

Final Minutes
Town of Brookline Selectboard Meeting
Wednesday, June 17, 2026, 7:00 PM

Present:

Selectboard (SB):

Mike DeSocio (MD) Chair
Doug Wellman (DW) Vice-Chair
Bruce Mello (BM)
Emily Beer (EB)*
E. Mark Bills (EMB)

*Via Zoom

Town Officers:

Vanessa Ballou (VB) Recording Clerk

Public:

FactTV*
Michael Miller (MM)*

- 1. Mike DeSocio called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM and introduced all attendees.**
- 2. Changes to Agenda**
None.
- 3. Review Draft Minutes**
 - A. Regular Agenda Meeting – June 3, 2026
MD made a **motion** to approve the draft minutes of the June 3, 2026 SB Meeting.
DW seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- 4. Members of the Public**
 - A. Scheduled Member of the Public-5 min
None.
 - B. Unscheduled Members of the Public- 2 Min
None.
- 5. Warrants**
 - A. Payroll
MD made a **motion** to approve payroll warrant 2649 for \$2,161.97. BM seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
 - B. Accounts Payable
MD made a **motion** to approve payables warrant 2650 in the amount of \$10,476.81. DW seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- 6. Old Business**
 - A. FEMA Hill Road Easements/Contract Signing
While the updated easements are in process, the contract and the list of required documents will be sent to Sam Bourne for completion. The SB will sign once all the updated easements have been received. MD made a **motion** to table any further action on the contract, any signing of the contract. BM seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Paving Contract/Update

MD made a **motion** to approve the contract for paving; it's a standard VLCT contract. EMB seconded. The motion passed unanimously. EB will send the contract to Bazin Brothers Trucking for their signature.

The paving contract is for \$280,000 with the bulk of the costs covered by a 50/50 \$200,000 paving grant. To manage cash flow, the Town will need to secure a line of credit to cover costs until the work is completed and the grant funds are received.

7. New Business

A. Window Washing

The windows in the School Building need to be cleaned; they are dirty and have stickers and other stuff on them. The estimated cost for washing all the windows is \$2,060. Given that other areas of the School Building need work, the window washing will not be scheduled until the plans for the School Building are better known.

B. BMH (Brookline Meetinghouse) Architectural Plans

The architectural plans cover two components of making the BMH ADA compliant. The exterior component consists of a horseshoe shaped ramp to the side porch; the interior component includes ADA accessible doorways, an ADA accessible bathroom, and an additional non-ADA bathroom. BM provided details of how the plans evolved, presented the plan details to the SB, and answered questions. BM would like to make the plans available to the Town for their review and comment and then move forward with determining costs, funding, and construction details. The group discussed posting the architectural plans on the Town website along with the information that the cost is covered by a grant from the Preservation Trust. However, implementing plans to make the BMH ADA compliant will depend on the SB developing a process and creating a committee/group for making decisions about the BMH.

C. Regional Policing Representative

The Town received a letter regarding regional policing with a request that the SB vote on whether to join the Windham County Regional Law Enforcement Governance Council and if joining appoint an SB Member to the Governance Council by July 15. DW volunteered to be the Town's representative if the SB decides to go forward. Currently the only policing is with the State Police for emergencies. MD will ask the Sheriff to attend the July 1st SB meeting.

8. Reports and Updates

A. Building Commissioner – Bruce Mello

The Building Use Workgroup has invited BM to attend their meeting with a realtor to discuss valuation and marketability of the School Building and Town Office.

B. Emily Beer

After a discussion about whether the Special Town Meeting on Saturday, June 20 would be recorded, the SB confirmed that the meeting does not need to be recorded and will not be.

C. Highway Supervisor – E. Mark Bills

EMB has begun side road mowing and hopes to have it completed by the 4th of July with another round of mowing planned for September. He is working to cover all the culverts installed on the segment of Grassy Brook Road that will be paved. EMB reported that work on installing a 7-foot culvert replacement has been scheduled for next year. This work is covered by the BBR (Better Back Roads) grant with the Town's match already budgeted. He reported on a completed hydraulic study for an undersized culvert on the dirt portion of Grassy Brook Road for which the

Town was awarded a \$200,000 grant from the State of Vermont. This culvert replacement will require a significant amount of preparation. EMB will follow up with the Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) as they will determine what structure is needed (a bridge, box culvert, metal culvert, etc).

D. Doug Wellman

DW provided an update on the 911 addresses requested. There are 3 addresses needed for a private drive on Hill Road which means that the private drive will need to have a proper road name and the residents will no longer have a Hill Road address. DW explained the process for naming a new road and stated that he would bring suggested road names for approval to the first or second July SB meeting. The Town will also need to update the Road Naming Policy.

E. Mike DeSocio

MD spoke about the need to organize a line of credit to manage the cash flow between when the Town has to pay for the planned road projects (paving, repairs to Stone Arch Bridge on Hill Road, and culvert replacement on Ellen Ware Road) and actually receives grant reimbursement. The Town Treasurer, Melissa Brown, is working on a line of credit.

There was also a discussion regarding how soon the tax bills could be sent out given the delay in approving the school budget.

9. Communications

None.

10. Set Agenda

A. Regular Meeting July 1, 2026

- 1) Minutes from June 17, 2026 Regular SB Meeting
- 2) Regional Policing
- 3) Line of Credit
- 4) Ramp & ADA Discussion
- 5) Road Naming (Action Item)
- 6) Contract Signing (Bazin Brothers, Sam Bourne)
- 7) Other

B. Future Meeting

- 1) Road Naming
- 2) Round Schoolhouse (communication from Laurie)

11. Other Discussion Not Requiring Action

None.

12. Adjourn the Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Vanessa Ballou, Recording Clerk