



TOWN OF BROOKLYN

P.O. Box 356 - Route 6 and 169
BROOKLYN, CONNECTICUT 06234

OFFICE OF SELECTMEN
(860) 779-3411 Option 2

TOWN CLERK
(860) 779-3411 Option 4

TAX COLLECTOR
(860) 779-3411 Option 5

ASSESSOR
(860) 779-3411 Option 6

Board of Finance Special Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 19, 2023, 7:00 pm
Community Center and Via Zoom

Present: Sandra Brodeur, Ken Dykstra, Dave Lee, Andrew Dionne, Heather Allen, Brandon Zurek, Lisa Mileski, Recording Secretary

Also Present: Lou Brodeur, Shelley Cates, Thomas Rukstela, Joseph Voccio, Lisa Arends via Zoom, Jenn Nemeth via Zoom, Jo-Ann Gerardi-Voccio via Zoom

Absent:

1. Determination of a Quorum and Call to Order: S. Brodeur called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

2. Public Comment: None

3. Action on Minutes of June 21, 2023: H. Allen made a motion to approve the minutes of June 21, 2023; motion seconded by A. Dionne; minutes of June 21, 2023 approved

4. Old Business

a. Status of road surveillance project: A. Tanner stated the company did a very comprehensive report and gave the roads a 76 rating, which is just above the average, and that they will meet again next week to finalize. He also said there will be a program that will show what repairs have been done in the past five years and going forward, and he will find out if that will be accessible to the Town without going through the company.

b. Status of Prince Hill bathrooms: A. Tanner reported that the leaks have been repaired and the water is on, and he is waiting for an estimate for repairing the cracked toilets. The Board agreed that it is Parks and Recs' job to winterize the bathrooms when the time comes.

c. Status of Tatnic Road project: A. Tanner that they are waiting for Archer Surveying to finish the survey and are hoping it will be by the end of this week.

d. East Brooklyn – Actions and Update: A. Tanner stated that the injunction hearing in the case of Brooklyn Fire District, et al. v JMN Properties, LLC, et al. is scheduled for July 31, 2023.

5. New Business

a. Review financial reports: The financial reports were only for eighteen days, so there was no discussion.

b. Discussion of status of WPCA: A. Tanner stated that we are looking at a 100% increase; that the last rate increase was in 2018-2019; and that in 2020-2021, they budgeted \$330,000.00 and Killingly's fee was \$506,000.00; in 2021-2022, they budgeted \$450,000.00 and the fee was \$700,000.00; in 2022-2023, they budgeted \$749,000.00 and the fee was \$845,000.00, so you can see where the losses are. He stated we are fortunate that we had a \$500,000.00 or so reserve which we have used up, and we only owe Killingly \$80,000.00. He said Al Carpenter had come up with a three year plan to catch up using the reserve, but we used all of the reserve in one year, and he did not factor in the fact that Killingly was going to go up on the fees. He said the usage went up, especially during COVID, and Killingly took out a loan and did an upgrade and we pay for a percentage of that. A. Tanner will research the term of the loan. A. Tanner stated that we have a Town hearing on July 26, 2023 regarding the

increase. S. Cates confirmed that a single family dwelling pays \$345.00 currently and it is expected to go up to \$690.00. A. Tanner did some research and found that the average for a single family in 2019 was \$520.00; Woodstock was over \$1,000.00; Thompson was \$550.00; Killingly was \$885.00. It was discussed that there is approximately \$30,000.00 in outstanding bills and that the Town will hopefully build up a reserve when some of the apartments in Town hook-up to the Town sewer. After further discussion by the Board, we will see what happens at the Town meeting on July 26, 2023.

c. Discuss replacing a new truck with a used truck for the town road crew:

T. Rukstela was asking for authority to purchase a 2022 Ford F450 Pickup Truck instead of the 2023 Ford F350 that was presented and approved as a Capital Fund Project by the Town. He stated though the truck is a year older and sells for \$700.00 more, it only has 9,000 miles on it and has several extra features, including a snowplow prep package. The 2023 Ford F350 may not be available for a year to a year and a half and the 2022 Ford F450 is available now. After much discussion, T. Rukstela will call a few local dealerships to see if they have anything comparable. A. Dionne made a motion for the First Selectman to authorize T. Rukstela to take steps to purchase the 2022 Ford F450; H. Allen seconded the motion; and the motion passed.

6. Selectman's Report: A. Tanner stated that the bids for the Generator and fuel tank came in, one bid for each, and that the fuel tank bid was for the approved amount of \$15,000.00, but the generator bid was for \$4,000.00 more than the approved amount. After much discussion, K. Dykstra made a motion to allow T. Rukstela to get started on the generator project, with the understanding that we will have a Town meeting to see if the excess \$4,000.00 will come out of budget or if it can be transfer from a prior year capital budget; H. Allen seconded the motion; and the motion was approved.

