



TOWN OF BROOKLYN

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

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**Board of Finance
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 22, 2021
7:00pm via Cisco Webex Meetings**

Present: Jeff Otto, Drew Dionne, Sandy Brodeur, Ken Dykstra, Heather Allen, and Melissa Bradley,
Recording Secretary

Also Present: Rick Ives, Austin Tanner, Lou Brodeur and Shelley Cates

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Agenda

1. Determination of a quorum and opening of meeting: Jeff Otto called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

2. Public Comment: None

3. Presentation and review of proposed General Government Budget for fiscal year '21 - '22 by First Selectman Rick Ives: Rick Ives states there are so many unknowns this year. Revenues and Expenses do not balance and that is because of revaluation. Capital is not completed yet either, those numbers are not included tonight. Rick requests to present last in the future so these items can be completed.

The Board of Education budget has changed, approximately \$450,000 higher than last year's budget but most likely will not be the final number either.

Short term and long-term debt needs to be discussed for capital and with the board, these are not finalized yet.

Prior taxes should be \$170,000, supplemental should be \$230,000.

Building Permits increased due to receiving a check for \$83,000 from the solar project. We most likely will have a condo project and three subdivisions coming in the next 60-90 days. Revenues are up 7.3 % and expenditures up by 2.35%. It will be higher with the school.

There are some funds expected from the pandemic relief fund. The amount is not certain. There was money given to each Town, but we are not sure how much and the rules are just starting to come out. It is geared towards projects, job relief, and emergency employees but it does not look like we can use in our budget.

Jeff Otto feels the budget hearing and meeting should be pushed back so all information is out and considered for the budget. Rick also states it was agreed upon last year to go out for a bond rating. Now that the audit is done, this can be finalized.

Rick discusses each budget activity answering any questions. No salary increases in any budget yet because the union is in negotiations.

Rick does not agree how EDC was run in the past. Money was added to this budget to put and RFP out for a consultant to lead us and start the correct process.

A second Trooper was added back into Patrol Services. A second shift Trooper in Town would be beneficial.

Fire Facilities now has an accurate number of who we pay a retirement to and who we may pay it to. This number should be accurate going forward.

Roads and Bridges was increased by \$25,000 to complete some paving projects.

Discussions have been held with the Selectmen regarding hiring help for the cemetery. The Selectmen will discuss further at the next meeting.

The old highway garage on South Main Street is being evaluated whether it should come down or have a new top put on.

The medical insurance in fridge benefits increased 8.66% and the dental decreased 7%. These are real numbers. The group we were in with five other Towns was up 23.5% and two Towns left the group.

Brooklyn's broker went out and obtained new rates for the Town and these are absolutely real numbers.

4. Old Business

a. Any old business to be discussed: None

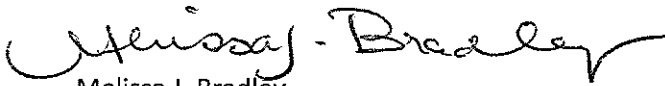
5. New Business

a. Any new business to be discussed: New dates will be discussed at the next meeting for the budget hearing and meeting and possibly an additional board of finance meeting date to finalized all the budgets.

6. Public Comment: None

7. Adjournment: Drew Dionne made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sandy Brodeur seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.

Respectfully Submitted;



Melissa J. Bradley
Recording Secretary