

**Approved Minutes
BROOKLINE SELECTBOARD MEETING
February 16th, 2017 at 6:30 PM**

Present:

Board: Bernardine Hoard (Chair), Dorothy Maggio (Vice-chair), Stan Noga, Bruce Mello, Gwen Tanza

Members of the Public: Archie Clark, Mark Bills, Guy Tanza (Videographer), Peter Barus (Recorder)

Call the meeting to order

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM.

Changes to the agenda

Ms. Tanza noted an item previously listed for “next meeting” that is not on the Agenda, Dept of Commerce Information Center. Placed under New Business

Approve minutes from February 1, 2017

Corrections were made to the draft Minutes for February 1st, 2017.

Ms. Tanza moved “to Approve the Minutes for February 1st, 2017, as corrected.” Second by Ms. Maggio.

All in Favor.

Scheduled members of the Public

Town Clerk Update

Mr. Tanza reported the scanning project is now doing the second book, going well; according to the Newfane Town Clerk they pay \$240/mo. for their scanning operation.

Dog licenses are due April 1st, the rabies clinic is March 25th at 10 AM, at NewBrook fire house, for dogs and cats, animals must be on leash.

No word on the salt shed, need answer by Town Meeting, The election went well, few showed up to help count, there were 48 ballots out of 402. 25 were in favor, 23 were opposed.

Unscheduled members of the Public (none)

Old Business

SLDC update

Dot Maggio – State Inspection report/deficiencies

Ms. Maggio spoke with Bob Fisher about an SLDC email regarding exhaust fans. Mr. Fisher will look over the lease and the request, but suggests seeing the actual inspection report; she emailed Tina Bills asking her to send it along and she must comply under the lease. Ms. Maggio asked to be informed if anything comes, she will send it to Bob Fisher; she will write a letter to Ms. Bills asking for the report.

Mr. Noga noted seeing a copy of the lease, in the Town Office, with representatives of SLDC present; he saw no reference to code compliance, but it does specify maintaining water and heat systems, and also deals with the Tenant making changes, indicates Tenant may redecorate or refurbish at own expense, notifying the Town 60 days in advance, and making no alterations without written consent; the process is in place to handle situations like the present one; the attorney will probably say it is the Tenant’s obligation; Ms. Maggio confirmed that Mr. Fisher concurred, and will vet the board’s written response to SLDC’s request. There was discussion.

Stan Noga – Exit signs and CO/Smoke detector

Mr. Tanza received an estimate of \$412.00. Mr. Noga had researched grants at the VLTC website, and indicated he had emailed Code 3 Products to see if they would extend their bid to 2017, these are open until April 30th to send in grant applications; some time in May an answer will be expected; he has not submitted an application as yet. He saw indications that they would fund and also reimburse for work, in which case the work could begin right away. There was discussion of various projects. Mr. Mello suggested some of

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the savings could be used to fix some rot or the drop ceilings.

BMH update if any

(none)

Highway/Road update if any

Mr. Bills had nothing new to report, a lot of snow, pushing back snowbanks to prepare for more; Mr. Noga expressed appreciation for the condition of the roads in the snowy weather.

Mr. Clark reported working on a grant application for Vermont Better Roads, the deadline is moved to March 17th now instead of Apr 15th; projects are difficult to assess this time of year; erosion is the main focus of Vermont Better Roads, there is a \$40,000 maximum grant offered for box culverts; he is applying to Vtrans, which pays 90%, instead of the Town paying \$40,000 for the work.

Ms. Tanza acknowledged the very smooth installation of road plates.

Mr. Tanza reported that the Hazard Mitigation Plan was approved by FEMA, a hard copy is coming by mail, which would allow the Town to apply to FEMA for a three year relief grant in the event of a serious emergency.

New Business

Request from Law Firm re: town legal files

Laurie Rowells' office has communicated that the Selectboard needs to decide about disposition of the old files. There was discussion. Mr. Noga discussed the history of relationships with attorneys and noted the value of Mr. Fisher's local knowledge. Ms. Tanza suggested having Ms. Rowells forward the legal files for the tax appeal matter to her new office.

