

Brookline Selectboard Minutes (Draft)
August 19, 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. Also present were members of the public Cynthia Nau, Bruce Capponcelli, Bruce Mello, and Shawn Nordlund.
2. The minutes of the August 5th meeting were reviewed. Mike motioned they be approved as written. Seconded, all voted in favor. The minutes of the August 7th special highway meeting were reviewed. Doug motioned they be approved as written. Seconded, all voted in favor.

3. Members of the Public:

a. Cynthia briefed the board on the multiple events of vandalism that took place on their property and her concern with the response from the State Police. Archie explained that this issue was separate from the contract support from the State Police, but was concerned with their response and asked if Cynthia would like the board to take some action – she declined at this time. She also updated the board on the status of the damage at 104 Merrill Drive caused in part from the work on the power line. She said Velco had taken action to correct the situation and the homeowners are satisfied with the actions taken so far, the board will continue to monitor the status. The only other issue with the southern Vermont loop project was a question on if the pole contractor need flaggers at the access roads. The consensus was that they do need them based on the visibility at both the Hill Road and Grassy Brook Road access points.

b. Bruce Capponcelli briefed the board on the status of ongoing projects at the Windham County Solid Waste Management District (WCSWMD). The WCSWMD board has been working on a contract for the new carbon harvest project. Over the 25 year contract the contractor (Carbon Harvest) will use the methane gas produced from the old dump to run generators, heat a pond to grow algae and feed fish. The fish droppings will be used to hydroponically grow lettuce and tomatoes for the Brattleboro Food Bank. Excess algae will be used to produce biofuel. This project will provide a steady and long-term source of income for the WCSWMD. There has been some talk of towns withdrawing from the district but nothing formal. The sorting of returnable cans has been a great success and is estimated to generate approximately \$60,000 annually. Archie thanked Bruce for his service on the WCSWMD Board, and Bruce volunteered for another term next year.

c. Bruce Mello had several issues to address with the board. The first was a noise issue with a party at 216 Hill Road (Pagach). Bruce had to call the police four times between 1:10 AM and 3:10 AM when it stopped. He thought the first response was timely but the noise did not stop and the State Police were not very responsive to the follow-up calls. He asked about line marking on Radway Hill and Hill Road. The state marks class two highways every other year and this is the year. Radway Hill (in Newfane) is a class two and will be marked this year. Hill Road is not and the town has not researched prices. Another concern was roadside mowing (especially the southern Hill Road/Grassy Brook Road intersection. This is the same area Cynthia has also complained several times about. Dave will have Mark look at this area when he returns from vacation. The trees that cause the most blockages may be out of the town right-of-

way. He also asked if we were going to take up COMCAST on their offer to return to talk to residents on the status of their installation. There was a brief discussion on the information provided at meeting COMCAST last attended and the board recommended that he contact COMCAST customer service and request information on if his home will be serviced.

4. Old Business:

a. Archie has been in contact with the town attorney on the issue with the culvert at 1354 Grassy Brook Road. The firm has represented the Fabrizio's in the past and needed to see if they could represent the town in this matter. Archie has provided some additional information to the attorney and is currently awaiting a response.

b. The status of the open item on the Velco work at 104 Merrill Drive was covered in members of the public section.

5. Road Report:

a. The road foreman is away on vacation so there are no current working orders.

b. Dave updated the full board on the status of the Grassy Brook Road bridge near Putney Mountain Road. We only have one engineering proposal at this time. Dave has visited the site with another contractor and talked to a third. The board will wait until next meeting for additional proposals and make a decision then.

c. The road crew will have a rental backhoe for one week starting September 3rd.

d. We are continuing to loose cones and other markers on Putney Mountain Road near a washed culvert. Mike recommends we just put a flat rock in the hole for a temporary fix until we have the backhoe.

e. As soon as the road foreman returns from vacation, Dave will set-up delivery of the gravel needed on the roads.

f. The grader blades are out for welding and will be done before the gravel is delivered.

g. The culvert replacement job on Ellen Ware Road is complete. The Town Clerk will submit the paperwork to receive the grant funds.

h. In addition to the brush cutting discussed during the members of the public, there is one by Blooms that needs trimming.

i. Dave submitted a request for 150 tons of salt.

j. Archie recommended we request bids for winter maintenance soon. Dave will work on the request.

6. **New Business:** There was no new business to discuss.

7. **Other Business:**

a. The end-of year budget numbers and current balances were reviewed.

b. Doug had checked on flooring for the older section of the town office. The same type and color of flooring used in the new section is still available. It is \$5.40 per square foot plus a flat \$40 shipping fee. Rough estimates show we need 560 square feet (\$3,064). We are still waiting on an installation bid.

c. The board briefly discussed the process for developing the fiscal year 2011 budget.

8. **Correspondence:** Correspondence was reviewed.

9. **Pay Orders:** Pay orders were reviewed. Accounts payable warrant #4, \$13,083.64 and payroll warrant #4, \$1,009.98. Mike motioned they be approved. Seconded. All voted in favor, approved.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 PM. The next meeting will be September 2nd at 7:00 PM in the town office.

Respectively submitted
Douglas Wellman
Clerk of the Board