

**Meeting Called to Order:** 7:02

**Members Present:**

Doug Wellman  
Mike Fontaine  
Kim Rink  
David Parker, Jr.

**Members of public:**

Dave Ryder - The ditching by Fabrizio's has been filled but needs to be dug out again. He suggests asking Mark to dig it out again.

Cynthia Nau – Kate McCarthy met with Brookline Planning Commission. She had more recommendations to edit the grant proposal. That has been edited and returned. Deadline has been extended to Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>. The plan is to have it ready by Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> to hand over the Selectboard for review.

Helen Samuels

Jean Sirois – has a question about the ditch along Whitney Hill Road that fills in frequently. Previously the town fixed it but now rip rap is washing onto her property again. She is requesting that the town handle ditching. Mike confirms that he and Mark went to clear it out before but has not been up to see it since.

Norma Bloom

Julie Lavorgna – Thanked the board for clearing the road after Irene quickly.

Gary Lavorgna – Mentioned the same issue that Dave brought up. Brought letter regarding the ditch by Fabrizio's but thinks it needs to be cleared with a shovel.

Kerry Bourne

Michael Winot

Mark Bills

- Wellman mentioned that the board was in receipt of two letters concerning the conduct a board member, Tom Staats. Since Mr. Staats has not yet arrived, all agree that the board should wait until Tom Staats arrives before reading the letters that were sent to the board regarding him. Wellman thinks letters need to be read for the record.

**Previous Minutes:**

- Wellman excused himself from the meeting and asked that the Board proceed with the minutes review/approval. He left the room to talk to Mr. Staats, who had arrived.
- July 20<sup>th</sup>
- Sept. 7 - changes
- Sept. 14
- All minutes approved, Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> with changes. Motioned by Mike, Rink seconded and all approve.
- Mr. Wellman returned to meeting and announced that Mr. Staats had resigned his position on the board due to personal reasons.

**Old Business:**

- Fontaine says the ads for plowing bid request will run this weekend and next.

- At the next meeting, the Town Clerk's resignation will be given. Secretary of State says town needs to appoint a replacement as soon as possible and an appointment will be fine until town meeting or if 5% of voters petition for special election. Parker asks if this is something that should be advertised and Wellman agrees that maybe it should be done now since it has been forewarned. In addition, will run an ad for Selectboard appointment.

### **Road Report:**

- Flood damage is still being worked on but still waiting to hear from FEMA, which has been delayed. Parker relays that during the meeting he attended in Lyndonville it was indicated that FEMA did not have enough employees to currently handle the load and is causing delay.
- Mark was working on Papoose Bridge and it was a lot worse than he originally thought. It had eroded on two corners and they patched the less damaged corner. He discovered today that the erosion went almost the full width of the road and he had worked on it all day and now the bridge is fully open.
- Next, he'll go up Hill Road and fix stone at Lester Albee's, remove the boulder stuck under the culvert by Ducharme's and clean out the culvert that's plugged again from the debris running down from Townshend Bridge by Wellman's is eroded but he is waiting for materials to pack and shore up road edges. There's an issue with the ramp leaving Grassy Brook Rd. onto Mr. Solomon's bridge. FEMA was there today to talk to Mr. Solomon. The eroded edges need to be built back out before winter. There is erosion on Parker Rd. which needs rip rap to shore up shoulder. On Athens Road, he needs to finish culvert by Sue Clark's but waiting on FEMA.
- Wellman says FEMA is hopeful to be in town tomorrow but nothing definite as they are delayed.
- Helen asks about whether or not Athens road repair will hamper traffic. Mark replies that it won't unless the culvert needs to be replaced. If that is the case, it would probably be down a day. Wellman agrees that worst case scenario would be a bridge or box culvert and that it might be closed even longer but if that happens they would be sure that people who lived above would have a way out.
- Mark plans to head further up Athens Road to take care of more erosion and plans to build the road back up to two-lane with new culverts within the next two weeks.
- There is erosion up near the town line but more on the Athens side. However, at the angle the culvert sits, it filled with a lot of debris. The erosion needs rip rap and the plan is to fix before winter.
- Helen applauds the repair effort as Julie did.
- Wellman brings up Greer Road and mentions the town would like to get that semi-passable before winter. There probably won't be any FEMA money for that and should get a few estimates to do the work. Mark's suggestion is to take material over with a 1 ton 4WD truck. Wellman asks if water bars are ok. Mark said that sure pack was used before and has held up pretty well. Fontaine says that they went up to look at it as well.
- Nobody has heard from John Swing regarding Bennett Rd.
- Dave Ryder mentions that there is some debris near the bridge near Parker's and another location up further near a culvert. Mark will check it out. Rink suggests that everyone let the Selectboard know if they see anything in the brook. Cynthia mentioned that she thought there might be something near the culvert by her house. Mike Winot saw downed tree as did Gary Lavorgne.
- The Board received an estimate from Thomas Bloom for repairs on Greer Rd. The estimate was for \$780 using town-provided materials. The estimate was discussed. Fontaine motions that the bid be accepted, Parker seconds and all voted in favor. After the vote, Parker asked about the one bid. Wellman and Fontaine stated they had discussed the possibility of Bloom doing the work and Fontaine asked him for an estimate. Parker stated the others in town should have been considered. Kerry Bourne would like to be considered for future work. The Selectboard agrees to add his name to the list. Mark mentions Dave Ryder would be a viable option as well.

### **New Business:**

- Additional phone line question is brought up so that the Town Office is not solely supported by Comcast. Parker is in support of it. Parker mentions that we need to talk to Comcast again since they promised 8 hour battery and several people are having the same problem of it not lasting that long.
- Julie Lavorgna asks about cell phone service. Discussion ensues about cell service.
- Wellman provided both letters regarding Tom Staats and they will be filed.

- Since there is need for a new road commissioner, it is suggested that Mike Fontaine will temporarily take it over until the position has been permanently filled. Dave motioned that Mike Fontaine be the temporary Road Commissioner, Kim seconded and all are in favor.
- Once again, the new phone line is discussed. Everyone agrees that it is a good idea but also brought to light about the problem with people having problems when the power is out. Wellman will draft a letter before next meeting for the rest of the board to review that will be sent to public service board to alert them of this problem. Town Clerk will be asked to contact Fairpoint to have an additional line installed.
- There will be three positions open for town meeting this year: Selectboard, Town Clerk and Trustee of Public Funds.

**Correspondence:**

- Letters regarding Tom Staats

**Pay Orders:**

**FROM 7TH**

<b>What</b>	<b>Order#</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Payroll	4	564.24
Acct. Payable	4	930.83

**TODAY**

<b>What</b>	<b>Order#</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Payroll	5	3193.97? Need to confirm
Acct. Payable	5	143,575.40

Parker motioned to approve the all Pay Orders, Rink seconded and all approved.

**Meeting adjourned: 8:30**

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Amy Niebel  
 Clerk of Brookline Selectboard