



**TOWN OF
BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
SELECTBOARD**

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*Minutes
Selectboard
Monday, February 8, 2021*

Selectboard members present via Zoom: Brendan Denehy, Eddie Arnold, Ron Olsen, Drew Kellner, and Dana Ketchen along with Town Administrator Tad Putney. Also present: Peter Webb

6:00pm Brendan opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and said we are meeting under Executive Order #2020-04 and Emergency Meeting Orders #12 and #23, which allow for remote meetings. Selectboard members all stated where they were and that they are participating remotely due to COVID-19.

Public Input

Brendan said he wanted to thank the emergency responders who worked well together in the rescue of a snowmobiler on Lake Potanipo last night, requiring an airlift med-flight. He said the individual was hospitalized and is now recovering.

Approve Minutes

Eddie moved, seconded by Ron, to approve the public minutes from the Monday, January 25th meeting as written; Roll Call Vote Yes 5-0. Eddie moved, seconded by Dana, to approve the public minutes from the Tuesday, January 26th budget hearing as written; Roll Call Vote Yes 5-0. Dana moved, seconded by Drew, to approve three sets of non-public minutes from the Monday, January 25th meeting as written; Roll Call Vote Yes 4-0-1, Eddie abstained.

Approve Warrants for Payment

Ron moved, seconded by Eddie, to approve Accounts Payable Warrant #5 in the amount of \$1,007,793.67, Payroll Warrant #6 in the amount of \$65,119.11, and Police Detail in the amount of \$1,811.25; Roll Call Vote Yes 5-0.

Continuation of Annual Budget Hearing - February 16th at 7pm

Brendan read: "In accordance with RSA 32:5, a continuation of the annual budget hearing will be held at 7pm on Tuesday, February 16th to review the 2021 proposed budget and warrant articles for the Town of Brookline. Due to COVID-19, the hearing will be held via Zoom and the agenda and Zoom links will be available on the Selectboard page of the town website (www.brooklinenh.us) no later than Friday, February 12th". **Brendan** said the continuation is due to tonight's conflicting meeting schedule with the school district annual meeting and the Finance Committee's obligation to attend both.

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Announce Bond Hearing – February 22nd at 7:00pm

Brendan read the notice of the Public Bond Hearing: “Pursuant to RSA 33:8-a (I), a public hearing will be held at 7:00 pm on Monday February 22nd, 2021 to solicit public input on a proposed Bond in the amount of up to \$2,700,000 for the construction of a new public works facility at 38 North Mason Road (Lot C-12). Due to COVID-19, the hearing will be conducted via Zoom using the following:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85253154249?pwd=U0ZNVnlYNzNSZkQzNEVrRWxtWCtPZz09 Call in number: 1 646 558 8656 Meeting ID: 852 5315 4249
Passcode: 575954.

Review of 2020 Selectboard Report for Annual Town Report

Tad presented the Board with a draft “Selectboard Report” for the annual town report and asked the Board for edits or comments. **Brendan** said he thought it was good. **Eddie** said he was very happy with it and thanked **Tad** for preparing it. The Board approved the report as written.

Discuss Meeting/Outreach with State Elected Officials

Tad suggested setting up a meeting with state officials March 8th or 22nd unless we want to include it in a special off-cycle meeting that had been contemplated for March 1st. Board members were interested in holding it on March 1st in the interest of time. **Tad** will pursue their availability.

