



TOWN OF BROOKLYN

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

Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 10, 2022
6:30pm via Zoom and in person
Clifford B. Green Memorial Center

OFFICE OF SELECTMEN
(860) 779-3411 Option 2

TOWN CLERK
(860) 779-3411 Option 4

TAX COLLECTOR
(860) 779-3411 Option 5

ASSESSOR
(860) 779-3411 Option 6

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
2022 FEB 17 AM 9:44
Melissa Bradley
Recording Secretary

Present: Austin Tanner, Lou Brodeur, Joe Voccio and Melissa Bradley; Recording Secretary
Also Present: Ken Dykstra, Sandy Brodeur, Mae Lyons, Evan Keech, John Splendolini, Gil Maiato

1. **Call to Order:** A. Tanner called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.
2. **Approve Previous Minutes:** L. Brodeur made a motion to approve the minutes of 1/27/22 as presented. J. Voccio seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.
3. **Public Comment:** None

L. Brodeur made a motion to add two items to the agenda; 3a: Boy Scouts to discuss Route 205 accidents and add the resignation of Matthew Nemeth to item 4. J. Voccio seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

- a. A. Tanner states there were a couple accidents last week on Route 205 and one was a fatality. G. Maiato states it was two fatalities. A. Tanner reads a letter he received into the record (attached).

John Splendolini, 295 Wauregan Road, discusses his concerns with the number of accidents in front of his property on Route 205. There are 2-3 accidents a year and a total of 4 fatalities. He has used fencing and reflectors for awareness, as well as the State has, but it does not slow the traffic down.

Evan Keech, 149 Christian Hill, Troop 44 guide and representing and supporting Mr. Spendolini. E. Keech shares his awareness of the issue, also being a resident of the area. He is proposing the Board of Selectmen help with a resolution to this dangerous area on the roadway.

L. Brodeur made a motion to request D.O.T. get involved with 295 Wauregan Road to see about straightening the curve. J. Voccio seconded the motion for the purpose of discussion. J. Voccio questions if there is anything the Town can provide such as a traffic study, to help accelerate the State to act upon this request? L. Brodeur thinks we should request the State to do a traffic study and put-up yellow reflectors. A. Tanner feels we can put some pressure on the State, but it is in their control. Motion passed 3-0.

4. Appointments

- Last meeting, Matthew Nemeth was appointed to Planning & Zoning, but he was advised by his attorney because of the ongoing lawsuit, it would be a conflict of interest at this time. L. Brodeur made a motion to accept the resignation of Matthew Nemeth from Planning & Zoning. Joe Voccio seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.
- **Ethics:** L. Brodeur made a motion to reappoint Martin Weiner as a regular member 6/26/2024 to the Ethics Board. J. Voccio seconds the motion. Motion passed 3-0. J. Voccio made a motion to appoint Dann Stuyinski as a regular member, term 6/26/2023 to the Ethics Board. A. Tanner seconded the motion. J. Voccio refers to the questionnaire Mr. Stuyinski submitted, and it states "there is plenty of unethical activity in the Town". A. Tanner questioned him on this, and he was very noncommittal. J. Voccio is in favor as long as he understands the Ethics commission is not a police force. They do not typically initiate complaints. Motion passed 2 (A. Tanner, J. Voccio) – 1 (L. Brodeur, Nay).

5. Discussion on Financials: Miscellaneous income was previously stated to have an insurance claim in there but now it has increased more. A. Tanner will find out why this is.

Web hosting is higher than expected because there were two years paid in one budget year. Tax collectors' professional fees is budgeted at \$200 and \$485 has been paid. A. Tanner will investigate.

The water budget is way over at 61 South Main Street. A. Tanner had a faucet fixed that was leaking quite a bit, not sure if that is the entire issue.

Building repairs is high at the Clifford B. Green Memorial Center. A. Tanner believes the bills were paid for the flooding issue and will be reimbursed from the Insurance. The Town is also paying for repairs on the furnace in the Senior Center, this may be affecting this budget line also.

6. Discussion on Capital Projects: Bid opening for the old Town Garage was today. 8 bids were received. Baltic Roofing was the lowest bidder; however, the square footage is incorrect on the proposal. A. Tanner will speak with him to make sure it was an error before it is awarded.

Able Scale determined we need a new scale. This will go out to bid.

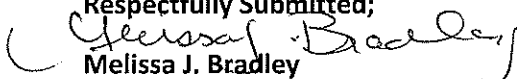
Highway department tractor is in, and the truck should be in soon.

7. Discussion on Ordinances: Purchasing & Zoning: Currently there are eight members and three alternates on the Planning & Zoning board. Several meetings have been cancelled due to the lack of a quorum lately. It was suggested to move the members from eight to seven, then only four would be needed for a quorum. The board is not currently full. L. Brodeur is in favor. J. Voccio is not opposed if this historically has been an issue. It would have to be approved at a Town meeting to change the ordinance.

The original purchasing ordinance was in excess of \$1,000 and under \$2,500; the revision reads in excess of \$500. A. Tanner feels this should stay at the \$1,000-\$2,500. This will be discussed at the Board of Finance meeting next week. A Town meeting is needed before March 22nd for the new voting district, A. Tanner hopes to get these ordinances included.

8. **Discussion on Capital Committee:** In the past, the committee consisted of a member from the Board of Selectmen, Board of Education, Board of Finance, Fire Commissioners, Recreation, and a member at large. A. Tanner asked Matt Allen if he would be interested, he is waiting to hear back from him.
9. **Discussion on Budget:** Rushie Bean and Shelley Cates will be sitting in on the budget meetings which limits availability to business hours. A. Tanner will discuss further with the finance department.
10. **Discussion on Land Sale: Possible Executive Session:** A. Tanner was told someone would be at the meeting to represent the landowner, however, no one is present. L. Brodeur made a motion to table this item. J. Voccio seconded the motion. J. Voccio would like to hear firsthand the neighbors are not interested in the property. Motion passed 3-0.
11. **Single Family Dwellings:** No discussion.
12. **Approve Bills:** L. Brodeur made a motion to approve bill voucher #1364 dated 2/10/22 in the amount of \$99,100.33. J. Voccio seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.
13. **Other Business:** A resolution must be passed to amend the boundary of the 47th State House District. This will have to go to a Town Meeting as well. L. Brodeur made a motion to adopt the resolution as presented and bring to a Town Meeting. J. Voccio seconded the motion for discussion. NECCOG is doing a lot of work of this. Motion passed 3-0.
Patricia Buell has proposed a discussion to expand the finance department. A. Tanner will be discussing this with her and report back to the board.
14. **Public Comment:** Sandy Brodeur questions why the fire departments pay the Town for their insurance and then the Town pays the company. A. Tanner is going to discuss having a separate line item under the insurance budget with the finance department.
Sandy Brodeur questioned if the sale of the Community Center to the Town in the amount of \$1 was ever completed? A. Tanner will research this and report back.
Evan Keech asks if there is anything the Town can do on the roadway to help protect Mr. Spendolini's property until the State intervenes? A. Tanner states it is a State Road and the Town does not have any jurisdiction over it.
John Spendolini asked if the Town is losing the Resident State Trooper? A. Tanner responds he is retiring in April. He will be replaced by Troop D.
15. **Adjourn:** Lou Brodeur made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Joe Voccio seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:53pm.

Respectfully Submitted;


Melissa J. Bradley
Recording Secretary