

Town of Brookfield Selectboard Meeting

Monday July 8, 2024

6:30 pm

Brookfield Town Office, 40 Ralph Road, Brookfield, VT

MINUTES

Present: John Benson, Selectboard Chair; Keith Sprague, Stuart Edson, Laura Rochat, Curtis Koren members of the Selectboard. Vicki Blanchard, Administrative Assistant. Amy Ingrassia, Thomas Garbitelli

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

All meetings from now on will be recorded and posted on the Town website for 30 days.

B. Adjustments to Agenda – none

C. Public Comments – Tom Garbitelli has replaced Amy Ingrassia as Brookfield’s Assistant Treasurer and Mr. Benson made a motion to delete her name and add that of Mr. Garbitelli on the town’s Bar Harbor bank account. Ms. Koren seconded the motion which carried unanimously 5-0-0.

Mr. Garbitelli spoke up to say that he felt the Selectboard did not treat Ms. Ingrassia well when she left the Assistant Treasurer position.

Mr. Garbitelli also recommended that the Selectboard enforce permits as well as delinquent taxes being paid in full. He mentioned an online payment process for the Town; this is currently being researched by Town officials.

D. Payroll and AP Warrants –AP Warrants - Ms. Rochat made a motion to accept the July 10, 2024 AP Warrants as presented for a total of \$261,861.88 with the largest amount paid to Hebert Excavation Corp. for \$72,250. Mr. Edson seconded the motion which carried unanimously 4-0-0.

Ms. Rochat made another motion to accept the July 8, 2024 AP Warrants as presented for a total of \$85,551.74 with the largest being made to R. E. Tucker for gravel in the amount of \$27,608.00. Mr. Edson seconded the motion which carried unanimously 5-0-0

E. Highway Report – Mr. Sprague reported that most of the previous week’s work was related to damages from the July 2023 FEMA storm. The road crew also worked on culverts on Eagle Peak and East Hill. The Bear Hill culvert project will begin July 15, 2024, when a portion of the road will be closed at the beginning of the northern part of Bear Hill. More information is on the Town website. Mr. Sprague is waiting for a quote from AJ Galifetti for work that needs to be done on the Ridge Road near the former book publishing property. The State reported to the Selectboard that a culvert in Brookfield regarding Brookfield ER P23-1(698), Parcel #2 needed to be replaced on Route 14 and requested a Construction Easement on Old Post Road. The Board approved as long as residents along that road were able to use the road. Mr. Benson made a motion to adopt a new Certificate for Road and Bridge Standards for 2024. Mr. Edson seconded the motion which carried unanimously 5-0-0.

F. New Business - none

G. Old Business

H. Meeting Minutes – June 24, 2024 – Ms. Rochat made a motion to accept the June 24, 2024 minutes as presented. Mr. Edson seconded the motion which carried unanimously 5-0-0

I. Other Proper Business

1. Public Assemblage Permits- Mr. Edson made a motion to accept all eleven permits requested from the Brookfield Community Partnership for events at the Old Town Hall. Ms. Rochat seconded the motion which carried unanimously 5-0-0

2. Certification of Compliance – See Highway Report

3. State of Vermont – Regarding Brookfield ER P23-1(698), Parcel

#2 – Town of Brookfield – See Highway Report

4. The Vermont State Police in Royalton sent notice of a meeting on July 22, 2024 regarding upcoming elections and security. Mr. Benson recommended that Lew Stowell, a member of Brookfield’s Public Safety Advisory Committee, participate in the meeting. Mr. Edson will contact Mr. Stowell.

5. New open meeting law update – Mr. Edson reported that as of January 1, 2025 every Vermont town must have either phone or zoom capability for public access. Towns will also be required to post online the process for filing a complaint regarding open access to a

meeting. Mr. Edson has already posted this online.

6. Road classifications – Mr. Edson will talk to Mr. Higgins regarding the most important roads to start with. January 1, 2025.

J. Status Report – none

Mr. Benson made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:50 pm to discuss a personnel issue. Ms. Rochat seconded the motion which carried unanimously 5-0-0

Mr. Benson made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:30 pm.

Mr. Edson seconded the motion which carried unanimously 5-0-0

K. Adjournment – Mr. Sprague made a motion to adjourn at 8:32pm., Ms. Koren seconded the motion and there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was unanimously adjourned.