

BROOKLINE SELECTBOARD MEETING
July 19th, 2017 at 6:30 PM
Approved Minutes

Action Summary:

- Voted to Approve the Minutes from July 5, 2017 as amended.
- Signed Warrants and Pay Orders totaling \$20,443.43.

Present:

Board: Dorothy Maggio (Chair), Bruce Mello, Gwen Tanza, David Jones

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

Call the meeting to order

Ms. Maggio convened the meeting at 6:31PM.

Review changes to the agenda

Approve minutes from the last meeting held on July 5 2017

Mr. Jones moved to Approve the Minutes from July 5, 2017 as amended. Second by Mr. Mello. **All in Favor.**

Open Bids for the Sunny Lane Day Care Building Repair Project

No bids were received. In discussion it was suggested that February-March would be a more productive time to put out RFP; working on projects not requiring bids; Mr. Bills offered to work from a list until the cold season; Mr. Mello will bring a list next meeting for discussion of priorities; Ms. Tanza offered to paint. Mr. Jones asked about parts of the work included in the RFP that should be addressed sooner; Mr. Mello explained that after consultation nothing pressing needs attention. Ms. Maggio placed the matter on the Agenda for August 2nd.

Scheduled members of the public

Guy Tanza - Town Clerk Update

Digitizing the books is a little slower in the heat; dog licensing is caught up (one left); he discussed a dog census; presently 125 dogs in town, but this is not certain. Ms. Maggio attended a meeting in Brattleboro at which a census was discussed, as well as the danger of entering private properties, cost, time. Mr. Tanza noted a meeting in August of the Board of Civil Authority.

Mr. Tanza discussed a Fact TV drone shot of the town from the Green Bridge will be an introduction on the website; he noted that a drone is very useful for checking the school roof, etc.

He reported that the Act 250 hearing is listed on Fact TV's website.

Unscheduled members of the public

Mr. Parker deferred to later in the meeting.

Old Business

Recycle update

Mr. Jones expressed concerns for the budget. There was discussion; a bin was picked up yesterday, another is already full; paying by the haul; a homeowner suggested obtaining a lock with individual codes for users; concern was raised that difficult access would result in loose dumping; volume may be higher on a seasonal

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basis, and may settle down later; more than one pickup per week may exceed the budget. Mr. Tanza discussed a system in which a town provides a bin for bottles, and collects the money for bottles directly. Mr. Mello discussed his recent site visit; Mr. Tanza reported raking the contents back so the bin would be easier for users. Ms. Maggio expressed gratitude for such a show of pride in the town.

Traffic update

Ms. Maggio discussed locations on Ellen Ware Road and Putney Mountain Road, where measurement devices will be placed.

Act 250 - Inner Fire Project update

Ms. Maggio received email on certification of service; WRC is reviewing the Act 250 Inner Fire matter; Mr. Bills explained that Mr. Clark's concern for the access road has to do with the six percent grade entering the road, and that the town should have a maintenance agreement; Ms. Maggio had included this with adequate culverts, snow removal, etc., in a letter and will send Mr. Bills a copy. There was discussion of the impact of the culvert as designed, probably requiring permitting from ANR. Mr. Parker asked if the Planning Commission will be dealing with this matter at all. Ms. Maggio had written to the Commission summarizing the points raised at the previous site visit and Selectboard meeting. There had been no word from the Planning Commission.

Tax Bill mailing

All tax bills have been mailed; including a letter from the Selectboard and information about the recycling system. Only one returned item, missing postage, indicating that the mailing lists are up to date. Mr. Tanza accepted a dollar for a requested extra resident recycling sticker.

Meeting House Update (if any)

SLDC Update (if any)

A sanitary service inspection of the water service with Nancy Burke and representative of the State is scheduled for August 3 at noon; Ms. Maggio will attend.

Highway and Roads - Archie Clark/Mark Bills

Mowing

Mr. Bills discussed the over-rail mower, which arrived today with an instructor; a new machine and rotary mower; he did a walk-around inspection, learned about the equipment, performed some test mowing; equipment appears satisfactory; a forty-hour rental, to be picked up next Wednesday; there will be an extra charge of \$73/hr after forty hours.

Ms. Maggio has asked the company to make a tentative appointment for a June, 2018 rental of that equipment.

Culverts

Culverts are all installed, not all capped; the contractor asked to return after completing everything else and cap them; five in all, three on Hill Road, two on Putney Mountain. The Selectboard expressed approval.

There was discussion of the contractor working at night; Mr. Bills explained that this was done to avoid traffic, noting that while crowning Putney Mountain road to forestall erosion, adding gravel, he was often interrupted by traffic on the single lane road.

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Paving

Ms. Maggio reported discussing the repairs with the contractor, who was amenable to exchanging other work more within the scope of the contractor's expertise, in lieu of the originally specified repairs; O'Brien will do these repairs. Mr. Bills discussed gravel prices and the repair to the grease-trap at SLDC; Mr. Mello discussed the pavement cracking at that location; Mr. Bills explained that there had been a discussions of crack-seal and other remedies for pavement cracks, and suggested asking O'Brien for an estimate for the additional work when he comes to make the repairs to the grease-trap.