7. Liaison Reports: A. Tanner stated that the CT Water Company is looking for somebody to represent each Town, so if anyone knows anyone with interest, we are looking for a volunteer. The Board discussed Cliff Green and A. Tanner said he would ask him. A. Tanner said the work in the Green building is on schedule, the asbestos has been removed, it has been tested, and everything is good. He said they are putting in the rugs in J. Roberson's office, the meeting room, and the IT room, so people should be able to move in next week. S. Brodeur said that the Housing Authority cancelled their meeting for today. D. Lee stated that the Board of Fire Commissioners had a special meeting last week and W. Skene was appointed as Chief. A. Dionne said that the Rec's camp numbers for summer camp are down from the last couple of years, but they are at the old level before the spring. He said they are now aware that they received the Capital for the restrooms and that the ARPA money for the tennis courts does not seem like it is going to be enough; that the lowest bid for them is \$100,000.00 short, and the playground for South Street is also coming in higher than budgeted, and finally, they have two positions that they are trying to fill. K. Dykstra reported that the Board of Education was meeting next week.

8. Public Comment: None

9. Executive Session – Possible Negotiations: The Board discussed changing the line item to Possible Solutions to the Fire District and D. Lee made a motion to go into Executive Session and invite J. Voccio and L. Brodeur to the meeting; H. Allen seconded; J. Nemeth questioned why the Board was going into Executive Session and A. Tanner stated that we want to make sure we have the support of the Board they go public. The Board went into Executive Session at 8:42 pm. D. Lee made a motion to end the Executive Session and H. Allen seconded and the Board returned from Executive Session at 9:33 pm

10. Adjournment: D. Lee made a motion to adjourn the meeting; H. Allen seconded; and the meeting adjourned at 9:33 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Mileski, Recording Secretary

Columbia Ford Inc.

PO Box 308, 234 Route 6, Columbia CT 06237

Phone: (860) 228-2886 X-156

TOWN OF BROOKLYN

Budget Quote

2023 Ford F350 Chassis

145" Wheelbase

Vinyl 40/20/40 Bench

Air Conditioning

7.3L Gas Engine

LT245/17 AT Tires

14,000# GVWR

Power Windows/Door Locks

H/D Cooling System

Trailer Brake Controller

Upfitter Switches

Platform Running Board

4X2

Cab Color: Red

XL Trim

Stabilizer Bars Front & Rear

10-speed Automatic

4.30 Limited Slip Rear Axle

Am/Fm/Clock

Power Trailer Tow Mirrors, Heated

250 Amp Alternator

Roof Clearance Lights

Sync Bluetooth Capable

SH Truck Bodies HD Platform Dump

3/16" Thick, Smooth Steel Bed Floor

42" High, Weld on Style Headboard

Painted Black w/Primer Undercoat and Urethane Topcoat

Two (2) Rear Mud Flaps

Plate Hitch 8 ton 2-5/16" Multi Hitch

Backup Alarm

9.5' Long X 96" Wide

6" Long Sills, 3" Structural Crossmembers

H/D Exterior Stake Pockets

Venco Scissor Hoist 8.9 Ton Cap, Electric Hydraulic

Body Up Warning Alarm

7 RV Trailer Plug

Price: \$56,121.00 Factory Ordered Unit

Accepted By: _____ Title: _____ Date: _____

PO# _____

Gerry Gervais

Director Commercial & Fleet Dep

Cell: (860) 922-7482

E-mail: ggervais@columbiaford.com

Columbia Ford Inc.

PO Box 508, 224 Route 8, Columbia CT 06237

Phone: (860) 223-2886 X-156

TOWN OF BROOKLYN Pre-Owned F450 Quote

2022 Ford F450 Chassis	4X4
145" Wheelbase	Cab Color: White
Cloth 40/20/40 Bench	XL Trim
Air Conditioning	Stabilizer Bars Front & Rear
7.3L Gas Engine	10-speed Automatic
225/70RX19.5 Traction Tires	4.88 Limited Slip Rear Axle
16,500# GVWR	Am/Fm/Clock
Power Windows/Door Locks	Power Trailer Tow Mirrors, Heated
H/D Cooling System	397 Amp Alternator
Trailer Brake Controller	Roof Clearance Lights
Upfitter Switches	Outside Temperature Display
Sync Bluetooth Capable	Snow Plow Prep Pkg
Platform Running Board	Dual Batteries
110v/400w Outlet	Backup Alarm
Chrome Front Bumper	Speed Control
Miles 9,784	
Duramag Aluminum Flatbed	9' Long 7.5' Wide
Aluminum Headbord	16" Aluminum Drop-In Sides & Tailgate
Electric Hydraulic Dump Hoist	All Required Lights, Stop/Turn/Tailgate Lights
Rear Trailering Hitch	7 RV Trailer Plug

Price: 56,785.00 Stock Unit, Subject ot availability at time of Purchase Order.
Price new \$71,460.00

Accepted By: _____ Title: _____ Date: _____

PO# _____

Gerry Gervais
Director Commercial & Fleet Dep
Cell: (860) 922-7482
E-mail: ggervais@columbiaford.com