



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

OFFICE OF SELECTMEN
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**Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 13, 2022
6:30pm via Zoom and in person
Clifford B. Green Memorial Center**

Present: Austin Tanner, Lou Brodeur, Joe Voccio and Melissa Bradley; Recording Secretary

Also Present: Sandy Brodeur, Susan Wasstrom and Justin Phaiah

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
2022 JAN 20 PM 3:16
RECORDED VOL. PAGE
Melissa Bradley
Town of Brooklyn

1. **Call to Order:** Austin Tanner called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.
2. **Approve Minutes:** Lou Brodeur made a motion to approve the minutes of 12/30/21 with a correction. Joe Voccio seconded the motion for discussion. Lou Brodeur points out the minutes state there was action on appointing Jim Warren to Parks and Recreation and this did not happen. Austin Tanner stated it was a First Selectman appointment. Minutes passed with this change 3-0.
3. **Public Comment:** None
4. **Appointments/Resignations**
 - **Parks & Recreation:** Appoint Jim Warren as a regular member with a term expiring 1/01/2026: This is on the agenda again because the ordinance states it is a Board of Selectmen appointment, not a First Selectman appoint as previously thought. Lou Brodeur made a motion to table this appointment being that he is the CEO of a company that has a lawsuit against the Town of Brooklyn, and until the lawsuit is resolved, he should not be appointed to a position of authority. Lou Brodeur redacts his motion and makes a motion to appoint Jim Warren for the purpose of discussion. Joe Voccio seconded the motion. Mr. Tanner questions if he is not reappointed as Fire Chief, if he could then be appointed to Parks & Rec. Lou Brodeur states he sees no issue with that. Joe Voccio states there was a Selectman who did the same thing. It has never been cut and dry of someone litigating against the Town and serving on a board. Austin Tanner states elections are January 25th, this could be tabled until after then. The questions is also asked regarding his wife already being a member on the board. Joe Voccio withdraws his second, Lou Brodeur withdraws his motion. Lou Brodeur made a motion to table this item until the next meeting. Joe Voccio seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

- **Ethics:** Lou Brodeur made a motion to appoint Brandon Zurek as a regular member to the Ethics commission with a term expiring 6/26/2022. Joe Voccio seconded the motion for discussion. Austin Tanner states the Ethics commission has been nonexistent for a couple years and all members terms have expired except for John Harris, who's expires in June. Mr. Tanner will see about getting one or two of the old members back on and get this board back in motion. Motion passed 3-0.
 - **Board of Fire Commissioners:** Lou Brodeur made a motion to reappoint Michael Podzalne to the board of fire commissioners with a term expiring 2/01/2025. Joe Voccio seconded the motion. He is a resident member. Motion passed 3-0.
 - **Inland/Wetlands:** Lou Brodeur made a motion to reappoint Demian Sorrentino to the Inland Wetlands Commission with a term expiring 2/01/2025. Joe Voccio seconded the motion. This is his second term, and he is an active member. Motion passed 3-0.
 - **Planning & Zoning:** Austin Tanner made a motion to accept the resignation from Chuck Sczuroski from Planning & Zoning. Lou Brodeur seconded the motion. Austin Tanner states he was a good member and will be missed, he is working out of State and unable to commit the time. Joe Voccio accepts with regret. Motion passed 3-0.
5. **Discussion on Financials:** Austin Tanner states he is unaware what is in the miscellaneous income line item, he will check with Shelley.
 6. **Discussion/Action on Purchasing Procedure Ordinance:** Joe Voccio suggests some language of common vendors used on a regular basis for transparency purposes. Not necessarily in the ordinance, perhaps a corresponding document. Lou Brodeur made a motion to bring this to the Board of Finance for their input. Joe Voccio seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.
 7. **Discussion on Possible Land Sale:** A resident on Plaza Street is interested in purchasing a piece of land behind his home the Town owns. It was acquired in a tax sale in 2014. Originally, it was unbuildable, but the zoning regulations have changed, and a house now could be built on it. Mr. Tanner will ask him to make an offer and report back.
 8. **Discussion on NDDH RFP – Sunroom Windows:** The RFP was due today and opened. There was only one bid from Creative Enclosures in the amount of \$24,667. Austin Tanner signed the contract and will send the down payment. The expenditure was approved in capital, but the price has increased since then. The Town Clerk will submit a request to the Board of Finance for the difference of \$3,207 from LOCIP funds.
 9. **Update on Capital Projects:** Originally the price to fix the roof of the old Town Garage was \$57,000. The price was increased significantly to \$127,000. Austin suggests going out to bid again and discuss with the Board of Finance for more funds.
The scale at the Transfer Station is supposed to be looked at in the month of January. Austin will call for an update.
We have a STEAP grant for the generator at the Senior Center. Austin is having an electrician look at what size is needed for the entire building. If we can put the whole building on one generator, that would be ideal.

- 10. Update on COVID-19 Test Kit Distribution:** Distribution went well, kits were exhausted by 6pm. There are still masks available. Lou Brodeur suggests sending both Fire Departments letters thanking them for their help.
- 11. Single Family Dwellings:** No discussion.
- 12. Discussion/Action to Approve Bills:** Lou Brodeur made a motion to approve bill voucher #1327 dated 1/13/22 in the amount of \$88,597.18. Joe Voccio seconded the motion. The electricity and gas are up at 61 South Main St, the old town garage. There is only one small office there. Austin will investigate. Lou Brodeur thinks someone should be checking the amount of money the Recreation department spends of gifts and what was donated. The Board of Finance does not see any reports, someone should see what comes in and what goes out. Motion passed 3-0.
- 13. Other Business:** Lou Brodeur requests a better breakdown of the long-term bonds and if the fire truck was included. Austin states no, it was not. He will update at the next meeting. Lou requests a monthly breakdown of LOCIP and TAR funds. Austin suggests quarterly or semiannually. Lou states it was discussed previously of a five-year plan for roads and bridges, he questions if that can be done?
The school is looking into replacing the furnace and possibly installing central air. There will be a fire truck needed in 2-3 years and Highway will need some equipment as well. Austin Tanner states the board voted to have NECCOG help with ARP funds, the contract was signed. Lou Brodeur states it was never voted on. We received a bill that Austin told Shelley to hold off paying. Austin will speak with NECCOG for some clarification on the bill. MS4 report will be given to Board of Finance in February. A webpage has been created and will be updated as we complete tasks.
Budget requests went out to departments and board and commission and due back February 10th.
- 14. Public Comment:** Susan Wasstrom congratulated the mask distribution operation, and it ran very smoothly.
Sandy Brodeur states the program the State uses for the roads is Street Scapes. There are funds available for bridges and culverts listed on the State website.
- 15. Adjourn:** Lou Brodeur made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Joe Voccio seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.

Respectfully Submitted;



Melissa J. Bradley
Recording Secretary