

Town of Brookfield Selectboard Meeting
Monday, May 13, 2024
6:30 pm
Brookfield Town Office, 40 Ralph Road, Brookfield, VT

MINUTES

Present: John Benson, Selectboard Chair; Stuart Edson, Curtis Koren, Laura Rochat, Keith Sprague member of the Selectboard. Vicki Blanchard, Administrative Assistant. Carol Monness, Town Clerk; Kristi Ehlers, Treasurer; Amy Ingrassia, Assistant Treasurer. Gwynn Zakov, Planning Commission; Sheriff Russ Hotchkiss.

A. Call to Order – Mr. Benson called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

B. Adjustments to Agenda – Move New Business up under Public Comments.

C. Public Comments

1. Tax Sale – Carol Monness had talked to Michael Monte the Town Attorney regarding Jeffrey Wood who has passed away and neither sister or brother want anything to do with his property which is only .42 acres on Route 14 going south. The taxes left on it are \$43.98 and his sister will not pay them. Mr. Monte gave a few ideas of how to handle this and the Board decided to have Ms. Monness see if this could be deeded over to the neighbor Mr. Keith Galant.

2. Office Equipment – Kristi Ehlers and Carol Monness asked the Board if they could purchase a Postage Meter. The Board asked Ms. Monness to get more information on the cost so they can make a decision. Ms. Ehlers also asked if the due date for May taxes could be changed to May 15th and if that had to be done at Town Meeting and the answer is yes. They would also like to have printed signs made.

3. Sheriff Russ Hotchkiss stopped to introduce himself as the new Orange County sheriff. If you see him parked and want to say Hi feel free and be sure to wave. His cell number is: 802-261-7908

4. Planning Commission voted to recommend that the Selectboard appoint Sandra McLaughlin to one of the two seats on the Planning Commission and Gwynn Zakov stopped in to support her. Mr. Sprague made a motion to appoint Sandra McLaughlin to the Planning Commission, Ms. Rochat seconded the motion which carried unanimously 5-0-0.

D. Payroll and AP Warrants – Ms. Koren made a motion to accept the May 13, 2024 Payroll and AP Warrants as presented for a total of \$34,969.11 with the largest payment being made to Blue Cross Blue Shield for medical insurance in the amount of \$6,580.35. Mr. Sprague seconded the motion which carried unanimously 5-0-0

E. Highway Report – Mr. Sprague reported that Austin Wheatley had his 6 month review which went very well. He also reported that numerous roads were being graded as well as ditching. The Town is going to be looking for a new place to purchase sand this year. There was a washout on Taylor Hill that was fixed and Mr. Sprague will look into a

problem on Devin Croyley's property on Eagle Peak. The road crew will also be putting up new signs and begin work on Howe Road and Witts Bridge and other culverts.

F. New Business –

1. Planning Commission - Moved to just under Public Comments

2. Zoning Administrator – Mike Fiorillo sent a letter of Resignation as Zoning Administration to the Selectboard and stated that Steve Reid would be taking his place. Mr. Benson made a motion to accept the Resignation of Mike Fiorillo and appoint Steve Reid as the new Zoning Administrator. Ms. Koren seconded the motion which carried unanimously 5-0-0

G. Old Business – none

H. Meeting Minutes – April 22, 2024 – Ms. Koren made a motion to accept the April 22, 2024 minutes as presented. Mr. Edson seconded the motion which carried unanimously 5-0-0

I. Other Proper Business

1. Public Assemblage Permits – There were eleven permits that were submitted, one from the Kimball Library and the other 10 from the Brookfield Community Partnership. Mr. Benson made a motion to approve the Assemblage permits as submitted. Ms. Koren seconded the motion which carried unanimously 5-0-0

2. Access Permits – There were four Application for Access Permits that Ms. Ingrassia submitted on behalf of Jack Zebora which have been approve by the Road Foreman Tim Higgins. Mr. Benson made a motion to approve the Application for Access Permits as presented. Mr. Edson seconded the motion which carried unanimously 5-0-0

J. Status Report – none

Mr. Benson made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:50 pm. Mr. Edson seconded the motion which carried unanimously 5-0-0

Mr. Benson made motion to come out of Executive Session at 9:00 pm. Mr. Edson seconded the motion which carried unanimously 5-0-0

K. Adjournment – Mr. Benson made a motion to adjourn at 9:05 pm, Ms. Koren seconded the motion and there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Blanchard
Administrative Assistant