

Draft Minutes
Town of Brookline Selectboard
Wednesday June 5, 2019, 6:30 PM

Present:

Selectboard: David Jones (Chair), Gwen Tanza, Joseph Dutton, Bruce Mello, Shelby Brimmer

Members of the Public: Jordan Wheeler, Mark Bills, Guy Tanza (Town Clerk, Videographer), Peter Barus (Recorder)

Call the meeting to order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

Review changes to agenda if any

Scheduled members of the public

Unscheduled members of the public

Approve Minutes from May 15, 2019 Meeting

Corrections were made.

Mr. Jones moved to approve the minutes for May 15, 2019, as corrected. Second by Mr. Mello.

All in Favor.

New Business

Meetinghouse Bat Remediation

Mr. Mello provided copies of proposals from JP Pest Services and ServPro:

JP Pest Services: \$28,019.66 for bat guano remediation.

Mr. Mello had notified Scott Dillon, JP Pest Services, who visited and examined the site closely; it was noted that a second group of rafters held a large group of about forty bats; the recommended procedure is to seal the building to prevent bat entry, and cover the area, providing a single one-way egress; set this up after mating season; bats start hibernating in November, so if beginning abatement late, leave in place until spring, when they leave, and will be unable to re-enter the building.

Mr. Mello noted that a lift would be needed at about \$1,400.00 per week, and suggested this be combined with other projects that would also need the lift, such as the SLP fallen-tree damage.

There was discussion. The information had been forwarded to the BMH Committee, meeting concurrently with the present Selectboard meeting. Mr. Jones recalled availing himself of the services of the same vendor for his own property and asked if there would be concerns about the sealing process in regard to historic value. Mr. Mello noted a two-year warranty, rather than the normal ten-year warranty, the vendor citing the method used in applying the slate roofing as the reason for this shorter warranty.

Mr. Jones suggested that the sealing process might involve changes that might raise concerns with the BMH Committee. Mr. Mello explained that the process would allow such questions to be addressed. Mr. Jones proposed that the Committee be consulted. Mr. Mello discussed a timeline and a stepped process.

Mr. Jones will consult with Ms. Parker and the committee. Mr. Mello suggested this be on the next agenda.

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Wednesday June 5, 2019, 6:30 PM

SLP Building Update

Mr. Mello discussed a dumpster issue; Thomas Bloom is in the process of cleaning up the dumpster and has installed a chain.

Mr. Mello noted that a black cherry had split and part of it fell onto the building. This was not considered a major problem, and Mr. Bloom will be removing it. Ms. Tanza suggested that Mr. Mello be given the wood, estimated at a third of a cord.

Mr. Bills suggested that Mr. Bloom's professional opinion should be sought concerning the safety of other trees around the playground. There was consensus.

Mr. Mello noted that further tree work would involve costs to the Town.

Mr. Bills had spoken with Mr. Bloom about wood chips for the play area. Mr. Mello will discuss this with Mr. Bloom.

Mr. Mello discussed the flooring project, finishing cleaning and sealing in the coming weekend, followed by grouting; he thanked Mr. Jones for his assistance with the project, and Mr. Tanza for the use of his tile saw. He showed photographs of the work and discussed costs as being close to what was estimated.

Mr. Mello suggested that the septic filter be rechecked, to establish that the issue had been successfully addressed; and changing the air filters. He suggested hiring Mr. Zalesko to do some exterior trim work. Mr. Jones suggested waiting until present projects have been fully accounted for; he had consulted with Scott Bovat and will be meeting with Ms. Zwick, and suggested that there might be accounting items that had not been completely settled.

Mr. Mello suggested window replacement instead of repainting should be considered further in light of recent consultations with professionals.

SLP Water System

Mr. Jones discussed documents that may establish what obligations remain, citing consultations with Ms. Zwick as to what the Town was originally supposed to do, and noted that the insufficiency must be addressed before July; and that the services of an engineering firm may be needed.

EMP compliance for SLP Building

Ms. Brimmer will look for relevant paperwork on the issue at the WCSU office.

