



**TOWN OF
BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
SELECTBOARD**

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*Minutes
Selectboard
Monday, June 28, 2021*

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

6:30pm Drew opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and read the Ground Rules for Hybrid Meetings, which were adopted by the Board at its June 14th meeting.

Public Input

Roger Ogden (via Zoom) said it is his opinion that the Board should not be following the “ground rules for hybrid meetings” before the minutes from the meeting the rules were adopted at are posted for the public. **Drew** said the Board will take it under advisement. **Brendan** said this Sunday is the 4th of July parade and fireworks. Board members noted whether they will be marching in the parade or not. **Tad** said the fireworks are planned for July 4th with a rain date of July 5th. He said the decision to postpone the fireworks must be conveyed to Atlas by 5:00pm on Saturday, July 3rd. **Tad** asked the Board if they were comfortable having the decision to postpone, if needed, made by **Chief Corey** since he will be coordinating the event with Atlas. The Board had no objections.

Approve Minutes

Brendan moved, seconded by Eddie, to approve the public minutes from the Monday, June 14th meeting as written; Voted Yes 4-0. Brendan moved, seconded by Eddie, to approve 6 sets of non-public minutes from the Monday, June 14th meeting as written; Voted Yes 4-0.

Sign Warrants for Payment

Eddie moved, seconded by Steve, to approve Accounts Payable Warrant #25 in the amount of \$297,174.73, Payroll Warrant #26 in the amount of \$62,212.71, and Police Detail in the amount of \$1,548.75; Voted Yes 4-0.

Appointments and Resignations

The Board signed the appointment slip for **Dan Marceck** as Alternate Member to the Zoning Board of Adjustment, which had been approved at the June 14th meeting.

Brendan moved, seconded by Eddie, to accept the resignation of Dennis Comeau as Souhegan Regional Landfill District Representative; Voted Yes 4-0. Eddie moved, seconded by Steve, to accept the resignation of Matt Mailloux as Finance Committee

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Member; Voted Yes 4-0. **Tad** said he will post the open seats and reach out to a previously interested resident for the SRLD representative seat.

Review and Approve 5-Year Septage Agreement with the Town of Merrimack

Tad said we are still awaiting the approved document from Merrimack. Item deferred.

Discuss Certification Requested for TAP Project

Tad said we received a letter from the NHDOT advising that our current agreement with them for the Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) project lacks some newly required language and in place of having to replace the entire agreement, they have determined that the Selectboard approving a three-paragraph certification verifying that none of the officers, directors or key employees of the town have been debarred or declared ineligible from being involved in such an agreement will suffice. **Eddie moved, seconded by Steve, to authorize Drew to sign the certification; Voted Yes 4-0.**

Discuss Alternatives for TAP Pedestrian Bridges

Tad said the engineering plans for the TAP project currently call for “weathering steel” on the Mason Road and South Main Street pedestrian bridges over the Nissitissit. He said we have learned from the engineering team that another town has experienced structural issues with a “weathering steel” pedestrian bridge adjacent to a vehicular bridge due to road salt erosion and that pedestrian bridge is less than 10 years old. **Tad** said the baseline cost for the two bridges, if using weathering steel, is \$192,000. He said three alternatives the engineers have identified include:

- Metalizing and Painted Finish - 130% increase from the baseline price, approximate increase of \$250,000; awaiting word on expected life.
- Galvanized Finish – 45% increase from baseline price, approximate increase of \$87,000, 35-year warranty.
- Galvanized and Painted Finish – 75% increase from baseline price, approximate increase of \$133,000, 35-year warranty.

Tad said it is important to note that the town would be responsible for 20% of the additional costs and the state would pay 80% once the state approves the preferred option. **Drew** said the increased cost of the project would require the approval of additional project funds by taxpayers at the March 2022 meeting before proceeding. **Eddie** said he is in favor of the galvanized finish option. **Tad** agreed as he would prefer to avoid the need to repaint the bridges.

Update on the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding

Tad said the town is due to receive ARPA funds in the amount of \$570,873 in two installments and currently the restrictions on how we use the funds are fairly narrow. He said there was discussion that Treasury may loosen the restrictions and allow the funds to be used to reduce taxes. **Tad** said we are not required to take any action until the August 18th deadline for applying for the funds. He recommended we not take any action at this time and await further information regarding the restrictions and the responsibilities we assume by accepting the funds.

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Preliminary Review of 2022-2027 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Submissions

The Board reviewed the preliminary CIP summary sheet and discussed potential items to add. The Board plans to finalize the submission at its next meeting.

Update on Public Works Project

Tad said the project remains on schedule. He said the cistern will be completed this week, the foundation backfilled next week, the slab plumbing and vapor barrier will start the following week, the slab will be poured by the end of July, and framing is due to start the beginning of August. **Tad** said a decision was made to go with a propane generator, which resulted in a savings of \$1,150 on the purchase of the unit.

Committee Updates

Drew updated the Board on the Open Government Working Group (OGWG). He said the group is requesting funding for a survey software tool and reviewed a few different options with the Board. ***Eddie moved, seconded by Steve, to authorize the purchase of a one-year subscription to Survey Monkey at a cost of \$300; Voted Yes 4-0.***

Other Business

Tad said another NH town is interested in purchasing our used fire truck and the potential purchase price that has been discussed is \$15,000. He said another option is listing it on a national website. He said it would provide a broader marketplace, but they charge a 10% commission. **Tad** was asked to get more information on the national website option, so we can get the best price.

Mail Folder

The Board reviewed the mail folder.

Next Meeting Agenda

It was noted the following topics would be on the next meeting's agenda:

- Finalize Capital Improvements Plan
- Review Anti-Fraud Policy
- Sign Septage Agreement with the Town of Merrimack
- Discuss the future of the Annex (either July 12th or 26th meeting)

7:27pm *Drew moved, seconded by Eddie, to go into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3 II (c) reputation and (l) legal and, immediately upon coming out of non-public session, to seal the minutes and adjourn the meeting; Roll Call Vote Yes 4-0.*

7:46pm meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Sharon Sturtevant.

Drew Kellner

Eddie Arnold

Brendan Denehy

Steve Russo