

Brookline Selectboard Minutes of 08/06/08 Draft

Meeting called to order at 7:00PM. Joyce Meehl welcomed all in attendance.

Present were: Joyce Meehl, Archie Clark, Mike Winot, Mike Fontaine, David Ryder and Bernardine Borgeson.

Members of the Public present: Tom Clynes, Renee Bergner, Given Bergner, Julie Plummer-Brunetto, Racheal Rice, Gary and Julie Lavorgna, Norman Solomon, Mary and Paul Werner, Doug Wellman, Kerry and Barbara Bourne, Samantha Bovat, Jason Sperling, Nancy Obrien, Lyndall Boal, Tom and Joanne Staats.

Selectboard called for an executive session at 7:01PM, for the purpose of reviewing information regarding the recent actions of a Town Officer. Archie Clark asked to abstain from this session as it has to do with the Southern Loop VELCO-CVPS situation. Selectboard moved to other room.

The Selectboard returned at 7:36PM and the meeting was called back to order at 7:39PM. At this time the Board is ready to make a motion from executive session. Mike Fontaine makes a motion to temporarily suspend Tom Clynes from the appointment of Town Representative for the Southern Loop Coolidge Connection, to allow the Board to obtain more information on the whole thing going on. No discussion. Vote: all approved. Archie Clark abstained from vote. David Ryder states under Other Business #7 of Aug. 6 Agenda (Town Representative for Southern Loop Project- review of recent correspondence to insure accurate representation of the Towns interest in) - I make a motion to table this until the Board can get enough information to talk about this with some accuracy. Joyce Meehl states the Board feels that they are not in a position to make a final decision or take final action at this meeting. This will allow the Board to get a better grasp of the situation, get more information on what has transpired and developed, and plans for moving forward. A motion is on table to table #7 on Agenda for 8/6/08. (See previous) All approved. Archie Clark abstained from vote. Joyce Meehl states, the Board will not be hearing public comment on this matter tonight. We need to figure out what has been done. We are in a difficult situation and need to fully look into this matter in order to make a good decision and hear public comment. We will revisit this with public comment on 8/20/08. Thank you all for your correspondences and for coming. We will hear comment on any other Agenda items you might have during Public Comment. All past minutes are available from the Town Clerk. I also suggest for the Board that we contact the Towns Attorney for guidance and sorting out what has occurred and what the Boards options are. For resolving the present situation. I think its pretty clear we have a legal obligation to this Town to handle the correspondences in question by an Attorney. We are not knowledgeable in this area. We will have Bob Fisher as our Attorney and get legal advice. The matter is closed. I was told by our lawyer with VLCT we had to handle this correctly. We will now continue with our agenda. Its Members of the Public, but we have tabled this issue and there will be no discussion on it.

#2 Members of the Public - Member of the public started to question. Joyce said no discussion, we tabled this. Some public left for their own meeting. No other public

comment.

#3Minutes- Minutes of July 16, 2008. A discussion on modifying minutes.

Correspondence from Tom Clynes: Just wondering if minutes of 7/16 may have been modified. I don't remember the following passage. Joyce asked why have we not communicated with the Board on his direction with project and why other Towns were not opposing this Project. Joyce opened discussion and said we have tape recording tonight. We will be taping minutes because of a question of modifying minutes. Joyce wrote back to Tom and said it basically becomes a he said -she said situation without a tape recorder. Joyce personally remembers conversation happening but not the exact words. None of the Board remembered exact working. Discussion whether to strike or keep this section. Decided to keep this section.

Archie Clark wanted to go on record to say when bids were opened for ditching, he abstained and left the room. Mike Winot abstained and left the room. Mike Winot abstained after Bloom bid was opened. Joyce Meehl, Mike Fontaine and David Ryder voted for the Board to accept Jim Rogers bid. After all approved Archie Clark and Mike Winot returned to meeting.

Mike Fontaine made a motion to accept 7/16 minutes with changes. All approved.

July 21, 2008 Minutes. Mike Fontaine made a motion to accept. All approved.

#4Old or Unfinished Business- Public Hearing at 6:30 at Town Office on Aug. 20, 2008- Brookline Flood Hazard to re-approved the Flood Ordinance By-Law.

#5 Road Report- Mike Winot reported ditching on Whitney Hill not started yet. Still work to do at bottom of Whitney Hill. Putney Mtn, and Grassy Brook intersection needs ditch cleaned. Still signs to straighten. Brush around bridges and intersections started but more to do. Mark back to work. Make sure signs are ordered where needed. Remove tree in ditch on Whiney Hill. List of culverts to be replace and get bids out to be put on list for next agenda. Look into starting a project on Ellen Ware Road. That money has been put aside for . Straighten out about load of culverts no one knows anything about. Plowing bid out next meeting. Signs ordered by Monday.

Road Foreman search applications- Everett Bills, Mike Fontaine. Letter of interest from Don Elliott. A separate meeting to interview applicants will be held 8/7/08.

Road Commissioners agreed to take Public comment- Tom Staats, Avoid conflict of interest by seriously looking into outside applicants so as not to have a conflict of interest on Board. Lyndall Boal: One applicant listening to discussion, unfair to other two. Kerry Bourne: theft proof-signs, roadside mowing,(will be done) and the stake on his land.

Putney Mtn/Grassy Brook Intersection Safety Improvement update. Archie Clark and David Ryder went to meeting with Matt Mann and Sue Clark from Windham Regional and 3 VTRANS people form Montpelier Traffic Division on 7/22/08. They will have several suggestions in 3 weeks and will revisit then.

Back to plowing: Change winter bids, more detail, salt, anything extra. Revise bid next meeting.

#6New Business: Health Issue Athens Road. Archie Clark received call from concerned

citizen about the number of people living in Paul Birch=s house. Outhouse out front. Lack of septic system. Selectboard is Board of Health. Joyce will check into this..

#7Other Business: New Tax Rate . Move on until Bernardine found this.

Rescue Div. II meeting in Townshend on 8/7/08 at 7:00PM..

Ancient Roads: Archie Clark sent email to interested parties on Ancient Roads. Deadline for research on ancient roads is Feb. 2009. Put on agenda in September.

#8Correspondece: To Susan Hudson from Jim Porter, Special Council in the matter of Mr. Clynes, and from the correspondence we have take action tonight. (copy of letter can be seen at Town Office) Read by Joyce Meehl.

Jim Porter, Laura Beliveau to Tom Clynes. (copy of letter can be seen at Town Office)

Read by Joyce Meehl.

Back to tax Rate- .1330 Town -.1623 Highway. Archie Clark makes a motion to approve. All approved. Tax Rate set.

Back to correspondence: Linda from Comcast to be put on Sept. 3 agenda.

Human Society: Animal Control and Cruelty- contact person: Mike Fontaine- Joyce Meehl.

Council on Aging: nominations for 11th Annual Successful Aging Award.

VLCT: Annual business meeting on 10/2. Authorize delegate before 9/19

Vermont Telecommunications Authority: Authorized Broadband Grant Program- with Comcast coming we might have a direction. Applications have to be in by Sept. 6, which is 3 days after Comcast comes and talks to us.

VLCT- vacancy on Board

#9Pay Orders

Warrant #2 -16,191.25 approved with corrections

Payroll Warrant #2- 426.88 Approved by all

Next Meeting Aug. 20, 2008 at 7PM

Meeting adjourned at 9:24PM

Respectfully submitted

Bernardine Borgeson