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# TOWN OF BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE SELECTBOARD

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Minutes Selectboard Monday, April 23, 2018

Selectboard members present: Brendan Denehy, Tom Humphreys, Val Ogden, Eddie Arnold and Ron Olsen along with Town Administrator Tad Putney.

Also present: Ann Somers, Loring Webster, Linda Chomiak, Brian Rater, Jim Solinas, Roger Ogden, Peter Cook, Tom Solon, Charlie Corey, David Flannery, David Santuccio, David Joki, and Brett Hall.

6:30pm **Brendan** opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### Public Input

**Ann** said there was an interesting article in the Sunday Boston Globe about town moderators and town meetings. It was about Massachusetts, but it was a fun read.

#### **Approve Minutes**

Eddie moved, seconded by Tom, to approve the public minutes from the April 9, 2018 meeting as amended; Voted Yes 5-0. Eddie moved, seconded by Ron, to approve four sets of non public minutes from the April 9, 2018 meeting as written; Voted Yes 5-0.

#### Sign Warrants

The Board signed Accounts Payable Warrant #17 in the amount of \$52,701.10, the 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration Warrant in the amount of \$199.29, Payroll Warrant #18 in the amount of \$52,406.13 and the Police Detail Warrant in the amount of \$973.75.

#### Review and Discuss readopting Investment Policy

Ron moved, seconded by Val, to readopt the annual investment policy as written; Voted Yes 5-0.

#### **Update on the Scheduling of Annual Meetings**

Tad said at a recent Selectboard meeting it was suggested we reach out to the Superintendent of the SAU and the Town Administrator in Hollis to see about spreading out the annual meetings next March a little bit more than they were last month. Tad said he met with Superintendent Corey and his counterpart in Hollis recently. He said Superintendent Corey feels that the Coop meeting should follow town meeting because he thinks residents would prefer knowing what was approved at Town meeting when voting at the Coop meeting. Tad said, subject to the Superintendent's review with the Coop Board, we are penciling in the first week in

March for the Hollis School District meeting, the second week in March for all day voting and Brookline town meeting and the third week in March for the Coop meeting. **Tad** said we could continue with all day voting Tuesday and Town Meeting Wednesday or, as some have asked, move town meeting to the Saturday of that week. He said he heard in the past the turnout was not measurably higher when it was tried on a Saturday. **Brendan** suggested talking to residents in town for their input. **Tad** asked when the Board would like to revisit this issue and make a decision for next March's meeting. **Brendan** suggested October and the Board agreed.

#### **Old Business**

### **Chapel Side Entrance Door Refinishing**

Tad said Ann checked references for Lori Welch who was the preferred bidder for refinishing the Chapel side entrance door. Ann reported that the references came back very positive. Ron moved, seconded by Eddie, to accept the bid of \$980.60 from Lori Welch to refinish the Chapel side entrance door; voted Yes 4-0-1 Val abstained.

## Speed Limit Signs on Mason Road

Loring said there appears to be a discrepancy between the eastbound side and the westbound side of Mason Road near Route 13. It is 20mph eastbound on the bridge and 30mph westbound, which makes no sense. Loring said he proposes that we consider moving the existing westbound 30mph sign to the other side of the bridge, opposite Potanipo Hill Road. Ron said it makes sense to him. Tad said the road is managed by the state in the summer and the town in the winter. He said he will first speak with the Road Agent about moving the sign. Val asked if we should consider a blinking light at the crosswalk. Eddie said the state is trying to limit the number of blinking signs. Tad said we can certainly ask the engineering firm to consider it as part of the pedestrian bridge project, which will include the addition of a crosswalk.

