

BROOKLINE SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES – JULY 1, 2015 – FINAL

Members Present: Bernardine Hoard, Bruce Mello, Mike O'Donnell, Stanley Noga, Dot Maggio

Others Present: L.D. Rink, Cynthia Nau, Kim Rink, Doug Wellman, Archie Clark, Mark Bills, Shannon Meckle

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Bernardine Hoard, Chair.

MINUTES

June 17, 2015: A motion was made by Mike O'Donnell to approve the minutes with the spelling correction of "Lewindowski" to "Lewandoski." The motion was seconded by Bruce Mello. The motion carried with four in favor and Dot Maggio abstaining.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Scheduled Members of the Public:

Cynthia Nau and Doug Wellman, Round School House: Cynthia spoke to the Board regarding the remaining \$5,000 in restoration funds. She noted that the Historical Society's first thoughts were to present it to the church to enhance their budget, but they have since discussed it and decided to keep the money to finish the shed and have the ridge cap done and siding done.

Discussion ensued regarding the ridge cap that was offered to the Town. Cynthia noted that the replacement ridge cap needed to be wood, in keeping with the original structure.

Cynthia spoke to the Board regarding the rumor that the shed would be torn down. She noted that it is part of a historic site and too much work has gone into it to tear it down.

Bruce asked for clarification on the grant. Guy confirmed that when the Historical Society is ready, they and the Board have to sign off and Historic Preservation will release the funds.

Cynthia will contact Lisa at Historic Preservation.

Doug Wellman noted that while the ultimate decision on how the money is spent lies with the Selectboard, he was concerned that the Board would be discussing changes to the building without contacting the Historical Society first. Discussion ensued.

It was clarified that the Historical Society members include Cynthia Nau, Doug Wellman, and Jack Green.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Bernardine Hoard made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 7:10 p.m. to discuss legal matters. The motion was seconded by Dorothy Maggio. The motion carried unanimously.

Bernardine Hoard made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 7:30 p.m. The motion was seconded by Dot Maggio. The motion carried unanimously.

Stanley Noga made a motion to accept the proposed deed for the purchase of the school and to authorize the Chair to sign the deed. The motion was seconded by Mike O'Donnell. The motion carried with four in favor and Dot Maggio abstaining.

A motion was made by Dot Maggio to authorize Laurie Rowell to go to Montpelier to represent the town in the upcoming tax appeal hearing. The motion was seconded by Mike unanimous.

Unscheduled Members of the Public:

Kerry Bourne asked for regarding the ridge cap on the round school house and what the Historical Society's thoughts were on details of the repairs, including materials to be used. Doug and Cynthia noted that there would be a Historical Society meeting to discuss these issues and invited Kerry to attend. Once the Historical Society has made a determination, they will come to the Selectboard.

OLD BUSINESS

Tax Rate: Somara presented tax rate calculations to the Board and explained her process for arriving at the tax rate. Somara explained that the different programs used round numbers differently, always resulting in the numbers being between \$50 and \$200 off. Somara brought to the Board's attention the education tax rate, which went up significantly.

A motion was made by Dot Maggio to set the tax rate at 0.3404, less the surplus of 0.0168, for the total municipal rate to be raised at 0.3235. The motion was seconded by Stanley Noga. The motion carried unanimously.

Check List for Internal Control: Somara presented a municipal check list for internal control to the board. She explained that it gives some idea of how the town reviews and controls finances. Bernardine and Somara signed the document.

Greer Road: Mark Bills noted he'd made phone calls, but did not receive calls back in time for the meeting. He noted that he has prices coming on different I-beam sizes and ratings for five I-beams but has a price of \$695.00 for each 6X14" ½" thick, 30-ft long steel I-beam, similar to the ones on Grassy Brook Road Bridge. Mark noted that he and Archie Clark agreed that it is possible to reuse the current pressure treated deck. The cost of a new deck would be approximately \$2500.00 including rails across, planking length wise for runners and side rail.

Archie asked whether the town wanted an engineer to look over the site specific improvements. Discussion ensued regarding the design of the bridge. Archie suggested cross steel supports on each end and maybe in the middle to keep the beams from trying to roll over, which were unaccounted for in the price. Archie's opinion was that the cost would be minimal.

Discussion ensued regarding cost of the bridge and the Purchase Policy. Mike O'Donnell suggested contacting Renaud Bros. to see if they might have used beams. It was noted that Renaud also does engineering and installation.

Discussion also ensued regarding the current abutments and plans for installing concrete blocks behind the current hemlock.