Mr. Noga moved "that legal files pertaining to the Cornish Tax matter be forwarded to the office of Laurie Rowells." Second by Ms. Maggio. **All in Favor.**

Request from Marc Pickering to schedule line painting

Mr. Clark had emailed that town should respond by April to be awarded a grant in May; he noted that he had said in March that it probably would not be awarded, and had told the contractor no work would be done on Grassy Brook Road; then they came and painted the road two months before the paving; then they returned and repainted; Mr. Clark suggested that there should be more coordination between the line painters and the grant programs; they never announce when they're coming; the same problem has occurred in neighboring towns; this is wasteful; Mr. Clark will respond to the email; The Selectboard agreed.

Department of Commerce information

Mr. Tanza reported that the Department of Commerce is looking for someone to be contact person for the next census; it is not mandatory; the contact should be updated; it was decided to defer this matter until March 15th.

Mr. Mello reported attending the NewBrook Budget vote meeting, seeing more Brookline residents than Newfane residents and no Newfane Board members. There was discussion, appreciation for Bob Thibault and Bill Anton, a great attitude of making the system work within the confines of the Budget.

Ms. Maggio noted that Ms. Greene will make a presentation at Town Meeting explaining the Act 46 vote. Mr. Mello reported a conversation with Mr. Anton about the tax base and the needs of the pupils. Mr. Tanza noted the Solar Project at NewBrook where Mr. Tabachnick (Principal) reported on the Sun Ed bankruptcy and the subsequent contract discussed at that meeting; the \$26,000 lease payment is intact along with the rest of the previous contract. Mr. Tabachnick had expressed doubt that Towns had enough time to understand Act 46 and had asked what would happen if the vote was against; Mr. Anton had spoken with

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him and said he would ask for an extension and then go Town to Town.

Review policy from 2006

Mr. Clark noted some bridges that had been upgraded and weight limits changed, citing Greer Bridge, Putney Mountain Road; Mr. Tanza noted an automatic 16,000 lb max weight rating for bridges on class 4 roads. Ms. Maggio noted new paperwork and signage are needed; Mr. Tanza had sent out the paperwork, reporting to Selectboard to let them know what was done; there was discussion; Ms. Hoard suggested that this should be done by the new Selectboard. The Annual report is due by February 10th each year on weight limits for each bridge; there was discussion of requirements for policies to be reviewed, and headlines for the Town Report, etc.

Correspondence review

- VLTC News rec'd Feb 14 2017
- VLTC Spring Selectboard Institute announcement
- Local leadership worin economic development Workshop announcement
- UVM Extension Town Officer Education Conferences announcement
- FEMA Hazard Mitigation approval rec'd Feb 6 2017
- Bernardine Hoard resignation as Selectboard member rec'd Feb 16 2017
- EMA World periodical February 2017 issue
- Fitz Olson & Giddings, PLC, Laurie Rowells' request to transfer records
- Certificate of No Appeal Or Suit pending (Sec 411) signed 2/16/17
- Code 3 products inc, estimate of \$414.62 for SLDC Exit Signs and CO detectors

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Pay Orders

The Selectboard signed the following pay orders, totaling \$6,687.84:

Ms. Hoard moved to approve Payroll Warrant #2017-32 in the amount of \$1,396.24. Second by Ms. Maggio, **All in Favor.**

Ms. Hoard moved to Approve Accounts Payable #20187-33 in the amount of \$5,291.6. Second by Ms. Maggio, **All in Favor.**

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|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Payroll Warrant #2017-32 | \$1,396.24 |
| Accounts Payable #20187-33 | <u>\$5,291.60</u> |
| Total | \$6,687.84 |

Set agenda for the next meeting March 1, 2017

- Tina Bills Exit Signs and detectors followup

There was discussion of various topics relating to the approach of Town Meeting Day, reorganization, etc.

Adjournment

Ms. Hoard moved to Adjourn. Second by Mr. Noga. **All in Favor.**

The meeting Adjourned at 7:42PM.

Respectfully submitted, Peter Barus, Recorder, February 21st, 2017