



**TOWN OF  
BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
SELECTBOARD**

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*Minutes  
Selectboard  
Monday, February 10, 2020*

Selectboard members present: Brendan Denehy, Eddie Arnold, Ron Olsen, Drew Kellner and Steve Russo (by phone) along with Town Administrator Tad Putney. Also present: Ann Somers, Mike Wenrich, finance committee members Brian Rater, Dana Ketchen and Graham Loff.

6:30pm **Brendan** opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Input**

**Brendan** reminded everyone that polls open for the Presidential Primary Election tomorrow at 7:00am at CSDA and close at 7:30pm.

**Approve Minutes**

*Eddie moved, seconded by Drew, to approve the minutes from the Monday, January 27, 2020 meeting as written; Roll Call Vote Yes 5-0. Eddie moved, seconded by Drew, to approve the minutes from the Tuesday, January 28, 2020 meeting as written; Roll Call Vote Yes 5-0. Eddie moved, seconded by Drew, to approve two sets of non-public minutes from the Monday, January 27, 2020 meeting as written; Roll Call Vote Yes 4-0-1; Steve abstained.*

**Sign Warrants for Payment**

*The Board signed Accounts Payable Warrant #5 in the amount of \$977,872.46, Payroll Warrant #6 in the amount of \$60,066.34, and Police Detail in the amount of \$1,525.*

**Announce Candidate Forum for Selectboard**

**Tad** said there are four individuals running for the two open Selectboard seats and **Peter Webb** has offered to be the moderator for a candidates forum on Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> (snow date March 4<sup>th</sup>) at 7:00pm at Captain Samuel Douglass Academy.

**Finalize Schedule for Primary**

The Board finalized the schedule for Selectboard coverage on election day. **Brendan** noted he is very impressed with the running of our elections by Town Clerk/Tax Collector **Patti Howard-Barnett** and Town Moderator **Peter Webb**. He said he is very comfortable with our election security.

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**Update on Streetlight Conversion Project**

**Tad** said all of our streetlights were swapped out last week with new LED lights and our electric bill should be going down by about half.

**Sign Amended Winter and Inclement Weather Policy and Priorities**

**Mike Wenrich** reviewed the updated policy with the Board. *The Board accepted and signed the amended Winter and Inclement Weather Policy and Priorities.*

**Review Town Boundary Map for Submission to 2020 Census**

The Board reviewed a copy of the Brookline boundary map from the U.S. Census Bureau. **Tad** said he is unaware of any changes to the town's boundaries. *Eddie moved, seconded by Drew, to authorize Brendan to sign the 2020 Initial Boundary Validation Program form, accepting that the boundary map is correct. Roll Call Vote Yes 5-0.*

**Complete Form 8038-GC for Police Cruiser**

**Tad** said Municipal Leasing Corporation discovered they had entered the wrong issue date of February 25, 2020 on the original 8038-GC form. They have sent a new form with the corrected date of February 15, 2020. *Brendan signed the amended form 8038-GC having previously been authorized to sign the lease paperwork.*

**Review Engineering Invoice for Payment re Bond Street Bridge**

*Eddie moved, seconded by Drew, for the Board to sign the letter to the Trustees of the Trust Funds requesting they provide timely payment of Hoyle Tanner Invoice #10 in the amount of \$21,214 from the Bond Street Bridge Capital Reserve Fund; Roll Call Vote 5-0.*

**Review 2019 Audit Questionnaire**

After some discussion, *Eddie moved, seconded by Drew, to authorize Brendan to sign the completed 2019 Audit Questionnaire; Roll Call Vote Yes 5-0.*

**Review Mail Folder**

The Board reviewed the mail folder.

**Mike Wenrich Transfer Station Fees**

**Mike** reviewed with the Board his proposed plan to increase construction debris fees to cover increased disposal costs as well as the reduction or elimination of other fees at the Transfer Station. The Board agreed with **Mike's** recommendations. He said he would like to review them with the staff before finalizing the changes.

**7:00pm Reconvene Budget Hearing**

**Review Petitioned Warrant Articles**

**Brendan** said we have received two petition warrant articles that do not require a public hearing and, traditionally, the Board does not take a position on them. **Tad** said the first reads: *"To see if the town shall adopt the provisions of RSA 32:14 to*

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*establish a municipal budget committee to assist its voters in the prudent appropriation of public funds.”* He said the petition warrant article requires a secret ballot vote for one hour.

**Tad** said the second petition warrant article reads: *“To see if the town will vote to direct the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School Board, pursuant to RSA 195:25, to undertake a study of the feasibility and suitability of the withdrawal of the pre-existing Brookline School District from the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District”*. **Brendan** said, though it is not required, he recommends we hold a public hearing. The Board agreed to hold a public hearing at the next Selectboard meeting on Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.

**DRA Changes to Drafted Warrant Articles**

**Rescinding \$400,000 Unused Bond Authorization:** **Tad** said that DRA is requiring two-thirds approval (not a simple majority) and a vote by ballot. The Selectboard and Finance Committee decided they did not need to revote on the warrant article.

**All Veterans’ Tax Credit:** **Tad** said DRA is requiring the use of the following DRA template language: *“Shall the Town vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:28-b, All Veterans’ Tax Credit? If adopted, the credit will be available to any resident, or the spouse or surviving spouse of any resident, who (1) served not less than 90 days on active service in the armed forces of the United States and was honorably discharged or an officer honorably separated from services and is not eligible for or receiving a credit under RSA 72:28 or RSA 73:35. If adopted, the credit granted will be \$500, the same amount as the standard or optional Veterans’ Tax Credit voted by the Town under RSA 72:28”*. **Selectboard vote; no change. Finance Committee re-vote; Recommends 2-0-1; Dana abstained.**

**Fire Truck Lease:** **Tad** said RSA 35:15 prohibits the use of capital reserve funds for lease payments, except for the final payment – when the equipment is actually owned by the town. He reviewed two options with the Board and Finance Committee:  
**Option #1** - Original lease amount, but now two-thirds *ballot* vote required and maintaining the warrant article for \$100,000 to Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund.  
**Option #2** - Increase annual lease figure to \$202,122, which requires a simple majority for approval and reduce the amount to the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund down to \$40,000. **Tad** noted both options have approximately the same total spending between the lease and Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund.  
**Option #2 was preferred by the Selectboard 4-1; Eddie voting no.**

**Brendan** read the consolidated warrant article recommendations from the Selectboard, which included Drew’s votes.

**7:57pm Close Budget Hearing.**

**Items for Next Meeting Agenda**

Historic Marker for Icehouse  
Sign Town Meeting Warrant

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Review and Unseal Non-Public Minutes

*8:00pm Brendan moved, seconded by Eddie, to go into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3 II (a) pay and (c)reputation; Roll Call Vote Yes 5-0.*

*8:40pm Brendan moved, seconded by Eddie, to come out of non-public session and seal the minutes; Roll Call Vote Yes 5-0.*

Meeting adjourned 8:41pm.

Minutes submitted by Sharon Sturtevant.

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Brendan Denehy

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Eddie Arnold

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Ron Olsen

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Drew Kellner

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Steve Russo