

**Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 11, 2014
6:30pm Clifford B. Green Memorial Center**

Present: Rick Ives, Bob Kelleher, Joe Voccio and Melissa Bradley; Recording Secretary

Also Present: Marion Kervin, Austin Tanner, Felix Ramos, Aaron Kerouack, WINY Radio and the Bulletin

1. **Call to Order:** Mr. Ives called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.
Mr. Voccio would like to observe a moment of silence to remember those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001, and also remember with gratitude the first responders who risked their lives.
2. **Approve Minutes:** Joe Voccio made a motion to approve the minutes from August 28, 2014 as presented. Bob Kelleher seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.
3. **Public Comment:** Aaron Kerouack questions why Old Tatnic Road is not on the agenda since it was stated at a previous meeting it would be on this agenda? Mr. Ives replies the answers to the questions asked at the public hearing meeting have not all been answered. It will be on a later agenda.
4. **Appointment:** Mr. Ives received three names from the East Brooklyn chief regarding the EB member to serve on the fire commissioners. Those names are Jim Warren, Deb Warren and Pat Gauthier. Pat Gauthier is their top choice for the commission. Bob Kelleher made a motion to reappoint Pat Gauthier to the Board of Fire Commissioners as the East Brooklyn representative with a term expiring 9-11-2015. Joe Voccio seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.
5. **Discussion on Putnam Tech Park:** Mr. Ives is still negotiating with Putnam and they are drafting a response to the concerns presented from the town hearing. Mr. Ives will have these next week and would like to hold a special meeting next Thursday. Bob Kelleher made a motion to hold a special meeting on September 18th at 6:30. Joe Voccio seconded the motion. Mr. Kelleher suggests inviting Putnam to the meeting to answer any questions. Motion passed 3-0.
6. **Discussion on Elections State Statute:** This was passed in legislation in 1929 and does not have a transition for the newly elected First Selectman. The newly elected First Selectman starts the following day and the former Selectman leaves office. Mr. Ives proposes a discussion on the October 9th meeting on how to go about changing this to allow a transition and some training.
7. **Discussion on 2013-14 Budget:** Year-end will be finished up next week. There was a \$1200 discrepancy with the school that is being worked out. Recreation is returning \$7000, General Government \$128,000 and the School \$153,490. We collected more in revenues this year than expected and also received more state revenue. Local revenues increased as well. We will not need to use all the money earmarked in the reserve to balance the budget.
8. **Discussion on 2014-15 Budget:** No discussion.

- 9. Update on Davis Forest:** The tree cutting has finished and the contractor is out. The highway garage is working on the parking area; it was approved for 12 spots. Four baskets have been installed currently for disc golf.
- 10. Update on Office Move to CBGMC:** There will be four or five employees moving over to the empty space at the Clifford B. Green Memorial Center. Mr. Ives will supply a plan at the next meeting. We are still looking into scanning and or moving the files necessary.
- 11. Update on Website:** The website will be going live tomorrow and it will be the same URL address it currently is, www.brooklynct.org.
- 12. Calls for Service:** Report in packet. The grant “operation speed” is underway and we did receive two new radar units from it.
- 13. Single Family Dwellings:** No discussion.
- 14. Public Comment**
- Mr. Tanner understands the frustration preparing the budget but states it cannot always be perfect because you do not always have control over certain items.
Mr. Tanner questions what all the issues are that are being addressed regarding the Tech Park and if the Town will see these before a vote? Mr. Ives states they are what came out of the public hearing and it will be addressed at a Selectmen’s meeting prior to a vote.
Mr. Tanner feels the move of departments may be premature. The Town should wait and establish the building facility meeting first and see their findings. It is going to be inconvenient for residents to have to go to different buildings to conduct business.
 - Marion Kervin suggests the board pays closer attention to department spending; it should be based on needs, not wants.
Ms. Kervin questions why we would go into partnership with Putnam on the Tech Park? Mr. Ives states it is not a partnership, it is an investment.
 - Aaron Kerouack feels with the amount of money not spent from the budget, the mill rate should be reversed. The Town is losing potential residents because of the mill rate being high.
Mr. Kerouack states there were stipulations regarding the parking spots at the disc golf site and a time limit on completion in the grant that was awarded. Mr. Ives states we have not violated this and the grant was extended. The Town has spent half of the \$10,000 approved so far and we did save money by having the highway department clear up the parking lot.
Mr. Kerouack feels the timber harvest in Town is not being used properly in other areas in Town. This needs to be done for the health of the forest and the Town should look more closely at this.
 - Marion Kervin questions the status of the school alarm system. Mr. Ives states there is a consultant inspection review in the works. Mr. Voccio suggests the idea of using the unused funds to balance the budget for the school security system. This is a very important matter and Mr. Ives agrees this should be discussed.
 - Felix Ramos states he has not been in favor of the disc golf from the beginning. He is concerned with the amount of traffic that will be brought down this road which is only one way in and one way out. He would like to see a plan for this area and requests the Resident Troopers patrol the area often. Mr. Ives would like to consider closing all the parks in Town daily but this would mean an employee would have to open them at sun up and close them at sun down.
Mr. Ramos expresses his concern with not receiving agendas for the Board of Fire Commissioners meetings until the day of the meeting. He feels there is very poor

communication and this does not allow members to prepare their schedule accordingly. He feels it is personal and would hope for this matter to be rectified. Mr. Ives states he agrees and the commission did change the meeting dates to second Wednesday of each month.

- 15. Adjourn:** Joe Voccio made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bob Kelleher seconded the motion.
Meeting adjourned at 7:35pm

Respectfully Submitted;

Melissa J. Bradley
Recording Secretary