#### **Loren Martin re Town Revaluation**

Loren Martin said Avitar is analyzing sales now and will be doing more outside assessing in May. She said we should expect to see values increase 20%-30% from the last revaluation five years ago. Preliminary notices of value should be done and mailed to residents by late May. Loren said Avitar will set up appointments if there are issues with homeowners or data errors. She noted that if assessed values increase, the tax rate will decrease. Tad said this is a good time to encourage residents to check their tax card to make sure its content is correct and the tax card information is available on line. Tom Solon asked if Hollis was being assessed this year. Loren said most likely they are.

#### Authorize Trustees to Open New Account for New Expendable Trust Fund

Tad said a new expendable trust fund needs to be set up as a result of the Brookline School District approving a new fund for special education. Tad said the chair of the governing board needs to sign the form confirming the names of the Trustees of the Trust Funds. Ron moved, seconded by Val, to authorize Brendan to sign the form verifying that Melanie Levesque and Rodney Lockwood are Trustees of the Trust Funds; Voted Yes 5-0.

#### Fire Command Car

Brendan said last year during the budget process the Fire Department put in their budget a three-year lease payment for a command car. It went through the budget hearings and was approved at Town Meeting. At the last Board meeting the Selectboard received the lease packet and there were some questions from the Board, so we asked the Fire Chief and the Fire Wards to come in and have a discussion. Brendan asked about the purpose of the command car and what materials it will have in it. Charlie said it is a multi-agency vehicle command center so in the case of an active shooter, for example, we have more radio communication capabilities than we have now. It will have boards and accountability equipment because we will be working more across all three agencies. Charlie said you can't really use this equipment in your personal car because you would have to be moving it in and out all of the time. He said in the past, all other leases that he's done he's brought to the budget hearings, then to Town meeting, and once approved he orders the item the next day which is what was done in this case. David Santuccio said the command car connects everyone, it's a central command center for Police, Fire, and Ambulance communications plus mutual aid from other towns, hazmat teams, etc. He said by law the Incident Commander takes charge of communications which is typically Charlie or the next highest ranking officer. Charlie said "active shooter" 30 years ago was unheard of, but now it's different. Eddie asked what would have been different at the Bingham fire if they had a command car. David Santuccio said it would have allowed us to have one unified channel, saving time with simpler communication across the board. Eddie asked, other than cost, are there any other reasons to buy new and not upgrade for instance a retired police cruiser. David Santuccio said reliability and you can be talking life and death here. Eddie asked how often will it be used. Charlie said the command car goes to every call if there are enough available people. Ron asked if this is a three-year lease that once it's paid we own. Charlie said yes and just so everyone knows, this is 4.06% of our budget. Linda asked, with this purchase, is there a possibility of an insurance liability premium reduction. Charlie said probably not. Linda said would it reduce any insurance whether it be town or schools. Tad said he will ask Primex. Brendan said we need to remind the town that the town's insurance has gone from a 9 rating to 8B, which can result in reduced homeowner's insurance depending on the company. Val said if it is for multi-agency use, is there any reason why a grant for Emergency Management can't be obtained. Charlie said we would not get a grant for it as the State will help towns but they won't subsidize them. Val asked if this is replacing a vehicle we currently have. Charlie said no. Loring explained the difference between an active incident and the emergency operations center (EOC). David Santuccio said the command vehicle is for the active incident on site, the emergency operations center (EOC) handles everything else. Val said all of this information would have been helpful to have at the budget hearings, so when you come in the fall to begin the budget process more information is better. David Santuccio said all of these questions were asked and answered at the budget hearings last fall. Ron moved, seconded by Val, to authorize Brendan to sign the three-year lease for the purchase of the Fire Department command car; Voted Yes 4-0-1 Eddie abstained.

