

Approved Minutes
Town of Brookline Selectboard
Wednesday May 15, 2019, 6:30 PM

Present:

Selectboard: David Jones (Chair), Gwen Tanza, Joseph Dutton, Bruce Mello, Shelby Brimmer

Members of the Public: Mark Bills, Guy Tanza (Town Clerk, Videographer), Peter Barus (Recorder)

Call the meeting to order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

Review changes to agenda if any

Mr. Mello, discussion regarding SLP, New Business

Scheduled members of the public

Unscheduled members of the public

Approve Minutes from May 1, 2019 Special Meeting

A. Approve Minutes from May 1, 2019 Regular Meeting

Mr. Jones moved to approve the minutes for the special meeting of May 1 as amended. Second by Mr. Dutton. **Passed with two abstentions.**

Mr. Jones moved to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on May 1, 2019. Second by Ms. Tanza. **Passed with two abstentions.**

New Business

A. Recycling Costs

Mr. Jones discussed costs between Triple-T and Brattleboro Salvage to date, \$13,428.00, about \$1,400.00 over budget, about \$2,500.00 over budget for the year; and suggested that this could be absorbed from the general fund. It was noted that the public had expressed support for continuing the service. There was discussion, that costs were rising and this was not unexpected. Mr. Tanza noted additional dues from WSWMD now that recycling has ended. Ms. Brimmer noted that taxes could be favorably affected by citizens sorting their refuse. Mr. Tanza noted steadily rising costs of recycling. Mr. Dutton suggested adding a receptacle for deposit-redeemable containers as done at NewBrook; in discussion this was not seen as cost-effective.

B. SLP Water System

Mr. Jones provided documents (notice of deficiency at SLP from the state); and noted that the tenant must be notified and informed that they need not address this issue. Mr. Mello explained that this is in regard to the old installation; Beck had filed with the state, but the project had been stopped; the state apparently has not been notified that the expected work had been stopped and a different installation done; the system is in order. Mr. Tanza noted that the deadline for compliance is July 1st; Ms. Maggio will be consulted as to outstanding documentation.

Action needed: determine steps to be completed to show that the system is in compliance.

Mr. Mello explained that he had been monitoring this system, that it had not been plumbed correctly, but passed the coliform tests; that subsequently the plumbing had been corrected. He discussed the alarm system and warning lights; five months had elapsed without incident.

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C. EMP compliance/changes for SLP Building

Mr. Jones explained that there had been a request to add an administrative contact person for the Essential Management Plan (EMP) site, regarding lead reporting; that he had researched this and found no filings had been done; that before the Town took ownership it had been inspected by the school district and found free of lead paint. Mr. Mello also noted that all schools had been tested for lead paint before the addition was built.

It was noted that inspection records from the school district or a professional inspection would be necessary to obtain exemption. Ms. Brimmer will ask the school district for records.

Mr. Jones observed that an administrative contact should not be added if there is documentation to show that the building is lead free.

Mr. Jones will respond to the request by email.

D. Road Equipment Purchase Committee

Mr. Jones explained that at Town Meeting there had been interest in forming a Committee to research what equipment if any the Town should consider for purchase. There was discussion of potential Committee membership; the new Committee would bring recommendations to the Selectboard.

In discussion Mr. Tanza suggested that forming another committee might confuse the issue; that the decision lies with the Selectboard, the Road Commissioner and the Road Foreman; that the equipment that had been considered had been found well suited to the Town's needs. Ms. Brimmer noted that there had been serious interest from residents in being engaged in the process, and that a Committee would be an appropriate venue for further discussions. Mr. Jones noted that a number of residents had expressed willingness to serve on such a body. Ms. Tanza suggested a special meeting instead of a Committee; Mr. Dutton agreed with the idea of a Committee, and that after receiving its recommendations a Warned special meeting could be held to consider any substantive questions. Mr. Jones noted that multiple Warned meetings would be needed. Mr. Mello suggested that the objections expressed previously should be addressed. Mr. Dutton noted that the Committee would recommend, and the Selectboard decide. Mr. Jones observed that citizens should always be encouraged to participate.

Mr. Jones moved to form a Road Equipment Purchase Advisory Committee, consisting of five members, pending their acceptance of appointment: Mr. Tanza (Road Commissioner), Mr. Bills (Road Supervisor), Mr. Clark, Mr. Wellman, and Mr. Dutton. Second by Mr. Mello.

There was discussion; it was noted that the Selectboard may make the decisions within certain parameters that were currently satisfied.

On the Motion, **All in Favor.**

The appointees will be notified of the decision.

Mr. Mello – discussion of SLP

Mr. Mello cited an email about repacking the wood chips on the playground; it had been a safety issue, an insurance issue; the request is to add more wood chips. Mr. Tanza noted that the Town is the insured party and would be responsible for maintaining this property.

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There was discussion of sources; the installation is six inches of chips over sand; GMP is frequently in search of wood chip disposal areas; Mr. Bills suggested consulting with Thomas Bloom.

