



## 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 Selectmen Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, June 8, 2023, 6:30 pm  
Clifford B. Green Memorial Building  
and via Zoom

**Present:** Austin Tanner, Lou Brodeur, Joe Voccio, Lisa Mileski, Recording Secretary

**Also Present:** Rich Dvorin, Sandy Brodeur, David Lee, Mike Podzalone, Rich Pothier, and the follow via Zoom: Michaela Green, Silvana Green, Bill Green, Carrie Juhasz, JoAnn Gerardi-Voccio, Diane Wimmer, Aimee Genna, Bob Kelley, ZINY, and other members of the public

**Absent:**

1. **Call to Order:** A. Tanner called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

2. **Approve Meeting Minutes of May 25, 2023:** L. Brodeur made a motion to approve the minutes of May 25, 2023; J. Voccio seconded the motion; and the minutes of May 25, 2023 were approved.

3. **Public Comment:** M. Podzalone gave a statement asking the board to consider questions about the fire lane: Who authorized the fire lane to be established in the right of way and did they have the authority to do so on a right of way on private property? He also stated that the Fire District made it clear that its main concern is being a landlord to the building, not about fire protection, so why does the Fire District care about a fire lane? R. Pothier stated he also would like to have answers to these questions. C. Juhasz also elaborated on this and asked what the procedure is for establishing a fire lane and was a safety study done, what was required, what was done, was anything considered, etc. before the purchase of the property at 15 South Main Street.

4. **Appointments:** Cara Coraccio-Bellantone's membership on the Board of Ethics expires on 6/23/23, and L. Brodeur moved to re-appoint her; J. Voccio seconded; and Cara Coraccio-Bellantone was re-appointed as a member of the Board of Ethics with a term to expire on 6/23/26. Dann Stuyinski's membership on the Board of Ethics expires on 6/23/23, and J. Voccio moved to re-appoint him; A. Tanner seconded; L. Brodeur obtained; and Dann Stuyinski was re-appointed as a member of the Board of Ethics with a term to expire on 6/23/26. Robert Kelleher's term as Regulation Hearing Officer expires on 7/1/23. L. Brodeur made a motion to re-appoint him; J. Voccio seconded. Mr. Robert Kelleher was available via Zoom and agreed to serve, and he was re-appointed as Regulation Hearing Officer with a term to expire on 7/1/25.

### 5. Old Business

a. **Green Building:** A. Tanner stated that the rugs have been ordered and they will be here in a couple of weeks so they can do the abatement, and the electrician has already started doing what he can do. Meetings will be held at the Community Center when this happens. Discussion was had about getting new microphones when the meetings return to the Green building, and A. Tanner said he would talk to G. Bryant about this.

## 6. New Business

**a. Rumble Strips:** A. Tanner stated that the State is planning on putting rumble strips on the whole length of Route 6 except for at the median.

**b. Fire Lane:** A. Tanner read Fire Lane Regulation 2005-R-0397 regarding Town jurisdiction over fire lanes. He stated currently that the Town does not have an ordinance and he spoke with our Fire Marshal, and he was under the impression that he had the authority to do this, but we do not actually know that. He also said the fire zone was established just after the Fire Department bought the building on South Main Street, and we do not have a clear answer on whether it was done legally or not seeing as we do not really know who had the jurisdiction. He also said that the Fire Marshall established the fire zone, reported it to the First Selectman, but it was never approved at a Selectmen's meeting or anything else. The injunction lawsuit and other items were discussed. A. Tanner read Section 7-1.2 of the Brooklyn Municipal Code and stated that we have the regulations that we should not be parking there; it seems it should be an enforcement issue, not a legal issue. J. Voccio read Section 7-1.1a of the Brooklyn Municipal Code and stated that we would need to do some research to look into this further and get answers to all the questions; and maybe sit down with the Town Attorney and discuss.

