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TOWN OF BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE BPW BUILDING COMMITTEE

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Minutes BPW Building Committee Thursday, March 11, 2021

Members present via Zoom: Eddie Arnold, Cindy LaCroix, Dana Ketchen, Brian Rater, Todd Croteau, Mike Wenrich and Tad Putney. Also present at the beginning of the meeting: Peter Cook.

Eddie called the meeting to order at 6:45 and said we were meeting under Executive Orders, which allow for remote meetings. Members all stated where they were located and that they were participating remotely due to COVID-19.

Minutes

Brian moved, seconded by Dana, to accept the February 18th meeting minutes as written; Roll Call Vote Yes 7-0.

Email from Eric Pauer

Tad read an email the committee members received from **Eric Pauer** regarding suggestions to the committee's presentation on the proposed facility. **Eddie** said he has modified the presentation speaker's notes to add detail on the rental savings that will be realized by the new facility. **Eddie** said he has also added information to the speaker's notes on the estimated annual operating costs for the building. **Tad** suggested adding a second bond expense slide that adds Brookline's portion of annual bond expenses for the COOP. **Eddie** and **Brian** agreed. **Cindy** said she can prepare another slide if **Tad** forwards the COOP bond data to her.

Public Forum

At 7:00pm **Eddie** welcomed approximately 10 residents who joined the meeting. **Eddie** went through the presentation the committee had prepared, including the additional speaker's notes he had added. At the conclusion of the presentation there were no questions.

Discussion of Town Meeting

Cindy suggested having a QR code available so attendees could pull the presentation up on their phone. Members agreed. It was also suggested that the presentation materials be made available on the town website in advance of the meeting. **Tad** said he will do so.

Bond Interest Rates

Tad said he was curious about the level of impact of bond interest rates on overall project costs, so he had reached out to the NH Bond Bank. He said our presentation is based on a bond with a 2.5% interest rate. He said the last 20-year bonds were issued at 1.68%, so we are

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using conservative assumptions. He noted rates are rising and he is concerned that waiting a year on the project would result in a higher interest rate. He said that every .25% increase in interest rate means a \$80,000-\$85,000 increase in total bond costs over the life of the bond. He said if waiting results in a one-half percent increase in rates, it will add about \$165,000 to the total costs of the project.

Renderings

Dana suggested that the two renderings we have of the facility should be placed in places that residents can see them prior to town meeting. She suggested putting one in **Patti's** area. **Brian** suggested putting the other at the post office. Members agreed. **Tad** said he will do so.

Next Meeting

It was agreed the next meeting will be the second public forum on Thursday, March 25th and beginning at 7pm. **Eddie** said if there is business for the committee to attend to prior to the public forum, we may start the meeting a little earlier.

Adjourned at 7:35pm.

Minutes submitted by Tad Putney.