



TOWN OF BROOKLYN

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Board of Finance **Revised** Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 5, 2023, 7:00 pm
Via Zoom & Clifford B. Green Memorial Center

Present: Sandy Brodeur, Ken Dykstra, Dave Lee, Aaron Soucy, Andrew Dionne, Heather Allen, Lisa Mileski, Recording Secretary

Also Present: Austin Tanner, Lou Brodeur, Charles Carey, Patricia Buell, Melissa Perkins-Banas, Shelley Cates via Zoom, Carrie Juhasz Horton via Zoom, Mae Lyons via Zoom, and other members of the public

1. **Determination of a quorum and Call to Order:** S. Brodeur called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with a full quorum.
2. **Public comment:** None
3. **Action on minutes of March 25, 2023 meeting:** Correct date of Minutes is March 15, 2023. A. Dionne made a motion to approve the March 15, 2023 minutes; seconded by D. Lee; motion carried, and minutes approved.
4. **Old Business**
 - a. **Status of 21-22 audit:** A. Tanner states the audit is not done and another extension has been filed. The auditor stated he was not putting all the blame on the Town. A zoom meeting with the auditor is scheduled April 6th.
 - b. **Status of generator project:** A. Tanner said the contract has been signed and it may take up to a year to get the generator. The quote is about \$183,000.00 and \$108,000.00 is covered by grant.
 - c. **Other Old Business:** None
5. **New Business**
 - a. **Presentation of 2023-24 Brooklyn Board of Education Budget proposal:** P. Buell presented the FY24 BOE Budget, which was already approved by the Superintendent and BOE, with supporting documentation. The increase is 5.33%. P. Buell answered several questions and addressed many comments. A. Dionne made a motion to consider the BOE Budget; seconded by K. Dykstra; opposed by A. Soucy. Motion carried 5-1.
 - b. **Rec Department cannot submit their budget until April 17:** A. Tanner confirmed that the Rec Director will present on April 17th.
 - c. **Fire Commissioners' budgets are unsure. Their meeting is next week, April 12. Extra meetings may be necessary.** Depending on what happens at that meeting, we may have to schedule extra meetings. We may have to schedule extra meetings for the Capital Commission because

they started late. We were supposed to have Capital and Town Budget on April 19th. We will just see how everything goes.

- d. **Auditor's update from A. Tanner:** Already presented.
 - e. **Status of the Green Building repairs:** A. Tanner stated we are supposed to receive an estimate of the repairs this week, and that we do not know about the asbestos yet, but that we can use the LOCIP funds if we have to.
 - f. **Set tentative dates for reviewing budget requests:** S. Brodeur will investigate this and let people know.
 - g. **Other new business:** None
6. **Selectmen's Report:** Earth Day is April 15th with a shredder truck and drug take back day at the Community Center and half fee for the residents at the Transfer Station. We are going out to bid next week for recycling and trash since our contract runs out in July. The Rec Director has resigned but has agreed to stay on part-time for a little while and would like to change the job description before we post. We are looking at past resumes though. ARPA Contract has been sent to the Town attorney and we are waiting to hear back. We did not get the sidewalk grant, very competitive and many applications.
7. **Liaison Reports:** H. Allen stated that Capital Committee met today for the first and we have a stack of requests but we are still waiting on some more. We are scheduled to meet the next two Wednesdays. S. Brodeur said Housing Authority was going to meet tomorrow. Nothing further from others.
8. **Public comment:** C. Juhasz read for public record an email (obtained from a FOIA request) from M. Podzalne to A. Tanner, dated March 22, 2023. She stated she has asked the same questions and will continue to pursue this. She stated she was interested in seeing the results of the audit for the tax filings and. S. Brodeur reported the audit was done but we have not seen anything. C. Juhasz also stated that we need to provide a safe learning environment for all students. **J. Voccio stated that we have not established a forum to provide definite responses to answer all the questions and that M. Podzalne met with the Fire District, staff reviewed the material, and was satisfied.** D. Lee states the Board of Fire Commissioners needs to have a conversation in a public forum about the information and get answers to the questions that they have asked. We have not had a meeting since the email was written. S. Cates reminded that we do not need to respond to public comments and that FOIA requests need to be responded to in a timely manner. A. Tanner stated that some of the questions could be answered if one studied the financials.
9. **Adjournment:** H. Allen made a motion to adjourn; A. Dionne seconded; meeting was adjourned at 8:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Mileski, Recording Secretary