

**Board of Selectmen  
Special Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, December 11, 2014  
5:00pm Brooklyn Town Hall**

**Present:** Rick Ives, Bob Kelleher, Joe Voccio and Melissa Bradley; Recording Secretary

**Also Present:** Sherry Holmes, Gene Michael Deary and WINY radio

1. **Call to Order:** Mr. Ives called the meeting to order at 5:07pm.
2. **Approve Previous Minutes:** Joe Voccio made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of 10-30-14 as presented. Rick Ives seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0.

Bob Kelleher arrived: 5:10pm.

3. **Public Comment:** None

4. **Appointments:**

- Bob Kelleher made a motion to reappoint Stephen Breen to Board of Fire Commissioners as the Mortlake representative for a one year term expiring 12/02/2015. Joe Voccio seconded the motion. Mr. Ives received a letter from Mortlake naming three representatives they recommended; Stephen Breen, David Lee or Lucien Brodeur. The Selectmen agree that if Stephen Breen is willing to serve (and he did accept), they have no reason not to reappoint him. Motion passed 3-0.
- Bob Kelleher made a motion to accept the resignation from Ronald Panicci from the Ethics Committee, with regret. Joe Voccio seconded the motion. Mr. Ives states he resigned for family/health issues. Mr. Voccio notes the date on Mr. Panicci's letter is dated 2004, it should read 2014. Motion passed 3-0.
- Mr. Ives has appointed Charlotte Merrill to Conservation as a regular member, term expiring 02/12/2015.
- Mr. Ives has appointed Sally Timmons to Agriculture as an alternate member, term expiring 12/08/2017.

5. **Introduction of Finance Director, Sherry Holmes:** Mr. Ives is pleased to officially introduce the newly hired Finance Director, Sherry Holmes. Ms. Holmes introduces herself and is happy to be a part of the team. She has been working with the school and they have started the budget process. She has also started a social media policy and is looking into options on financial software that would link the school and town hall. Ms. Holmes thanks the Selectmen for the opportunity and looks forward to working together.
6. **Discussion on MS4 Permit:** There is a public hearing scheduled for the 17<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Ives, with the help of Tom Rukstela, completed the survey the State requested. This will entail seven new rules

and a ton of reports. Mr. Ives does not think it will pass with the current writing of the law and is hopeful some of the burden will be taken off the Towns.

- 7. Discussion and Action on Master Municipal Agreement:** Bob Kelleher made a motion to approve the master municipal agreement for rights of way projects authorizing Mr. Ives to sign. Joe Voccio seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.
- 8. Discussion on 2014-15 Budget:** Mr. Ives reports the repairs budget for the Community Center has been maxed out and more money was spent at the Town Hall than expected. There will be more attorney fees in the future with negotiations coming up with all three units. Budget workshops will begin in January and the bills will be present for review.
- 9. Discussion on Sidewalk Plowing:** The Town currently plows some of the sidewalks and Mr. Ives suggests keeping doing so. The sidewalks to be plowed are Route 6 from the bridge to Superior Auto; Day Street from Route 6 to Westview Drive; Proulx Street; South Main Street; Greenview Drive; the Community Center; and Brooklyn Schools. Concern is raised when commercial contractors plow a business and leave the snow on the already cleared sidewalks. Mr. Ives states this was one business in particular and he believes this has been rectified. The Selectmen agree to continue clearing these sidewalks.
- 10. Discussion on STEAP Grants:** Mr. Ives suggests a generator for the Community Center with the STEAP grant.
- 11. Discussion on Small Cities Grants:** This must be used in a low income area which would include portions of East Brooklyn and Paradise Lake. Mr. Voccio would like to see South Street park refurbished with the possibility of tennis courts and abandon the Prince Hill courts. Mr. Voccio also suggests the former Place Restaurant. This is an eye sore and the property could be put to good use for the area.
- 12. Update on DUI Grant:** The DUI grant has been approved. We do not receive the funds for two fiscal years, but we are reimbursed from the State.
- 13. Update on Route 6 Sidewalk Grant:** The commitment to fund letter for this project is being prepared. The Town will be taking the responsibility of retaining an easement for a small portion of land in front of Jewett City Savings Bank.
- 14. Single Family Dwellings:** No discussion.
- 15. Calls For Service:** No discussion.
- 16. Public Comment:** None
- 17. Executive Session:** Discussion on labor negotiations: Mr. Ives states this does not need to be executive session. He announces negotiations will be beginning soon for all three units and requests from the Selectmen to review the contracts and create a list of items for discussion.
- 18. Adjourn:** Joe Voccio made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bob Kelleher seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 6:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted;

Melissa J. Bradley  
Recording Secretary