



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

OFFICE OF SELECTMEN
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Board of Selectmen
Special Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 28, 2023, 4:00 pm
Clifford B. Green Memorial Center Conference Room
and via Zoom

Present: Austin Tanner, Lou Brodeur, Joe Voccio, Lisa Mileski, Recording Secretary, Jenn Nemeth via Zoom, Mike Podzaline via Zoom, WINY Radio via Zoom, Attorney Eric Gerarde via Zoom, Attorney Laura Raymond via Zoom

- 1. Call to Order:** A. Tanner called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm
- 2. Approve Meeting Minutes of September 14, 2023:** L. Brodeur made a motion to approve the minutes of September 14, 2023; J. Voccio seconded the motion; A. Tanner had one correction under item 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. The minutes of September 14, 2023 were approved with said correction.
- 3. Public Comment:** M. Podzaline made a request as Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners to join the Board in executive session, and the Board agreed.
- 4. Executive Session - JMN Properties/Fire District Lawsuit – Update and Attorney Review:** J. Voccio made a motion to go into executive session and L. Brodeur seconded. The Board went into executive session at 4:07 pm with M. Podzaline, Attorney E. Gerarde, Attorney L. Raymond, and the Recording Secretary. L. Brodeur made a motion to come out of executive session and J. Voccio seconded; and the Board came out of executive session at 4:35 pm.
- 5. New Business**
 - a. Resignation of Town Financial Assistant:** S. Wolchesky, Town Financial Assistant, has given her two weeks' notice and the Town is advertising for a replacement.
 - b. Storm Damage to Roadways:** T. Rukstela was paving the last of the damage on Cherry Hill today. He and C. Leach did substantiate the money that they spent on the storm damage so if something does come up, we will be in a position to get some reimbursement. The Board acknowledged that the Town Crew has done a great job and A. Tanner stated that he and T. Rukstela are planning to go out next week because they have several complaints about edges of roads into driveways, etc. J. Voccio thanks the residents for being patient.
 - c. Parks and Recreation Department moving to Community Center:** A. Tanner said that the Recreation Department will be moving to the Community Center; however, there are some renovations that need to be done, including deciding whether to take the second kitchen out and using it for storage.
 - d. 250 Year Celebration – State of Connecticut:** D. Merrill, as Chair of America 250, CT Commission, has asked the Town to help to celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration, so we need a person from the Town that could serve as a liaison between the Commission and our Town, who could work on getting something going in our Community. The 250th Anniversary is July 4, 2026.
 - e. Department of Health Discussion:** The Board discussed the vote of No Confidence that NECCOG took regarding the NDDH as it relates to Susan Starkey,

Executive Director. A. Tanner stated he is meeting with someone from the Department of Health and Robert Kelleher, who is our Representative, on Tuesday. The Board discussed this at length and A. Tanner said he hopes that they can help the NDDH get back in shape somehow and have a viable operation without the turmoil that they have had for the last year. He stated they provide a valuable service that the Town needs. J. Voccio said this has the likelihood of affecting the Town and also that if they are not able to provide the services that we need, there are other options.

6. Old Business

a. Prince Hill Bathrooms: The Board has decided to go with the quote from Reali Plumbing & Heating LLC for repairs and renovations to the bathrooms at Prince Hill. A. Tanner made a motion to hire Reali Plumbing & Heating LLC; L. Brodeur seconded; and the motion was approved.

b. Brooklyn Cares Community Center Grand Opening: There was a good crowd at the Grand Opening on September 23, 2023, and it is hoped that this will be a long term sustainable success.

7. Review Monthly Police Services Report: The Board acknowledged this report.

8. Discussion on Financials: None

9. Approve Bills:

-L. Brodeur made a motion to pay Voucher **#1171**, dated September 28, 2023, in the amount of \$227.00 (Prince Hill Bathroom pressure switch); J. Voccio seconded; and the motion was approved.

-L. Brodeur made a motion to pay Voucher **#1172**, dated September 28, 2023, in the amount of \$40.00 (Resource Recovery credit card machine); J. Voccio seconded; and the motion was approved.

L. Brodeur made a motion to pay Voucher **#1177**, dated September 28, 2023, in the amount of \$194,285.34; J. Voccio seconded; and the motion was approved.

10. Public Comment: M. Podzalne thanked the Board for allowing him to join in the Executive Session during this meeting.

11. Adjourn: L. Brodeur made a motion to adjourn the meeting; J. Voccio seconded the motion; and the meeting was adjourned at 5:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Mileski, Recording Secretary