Lines

There was discussion of obtaining information from other towns about line-painting.

Signs

Mr. Bills reported finding several speed limit signs, some saying "35 unless otherwise posted", some "35,000 lb load limit", some "hidden drive"; he discussed locations for these signs, noting that the missing signs from Ellen Ware road, "Stop", "Stop Ahead" and "Ellen Ware road" were also located in salvageable condition.

There was discussion of a runaway horse-and-buggy accident, no significant injuries.

Mr. Bills noted preparations for paving on Hill Road, snow and ice problems addressed; the power company has been asked to remove a row of trees, after which a ledge can be dealt with, making for improved brush and mowing access.

There was discussion of weeds obstructing sight-lines; Ms. Maggio will call the property owner; she asked if the access to the swimming area at the Green Bridge could be mowed; Mr. Bills responded that he will improve access from the road.

Grants

Ms. Maggio discussed grants; Mr. Tanza noted that the Salt Shed grant could be renewed this year; Mr. Bills discussed another grant for which he had sent a letter of intent to apply by late August (through WRC); previously denied grants will also be re-applied-for.

Mr. Bills discussed with the property owner some Mailboxes on Hill Road at Kirsch that have been a problem; he obtained permission to move them, purchased and set new posts; the road surface will be closer to the mailboxes but allow more room for traffic.

Ms. Maggio thanked Mr. Bills for the work he and Mr. Clark have done.

New Business

Materials stored at the town yard.

Ms. Maggio discussed the fuel tank that was to be moved; Mr. Bills explained that a new tank comes with its own containment and can be researched when he goes for parts for other equipment.

Ms. Maggio asked if the asphalt is being saved for some purpose; Mr. Bills explained that it is left over after repaving; discussed crushing and recycling the material; he has asked Clark & Son if they would be interested; the crusher gets clogged in summer, there are different types of equipment that might deal with this; the resulting product could be used on Putney Mountain corners, in place of gravel. Mr. Parker discussed the pile, technically known as "non-inert fill"; he has discussed this with the town from time to time.

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There was discussion of installing motion-detectors in the lighting system at the yard; Mr. Bills noted that this could reduce costs, as would new LED lighting; there was discussion of the equipment required; the present system comes on at dark and stays on all night in winter; the LED lights are less expensive for the same amount of light; motion-activated LED lighting costs and power sources were discussed.

Mr. Bills offered to research a recipient for the asphalt rubble.

Correspondence Review

Emails

- From: David Parker Jr.

Mr. Parker was invited to the August 2 meeting for discussion of Town Meeting.

- To: Vermont Youth Conservation Corps-Re:Ancient cemetery clean up help

Ms. Maggio discussed the condition of the old cemeteries; she has discussed the mowing job with Jaimie Bernard; she wrote to see if the Town qualified for VYCC project; discussed funding and ideas with Penny Massey. There was discussion of the five ancient cemeteries, one privately maintained (by Ms. Nau). Ms. Maggio is a member of VOCA. There was discussion of funding sources, as there is no budget for cemetery maintenance. "The law requires towns to spend at least \$500 a year on the upkeep of its cemeteries", according to the Cemetery Commissioner's Bylaws. There was discussion of cemeteries and graves that had been moved, sometimes leaving gravestones behind.

Regular Mail

- Department of Taxes rec'd Jul 7

Notice of Education Tax Rates for Fiscal Year 2018 setting non-residential Tax Rate at \$1.6300, and Homestead Tax Rate at \$1.7672

- Protect our Wildlife rec'd Jul 13
- Fisher, Sheehan & Colton rec'd Jul 10
- Triple-T rec'd Jul 8
- Periodicals: EMS World, the *Commons*
- Unsolicited letter from Belmont, MA about "Pay-as-You-Throw"
- Letter on "Living with Wildlife"

Pay Orders

There was discussion of air new conditioning technologies and budgeting for an installation at the Town Office; Federal funding may be available with Sandri, possibly Cota & Cota.

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Payroll

Ms. Maggio moved to accept Payroll #2018-02 dated July 12, 2017, in the amount of \$1,388.62. Second by Mr. Jones. **All in Favor.**

The Selectboard signed the Warrant. Accounts Payable

Ms. Maggio moved to accept Accounts Payable #2018-03 dated July 9, 2017, in the amount of \$19,054.81. Second by Mr. Mello. **All in Favor.** The Selectboard signed the Warrant.

Payroll Warrant #2018-02 dated July 12 in the amount of: \$1,388.62

Accounts Payable Warrant #2018-03 dated July 9, 2017 in the amount of: \$19,054.81

Total: \$20,443.43

Set agenda for next meeting: August 2 2017 6:30 pm

- Town Meeting discussion
- Town Meeting Ideas for increasing public engagement
- Recycling Policy
- Lighting at salt shed

Adjournment

Ms. Tanza moved to Adjourn. Second by Mr. Mello. **All in Favor.**

The meeting Adjourned at 8:01PM.

Respectfully submitted, Peter Barus, Recorder, July 20th, 2017