

Brookline Selectboard Meeting Minutes
FINAL
November 2, 2016

In Attendance:

Selectboard Members: Bernardine Hoard, Dorothy Maggio, Gwen Tanza, Stan Noga and Bruce Mello.

Other Town Officials and Member of the Public: Sherry Greene - Brookline School Director/Newbrook Joint Contract Board, and David Jones-representative to the WSWMD for Brookline, Guy Tanza Town Clerk / Cameraman

Call The Meeting To Order:

Bernardine Hoard called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM

ACT 46

Sherry Greene had requested to present an update on ACT 46 to the board at 6:30 so that she could attend the 7:00 meeting of that committee in Townshend.

Sherry Greene handed out a 2.5 page typed summary on Act 46, a copy of the Public Service Announcement Press Release on ACT 46 and a short Biography.

Mrs. Greene read through the bulleted handout

**What is ACT 46?

**What is our Lealand & Gray Study Committee/Progress

**When will voters decide?

**Benefits to Town/Children

Key points...

July 1, 2017 is the date the DOE must approve the plan submitted

July 1, 2019 is the date the plan will be implemented (or if no plan is in place, this is the date that the DOE will decide how to consolidate the district)

5 points being studied by the committee...

1-Improved educational opportunities for all

2-ability to focus on needs of individual students

3-strengthen community connections

4-provide greater operational efficiencies, use of resources & cost savings

5-tax incentives

Brookline is represented in the committee by Sherry Greene as a School Board member and Erin Zargo as a member of the public from the town of Brookline.

The committee received a \$20,000.00 grant to hire a consultant to help draft the plan. The committee has been meeting twice a month since September and will continue through December.

Currently the per pupil cost of education for NewBrook Elementary School is \$14,524.00 Brookline and \$14,525.00 for Newfane. The towns involved in the study are Brookline, Jamaica, Newfane, Townshend and Windham of the Windham Central Supervisory Union L & G Towns.

There are no plans to close any of the schools however the composition of the school boards will change from NewBrook having 3 Newfane members and 3 Brookline members under the joint contract agreement to 1 Brookline, 2 Jamaica, 3, Newfane, 2 Townshend, 1 Windham and 2 “at large” population based members. The terms will be staggered but lasting 3 years each.

Voters of the five towns will vote at Town Meeting day in March 2017 via Australian ballot. Both Brookline and Newfane must vote YES as necessary districts because of the joint contract between them. With the approval of two of the three “advisable” towns, a “modified” union school district will be formed. If the vote is not positive, then the AOE will decide on the program/plan. A district not joining the “modified” Union School District will vote on matters relating to grades 7 to 12.

Benefits cited...

There is a tax incentive tied to the new structure.

Common language of instruction, curriculum expectations, assessments and approaches will be implemented.

Children potentially could be allowed to attend different schools in order to meet their particular needs.

Teachers and schools could share resources

Extended experiences could be developed for children to attend specialized programs at a particular school other than their “home” school.

Questions/Answer period followed

Guy Tanza noted the cost of Health Care and its influence on the budget.

Dot Maggio noted the possible reduction of staff based upon enrollment, and the additional costs for bussing students to various school locations. As enrollment decreases, cost increase per pupil. Brookline would have less representatives on the school board.

The Selectboard thanked Mrs. Greene for her time spent preparing for the meeting and for representing the town at the committee meetings. Sherry answered all questions thoughtfully and thoroughly.

Approve Minutes of October 19, 2016

Two typos/misspelled name were noted for corrections. Dot Maggio pointed out that she just noticed that she did not include the motion for the Rabbit Run request in the minutes. She asked for time to go back and review the video to see when the motion was made and who seconded it. She thought maybe it was inadvertently "cut" from the minutes as she edited the draft.

Stan Noga agreed that he would like a little more time to review the draft minutes before approving them.

Stan Noga made a motion to defer approving the minutes of the October 19, 2016 minutes until the next board meeting. Gwen Tanza seconded the motion. No discussion. A vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously.

Scheduled Members of the Public:

David Jones gave out copies of the cover letter and WSWMD Budgets for review. The vote will be next week and David wanted to inform the Selectboard of the most recent details. David summary included the two options

1. Stay the same with the same services with an increase of at least 15.5% or even higher if equipment failure occurs on any of its old trucks etc.
2. Shut down the recycling process, get rid of the collection boxes in towns, sell equipment.

