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## TOWN OF BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE SELECTBOARD

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### Minutes Selectboard – Public Hearing Tuesday, February 20, 2018

Selectboard members present: John Carr, Brendan Denehy, Tom Humphreys, Val Ogden and Eddie Arnold along with Town Administrator Tad Putney. Also present: Ann Somers, Loring Webster, Jack Flanagan, Buddy Dougherty, Drew Kellner, Jay Kramarczyk, Francis Gavin, Lisa Shutt, Judy and Peter Cook, Trish McCubrey and Acting Ambulance Director Jan Watt.

7:00 pm – **John** opened the hearing with the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### Public Hearing - Ambulance

**Jack** said the Ambulance Service has done a great job over the years. He acknowledged there has been some recent discussion about billing for ambulance services and suggested we should charge for anyone living outside of Brookline and put the money in a fund for new ambulances and equipment. He also said he would not want to combine the ambulance with the fire department.

Tad explained that last Thursday we walked through five or six items with Ambulance personnel. There were decisions made to separate the Emergency Management Director from Ambulance Director and also to keep the Ambulance separate from the Fire Department. He said that next there was discussion about updates to the Ambulance Director job description, which we hope to finalize tonight and, finally, a decision to provide interim staffing from existing BAS staff to help Jan until a new ambulance director is in place.

**Buddy** said he would not like to see the ambulance under the fire department as then the Selectboard would lose control of the Ambulance Service. He also suggested the police chief and fire chief would be in a good position to serve as Emergency Management Director. **John** said the Emergency Management Director will likely be separate from Ambulance/Fire/Police.

Judy asked when the Emergency Management Director will be hired. John said the Emergency Management Director will be hired after the Ambulance Director. Judy asked where we will get the money to pay the Emergency Management Director and said that new positions have historically been voted on at town meeting. Tad said we are not looking at a full-time Emergency Management position, but rather a stipended position that can be paid for within the budget. Judy said it needs to be voted on at town meeting. John stopped her. Peter left the meeting. Judy made comments about

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members of the Board. **John** said Judy must leave or he would call to have her leave. **Judy** said she would not leave.

Jack said there was money already in the budget for the Emergency Management position. Tad responded that there is already about \$10,000 in the Emergency Management budget for "salaries" and that while there is a history of voting for new positions at town meeting, we recently added a Food Pantry Coordinator position, including a stipend, and it was just included in the operating budget. John called for a police officer to respond to the town hall. John asked if there was any further public input. There was none. *Val moved*, seconded by Tom, to end the public hearing; *Voted Yes 3-2. Brendan and Eddie voted no.* 

Hearing closed at 7:14pm.

Minutes submitted by Sharon Sturtevant.

John Carr

Tom Humphreys

Zalania Onda

Éddie Arnold