



**TOWN OF
BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
SELECTBOARD**

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***Minutes
Selectboard
Tuesday, January 31, 2023***

Selectboard members present: Eddie Arnold, Brendan Denehy, Dana Ketchen, Steve Russo, and Ed Perry, along with Town Administrator Scott Butcher. Also present: Michele Decoteau, Fire Engineers, Dave Joki, Dave Santuccio, Dave Flannery, and Finance Committee members Brian Rater, Cindy Lacroix and (via Zoom) Tracy Perry.

6:16pm *Eddie opened the meeting and moved, seconded by Brendan, to go into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3 II (c) reputation and (l) legal; potentially others; Roll Call Vote Yes 5-0.*

7:05pm *It was moved, and seconded, to come out of non-public session and seal the minutes; Voted Yes 5-0.*

7:09pm **Brian Rater** called to order the Finance Committee.

Ambulance Service – Jeffrey Stewart

Proposed \$393,458

Fire Department - Fire Wards

Proposed \$470,950

Dana moved, seconded by Brendan, to reduce the Salaries Full-Time and Clerical to \$201,441; Voted Yes 4-1 Ed voted no.

Proposed \$459,955

Fire Truck Warrant Article

Proposed \$189,756

Eddie said the proposed warrant article states “To see if the Town will authorize a 5-year lease/purchase agreement for a total of \$850k for the purpose of leasing and equipping a new fire truck and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$189,756 for the first year’s payment. Payments for years two, three and four will be made from the operating budget and the final payment will be made from the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund . Said lease contains a fiscal funding clause which permits the termination of the lease on an annual basis should the funds necessary to make the required payments not be appropriated at town meeting”. **Dave Joki** said the Chief would like to do the same thing we did with the forestry truck which is lock in with a company instead of going out to bid. **Dave Santuccio** said companies are promising 24-30 months delivered, the company we received the quote from said 16 months. **Eddie** said so at this point, it hasn’t gone out to a competitive bid per the town’s purchasing policy. **Dave** said no it hasn’t. **Eddie** said he has concerns with not following the town’s purchasing policy for such a large purchase. **Dave Santuccio** said we will need a consultant to build the generic specifications the bid process requires which would increase our budget. **Eddie** said he can’t support the warrant article without the bid process being followed. **Dave Santuccio** said we can request the bids,

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but we may not see them by town meeting in March. **Dana** said the policy simply requires you to seek the bids. **Brendan moved, seconded by Steve, to amend the article to read “To see if the town will authorize the Selectboard to enter into a 5-year lease/purchase agreement for a total of \$850k for the purpose of leasing and equipping a new fire truck and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$189,756 for the first year’s payment (\$172, 000 to come from the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund and the remainder from general taxation). Payments for remaining years 2-5 will be made from the operating budget. Said lease contains a fiscal funding clause which permits the termination of the lease on an annual basis should the funds necessary to make the required payments not be appropriated at town meeting”; Voted Yes 5-0.**

Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund WA	Proposed \$ 50,000
Eddie said if the Fire Truck WA fails, he suggested a motion to increase this to \$100k.	

Planning & Zoning – Michele Decoteau	Proposed \$ 83,768
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Economic Development – Michele Decoteau	Proposed \$ 4,500
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Revaluation of Property – Peter Cook	Proposed \$ 39,874
Brendan moved, seconded by Ed, to increase the Contract Assessing Cyclical Inspections to \$42,844; Voted Yes 4-1, Dana voted no.	
	Proposed \$ 56,414

Building Inspection – Steve Sacherski	Proposed \$ 79,210
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WA Building Official FT Position 35 Hours at 9 Mo	Proposed \$ 18,824
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Conservation Commission – Dana Ketchen	Proposed \$ 44,500
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Financial Administration – Scott Butcher	Proposed \$240,936
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Personnel Administration – Scott Butcher	Proposed \$750,176
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Executive – Scott Butcher	Proposed \$310,486
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General Government Buildings	Proposed \$232,005
Add PW Building \$1k Add Library Building \$2k	Proposed \$235,005

Cable Access	Proposed \$ 43,925
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Insurance	Proposed \$101,660
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Regional Association	Proposed \$ 4,188
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Emergency Management	Proposed \$ 21,500
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Brendan moved, seconded by Steve, to seal the warrant in the amount of \$6,952,650 to be presented to the voters at town meeting in March 2023; Voted Yes 5-0.

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Warrant Articles

Operating Budget - \$6,952,650 ***4-1 Recommended by the Selectboard; 3-0 Recommended by the Finance Committee.***

Building Official Expand to full-time (9 months in 2023) \$18,824– ***5-0 Recommended by the Selectboard; 3-0 Recommended by the Finance Committee.***

Fire Truck 5-Year Lease– (1st Pmt 2023 \$172k from Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund and up to \$20k from general taxation) ***3-2 Recommended by the Selectboard; 3-0 Recommended by the Finance Committee.***

Town Facilities Capital Reserve Fund - \$200k ***Brendan moved, seconded by Steve, to amend the warrant article to read “to raise and appropriate the sum of \$200k to defray the cost of repairs to town buildings or take any action relative thereto. Any unspent funds to be placed into the Town Facilities Capital Reserve Fund”; Dana moved to amend the motion ”to raise and appropriate \$200k with \$100k coming from ARPA Grant Funds; there was no second, the original motion stands; Voted Yes 5-0. 4-1 Recommended by the Selectboard; 2-1 Recommended by the Finance Committee.***

Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund - \$50k ***5-0 Recommended by the Selectboard; 3-0 Recommended by the Finance Committee.***

Ambulance Expendable Trust Fund - \$3,525 (Donations 2022) ***5-0 Recommended by the Selectboard; 3-0 Recommended by the Finance Committee.***

Conservation Trail Maint Revolving Fund – (Revenues from Trail Related Events) ***5-0 Recommended by the Selectboard; 3-0 Recommended by the Finance Committee***

Standard Optional Veterans Tax Credit - ***4-1 Recommended by the Selectboard; 3-0 Recommended by the Finance Committee.***

All Veterans Tax Credit – ***3-2 Not Recommended by the Selectboard; No Vote from the Finance Committee.***

Disability Exemption – ***5-0 Recommended by the Selectboard; 3-0 Recommended by the Finance Committee.***

Blind Exemption – ***5-0 Recommended by the Selectboard; 3-0 Recommended by the Finance Committee.***

Elderly Exemption – ***5-0 Recommended by the Selectboard; 3-0 Recommended by the Finance Committee.***

10:54pm Finance Committee Adjourned.

10:55pm Eddie moved, seconded by Brendan, to go into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3 II (c)reputation and (l)legal and potentially others; Roll Call Vote Yes 5-0.

10:59pm Eddie moved, seconded by Brendan, to come out of non-public session and seal the minutes; Roll Call Vote Yes 5-0.

11:00pm Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Sharon Sturtevant.

Eddie Arnold

Brendan Denehy

Dana Ketchen

Steve Russo

Ed Perry