#### **Transfer Station Charter**

Tad said at the last meeting there was preliminary discussion of the Transfer Station charter and consideration given to having either two or four at-large residents on the committee. He said six residents have expressed interest in serving on the committee. The Board reviewed the names and emails from residents who expressed interest in serving on the committee. Eddie said Joan Cudworth is the Supervisor in Hollis and she has made some major improvement and has the expertise, so he would like to see her on the committee. Val agreed. Brendan suggested we could go with all six on the committee. Tad said he felt that would be too large a group. Eddie said he would support having Peter Lemay on the committee. Val said she would like to have Mr. Wadsworth. Eddie said Kel Bachus is very interested. Brendan said Peter Cook has a lot of experience on town committees over the years. Jim questioned having Joan on the committee and said he would like to see residents who use the transfer station on the committee. Val said Joan has made a lot of improvements to the Hollis Transfer Station. Eddie said she also has the experience of making the changes. Loring said having so many interested in serving is a nice problem to have. Jim said he would be happy with all six residents on the committee. Ron said he likes that idea. Brendan said he would like to modify the charter to be a total of eleven members with six at-large residents. Eddie, Tom and Val disagreed and want to keep the committee to a total of nine members. Eddie moved, seconded by Val, to have Joan Cudworth, Kel Bachus, Peter Lemay, and Guy Wadsworth as at-large members on the committee; Voted 3-1-1 with Ron voting "no" and Tom "abstaining".

#### **Metropolitan Transportation Plan**

Tad said that Friday is the deadline for submitting transportation projects to be considered for the state's 10-Year Plan. He said he has completed the submission for the safety improvements discussed at the last meeting for the intersection of South Main Street and Route 13. He noted that he found a 2007 NRPC report that included similar recommendations and he has included it in the submission. Eddie asked where the project's estimated costs came from. Tad said they are based on recent intersection-related projects that have been done or are planned in Brookline. Eddie said he thinks it would be an easy project and could be done sooner and for less money. Tad said he is meeting with an engineering firm tomorrow on a different project and he will seek their input on the project cost estimates prior to submitting the project.

#### Discuss Next Steps for Melendy Pond Evaluation Committee II

**Brendan** suggested the Board members review last year's committee report as the basis for a discussion at our next meeting regarding establishing another committee. **Tom Solon** suggested that if a new committee is formed that it be tasked with specific deliverables. **Brendan** asked **Tad** to resend to the Board members both the recent committee report and the minutes of the January Board meeting where the report was presented.

#### **Discuss Elderly Housing**

Eddie said he would like to see a study committee created to look at what can be done in the area of elderly housing. Peter Cook said that he and Tad have kicked this around for about three years. He said one of the best ways to address the issue is to

make the elderly exemption significantly more generous by increasing the income and/or asset thresholds. **Peter** said the asset threshold was slightly increased in 2017, but greater change is needed to extend it to a greater portion of residents. **Peter** noted that a challenge to increasing elderly housing is finding a builder to build it. **Tad** said that he thinks the elderly exemption is a good lever for assisting on elderly housing concerns and that a study committee would not be necessary. **Eddie** noted that modifications to the elderly exemption would allow residents to remain in their own homes. **Tad** suggested a potential next step is collecting data on the elderly exemption levels of other towns. **Eddie** said that he would like to see the information for comparative towns. **Peter** said he will get updated data on other towns and share it with the Selectboard.

#### Review Mail Folder

Eddie read a resignation letter from Mary Bunker regarding her role as Welfare Officer and thanked her for her service. Town Clean Up Week is from April 21 – April 29. There was a letter from Solitude notifying abutters that Lake Potanipo will be treated for milfoil later this year with the date to be determined.

Brendan moved, seconded by Eddie, to move into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3 II; Roll Call Vote Yes 5-0.

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

Eddie moved, seconded by Val, to adjourn; Voted Yes 5-0.

Adjourned at 8:58pm.

Minutes submitted by Sharon Sturtevant.