Update on Sale of 237 Route 13

Tad said the buyer has asked for a three-week extension for the closing on 237 Route 13. *Dana moved, seconded by Eddie, to authorize Brendan to countersign the closing extension to on or before March 9th; Roll Call Vote Yes 5-0.*

Mike Wenrich re Hood Road Upgrade

Mike said we have received a cost to complete the upgrades to the balance of Hood Road and it is \$500,000 – \$600,000, which is more than was expected. He said most of the cost is driven by the proximity to prime wetlands and the overall work involved. He said this is not a “finish in 2021” project as we had hoped; there needs to be consideration of what phasing makes sense. **Mike** said we need to move forward with the tree work given the positive impact it will have on road maintenance and driver safety regardless of when the roadwork is done. **Ron** said his feedback from a resident on Hood Road was to leave the trees until the road work is slated to be done. **Dana** said no one saw the cost of this coming, and with a half a mile left of the road, she feels it is in pretty good shape and is in favor of clearing out the ditches and just maintaining the road and even leaving the trees at this point. **Eddie** said cutting the trees would widen the road a bit and open it up to sunshine and allow snow and ice to melt. **David Trubey** of 34 Hood Road said he wanted to thank **Mike** for coming out over the summer and meeting with residents of Hood Road. He said there is a section of the road that is washed out with cones around it, so he doesn’t feel it is in good shape. He said he thinks the road has been graded so many times it is undermining the root system of some of the trees and a lot of them are dying, so it’s a good place to start with the removal of them. **Christina Brown** of 22 Hood Road said she agrees with **David** and she knows this is a lot of money, but she hopes we can continue with pieces of the

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project as time goes on. **Brendan** referred to an email from Hood Road resident **Joan Cudworth**, who stated that the numbers to pave and complete the job are extremely high for the scope of work and asked if we have actual quotes from the paving company. She also stated in her email, if the intent to pave is not happening this year, please do not waste tax dollars taking down the trees at this time, instead bring in more gravel to make a better base. **Dave Ketchen** of 58 Russell Hill Road said in the past years he's been involved in some of the work that has been done on the road and it's always a hard sell at town meeting to have residents vote to spend money to do work on it. **Mike** said we currently have about \$110,000 in funding from the Hood Road warrant articles. **Tad** said the wetlands permit would cost \$1,009.60 and would be good for eight years. **Brendan** suggested we pause on this tonight and resume at the February 16th budget hearing when the Finance Committee can weigh in on it. The Board agreed.

Discuss Date for Town Meeting for Inclusion in Final Warrant

Brendan proposed an indoor/outdoor model for town meeting on Saturday, March 27th beginning at 10am in the CSDA gym and cafeteria. It was noted the moderator will retain the ability to postpone the meeting to a later date if COVID-19 concerns warrant. ***Dana moved, seconded by Ron, to hold town meeting on Saturday, March 27, 2021 at CSDA; Roll Call Vote Yes 5-0.***

Review 2021 Milfoil Grant Application for Approval

Eddie moved, seconded by Dana, to approve the 2021 Milfoil Grant in the amount of \$6,728; Roll Call Vote Yes 5-0. Ron moved, seconded by Eddie, to authorize Brendan to sign the Milfoil Grant Agreement; Roll Call Vote Yes 5-0. Ron moved, seconded by Dana, to authorize Eddie to sign the Certificate of Authority for the Milfoil Grant Agreement; Roll Call Vote Yes 5-0.

Update on DECCO Request Regarding Class VI Portion of Townsend Hill Road

Tad reviewed the updated warrant article language that incorporates comments by town counsel and also said the wording has been reviewed and agreed to by DECCO.

Review Mail Folder

The Board reviewed the mail folder.

Next Meeting Agendas

The Board agreed to the following items for the upcoming meeting agendas:

February 16th

Continue and conclude annual Budget Hearing

February 22nd

Bond Hearing at 7pm

Mike Davey to discuss building energy audits

Sign final town meeting warrant

Review non-public minutes for unsealing

Review schedule for all-day voting

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7:12pm Brendan moved, seconded by Eddie, to go into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3 II (c) reputation, and that other non-public matters may be discussed, and immediately upon coming out of non-public session to seal the minutes and adjourn; Roll Call Vote Yes 5-0.

7:23pm meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Sharon Sturtevant.

Brendan Denehy

Eddie Arnold

Ron Olsen

Drew Kellner

Dana Ketchen