**Board of Selectmen**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday September 12, 2013**

**6:30pm Clifford B. Green Memorial Center**

**Present:** Austin Tanner, Bob Kelleher, Drew Dionne and Melissa Bradley; Secretary

**Also Present:** David Fuss, Mike Gaudreau, Rick Ives, Jeannine Lowell, Tiffanie Schley and WINY Radio.

1. **Call to Order:** Mr. Tanner called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.
2. **Approve Previous Minutes:** Drew Dionne made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from August 29, 2013. Bob Kelleher seconded the motion. Mr. Tanner clarifies #7 should state ‘The Brooklyn website was ranked 154 out of 169.’ Motion passed with change 3-0.
3. **Public Comment:** Drew Dionne made a motion to add a second public comment after other business. Bob Kelleher seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.
4. **Appointments:** Mr. Tanner received three names for the Board of Fire Commissioners; Pat Dragon, Deb Warren, and Pat Gauthier. Of the three, Pat Gauthier was recommended. Drew Dionne made a motion to reappoint Pat Gauthier to the Fire Commissioners with a one year term expiring 9/11/2014. Bob Kelleher seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.
5. **Discussion on Town Meeting:** Mr. Tanner reports the items needed for the Town Meeting on the 24th are the probate lease, cleaning contract and the recreation truck repairs. The recreation truck is having engine issues. Mr. Dionne suggests searching other options, the repairs could be too costly. Bob Kelleher made a motion to include on the Town Meeting agenda authorization of the repair of the recreation department truck in an amount not to exceed $7,500. Drew Dionne seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0. Mr.Dionne questions if the Board of Fire Commissioners ordinance change could go on this meeting. Mr. Kelleher states the board should discuss it with the Fire Commissioners first before they go ahead with it.
6. **Discussion and Action on WPCA Resolution:** Mr. Fuss explains the WPCA is set up different than the Housing Authority because the sewer authority is set up through the Town and the Town collects the money. It would be a 40 year note, $1,115,000 at 2.75%. Of that, $374,000 is grant money. The current system has not been improved for over thirty years. The loan will be paid back through usage charges and there will be a slight increase in residential, an increase for commercial and a higher increase for the jail being they are one of the biggest users. Mr. Kelleher does not understand why the Town is signing off on the loan and becoming obligated for it. The WPCA is agreeing to pay it, but ultimately, the Town is responsible if the WPCA defaults. Bob Kelleher made a motion to approve the adoption of the resolution based upon Bruce Chudwick’s recommendation and move to the Board of Finance and Town Meeting. Drew Dionne seconded the motion. Bob Kelleher requests to see the studies of what work needs to be done. Mr. Ives will speak with the auditors regarding on how the WPCA funding falls into the audit reports. The project is still three years out. Motion passed 3-0.
7. **Discussion on Town Website:** A letter was drafted to respond to the Yankee Institute survey as an immediate response. Mr. Tanner suggests speaking with vendors at the CCM Convention regarding the website as a long term solution. Mr.Tanner suggests having a committee for the website and look at who is going to maintain the website.
8. **Discussion on Function Study:** Mr. Kelleher spoke with Bob Miller and if he is available he would facilitate, otherwise, he would get someone from QVCC to help out. The Selectmen agree to hold off and let the next Board of Selectmen review and discuss this matter.
9. **Discussion on Petition:** A petition was handed in to rescind the discharge of the Recreation Director. Mr. Tanner is awaiting the Attorney’s response. Drew Dionne made a motion to have a special meeting for purpose of discussion of the petition on September 17th at 7pm, location to be determined based upon availability. Bob Kelleher seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.
10. **Discussion on Small Cities Grant:** Drew Dionne suggests looking into continuing the sidewalks to Wal Mart, which would target low income residents. South Main Street could use improvements and possibly street lighting.
11. **Set Appeal Hearing Date:** Mr. Matthew Lohbusch requested an appeal hearing with the Board of Selectman regarding his termination. The Selectmen agree on the 23rd or 25th, depending on when the labor attorney is available.
12. **Single Family Dwelling:** No discussion.
13. **Calls for Service:** No discussion.
14. **Other Business**

