



TOWN OF
BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
BOARD of SELECTMEN
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Minutes
Board of Selectmen
Monday, February 21, 2011

Selectmen Linda Saari, Clarence Farwell, Kevin Gorgoglione, Tad Putney and Jack Flanagan were present.

Linda said this meeting is not a regular selectmen's meeting as today is a holiday. The agenda posted was to sign a warrant and hold a non public session only. Since a petition was received since the last selectmen's meeting Tad will address the petition. **Tad** read the petition. The petition asked the Board to place Chief Quigley on administrative leave pending an investigation of the following issues:

1. "Possible wrongdoing in relation to the NH Retirement System in that Chief Quigley is working more hours than what is allowed. He is working in excess of 34 hours per week, calling it part-time and drawing on his retirement. This appears to be an attempt to defraud the retirement system." **Tad** said this issue is between the NH Retirement System and Chief Quigley but offered to contact the NHRS to find out how long this might take. The selectmen agreed that Tad should contact them.
2. "The fact that he hired a person with whom he has a personal relationship and has now moved her into the permanent position opened up by the resignation of Celia Lingley." **Tad** said the Board hired Donna as the Chief's assistant on a short term basis. He said he didn't like the perception it gave but the Board supported Bill. Tad said it was further validated when Celia resigned with no notice.
3. "The circumstances of the resignation of Celia Lingley, a long time employee of the Brookline Police Department." **Tad** said it's never a good thing when we lose a long time employee. He said he heard that Celia is working with another department and the selectmen wish her well. **Jack** said he also had reservations with hiring Donna but she is a very capable person.
4. "The possibility that Chief Quigley commutes to work from Weare, NH in a cruiser, accompanied by his personal assistant." **Tad** said he talked to Bill on Friday and he's hoping to be living on So. Main Street as soon as possible. He said he has no problem with Bill commuting and both he and Donna are assets to the town.
Tad said he's embarrassed to see Brookline in the newspaper but more embarrassed for Bill and Donna. **Jack** suggested the public take a breath and let the process take its course. **Linda** said there is no need to take any action on the petition. **Loring Webster** questioned whether the petition was legal. **Linda** explained that a legal petition to put something on the warrant needs to have a signature, printed name and address. **Betty** said she's concerned there was no public input on the agenda. **Linda** said she explained at the start of the meeting that because it's a holiday the selectmen were meeting only to sign a warrant and have a non public session. **Betty Hall** said she feels there needs to be better communication; the selectmen are not looking at circumstances on making non public minutes public.

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She said it puts the public out of the loop when minutes are not out to the public for a long time. **Linda** said every year before the town election the Board goes over all non public minutes to see what can be unsealed. She said the Police Chief Search Committee kept non public session minutes sealed because applicants may have had other jobs. Linda said she feels the Board has followed the RSA's when going into non public session and sealing minutes. **Jack** said RSA 91-A states exceptions on public minutes and asked Betty if she's accusing the Board of violating RSA 91-A. **Betty** said no.

RGGI Funding

Clarence moved, seconded by Kevin to accept the \$12,000 RGGI funds toward the energy project to update the lighting in town buildings. Voted yes 5-0.

Non Public Session

Linda moved, seconded by Tad to go into non public session under RSA 91-A: 3, II, (a). Voted yes 5-0.

On returning to public session, ***Linda moved, seconded by Clarence to seal the minutes. Voted yes 5-0.***

Gen. Business

Approved warrant for payment.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Minutes submitted by Rena Duncklee.

Linda A Saari

Clarence L. Farwell

Kevin J. Gorgoglione

Tad Putney

Jack B. Flanagan