



# TOWN OF BROOKLYN

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

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**Board of Finance  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, May 3, 2022  
7:00pm via Zoom &  
Clifford B. Green Memorial Center**

**Present:** Sandy Brodeur, Aaron Soucy, David Lee, Heather Allen, Ken Dykstra and Melissa Bradley;

**Recording Secretary**

**Absent:** w/notice Drew Dionne

**Also Present:** Austin Tanner, Joe Voccio, Rushie Bean and Rick Ives

1. **Determination of a quorum and Call to Order:** S. Brodeur called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.
2. **Public comment:** None
3. **Presentation by Joe Voccio of Capital Budget proposal for 2022-23 year:** The capital committee voted to recommend the following projects: Mortlake: replace openers on 9 overhead doors at 12 Canterbury Rd \$27,000 and purchase a new set of battery-operated Hurst tools \$58,400; Resurface Prince Hill basketball courts \$27,000; Purchase new pickup with plow \$63,315 and new loader tractor w/backhoe \$140,000 for the highway department. Totaling \$315,715. Two projects requested from Parks & Recreation were referred to the AARPA committee, new tennis courts and lights; and a school project to upgrade the phone system. The boiler replacement project will be done this fiscal year with funds left over from other capital projects.
4. **Discussion of possibility of changing our method of budgeting for Capital projects:** The board discusses putting funds into a capital account to build it up yearly. This would reduce the need for bonds or bans. When a capital project arises, it would go to a town meeting for approval. A five-year plan should be constructed. This would not happen for this upcoming budget but could be worked on for next year.

R. Bean mentions there is \$59,000 unused funds in the capital account currently.

H. Allen made a motion to accept the capital committee recommendations as presented this year for consideration. D. Lee seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

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The board requests more information regarding the hurst tools in Mortlake's request. Specifically, are any being replaced? And have they sought any grants? D. Lee comments there are many grants available if the effort is put into it.

**5. Presentation by Austin Tanner of the Town Budget proposal for 2022-23 year:**

FY23 Budget Overview

The Town Budget is up by \$369,048.00

Capital Projects up by \$174,421.00

Total Increase over FY22 \$543,469.00 9.29% increase

Overall labor increase \$185,403.00

Administration \$90,742.00 Adding Full Time Finance Director but removing the Treasury/Asst. Treasury Stipends

Debt \$122,476.00 Payments of Principal and interest of Long-Term Bond

Elections \$17,808.00 Two Districts, additional staffing & minimum wage increase

Land Use Budget \$32,000.00 Permanent part time position and need for a plotter

Fire Facilities \$30,000.00

Roads Drainage \$17,869.00

Resource Recovery \$28,610.00 3% increase of Willimantic Waste Contract, Resource Recovery open on Wednesdays all year

Recreation \$20,041.00

Parks \$13,882.00

\$50,000.00 Contingency Recommendation for possible Salary Increase after completion Salary Study and increase in cost of fuel

The board requests looking into one TV/internet provider to see if there are any cost savings

Revenues

Based on Current Mill Rate of 26.42 Property Tax Revenue projected increase \$700,000.00

State Revenue up by .62% \$45,000.00

Based on the needs of the Town a Mill Increase of 1.06 is needed to balance the budget \$704,858.00 Increase in Revenue needed

Monies being returned from the general government budget or schools for this fiscal year is unknown at this time.

The reserve is currently at \$1,532,000; 5.9%

The open space fund has approximately \$175,000

The board previously agreed to build the reserve to 10% in four years with three more years to go

If the recommended \$50,000 is added to contingency, it would increase the mill rate by 1.14, bringing it to 27.56.

D. Lee questions if this board sees how entities we give money to, such as the fire departments and library, is spent? S. Brodeur states the fire departments did submit quarterly reports and it was felt it was a function of the board of fire commissioners to oversee and report to the finance board if needed. D. Lee would like to have further discussions on requesting auditing results from the entities we give money to validate how they are spending the town's people money.

**6. Other Business:** Next meeting is May 18<sup>th</sup> and will included answers to questions from tonight's meeting.

**7. Public comment:** None

**8. Adjournment:** H. Allen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. A. Soucy seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:26pm.

Respectfully Submitted;



Melissa J. Bradley  
Recording Secretary