

Brookline Selectboard Minutes (Draft)
August 5, 2009

1. Chairman Archie Clark called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Present were board members David Ryder, Mike Winot, Alicia Dest, and Doug Wellman. Road Foreman Mark Bills was also in attendance. Also present were members of the public Cynthia Nau, Jim Rogers, and Christina Wright.

2. The minutes of the July 15th meeting were reviewed. Dave motioned they be approved with corrections. Seconded, all voted in favor.

3. **Members of the Public:** Cynthia talked about the progress on clearing for the power line extension. Overall the work looks good with the exception of the work near 104 Merrill Drive (Wright's). After the clearing there was significant erosion and runoff onto their property (in particular pooling of water in the area of their leach field). Christina Wright arrived and showed the board pictures of the damage. They have contacted Velco and are awaiting a response from them on what will be done to correct the situation. Cynthia will follow-up to ensure it is corrected to the Wright's satisfaction. Archie asked her to let him know if the board needs to get involved.

4. **Old Business:** There was no unfinished business to discuss.

5. **Road Report:**

a. Jim Rogers voiced his concerns with the culvert replacement at 1354 Grassy Brook Road. He was unable to complete the culvert replacement due to concerns of the homeowner (Alan Fabrizio). Archie and Dave had visited the site and come up with the possible relocation of the culvert. Jim stated that this would add a considerable amount of work to the job he originally bid on. After much discussion, it was decided that the board would have a special meeting on August 7th at 7:30 PM on site to decide what to do. Archie will post the warning.

b. Work was done on the Greer Road, Grassy Brook Road was graded, and minor rain repair was performed in several locations. The sinkhole by the culvert near 419 Hill Road continues to sink and another was been identified near Kirsch Road.

c. Salt prices will be \$61.48 per ton this year (an increase of \$6.53 over last year). Dave will place a request for 150 tons.

d. Archie met with an engineering firm to look at the Grassy Brook Road bridge. Dave has made some calls to other firms and we should have bids prior to the next meeting so we can proceed with the grant request.

e. Dave checked prices on an excavator with a rock hammer to remove some ledge in the ditches on Grassy Brook Road. They ranged from \$1,000 to \$1,760 per day. The board decided that we could better utilize these funds on other sections of roadway. It was also decided to table the sealing of cracks in the pavement around town.

f. Roadside mowing will be the last week in August or first week in September. Archie confirmed our portion of the bill is \$1,356 and that Newfane and Brookline will be billed separately.

g. Dave will check on backhoe rental availability and rent a machine so Mark can get started on culvert cleaning.

6. New Business:

a. Salaries for the Town Clerk, Treasurer, Tax Collector, (and assistant); Auditors; and Listers were reviewed. Increases were planned for in the current years budget request. Doug motioned that the Auditors, Listers and Assistant Town Clerk pay be increased by \$.75 and the Town Clerk/Associated positions by \$1.25, retroactive to July 1st. Seconded. All voted in favor, approved.

7. Other Business:

a. The end-of-year budget numbers and fund balances were not available. They will be reviewed at a future meeting.

b. The drywall and painting in the older section of the town office has been completed. Thank you to Bruce and Joyce Meehl for all their hard work. There is still \$14,873.97 in the building fund. Doug will get prices for flooring and labor for installation prior to the next meeting.

c. The board had a very brief discussion on next years budget process. The consensus was that we should work on the budget well in advance this year. Pending the outcome of the bridge engineering we will probably have an article on funding for the Grassy Brook Road bridge. Doug brought up the possibility of an article requesting funding for expenses related to the noise ordinance. This could include funding legal guidance and potential election related expenses.

d. Doug attended the Newfane ancient roads informational meeting on July 23rd. There were about 20 people in attendance. They had a couple of volunteers that researched town records through the early 1800's. No ancient roads were identified. Nobody at the meeting provided any additional information. The Newfane Selectboard will have a special meeting on July 30th to decide on mass discontinuance.

8. Correspondence: Correspondence was reviewed.

9. Pay Orders: Pay orders were reviewed. Accounts payable warrant #2, \$17,053.28 and payroll warrants #2, \$497.42 and #3, 567.68. Mike motioned they be approved. Seconded. All voted in favor, approved.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 9:59 PM. The next meeting will be August 19th at 7:00 PM in the town office.

Respectively submitted
Douglas Wellman
Clerk of the Board