**c. Land Use Attorney:** A. Tanner stated that Alter & Pearson have been our land use attorney for many years, and Attorney Peter is 77 years old and has advised us to look for another attorney so he can slow down in his practice. A. Tanner said he gave us a couple of names and the Town will be looking into this.

**7. Review Single Family Dwellings Report:** The report was acknowledged, and A. Tanner said he called about receiving a Sergeant's report, and he received one, and provided it to the Board. J. Voccio mentioned that it would be nice to get reports from the Resident Trooper on a regular basis.

**8. Discussion on Financials:** Some discussion was had regarding the Central supplies.

**9. Approve Bills:** L. Brodeur moved to approve Voucher #1598 dated June 12, 2023 for \$851.26 for milage and expenses; J. Voccio seconded; motion was approved. L. Brodeur moved to approve Voucher #1599 dated June 8, 2023 for \$102,458.39; J. Voccio seconded. Discussion was had on the legal fees, that some of the bills were older and had not be paid. Motion was then approved. L. Brodeur moved to approve Voucher #1600 dated June 9, 2023 for \$372.25 for the phone bill. Discussion was held about how the fax machine line was connected to the alarm system at the highway garage. J. Voccio seconded; motion was approved.

**10. Other Business:** Discussion was held about the State Budget; about the solar panels we have with Canterbury; about the \$10,000,000 the governor is making available to upgrade senior centers around the State; and about the generator project.

**11. Public Comment:** S. Brodeur talked about how the Ice Box staff should not have to police the parking lot at their business; that she thought it was a good idea to have a meeting with the Town Attorney; she wanted to know why the legal bills from February were not paid. D. Lee talked about the fire lane, the injunction, and State budget ambulance grants. M. Podzalne referenced and read Board of Fire Commissioner's Ordinance 11-1-3 and offered the services of the Board of Fire Commissioner to look into drafting a filing ordinance in alignment with what currently exists around the State. B. Green talked about the lawsuit, the Brooklyn Fire District, restructuring by the Town of the fire services, etc. C. Juhasz stated that this is not just about the Ice Box, but also involves a private residence, and brought up the 501c3 tax filings for the Fire Department, the requirements for driving a fire truck. R. Pothier gave some facts about when he purchased his property, that the lawsuit was initially thrown out of Court and was refiled to include others, so it is not just about the Ice Box, etc. J. Voccio clarified that he is not asking for businesses to put a teenager out in the parking lot with an orange vest, but to perhaps a placard on the counter or front door that says "for the safety of our neighbors, please do not park in the fire lane".

**12. Adjourn:** L. Brodeur made a motion to adjourn the meeting; J. Voccio seconded; and the meeting was adjourned at 7:37 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lisa Mileski, Recording Secretary

**Topic:**

FIRE DEPARTMENTS; FIRE SAFETY; SAFETY (GENERAL);

**Location:**

FIRE SAFETY CODE;

**OLR RESEARCH REPORT**

April 18, 2005

2005-R-0397

**FIRE LANE REGULATION**

By: Steve Dilella, Legislative Fellow

You asked when and why the state gave responsibility for fire zones (fire lanes) to towns and whether the state monitors fire zones.

The law giving towns jurisdiction over fire lanes was passed in 1999 (Public Act 99-163). Under prior law, the state fire safety code established the fire zones and the state fire marshal and local fire marshals regulated them.

Public Act 99-163 allows towns to establish fire zones by ordinance. The ordinance may consider (1) fire suppression equipment and how the fire department will use it and (2) the size, use, occupancy, type, and nature of buildings and facilities for which the zones are being established. According to the state fire marshal, not all towns have adopted a fire zone ordinance. In towns that have, the police department, fire department, or local fire marshal, or some combination of these, are responsible for enforcing the ordinance. It is unclear who has responsibility in towns that have not adopted an ordinance, according to State Fire Marshal John Blaschik.

