**Board of Selectmen**

**Special Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday July 31, 2013**

**5pm Brooklyn Town Hall**

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

**Arrived at 5:06:** Bob Kelleher

**Also Present:** Jocelyn Ruffo and WINY Radio

1. **Call to Order:** Mr. Tanner called the meeting to order at 5:06pm.
2. **Appointment of Tax Collector:** The Selectmen welcome Jocelyn Ruffo to the meeting to discuss her interest in Tax Collector. Mr. Tanner states the tax collector is contesting the decision the Selectmen made to not reappoint her, therefore, depending on how the ruling goes, there is a possibility she will get her job back. Mr. Tanner believes she will have to be given back her current position and if this happens, the assistant tax collector position will go back to Jocelyn. Jocelyn states her concern if her current position is filled in the meantime. Mr. Tanner states Jocelyn would be given back her assistant position. Jocelyn requests that statement in writing. Mr. Dionne questions what the style of manager Jocelyn thinks she would be. Jocelyn replies she would stay on top of the office duties while teaching the assistant the functions of the office so the office could be covered in her absence. Mr. Kelleher asks Jocelyn to report to the Selectmen any changes or improvements she would like to see in the office. Mr. Dionne asks what the top three goals as manager in this position would be. Jocelyn replies handling delinquents. Using the attorney has been successful, but using the State Marshal more may help. He is able to garnish wages. Jocelyn also suggests adding the delinquent list in the annual report. Drew Dionne made a motion to appoint Jocelyn Ruffo as the new tax collector for the Town of Brooklyn with a term of five years starting August 5, 2013. Bob Kelleher seconded the motion. Mr. Kelleher feels Jocelyn, by far, is an outstanding candidate and there is no need to look outside, at this point, to fill the position. She has been with the Town for 21 years, she knows the practice, the procedure and the people. Mr. Kelleher states he is exercising his discretion as a member of the Board of Selectmen, under the ordinance, to make this appointment and does not feel the board is obligated to make such appointment under the collective bargaining unit. Mr. Kelleher states under the present bargaining agreement that there may not be an absolute right to the position, being the positions are under two separate units with two separate numbers. He feels there is a difference from being an employee under one unit than another unit. Mr. Dionne agrees with Mr. Kelleher and adds the decision was made based on Jocelyn’s merit, not just the collective bargaining unit. Mr. Tanner also agrees. Motion passed 3-0.
3. **Adjourn:** Drew Dionne made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:23pm. Bob Kelleher seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted;

Melissa J. Bradley

Secretary