* Lisa Scribbner, the recording secretary for Planning and Zoning and other various boards, is moving. Mr. Tanner will place an ad in the paper for a replacement.
* Lot #172 on Paradise Drive, .34 acres, is a land locked parcel and the Town owns it. A gentleman who bought lot #173, 174 & 175 is interested in buying it. It was appraised at $5,100. Mr. Tanner will see if he wants to make an offer and it will have to go to Planning and Zoning and a Town Meeting.
* The Housing Authority looked into the minutes and found an agreement from Donald Francis in 1993 but the Housing Authority never signed it because they had a few questions. The Housing Authority will write up a new agreement and will have done in the next two weeks. The determination of the grant stated the building had to be used for ten years what it was built for and we are well beyond that. This will have to go the next town meeting.
* The revised probate lease has been completed and will be on the website for review.
* The cost of alarms at the school came in more than what was requested in capital. Mr. Tanner will look into this.
* Resident Trooper Tanksley is looking into the DUI grant. There is $20,000 in our budget for this. Mr. Tanner will have more details for the next meeting.
* Mr. Kelleher would like to see the speed limit sign out more often.

1. **Public Comment**

* Mike Gaudreau – Mr. Gaudreau states the Recreation Commission met on Monday, although they are not in favor of the termination of the Recreation Director, they are proceeding to hire a new Director. Mr. Gaudreau would like to form a small committee to review applications and requests Drew Dionne from the Board of Selectmen to sit on the committee. Gene Michael Deary from the Board of Finance will be requested to sit on the committee as well as another member from the Recreation Commission.

Mr. Gaudreau reiterates the Recreation Commission is not in favor the Recreation Department moving and would like them to stay where they are. Changing the price of the lease is not going to change their decision.

Mr. Gaudreau reports the Recreation Commission would like to see the administrative assistant increased to 35 hours a week in the absence of a Recreation Director. Mr. Tanner advised the commission she would get an hour and a half a week more. Mr. Tanner debates that statement. She will be undertaking a full time position in her part time work schedule of 29 hours. Steve Philips from the Recreation Commission has stepped up and offered to take over spooky nights.

Mr. Tanner appreciates the comments and that the commission is moving forward. Mr. Tanner feels he would best be served on the committee since the applicants will ultimately go to him. Mr. Kelleher does not object to Mr. Dionne on the committee, and Mr. Tanner can participate as Ex officio. Bob Kelleher made a motion to appoint Drew Dionne as a voting member of the selection committee for the Recreation Director. Austin Tanner seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

* Tiffanie Schley – Ms. Schley questions why the Selectmen are waiting on an attorney’s response to the petition if it was all done on the up and up. Mr. Tanner states it is to see if it is a proper petition for a town meeting. Ms. Schley also requests the probate lease be online and/or available at the town meeting for review and questions what the plan is for the Recreation Department if it is passed. Mr. Tanner answers upstairs in the Community Center on Tiffany Street.
* Jeannine Lowell – Ms. Lowell states the town’s people have asked to have a meeting to form a committee to validate the reasons of the Recreation Director’s termination. Ms. Lowell questions If the attorney finds it to be a legal petition and a committee is formed, where does that leave the search of a new Recreation Director? Mr. Tanner answers the process will continue until it is decided it is changed.
* Valerie Downs – Ms. Downs states because the town does not own the Tiffany Street building, will we be paying rent for our Town department to operate there? Mr. Tanner states no because we are managing the building. The Housing Authority is drafting a document for the Town to fully manage the building. Ms. Downs requests that document be available online or at the Town meeting for review.

1. **Approve Bills:** Drew Dionne made a motion to approve the bills. Bob Kelleher seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.
2. **Adjourn:** Drew Dionne made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00pm. Bob Kelleher seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted;

Melissa J. Bradley

Secretary