

Dover Warrant Committee

March 3, 2010

Members in attendance: David Stapleton, Chair; James Kinder, Vice Chair; Peter Smith, Secretary; Kate Bush; James Dawley; Kathy Hall; David Melville; Andrew Waugh; Jane Wemyss

Others in attendance: Mike Francis, Trustees of Reservations

Mr. Stapleton called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

1. Review of minutes

Mr. Waugh moved that the minutes of February 8 be approved, seconded by Mr. Kinder. The motion was approved unanimously.

2. Prior Notices and Reserve Fund Transfer Requests

The Highway Department has submitted a request for an additional \$100,000.00 for the Snow & Ice budget. From an original appropriation of \$197,272.00, plus an additional spending authorization of \$75,000 approved 2/1/10, \$253,967.86 has been spent so far this year, with \$47,881.46 in invoices still to be paid. Mr. Smith moved that the request be approved, seconded by Mr. Melville. The motion was approved by a vote of 8-1-0.

Reserve Fund Transfer Request from Highway Maintenance dated 2/22/10 for \$6,606.58 to “repair street sweeper”. A Prior Notice was acknowledged at the October 28 meeting. Mr. Kinder moved that the Committee approve the Request, seconded by Mr. Waugh. The motion was approved by a vote of 9-0-0.

Reserve Fund Transfer Request from Accounting – Professional Services dated 2/25/10 for \$5,000.00 “to cover expenses incurred by a consultant providing assistance in the Accounting Department until a permanent Town Accountant is hired.” Mr. Smith moved that the Committee approve the Request, seconded by Mr. Kinder. The motion was approved by a vote of 9-0-0.

3. Warrant Article to Amend Parking Bylaw

Mike Francis of the Trustees of Reservations presented the case for amending the Town’s bylaw on Recreational Parking in Residential Zoning District. The Trustees are proposing a new parking lot on Powissett St. to serve Noanet Woodlands. The existing bylaw would limit this lot to no more than 5 spaces, which could not be more than 100 feet from the road. The proposed change would allow recreational areas of more than 100 acres to have five parking places for each 100 full acre, and would lift the restriction that the parking area extend no more than 100 feet from the road.

Although there has been no formal study of usage, it is believed that most users of Noanet Woods either park at Caryl Park or on the shoulder of Powissett St. The ranger station which is currently in Caryl Park near the tennis courts would be moved to the new lot, which would be-

come the official entrance and parking area for the Woods. This would satisfy the Parks and Recreation Department's wish that the parking at Caryl Park be primarily for Park users.

The Trustees have received objections from abutters to the new lot, which they are trying to work through. At issue are increased traffic, keeping dogs under control, and an easement 400 feet around a well and spring. The Trustees have also met with the Planning Board, the Open Space Committee, and the Police Chief.

4. Warrant Article to Change Title of Assistant Assessor

Since Mr. Heinlein was unable to attend and explain the article, the matter was deferred to a later meeting.

5. Budget Discussion

The latest budget figures for the Regional Schools were passed out. The number of Dover and Sherborn students has shifted a little toward Sherborn, which changes the funding ratio. The wastewater treatment system is still an unknown cost, but will have to be addressed.

6. Liaison Updates

Mr. Smith (Highways): Norfolk County is extending the period before it locks in motor fuel for the next year, hoping for a better price than the latest bids.

Mr. Stapleton (Board of Appeals): The age restrictions at the Meadows of Dover and Dover Farms developments were lifted. The request for four houses on 0.6 acres at the old Citgo station on Rt. 109 was rejected.

Mr. Dawley (Open Space): The new Open Space Master Plan is up on the Town website.

*Mr. Smith moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Kinder;
the motion was agreed by consensus at 8:45 pm
the next meeting will be March 8 at 7:30 pm
at the Middle School Library
in conjunction with the Sherborn Advisory Committee
and the Regional Schools Committee*

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Smith, Secretary

approved March 10, 2010