



TOWN OF BROOKLYN

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BROOKLYN, CONNECTICUT 06234

OFFICE OF SELECTMEN
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ASSESSOR
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Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting Minutes (Revised)
Thursday, September 14, 2023, 6:30 pm
Community Center and via Zoom

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

1. **Call to Order:** A. Tanner called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm.
2. **Approve Meeting Minutes of August 31, 2023 and September 6, 2023 (added item):** L. Brodeur made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 31, 2023 meeting; J. Voccio seconded the motion; and the minutes of August 31, 2023 meeting were approved. L. Brodeur made a motion to approve the minutes of September 6, 2023 special meeting; J. Voccio seconded the motion; and the minutes of September 6, 2023 special meeting were approved.
3. **Public Comment:** None
4. **Appointments:** **Jason Burgess, Inland Wetlands Commission, term expires October 10, 2023 (new 3-yr term October 10, 2026); Brian Simmons, Planning and Zoning Commission, term expires October 1, 2023 (new 4-yr term October 1, 2027); R. David Lee's application to be a member of WPCA with a term expiring January 29, 2028.** L. Brodeur motioned to appoint Jason Burgess to the Inland Wetlands Commission with a term expiring October 10, 2026; J. Voccio seconded the motion; and Jason Burgess was appointed. A. Tanner stated that he spoke with Brian Simmons, and he does not want to be appointed as an alternate member of the Planning and Zoning Commission. L. Brodeur motioned to appoint R. David Lee to the WPCA with a term expiring January 28, 2028; J. Voccio seconded the motion; and R. David Lee was appointed.
5. **New Business**
 - a. **New Assessor and hiring of Assistant Assessor:** A. Tanner reported that the new Assessor, Rachel Ferreira, started her employment recently and is getting acclimated with the position. He also said that Ann Chenail will start in a couple of weeks as the Assistant Assessor; that there were only four applicants for the job.
6. **Old Business**
 - a. **Veterans Ceremony:** A. Tanner stated that Lt. Gov. Susan Bysiewicz will be honoring the Korean War Veterans and Vietnam Veterans of our Town on November 13, 2023 at 5:00 pm at the Brooklyn Middle School Auditorium. He asked if anyone thought we should do the Veterans Ceremony on that same day or keep it on Veterans Day, November 11, 2023. The Board decided that we should keep the events separate, and that the ceremony would be held at the monuments on November 11, 2023 at 1:00 pm; L. Brodeur will try to get Austin Stone to sing again; and we would see about ordering wreaths, etc. as the day gets closer.
 - b. **Update of Prince Hill Bathrooms:** A. Tanner said he met with the third plumber, Paul Reali, and as soon as he gets his estimate, we will be able to decide on who to proceed with.

c. ARPA Requests: A. Tanner stated that we have requests from the Fire Company and AmVets and he is sure more will be coming in. He also said S. Cates will have things ready for this week.

d. WPCA: A. Tanner said the supplemental bills are going out to residents. He said he met with Justin D'Antonio of Connecticut Rural Water & Wastewater Association, provided him with some information, and is hoping to hear back from him soon. J. Voccio found some other information for other consultants if Mr. D'Antonio is no successful.

7. Review Single Family Dwellings Report: The Board acknowledged this report.

8. Discussion on Financials: The Board discussed the hazardous waste disposal allowance budgeted for by the Town and about partnering with the Towns of Pomfret and Woodstock. They are hopeful folks will avail themselves as A. Tanner says there are calls and requests about this all the time.

9. Approve Bills:

-L. Brodeur made a motion to pay Voucher #1154, dated September 14, 2023, in the amount of \$2,760.41; J. Voccio seconded; and the motion was approved.

-L. Brodeur made a motion to pay Voucher #1155, dated September 14, 2023, in the amount of \$200,309.91; J. Voccio seconded; and the motion was approved with discussion. J. Voccio asked why the \$6,000.00 paid to the auditor was in this year's budget instead of last year's, and A. Tanner said he would check with S. Cates.

-L. Brodeur made a motion to pay Voucher #1153, dated September 14, 2023, in the amount of \$265.16; J. Voccio seconded; and the motion was approved.

-L. Brodeur made a motion to pay Voucher #1156, dated September 14, 2023, in the amount of \$1,951.56; J. Voccio seconded; and the motion was approved.

10. Other Business: J. Voccio asked if there was any reports of damage due to the storm yesterday; and A. Tanner said nothing has come out yet, but we are trying to document all damage, washed out roads, fallen trees, just in case we do have an opportunity to get some reimbursement. J. Voccio stated he noticed Eversource was doing utility work on Day Street and in other parts of Town, and he is pretty sure the Town Ordinance says they should be repaving the full width of the road to minimize the damage, yet he is seeing lots of patchwork, and no sealing of the edges. He feels if these things were done up to Town specs, it would save the Town additional repair work in the future. A. Tanner said that he had spoken with T. Rukstela about this and that he will follow up. J. Voccio also asked if they could get a litigation update on the JMN Property lawsuit at some point. A. Tanner said that there was a settlement agreement that was withdrawn and then a revised one that he did not think all the parties had addressed yet. J. Voccio said it would be good to know what our counselor and insurer are thinking about the current situation because it sounds like there is going to be continued activity that will involve the Town. A. Tanner mentioned that the CCM Convention is November 28, 2023 at the Mohegan Sun and that if anyone is interested in attending, they should see him or S. Cates. A. Tanner also said that they are having an open house at the Community Center for the Care Center on September 23, 2023, and P. Buell has requested Opioid Funds so that she can purchase additional \$12.00 a piece medical kits to hand out. The Board thought this was a good idea.

11. Public Comment: None.

12. Executive Session: L. Brodeur made a motion for the Board to go into Executive Session to discuss the pending lawsuit with JMN Property; J. Voccio seconded the motion, and the Board went into Executive Session at 7:04 pm. J. Voccio made a motion to come out of Executive Session; L. Brodeur seconded, and the Board came out of Executive Session at 7:10 pm

12. Adjourn: L. Brodeur made a motion to adjourn; J. Voccio seconded; and the meeting was adjourned at 7:11 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Mileski, Recording Secretary