We have been unable to determine, from the legislative history of the public act, why the legislature transferred jurisdiction over fire zones to towns. The bill, which became Public Act 99-163, was introduced in the Public Safety Committee. The public safety commissioner, who was the only person to testify, stated that the state wanted to transfer jurisdiction, but did not say why. The bill was referred to the Planning and Development, Appropriations, and Labor and Public Employees committees, all of which reported it unanimously. The House passed it without discussion, and the Senate passed it on consent.

The state fire marshal suggests that the size of the local department's vehicles may have played a role. According to him, fire lanes must be able to accommodate the fire equipment likely to use them. Since towns have vehicles of varying lengths and widths, towns need fire lanes of different dimensions.

SD:ro

☐ **§ 7-1.2 Parking in Designated Fire Zones and No Parking Zones Prohibited.** <sup>[1]</sup>

[Ord. No. 06-01 § 1; Ord. 12/13/18]

Pursuant to Section 7-148 of the Connecticut General Statutes (Revision of 1958), no person shall park a vehicle or remain stationary in an area, that is clearly marked "NO PARKING" or "FIRE ZONE" by appropriate devices or markers or by lines upon the surface of ground, indicating parking is prohibited, or for a period of time that is longer than allowed by legally installed signs.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to emergency vehicles or maintenance vehicles in the normal course of business.

[1] *Editor's Note: See also Section 11-2, Parking in Designated Fire Zones Prohibited.*

☐ **§ 7-1.1 Parking of Vehicles on Public Property and Roads.**

[Ord. No. 94-4 §§ 1—3; Ord. 12/13/18]

- a. The Board of Selectmen is hereby empowered to post as "No Parking" areas those portions of Town streets or public property belonging to the Town as they, in their discretion, determine that the public interest requires. Such designation may include a ban on parking during specified times, events, or occurrences.





**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION**  
**Troop D, Danielson**

June 15, 2023

First Selectman Austin Tanner  
P. O. Box 356  
Brooklyn, Ct 06234

Dear First Selectman Tanner:

This correspondence is to keep you apprised of the monthly police services occurring within the Town of Brooklyn. It is my sincere hope that this report will assist you in better understanding our role in your community.

During the month of April 2023 Troop D Troopers responded to 206 Calls for Service in the Town of Brooklyn. Of these Calls for Service the most notable are:

|                         |            |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Accidents:              | <u>5</u>   |
| Investigations:         | <u>15</u>  |
| Burglaries:             | <u>0</u>   |
| Larcenies:              | <u>0</u>   |
| Non Reportable Matters: | <u>186</u> |

In addition to the above investigations Troopers conducted the following motor vehicle enforcement:

|                    |           |
|--------------------|-----------|
| DUI'S:             | <u>0</u>  |
| Traffic Citations: | <u>7</u>  |
| Written Warnings:  | <u>32</u> |

Very truly yours,

*Lt. Russell Cote #42*

Commanding Officer  
Troop D, Danielson

*55 Westcott Road  
Danielson, CT 06239  
Phone: (860) 779-4900/Fax: (860) 779-4918  
An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer*



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This correspondence is to keep you apprised of the monthly police services occurring within the Town of Brooklyn. It is my sincere hope that this report will assist you in better understanding our role in your community.

During the month of May 2023 Troop D Troopers responded to 190 Calls for Service in the Town of Brooklyn. Of these Calls for Service the most notable are:

|                         |            |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Accidents:              | <u>8</u>   |
| Investigations:         | <u>26</u>  |
| Burglaries:             | <u>0</u>   |
| Larcenies:              | <u>2</u>   |
| Non Reportable Matters: | <u>154</u> |

In addition to the above investigations Troopers conducted the following motor vehicle enforcement:

|                    |           |
|--------------------|-----------|
| DUI'S:             | <u>2</u>  |
| Traffic Citations: | <u>10</u> |
| Written Warnings:  | <u>24</u> |

Very truly yours,

*Lt. Russell Cote #42*

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