



TOWN OF BROOKLYN

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

OFFICE OF SELECTMEN
(860) 779-3411 Option 2

TOWN CLERK
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TAX COLLECTOR
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ASSESSOR
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Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 29, 2024, 6:30 pm
Clifford B. Green Memorial Building
and via Zoom

Present: Austin Tanner, Ray Preece, Joe Voccio, Lisa Mileski, Recording Secretary

Also Present: Matt Alexander, Carrie Barna, Leo Berube, Steve Breen, Sandy Brodeur, Mark Spellmon

Via Zoom: Lisa Arends, Jana Aubin, Shelley Cates, Jo Ann Gerardi-Vocci, Christa Haveles, Aimee Genna, Carrie Juhasz, Dave Kowolenko, Dave Lee, Chris Maxim, Jenn Nemeth, Katie Panos, Michael Podzalne, Cynthia Rushworth, Jessica Solis, Ciaran Wilcox, Ann Marie

1. Call to Order: A. Tanner called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm
 2. Approve Meeting Minutes of February 8, 2024: R. Preece made a motion to approve the minutes of February 8, 2024; J. Voccio seconded; and the minutes were approved.
 3. Public Comment: None
 4. Kathleen Krider, Sr. Director Community Engagement, Access Agency, Presentation: Kathleen Krider did not make the meeting due to a misunderstanding of where it was being held.
 5. Cameron James, Regional Planner, NECCOG, Current Hazard Mitigation: C. James stated that the Town needs to update its Hazard Mitigation Plan; that it has not been done since 2015; and it should be done every five years.
 6. Appointments: Carrie Barna, as Member of Board of Ethics, term expiring: June 26, 2025; Katie Panos, as Alternate Member of Agriculture Commission, term expiring December 28, 2025; Board of Fire Commissioners: Matthew Alexander; David (DJ) Costa; William Wheaton, Jr.; Leo Berube; Dave Kowolenko; and Mark Spellmon:
 - R. Preece made a motion that Carrie Barna be appointed as Member of Board of Ethics with a term expiring: June 26, 2025; A. Tanner seconded; discussion was held; J. Voccio opposed the motion and voted no; and the motion passed.
 - R. Preece made a motion to appoint Katie Panos as an Alternate Member of Agriculture Commission with a term expiring December 28, 2025; J. Voccio seconded; and the motion passed.
- David Costa withdrew and William Wheaton, Jr. was a no-show.
- J. Voccio made a motion to appoint Matthew Alexander to the Board of Fire Commissioners; R. Preece seconded; and the motion passed.
 - R. Preece made a motion to appoint Dave Kowolenko to the Board of Fire Commissioners; J. Voccio seconded; and the motion passed.

7. New Business

a. Working groups: A. Tanner said he received a call from Bob Kelleher and he said we should get a Charter Commission together and move forward; NECCOG is looking for regional administrators for some of the smaller towns, which is another option we could look at and there will be a meeting on Monday at 9:00 am on this on Zoom. This was discussed by the Board, who should be included on the working group, how many members, Charter Commission Working Group could be the name of it, etc., and J. Voccio said he would write something up that can be used as a springboard, something that people could read so they will know if they would be interested.

b. Parking tickets: A. Tanner said since he is "Chief of Police" and there are issues with snow plowing and cars, the Resident Trooper suggested a book that could be used for giving tickets. J. Voccio stated that he thought per the proposed fire lane ordinance, the Selectmen were for the appeal process and probably should not be ticketing authorities.

c. Working Group – Administrator: See 7a.

d. Library Building: A. Tanner read the Library's response to Steve Townsend declining his request to construct a building for the Library by CVS.

e. Memorial Day Parade Committee: A. Tanner stated that the Committee recently met and we are always hoping to get more volunteers.

8. Old Business

a. Health Department Lease: A. Tanner said that we should decide if the Town is going to renew the Health Department Lease, which ends in August 2026. L. Mileski will provide a copy of the Lease to the Board members, A. Tanner will discuss with the Health Department, and this will be discussed at the next meeting.

b. Brooklyn Cares Community Center move: A. Tanner said that Parks and Rec is now going to stay at the Town Hall instead of downstairs at the Community Center. The cost to move upstairs will be better than \$20,000.00 and the room downstairs that we were going to use for rentals is not as nice as the one we have been using. This was discussed further by the Board.

c. OSHA: A. Tanner stated that the OSHA representative came back for a second time and that we should expect his written report in about a month or so.

d. ARPA: A. Tanner stated that we had an ARPA meeting the other night and that we have some decisions to make. J. Voccio suggested that R. Preece be a part of those meetings.

9. Monthly Police Services Report: This report was acknowledged by the Board.

10. Discussion on Financials: The Board did not have discussion on Financials but did decide they want to keep this as a line item on the monthly agenda.

11. Approve Bills:

-J. Voccio made a motion to approve Voucher #1451, dated 2/29/24, in the amount of \$679.26; R. Preece seconded; and the motion passed.

-J. Voccio made a motion to approve Voucher #1461, dated 2/29/24, in the amount of \$1,662.34 R. Preece seconded; and the motion passed.

-J. Voccio made a motion to approve Voucher #1460, dated 2/29/24, in the amount of \$147.00; R. Preece seconded; and the motion passed.

-J. Voccio made a motion to approve Voucher #1458, dated 2/29/24, in the amount of \$86,114.46; R. Preece seconded; and the motion passed.

12. Other Business: None

13. Public Comment: S. Brodeur made public comment about the Community Center. C. Barna, of 376 Stetson Road, Brooklyn, made public comment about the Memorial Day Parade and about Brooklyn Cares Community Center.

14. Adjourn: R. Preece made a motion to adjourn; J. Voccio seconded; and the meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Mileski, Recording Secretary