Mark felt that he would have the needed information for the next meeting, and Archie felt that he'd have the engineering costs for the next meeting. Further discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

OTHER ROAD BUSINESS:

Roadside Mowing: Mark Bills reported that roadside mowing will be coming up. The bids were put out in the spring. Bernardine noted that she'd received a call from someone interested in bidding.

Vandalism: Mark also reported on spray paint vandalism on the bridge and on some signs. He noted he didn't report it, but used some paint thinner and cleaned it up. He will get a handle for a brush to clean up the bridge.

Brush Cutting: Mark gave the Board prices on chippers for various projects. A small chipper which would be sufficient for brush cutting is \$170.00 per day.

Ellen Ware Road: Mark noted he'd like to start on widening the narrow section of Ellen Ware Road. He stated that he figured it would take between one and two days with the big chipper at \$270.00 per day. He noted that the stone wall could just be set back and not removed. It was clarified that In the town plan, approval of the board is needed if removing the wall, but no approval was needed for moving it back. Mark also noted that he'd need to charge the cost of the excavator for one day to push back on the trees. It was noted that there is \$4,500 left in the budget and Mark felt he could get rid of the trees for less than \$2,000.00. Archie gave a history of the Ellen Ware Road fund.

Mark will contact Howard about the fencing. Bernardine suggested having a conversation with the new owners on the other side so they know what's going on.

Wellman Bridge: Archie reported that they have a design done by the state engineer but are lacking the stream alteration permit from Todd Menees. Mark Pickering emailed Todd Menees and if he doesn't hear anything he will follow up again. The project needs to be completed by October 1.

Putney Mountain: Mark Bills reported that there are three culverts to be replaced on Putney Mountain Road and one on the Hill Road section that was considered for paving.

Stanley Noga asked whether it was cheaper to keep repaving or whether it is beneficial to tear the road up and fix the base. Mike O'Donnell explained the expense and work involved. Archie noted that Mark inquired about it and discovered that it was about five times as much money to do it that way.

Brookline School Update: The Board stated that they have accepted the deed as written and it will be recorded. Somara asked when rental income would be coming in to the town. A formal letter should be sent to the daycare, letting her know who the check would need to be made to. Somara requested a copy of the lease.

Discussion ensued regarding whether the rental income would go into a separate fund or the general fund. Somara noted that the decision didn't need to be made immediately, cautioned the board about administrative cost associated with running these programs, which comes out of the general fund. If it

were in its own fund, administrative costs could come out of the separate fund. Somara will review the minutes for correct date of acquisition.

Somara clarified that if the school was segregated in its own fund and had expenses that the fund couldn't cover, the Board would need to figure out where the funds could come from, but noted she would prefer to have it in its own fund.

NEW BUSINESS

Somara reported that the May financial balance sheets are almost ready, after one more adjusting entry. She felt it would be beneficial to bring May and draft June financials to the next meeting to through and make sure everyone has a clear idea. This will be on the agenda for next meeting.

Bruce asked Somara for clarification regarding the Church Committee becoming a 501c3 organization. Somara noted that it was not necessary for them to be a 501c3 organization but offered to attend a Church Committee meeting to discuss the issue.

Stanley Noga reported that a Planning Commission member brought in a questionnaire to allow them to formulate a new town plan. Stanley will scan and email them to board members for discussion at the next meeting.

The Board was reminded about the Open Meeting Law Workshop on July 8, 2015. Newfane will pay the fee and invoice Brookline for half.

Guy Tanza reported that there is only one dog remaining unlicensed.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received:

- Vermont Local Roads Training Notice
- Vermont State Police – Proposed Contract – A motion was made by Stanley Noga to authorize Bernardine Hoard to sign the contract with Vermont State Police. The motion was seconded by Dot Maggio. The motion carried unanimously.
- State of Vermont, Forest Fire Warden Appointment Form
- Parker Letter to Selectboard
- Animal Safety Protection Publications Advertisement

PAY ORDERS

A motion was made by Bernardine Hoard to approve Payroll Warrant No. 50 in the amount of \$3,448.99. The motion was seconded by Dot Maggio. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Bernardine Hoard to approve Accounts Payable Warrant No. 1 in the amount of \$1,337.80. The motion was seconded by Stanley Noga. The motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA FOR JULY 15, 2015

School/Heat Initiative
Roads
Greer Road Bridge
Church
Financials

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Stanley Noga to adjourn at 9:06 p.m. The motion was seconded by Bruce Mello. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon Meckle