Mr. Mello will follow up with Mr. Bloom, and let the tenant know the issue is being addressed.

Old Business

A. Discuss/Approve Road Paving RFP

Mr. Tanza reported that he had researched this, \$75.00 to \$80.00 per ton, three inches of blacktop would be 1,400 tons; the road had been tested by Mr. Clark, and the job can be done properly at a higher cost, but would last ten or twelve years; part of the reclamation could be removal of the knoll as had been discussed previously; if done next year the eastern end could also be done as part of the project. There is \$108,000.00 available.

Mr. Mello had examined the area under consideration; discussed crack-seal; pothole repairs; and suggested the Town could get one more year while preparing for the project by crack-sealing at cost of \$3,600.00.

There was discussion. Mr. Dutton favored waiting a year and setting funds aside for the worst case; Mr. Tanza discussed the impact of oil prices on the cost of full reclamation, and recommended necessary maintenance work be done while waiting a year for the major work. Ms. Tanza had walked the road picking up trash and concurred with this idea. Mr. Bills reported that he has acquired a pallet of material that will fill pavement and hold for a year; he suggested deep grinding next year would be money well spent; and that material from the knoll removal could be applied in another trouble spot. He suggested adding extra shoulder at Howard Osgood's gravel pit entrance. Mr. Tanza recommended addressing that situation immediately.

Mr. Jones thanked everyone for their work on this project.

SLP drainage problem

Mr. Mello discussed a drain clogged with paint brushes.

He reported that as of June 1st, there should be over \$3,000.00 in the account for the school building.

He recommended flooring the entryway with Vermont slate; he provided samples and explained the installation procedure; and noted that a state inspection had cited the poor condition of the existing floor. Mr. Mello offered to do the flooring work the weekend of May 25th.

It was noted that the cost would be about \$400.00. There was consensus in favor.

Mr. Jones offered assistance with the work.

Summary / Update / Reports

A. Guy Tanza – Town Clerk Report

Mr. Tanza reported a school vote June 11th, needs volunteer counters, and noted that the Warning and sample ballots are on the Town web page; the dogs list will go to Ms. Maggio; tax season is over, delinquencies will be addressed next, anticipating a fourth year with no delinquencies. He discussed mandatory lead testing in water; July 1st starts a new notary law and vital statistics law;

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cremation services send the vital statistics information to the state; he will be in training on this. He discussed the need for road equipment, and noted that Green-up Day had been successful.

Mr. Mello suggested a second Green-up Day in the Fall. There was discussion of cleaning up the Ellen Ware and Putney Mountain illegal dumping areas before the frost; Mr. Tanza discussed the property owners, noting that the Town should communicate with them before taking action. Mr. Bills noted that garbage and an animal carcass had been dumped in the past few days.

Highways & Roads

A. Guy Tanza – Road Commissioner Report

Mr. Tanza discussed the salt shed; that Bell Engineering is completing paperwork; installing a cellphone amplifier in the area as a safety precaution and a convenience for the road crew; and noted that this would be within budget. There was consensus.

B. Mark Bills – Road Supervisor

Mr. Bills reported that general maintenance is being done; there was discussion of removing a downed tree from a road. He reported that there were several young volunteers for Green-up Day, and Mr. Clark's truck was useful; expenses were about \$200.00; there was an unusual number of tires, and sofas, a barbecue pit, recliners, etc.

Mr. Jones acknowledged the assistance of Mr. Bills and Shane Cyr.

Communications

A. Email

- WSWMD Household Hazardous Waste event June 1st, 8:00 AM to Noon, Townshend Highway Garage, limit ten gallons.
- Ms. Maggio had spoken to a resident about a dog left wandering in the area; and had received a call about a coyote struck and killed by a car on Hill Road; the witness had been referred to the Game Warden.

B. Regular Mail

- 2 VLCT Newsletters

Pay Orders

A. Accounts Payable

Mr. Jones moved to approve Accounts Payable Warrant #2019-44 dated 5/15/19 in the amount of \$8,503.94. Second by Mr. Mello. **All in Favor.**

B. Payroll

Mr. Jones moved to approve Payroll Warrant #2019-45 dated 5/15/19 in the amount of \$2,241.65. Second by Ms. Brimmer. **All in Favor.**

Other Business

There was discussion of sources for wood chips for SLP playground; Mr. Tanza will be meeting with Mr. Bloom and will inquire with him, and with Sam Bourne. Mr. Bills will speak with the Ashplundh tree crew.

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Set agenda for the next meeting – Wednesday June 5, 2019

- Water system at SLP update
- EMP Compliance issue
- BMH quote re: bat-guano remediation
- Equipment Purchase Committee update

Adjournment

Ms. Tanza moved to Adjourn. Second by Mr. Dutton. All in Favor.

The meeting was Adjourned at 8:19 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Peter Barus, recording clerk, May 18th, 2019