Road Equipment Purchase Committee Update

Mr. Dutton discussed the Committee meeting at which an agenda was developed for the meeting at 6:30 PM on June 13th; there will be minutes posted.

Old Business

Summary / Update / Reports

Guy Tanza – Town Clerk Report

Mr. Tanza noted the vote by Australian Ballot on June 11th, 9-7 at the Town Office, ballots to be commingled at L&G; and another vote July 16th. He suggested it would take a year or two for the process to play out. There was discussion; Windham is challenging the vote. Mr. Jones and Mr. Dutton offered to assist with counting ballots.

Draft Minutes
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Wednesday June 5, 2019, 6:30 PM

Non-compliant dog registrations will be forwarded to Ms. Maggio; the new Notary Law goes into effect July 1st, 2019, along with new clerk fees and a new birth and death certificate process.

Highways & Roads

Guy Tanza – Road Commissioner Report

Mr. Tanza reported that he had spoken with Marion Major (WRC) who suggested consulting with Bell Engineering; he will let her know the decision after the Selectboard has discussed this.

Mr. Jones suggested approval. There was consensus in favor.

Mr. Tanza reported that crack sealing will wait until June 30, after the payroll is completed, and discussed filing dates and efforts to ascertain whether there would be funds for sealing, paving, the sand and salt shed, and a paving patch near the Osgood farm.

Mr. Tanza discussed the cemetery 911 addresses, noting that a response had been slow in an emergency situation, and that several homes still lack 911 address signs.

Mark Bills – Road Supervisor

Mr. Bills discussed fallen trees on Ellen Ware Road and others, needing removal; Putney Mountain road ditches; road grading. He had met with Mr. Bloom about his driveway application, to make sure the proposed driveway is correct (near the cemetery); Mr. Bills and Mr. Tanza will consult with VTRANS on details. He noted that the Papoose Lane bridge is to be replaced within five to seven years, and suggested that this should be taken into consideration.

Ms. Tanza asked about how long 911 signage takes for delivery. Mr. Bills noted that several signs are already on order, and he will order the 911 signs separately in consultation with Mr. Tanza.

Communications

Email

- Dan Towler re: Green-up Day (a barrel near a cemetery; discussion)
- Ms. Parker re: request to turn on BMH water (open house coming up)
- Ms. Maggio re: an abandoned and stripped car on Ellen Ware Road, State Police notified
- Gary Lavorgna re: NewBrook responded to an alarm at Inner Fire (new building), safety concerns reported to Fire Marshall

Emails were read and discussed.

It was suggested that clarification from the Act 250 Board be sought regarding the situation at Inner Fire.

There was discussion of whether recent reports about Inner Fire fall within the purview of the Selectboard. The Chair expressed willingness to place discussions on a meeting agenda, provided all interested parties would attend.

Regular Mail

- Animal Safety and Protection
- VLCT Newsletters
- Contract for the Windham Humane Society (designated pound keeper) – see below

Draft Minutes
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Pay Orders

Accounts Payable

Mr. Jones moved to approve Accounts Payable Warrant #2019-46, dated 5/31/19, in the amount of \$235,387.77. Second by Mr. Mello. **All in Favor.**

Payroll

Mr. Jones moved to approve Payroll Warrant #2019-47, dated 5/28/19, in the amount of \$1,585.34. Second by Ms. Brimmer. **All in Favor.**

Pound keeper contract signature

Mr. Jones moved that the Selectboard approve and sign the Contract with the Windham Humane Society (designated pound keeper) in the amount of \$350.00. Second by Mr. Dutton

There was discussion. **All in Favor.**

The chair signed the Contract for Services for the humane society.

Set agenda for the next meeting – Wednesday June 19, 2019

There was discussion of whether to address concerns about an incident at Inner Fire.

- Discussion of Inner Fire concerns
- Water system, building update at SLP
- Road Equipment Purchase Committee
- EMC Compliance

Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Peter Barus, recording clerk, June 8th, 2019