

Town of Brookfield Selectboard Meeting

Monday August 12, 2024

Brookfield Town Office, 40 Ralph Road, Brookfield, VT

MINUTES

Present: John Benson, Selectboard Chair; Stuart Edson, Laura Rochat, Selectboard members. Curtis Koren and Keith Sprague did not attend. Vicki Blanchard, Administrative Assistant. Rory Barden, Maddy Wennestrom, Amy Ingrassia.

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

B. Adjustments to the Agenda – none

C. Public Comments – Rory Barden wanted to talk about her situation on Cram Hill and Mr. Benson stated that the Board had been advised not to respond to her per the Town lawyer advice. She asked if she could speak and update the Board as to what was going on and Mr. Benson said yes. She explained that nothing had changed in and that the problem still was on going. She stated that the Town lawyer was not responding to any calls she was making and these problems have gone on now for two years. Mr. Benson said that the Board would contact Mike Monte the Town lawyer and that someone would let her know the results.

Ms. Ingrassia attended to find out why her exact words from the July 8, 2024 Selectboard meeting were not in the minutes and was told by Vicki that she does a summary of the minutes because it is impossible to get every word so if you want people to know exactly what you said to have them go on out website and listen to the July 8, 2024 recorded audible minutes.

Mr. Benson made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue at 6:40 pm. Ms. Rochat seconded the motion which carried unanimously 3-0-0

Mr. Benson made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 7:00 pm, Mr. Edson seconded the motion which carried unanimously 3-0-0

D. Payroll and AP Warrants – Mr. Edson made a motion to accept the August 12, 2024 AP Warrants as presented for a total of \$401,614.82 with the largest amount going to Conniff Custom Building for \$157,754.65. Ms. Rochat seconded the motion which carried unanimously 3-0-0

E. Highway Report – Mr. Sprague sent in his report and stated that all FEMA top coat work has been finished. There will be more after culvert work is completed on certain roads.

- Richie's truck has had broken springs which were fixed at McCloud's and the other older truck has a front rearend differential that's bad and that is going to be fixed at B&G repair in Williamstown (another costly repair of \$7,500.00)
- The culvert work on Bear Hill has been completed
- Work is also complete on Taylor Hill, material was put on Class 4 section of Taylor Hill as well as down at the Route 14 cemetery.
- A wheeled excavator has been rented for the Howe Road grant project, which Mr. Higgins is expecting to start on Monday the 12th. He estimates that it will take 3-4 weeks to complete.
- The new truck is scheduled to be shipped to Tenco by the end of September and scheduled to be completed by the end of October.
- Mr. Wheatley has committed to work this winter for the Town, starting December 15th through March 15th. Mr. Higgins and Mr. Hamblin are very appreciative of this.
- There has been a Facebook account setup to be able to send the road crew position out to everyone.
- Adam Stone has been asking about the Town purchasing a road side mower and tractor that he has which is something to Town is considering.
- Mr. Higgins has put together a list of all projects that will need to be completed before winter. Mr. Higgins feels that he will need to rent the excavator one more time to be able to complete these projects.

F. New Business – none

G. Old Business

1. Town Plan – The Board discussed some of the sections but will go through it more in detail when it is finished.

H. Meeting Minutes – July 22, 2024 – Ms. Rochat made a motion to accept the July 22, 2024 minutes as amended. Mr. Edson seconded the motion which carried unanimously 3-0-0

I. Other Proper Business

1. New Tax Rate – tabled

2. Safe combination – The Board gave approval to have Daniel Boone from Boone's Locksmith Shop out of Randolph to go ahead and change the combination of the walk in vault.

J. Status Report – none

K. Adjournment – Mr. Benson made a motion to adjourn at 7:40 pm, Ms. Rochat seconded the motion and there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was unanimously adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Vicki Blanchard

Administrative Assistant to the Selectboard