have had to take different applications down because of safety issues and deterioration of different parts of the playground to the point where we have really reduced the playground capacity, particularly for the younger children, but for all the children at the school. So, what we are looking to do is to raise and appropriate \$25,000 through surplus this year, obviously if there is no surplus this year, we would not contribute to this initiative. But looking for \$25,000 in reserves through surplus this year and then the other \$25,000 would be raised through the school board through grants, other donations and other fund raising initiatives.

Moderator: Further discussion on Article 5? Mr. Spillane.

Mr. Spillane: I just wanted to say, I like to see the school board going with a fund to build this and were looking for matching funds as well. This is a great initiative and nice to see matching funds sought for, that way the taxpayers are not picking up all of it. I have a question as to whether the language is going to allow that fund to exist after the playground is built, to be used to move money in for maintenance of the playground from a surplus standpoint, ongoing?

Moderator: So, that is just a question?

Mr. Spillane: Just a question.

Moderator: Alright does someone want to speak to that? Mr. Gorman.

Mr. Gorman: Thank you. We could do that. The School Board would have the authority to do that, after a long hard deliberation, they are always long and hard, but it's a very good idea. You caught us flat footed.

Moderator: Do you want to speak to that?

Superintendent Warburton: I just want to add that the purpose in Article 5 right now is to put some money into surplus to build a playground, certainly the other purpose that Jim is talking about would have to be discussed later. We don't want to get off the purpose of the Article which is to raise and appropriate an amount from surplus to build a new playground.

Moderator: Further discussion on Article 5?

Rebecca Hutchinson: I just have a request on the last line, to amend the last line, instead of saying that the Deerfield School Board 'are agents' to expend these funds, shouldn't it be that the Deerfield School Board 'is the' agent to expend the funds, I am sorry but, that would be my. (unfinished sentence)

Moderator: Was your father an English teacher? I guess since it's a school district warrant we should get the case right.

Rebecca Hutchinson: So, the amendment would read, the last sentence would say 'the Deerfield School Board is the agent to expend the funds'. Just cause it's a school thing.

Moderator: Do we have a second to move the amendment?

Don Gorman: Second.

Moderator: We have moved and seconded an amendment to Article 5 from 'the Deerfield School Board are agents to expend these funds,' to 'the Deerfield School Board is the agent to expend these funds.'

Moderator: So, now, discussion on the amendment, is there any discussion required?

If there is no objection, we will adopt the amendment to change the language from 'are agents' to 'is the agent', is there any objection to this amendment? Seeing none, by unanimous consent, the

Deerfield School District Deliberative Session decides to amend Article 5 to 'the Deerfield School Board is the agent to expend these funds.'

Moderator: Further discussion or amendment of Article 5.

Mr. Gorman: Mr. Moderator, obviously, this is what happens when you have a room full of teachers.

Moderator: Further discussion. Seeing none, the Clerk will place the Article 5 on the ballot as corrected.

Moderator: Is there any further business to bring up today? This is the time.

Moderator: Is there a motion to adjourn?

Kevin Barry: I make a motion to adjourn.

Moderator: Is there a second?

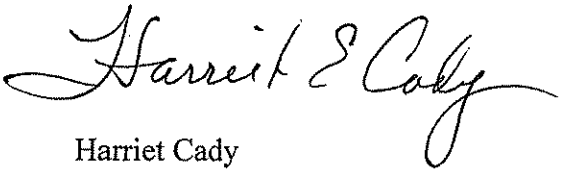
Don Gorman: Second.

Moderator: We move and seconded to adjourn this session of the Deerfield Deliberative Session. All those in favor say Aye.

Members: AYE

Moderator: Opposed no.  
The meeting stands adjourned at 9:55 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Harriet Cady  
Deerfield School District Clerk

Date: March 9, 2011