Brendan Denehy

Com Humphreys

Eddie Amold

Valerie Oeden

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Ron Olsen

Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount
1010 · G	eneral Che	ecking Acc't		- Letter
04/23/201	51641	Absolute Mechanical Syste	W#17-2018	-130.00
04/23/201	51642.	AFSCME Council 93	W#17-2018	-251.46
04/23/201	51643	AppRiver LLC	W#17-2018	-536.80
04/23/201	51644	Avitar Assoc of New Engla	W#17-2018	-9,558.32
04/23/201	51645	Beltronics Inc	W#17-2018	-200.00
04/23/201	51646	Business Card	W#17-2018	-533.20
04/23/201	51647	C L Farwell Construction L	W#17-2018	-17,395.13
04/23/201	51648	Charter Communications	W#17-2018	-320.35
04/23/201	51649	D.C. Slocomb Co	W#17-2018	-1,520.10
04/23/201	51650	David Cook	W#17-2018	-140.66
04/23/201	51651	DeMoulas Supermarkets Inc	W#17-2018	-149.86
04/23/201	51652	Drescher & Dokmo	W#17-2018	-481.75
04/23/201	51653	East Coast Emergency Ou	W#17-2018	-197.95
04/23/201	51654	Education & Professional	W#17-2018	-24.00
04/23/201	51655	Eversource	W#17-2018	-924.89
04/23/201	51656	Fire Tech & Safety of NE	W#17-2018	-840.00
04/23/201	51657	Gall's Inc	W#17-2018	-12.91
04/23/201	51658	Granite State Concrete Co	W#17-2018	-436.26
04/23/201	51659	Hallmark Copier Co Inc	W#17-2018	-350.00
04/23/201	51660	Health Trust Inc	W#17-2018	-30.00
04/23/201	51661	Maynard & Lessieur Inc	W#17-2018	-1,064.16
04/23/201	51662	MD's Trash Removal Inc	W#17-2018	-230.00
04/23/201	51663	Metropolitan Life	W#17-2018	-1,600.00
04/23/201	51664	Mitchell Municipal Group,	W#17-2018	-35.43
04/23/201	51665	NH Dept. of Health & Hum	W#17-2018	-444.00
04/23/201	51666	Physio-Control Inc	W#17-2018	-2,856.00
04/23/201	51667	POSTMASTER-Brookline,	W#17-2018	-144.00 -376.20
04/23/201	51668	R H. Austin Plumbing & Ht	W#17-2018	
04/23/201	51669	RMG Enterprise LLC	W#17-2018	-3,450.00 -46.87
04/23/201		Russell Haight	W#17-2018 W#17-2018	-40.67 -1,000.00
04/23/201	51671	Solitude Lake Management	W#17-2018	-1,860.00
04/23/201	51672	Spaulding Hill Networks, L		-1,800.00 -474.85
04/23/201	51673	St Joseph Business & Hea	W#17-2018 W#17-2018	-656.20
04/23/201	51674	Staples Credit Plan	W#17-2018	-75.00
04/23/201	51675	State of NH-Criminal Reco	W#17-2018	-45.00
04/23/201	51676	State of NH - DMV	W#17-2018	-184.40
04/23/201	51677	Syncb/Amazon Tad Putney	W#17-2018 W#17-2018	-15.99
04/23/201	51678	,	W#17-2018	-157.66
04/23/201	51679 51680	TDS Telecom Town Hall Streams	W#17-2018 W#17-2018	-250.00
04/23/201	51680 51681	Town of Hollis	W#17-2018	-1,000.00
04/23/201	51681 51682	Two Dave's Auto Inc	W#17-2018	-73.50
04/23/201 04/23/201	51683	U.S. Cellular	W#17-2018	-263.76
	51684	WEX Bank - Sunoco Sun	W#17-2018	-1,552.19
04/23/201	J100 <del>4</del>	VVLA DAIN - SUILOGO SUIT	ννπ 11-2010	1,002.10

# Town of Brookline, NH W#17-2018

Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount
04/23/201	51685	Wilson's Ground Maintena	W#17-2018	-812.25
Total 101	-52,701.10			
TOTAL	-52,701.10			

Drew on Devel

Jan Humphings

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