



**TOWN OF
BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
SELECTBOARD**

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*Minutes
Selectboard
Monday, January 10, 2022*

Selectboard members present: Eddie Arnold, Brendan Denehy, Dana Ketchen, and Steve Russo along with Town Administrator Tad Putney.

6:30pm Eddie opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and reviewed the rules for hybrid meetings.

Public Input

Brendan said he wanted to acknowledge the generosity of people in town, both for the donations made for the skating rink and the recent “GoFundMe” page set up for a family who was recently afflicted with the serious illness of a family member.

Approve Minutes

Brendan moved, seconded by Dana, to approve the public minutes from the Monday, December 27th meeting as written; Voted Yes 4-0. Dana moved, seconded by Steve, to approve 7 sets of non-public minutes from the Monday, December 27th meeting as written; Voted Yes 4-0.

Sign Warrants for Payment

Brendan moved, seconded by Steve, to approve Accounts Payable Warrant #1 in the amount of \$1,207,380.21, Public Works Project Warrant #9 in the amount of \$29,984.88, Payroll Warrant #2 in the amount of \$71,140.60, corrected payroll from the last meeting in the amount of \$77,116.96, Police Detail in the amount of \$420 and final Warrant #53 of 2021 in the amount of \$314,253.66; Voted Yes 4-0.

Second COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic

Eddie said the next vaccination clinic is set for Sunday, January 23rd from 9-4 at CSDA. He said no pre-registration is needed, but people should arrive based on the first letter of their last name with “A”-“M” from 9am to 12:30pm and “N”-“Z” from 12:30pm to 4pm. He said more details are available on the town website.

Deadline for Declaring Candidacies and Submitting Petition Warrant Articles

Tad said the period for candidates to file nomination papers with the Town Clerk’s office for elected positions begins Wednesday, January 19th and ends Friday, January 28th at 5pm. He said open positions will be posted on the website. **Tad** said the last day to file petition warrant articles is Tuesday, February 1st.

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Annual Town Budget Hearings

Tad said the annual town budget hearings will be held on Monday, January 24th and Tuesday, January 25th beginning at 7pm tentatively in the Fire Department meeting room and notice will be posted tomorrow when the location is confirmed. **Eddie** read the public hearing notice per RSA 32:5.

Departments Included in Budget Hearings

Eddie said if a department's budget increase is less than 2% for 2022, they should not be required to appear before the Board at the budget hearing, unless they wish to. **Dana** said if there may be potential changes in a department's budget, they should be required to attend the hearing. She said she would require that the Fire Department attend the hearing. The Board agreed. **Tad** said he will reach out to **Chief Corey**.

Update on Tamposi Lawsuit; Discuss Potential Adjustment to 2022 Legal Budget

Tad said we received word that our insurer will be covering up to \$100,000 in legal fees associated with the lawsuit. He said the potential adjustment to the preliminary 2022 legal budget would mean a reduction from \$285,000 to \$185,000, but he has asked the attorney to provide an updated estimate for 2022 legal fees. He said he expects the updated estimate this week and he will incorporate it into the budget hearing packet.

Accept Donation from Souhegan Valley Karate Club

Steve moved, seconded by Brendan, to accept a \$1,000 donation from Souhegan Valley Karate Club for the past year's use of the Town Hall; Voted Yes 4-0.

Appointments

Dana moved, seconded by Steve, to appoint Greg Martin as an Alternate Member to the Conservation Commission until March 31, 2024; Voted Yes 4-0.

Review Submitted Pictures for Annual Report Cover

The Board chose the "lighthouse with rainbow" for the front cover and, if it can be included, the "flowering tree" for the back of the annual town report.

ARPA Update – Final Rules Issued

Tad said he is participating in an ARPA funds webinar on Wednesday of this week to learn more about the final rules for spending the ARPA funds. He said the final rules were issued late last week and it appears the requirements have been substantially relaxed, but he will know more specifics after the webinar.

Review and Approve 2022 Milfoil Grant Agreement

Brendan moved, seconded by Steve, to authorize Eddie to sign the 2022 Milfoil Grant in the amount of \$4,500 from NHDES; Voted Yes 4-0. Steve moved, seconded by Dana, to authorize Brendan to sign the Corporate Resolution for the 2022 Milfoil Grant; Voted Yes 4-0.

7:00pm Greg D'Arbonne and Marie Grella re Purple Heart Community

Maria asked that the Selectboard approve a proclamation to make Brookline a "Purple Heart Community" and explained the process that is involved. **Greg** said "Purple Heart

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Community Day” is celebrated nationally on August 7th , but he proposes we do an official ceremony to kick off the signing of the proclamation this year on Memorial Day since we will already be having a ceremony on the Town Hall lawn. **Greg** said the cost of signs to mark the six entrances to Brookline is \$360, which can be raised through fundraising efforts or taken from the town’s “Patriotic Purposes” budget. The Board agreed to add \$400 to the 2022 budget and review a proclamation once drafted by Greg.

Discuss Board’s View on Holding February 20th Soup/Chowder/Chili Cookoff

Tad said **Val** wanted the Board’s view on whether to hold the cookoff this year in February given current public health concerns. The Board agreed it is best to pass on holding it this February and maybe have it in the spring. **Dana** said if the public has input on this subject please contact the Board.

Sign New Code of Conduct for Implementation March 1, 2022

The Board signed the final version of the “Code of Conduct” for implementation on March 1, 2022.

Review Third Draft of Personnel Plan Updates

The Board reviewed additional modifications to the Personnel Plan and will discuss additional changes at the next meeting.

Review Mail Folder

The Board reviewed the mail folder.

7:29pm *Eddie moved, seconded by Brendan, to go into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3 II (c) reputation and (l) legal; potentially others; Roll Call Vote Yes 4-0.*

8:15pm *Eddie moved, second by Brendan, to come out of non-public session and seal the minutes; Roll Call Vote Yes 4-0.*

Brendan moved, seconded by Steve, to approve the carryover of 20 hours of 2021 vacation time to 2022 for Charlie Corey; Voted Yes 4-0.

8:17pm meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Sharon Sturtevant.

Eddie Arnold

Brendan Denehy

Dana Ketchen

Steve Russo