



**TOWN OF
BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
SELECTBOARD**

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*Minutes
Selectboard
Thursday June 15, 2017*

Selectboard members present: John Carr, Tom Humphreys, Val Ogden, Eddie Arnold and Brendan Denehy (by phone) along with Town Administrator Tad Putney. Also present: Finance Committee Member Brian Rater.

9:00am John opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Discuss Sidewalk Project Update and Additional Loam Needed

Tad said the reason for this emergency meeting is to address the sidewalk project and an issue that has come to our attention related to loam. We have two letters that were forwarded to the Board yesterday afternoon from Hayner/Swanson, the construction engineer. The first letter lays out the issue of an overage of loam stating the quantity of loam to be put in place was estimated by Meridian at 290 cubic yards but as of yesterday we hit that limit and we may need up to 285 additional cubic yards. There isn't a change order needed as NHDOT is allowing us to use the funds in the "landscaping" bid item to cover these costs. However, given the fact that it is an increase **Tad** wanted to bring it to the Board's attention. **Tad** said the reason he did not want to wait until Monday's meeting is because the contractor will reduce the price from \$25 to \$22 per cubic yard if he can continue working today, and that is a savings of about \$850. Additionally, **Tad** said the letter recommends we use hydro-seed for a better result at a cost of \$1,800 in place of seed and mulch which would have cost \$1,800 – no change in cost. **Tad** said the second letter provides an estimate of the overall project costs. Based on the latest projections, the total shortfall in town appropriated funds is estimated at \$11,322. **Tad** said he is hopeful that we will end the project under that figure. **Tom** asked where the money would come from. **Tad** said from other areas of the budget that have been underspent. **Eddie** asked if the \$22/yard price for loam included the installation. **Tad** said yes it does. **Eddie** suggested putting the \$1,800 for the hydro-seed toward the shortfall and let the weeds grow on the sidewalk strip. **Tad** said the grass is needed for erosion control. **Val** said she drove down Old Milford Road a few weeks ago and the dirt was all washed away. **Tad** said the erosion happened before loam was put down and was a result of the required silt bags in the catch basins being full of silt and not draining. They have been removed. **Val** asked if hydro-seeding has already been done on Old Milford Road. **Tad** said yes it has. **Val** asked if it make sense to hydro-seed or just seed? **Eddie** said hydro-seed will take hold better than just seed. **Eddie** asked what the contractor's square foot price was for hydro-seed? **Tad** will find out and advise the Board. **Eddie** said it should be


around \$0.10. **Tad** asked if the board agrees to accept the proposed overage in loam. **Eddie** feels things should be thought out better in the engineering phase to get a handle on these overages. **Tad** said if we were to do a project like this again we will do test pits. **Eddie** feels that we should hire an engineering firm that can plan to avoid these mistakes. **John** stated that we need to get tougher in our written agreements. **Brendan** stated by phone, having seen projects and development in Town in the past, there have been changes with other engineering firms as well. **John** said we as a town are not seeing business growth and we should stop spending on these projects. **Eddie** asked how we can ask the **Town** to appropriate funds without bids. **Tad** said we estimate based on actual costs of past similar projects. **Eddie** is very concerned that we are doing too much with the sidewalks. **Tad** said he spoke with Linda Chomiak of the Finance Committee and she said she will put together a template for future warrant articles. **Val** said that the agreement with the contractor has an allowances clause. She also suggests they keep a project diary to reflect all activity good and bad. **Tad** said the construction engineer on site is keeping a project diary. **Val** asked why Meridian's detailed topographic survey did this not pick up the loam issue. **Tad** said it showed a picture of the slope of the ground but did not look at what is underneath the surface. **Val** stated that in the agreement there is also a correction period good for one year after project completion. **Val** asked does the contractor guarantee the work. **Tad** said there is a bond in place. **Tad** stated he has been very pleased with the response to questions and details from this contractor. **Val** said she has a hard time reconciling the extra loam from excavation being given to **Jerry Farwell** and now we have a loam problem and it is needed. **Tad** said it cut out the expense of trucking it elsewhere and therefore saved money. ***Eddie moved, seconded by Tom, to allow the construction company to utilize no more than 285 additional cubic yards of loam for the sidewalk project at a rate of \$22 per cubic yard with the Town paying only for what we use; Voted by roll call, Brendan Yes, John Yes, Val No, Tom Yes, Eddie Yes.***

Eddie moved, seconded by Brendan, to adjourn; Voted Yes 5-0. Adjourned at 9:22.

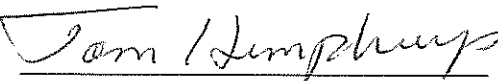
Minutes submitted by Sharon Sturtevant.




John Carr



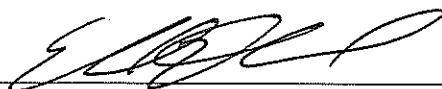
Brendan Denehy



Tom Humphreys



Val Ogden



Eddie Arnold