

Brookline Selectboard Minutes (Draft)

January 6, 2010

1. Chairman Archie Clark called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. Present were board members David Ryder, Mike Winot, Alicia Dest, and Doug Wellman. Also present was member of the public Kim Rink.

2. The minutes of the December 16th meeting were reviewed. Mike motioned they be approved as written. Seconded, all voted in favor.

3. **Members of the Public:** There was no comment from members of the public.

4. **Unfinished Business:**

a. Bruce Capponcelli was unable to attend the meeting of the Windham County Solid Waste Management District (WCSMWD) to vote on the proposed budget. Because of this, Brookline was unable to vote because we had not designated an alternate. Mike made a motion that Archie Clark be appointed as the alternate Brookline Representative to the WCSWMD Board. Seconded, all voted in favor.

b. The Jamaica area community forums on sex offenders still has not met. They are still trying to organize a meeting. Diana Bander will be away for but Archie will be notified by the State Police when the meeting is scheduled.

c. Dave checked with a contractor on the damage to the band rail near Papoose Lane. He had questions concerning the connection to the bridge. Archie had checked it and said the bridge connection appears to be undamaged. Dave will get an estimate on the entire section of rail and five posts to pass to the insurance company.

5. **Road Report:**

a. There are no open working orders.

b. The estimate on the Grassy Brook Road Bridge is \$300,000. See budget discussion for additional information on the Boards recommended course of action.

c. The estimate for the Hill Road culvert replacement is approximately \$55,000. Dave will check on possible grant availability. See budget discussion for additional information on the Boards recommended course of action

6. **New Business:**

a. Doug updated the Board on the school meeting. The Joint Newfane/Brookline Board finalized their budget with funding to support operations only at the Newfane School. There will not be a vote to close the Brookline School as written in the contract and promised at last years annual school meeting. It is the joint boards position that this is not a school closure since they are not disposing of the school property. Even with the reductions in costs associated with this consolidation there will be a major increase (approximately 14%) in the elementary school tax. The Board was concerned with the ability to raise funds required for town and highway budgets with this significant education tax increase.

7. **Other Business:**

a. The contractor will start on the Town Office floor installation on January 7th. The large items have been moved out of the Listers area. Doug will arrange for moving the other items as he progresses.

b. The Treasurer has confirmed that we will need a professional audit before we can bond the Grassy Brook Road bridge repair. Archie talked to the Auditors about the status of the town accounts. They believe that the accounts are now in order for an audit. Since most of the monies appropriated at last year's town meeting for a financial consultant have not been expended, the Board will recommend they be reallocated to an audit at town meeting. Heidi Nystrom will get estimates for an audit and an additional item will be added to the town meeting warning to request the required funds.

c. The draft fiscal year 2011 budget was reviewed and some final adjustments made.

d. The draft Town Meeting Warning was reviewed. Funding request articles discussed were:

1) Grassy Brook Road Bridge – will be tabled until later in the year and the status of the proposed audit is determined. A special town meeting will be required.

2) Request \$7,500 for replacement of the Hill Road culvert number 13.

3) Request \$3,000 for highway equipment.

4) Request transfer of the remaining funds voted last year for a financial consultant for use to audit the town financial accounts.

5) Request the town authorize a professional audit. Appropriate monies to complete the audit (amount to be determined based on estimate obtained by Heidi prior to the next meeting).

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

9. **Pay Orders:** Pay orders were reviewed. Accounts payable warrant #13, \$9,242.68 and payroll warrant #13, \$2,429.25. Doug motioned they be approved with a question to the treasurer about the amount to the Vermont Department of Fish and Game for hunting licenses. Seconded. All voted in favor, approved.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 PM. The next meeting will be January 20th at 7:00 PM in the town office.

Respectively submitted
Douglas Wellman
Clerk of the Board