It was noted that the required hazardous waste and composting features would still be available.

There was a discussion regarding the two options. The collection boxes would be removed under option 2 summer of 2017. It was decided to have David Jones research having a private hauler provide recycling boxes and the information could be presented at town meeting. The Town Shed could be the new site for recycling as it can be monitored better with a security camera, locked when closed.

Guy Tanza asked about a pay as you go transfer station that can be shared with other towns to consolidate,

David will send out an email after the WSWMD vote is taken. Bruce Mello and Gwen Tanza are concerned about people dumping trash more than ever. Guy Tanza said that we have 8 months to solve the problem. This item may need to be on the next agenda again.

The board thanked David Jones for his service in representing Brookline at the WSWMD.

Unscheduled Members of the Public:

None

Old Business:

Sunny Lane Day Care Center: Bruce Mello reported that he has not gotten a response from Seth regarding furnace check up. Guy Tanza showed Bill Farace the boiler and he felt that he would not be able to get parts quickly enough if ever needed. The boiler is cast iron and better than stainless steel. Contacting Dead River was also mentioned.

Stan Noga made a motion to authorize Bruce to hire Seth Stewart to come and service the boilers. Gwen Tanza seconded the motion. No discussion. All voted in favor to get the boiler serviced.

Dot Maggio asked about adding a wooden door in the boiler room where the bilco doors are. Guy tanza showed interested board members the set up in the town hall basement. Stan Noga and Bruce Mello offered to look at the situation the day after Thanksgiving.

Mr. Noga briefly discussed the above grade exit lights at SLDC and that the broken ones would be repaired. Guy Tanza will see Allan from code 3 on Friday.

Stan Noga asked if any information was in from VLCT Insurance people regarding insurance costs. Not yet.

Stan Noga asked if we included the \$2,600.00 of increased insurance fees in the lease agreement with Tina Bills. Dot Maggio said No, but she would go back and check.

New Business:

Road commissioners/Road foreman report

Bernardine Hoard said she spoke with Archie Clark and he will be starting the shoulder work along the newly paved areas on Grassy Brook Road next week.

The Selectboard was happy that the roads were quickly plowed after our first snow storm. Many branches were down and the plows pushed them off the roadway.

Gun Tanza gave to each board member a print out of two different emails he received this week and he also reminded the board that he needs help on Tuesday Nov 8th Election Day. We have 396 registered voters. There will be 6 voting booths.

Bernardine Hoard brought before the board a question received from Louise on the agreed upon payment amount per use of Mark Bills trailer when it is used for town work. Guy explained that \$25.00 is the amount set by FEMA for equipment use. This is the amount that Mark Bills used.

Bruce Mello made a motion to approve the billing for trailer use by Mark Bills. Stan Noga seconded the motion. No discussion. The vote was unanimous to pay Mark Bills \$25 rate for his trailer. The money due is retroactive to July 28th.

Correspondence

Dated 10/24/16 Youth Services Appropriation request for Town Meeting \$255.00
Dated 10.28/16 Grace Cottage Hospital appropriation request from Andrea Seaton \$300.00
Project Feed the Thousands newsletter
Windham County Sheriff Department Rate Schedule
Dated 10/4/16 Women's Freedom Center appropriations request for \$650.00
Windham Solid Waste Management District Budget letter
VLTC Publication

Pay Orders

Bernardine Hoard moved to accept Payroll order 2017-19 \$1390.49 dated 11/02/16
Bruce Mello seconded the motion.
All were in favor, the motion passed

Bernardine Hoard moved to accept Accounts Payable 2017-18- \$19,858.64
Stanly Noga seconded the motion
All were in favor, the motion passed.

Set Agenda for November 16, 2016

Approve minutes from October 19, 2016
Approve minutes from November 2, 2016
Bruce Mello : SLDC Boiler Update
David Jones Update on WSWMD vote
Somara Zwick- SLDC school budget

Adjournment

Bernardine Hoard made a motion to adjourn the meeting
Stan Noga seconded the motion. No discussion
All were in favor, the motion passed
The Selectboard meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm

Respectfully submitted by: Dorothy Maggio