



**TOWN OF
BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
SELECTBOARD**

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*Minutes
Selectboard
Monday, May 2, 2022*

Selectboard members present: Eddie Arnold, Brendan Denehy, Dana Ketchen, Steve Russo, and Ed Perry along with Town Administrator Tad Putney. Also present: Bob Parodi, Susan Holroyd, Amy Razzaboni, Tom Solon, Ben Chandler, Laura Chandler, and Lindsay Machado.

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

Public Input

Buddy Dougherty, 11 Ruonala Road, said the former Wishing Well restaurant site on Route 13 needs to be cleaned up and asked if the Board could pursue the new owner. **Tad** said he sent an email to the new owner earlier in the day and received a response that he will be cleaning it up, but a specific deadline was not set. **Eddie** read an announcement from Ambulance Chief **Jeffrey Stewart** about “Emergency Services Week” May 13th thru May 21st, which will culminate with an open house on Saturday May 21st from 1-4pm at the Safety Complex. **Brendan** thanked everyone who participated in the “Town-wide Clean-up” over the past week and announced the “Friends of the Library” Book Sale happening on May 14th and 15th at the Annex. **Brendan** also announced the Memorial Day Ceremony conducted by the Legion on May 30th at the Town Hall. **Dana** said it is also “Purple Heart Day” and asked **Tad** if we have an update on the signs. **Tad** said he reached out to **Greg D'Arbonne** who has prepared a proclamation stating Brookline has become a “Purple Heart Community”, which will be included in the Memorial Day Ceremony. He said **Greg** is also pursuing the purple heart signs.

Approve Minutes

Dana moved, seconded by Brendan, to approve the public minutes from the Monday, April 18th meeting as written; Voted Yes 5-0. Dana moved, seconded by Brendan, to approve 11 sets of non-public minutes from the Monday, April 18th meeting as written; Voted Yes 5-0.

Sign Warrants for Payment

Dana moved, seconded by Brendan, to approve Accounts Payable Warrant #17 in the amount of \$1,436,228.76, Payroll Warrant #18 in the amount of \$64,004.22, Police Detail in the amount of \$472.50 and Public Works Facility Warrant #14 in the amount of \$15,831.37; Voted Yes 5-0.

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Library Trustee Vacancy

Eddie said the Selectboard is seeking to fill a vacancy on the Library Board of Trustees with a term through March 2024 and they generally meet monthly. He said interested residents should submit an email to Town Administrator **Tad Putney** no later than 2pm on Wednesday, May 11th and candidates are encouraged to note the reasons for wanting to serve as a Library Trustee in their email.

Seeking Two At-Large Residents for Energy Committee

Tad said we have received one email of interest from **Jan Reimers**. *Brendan moved, seconded by Steve, to appoint Jan Reimers to the Energy Committee; Voted Yes 5-0.*

Review Conservation Bond Resolution For Approval

Tad said the bond resolution has been prepared by bond counsel for the upcoming bond for the purchases of parcels of conservation land that were approved at town meeting. *Dana moved, seconded by Ed, that the resolution entitled , “Resolution to Authorize \$1,187,500 Bond Bank Loan Agreement, Issuance of Bond, and Related Documentation for Purchase of Certain Parcels of Land for Conservation Purposes,” be approved in form presented to this meeting, and that an attested copy of said Resolution be included with the minutes of this meeting. Voted Yes 5-0. Dana moved, seconded by Ed, to authorize Eddie to sign future documents pertaining to the bond; Voted Yes 5-0.*

Discuss Future Uses of Melendy Pond Property/Potential Forestry Management

Tom Solon said he is a current member of the Melendy Pond Management Committee (MPMC) and former member of two other Melendy Pond committees. He said the outcome of one committee was a recommendation for forestry management of the 285 acres. **Tom** said the UNH Cooperative Extension provides no charge consultation in forestry management and the MPMC is seeking the Selectboard’s approval to take that action. **Eddie** said there are three avenues that we can take with the land:

- “Conservation” - let nature take its course;
- “Recreation” - some level of development for recreational use;
- “Income Bearing” - use of the land to generate income (e.g., logging).

The Board discussed the different avenues and ideas for the use of the land. **Dana** suggested using “Survey Monkey” to solicit public input. The Board agreed to move in the direction of forestry management and the MPMC will discuss it further at their next meeting. **Tom** said he will reach out to the UNH Coop Extension local contact.

Mike Wenrich – Review of Paving Bids

Mike said this year we are looking to overlay Laurelcrest Drive, Wallace Brook Road, West Hill Road, and Russell Hill Road. He said we are also looking to do a base pave of Ben Farnsworth Road and Poor Farm Road. **Mike** said we received paving bids from *Advanced Paving, Continental Paving, Newport Construction, P.J. Keating and R & D Paving*. He said Continental has the low bid with Advanced Paving very close behind. He said he would be happy with either one of them. *Dana moved, seconded by Steve, to accept the Continental Paving bid of \$294,763, based on a machine method cost of*

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*\$85 per ton, hand method cost of \$160 per ton, shoulder gravel cost of \$25 per ton;
Voted Yes 5-0.*

Discussion of Hood Road Project

Mike said based on his analysis, the approximate cost to finish Hood Road now would be around \$650,000 and it will only go up from there. He said we have about \$71,000 available now and could use that to improve the dirt/gravel portion, but would need to look at bond funding to see the whole project through, which is what he would like to see happen. **Dana** said she wants to wait, pending the conclusion of the current lawsuit. **Eddie** asked if we could use ARPA funds. **Tad** said most likely. **Eddie** said he would like to get the project finished. **Steve** said we should ask department heads if they need ARPA funds for anything. **Tad** said he will reach out to get answers from them by the end of the month.

Transfer Station - Periodic Update

Mike said construction debris fees are covering only about 50% of our costs to haul it away. He said it is a hard metric to guess without a scale, but we need to increase fees if we want to cover our costs. The Board asked **Mike** to come back with recommended changes in fees.

Update on Town Administrator Search

Tad said MRI has recommended three finalists to the Selectboard. He said he thinks it would be a good idea for the candidates to meet with the department heads as a group on the same day as the interviews. The Board agreed.

Discuss Draft of Well and Water Ordinance

Steve said the Building Inspector's report, or list of questions, was very preliminary and he provided comments on the items on the list. **Steve** said Skillings could tell us where the well problems are in town based on their calls. **Laura Chandler** said Skillings does not release information on private wells without the homeowners' permission. **Steve** said the list is negative, unproven and one-sided. After more discussion, ***Steve moved, seconded by Brendan, for the Selectboard to charter a new Well and Water Committee; Motion Failed 3-2.*** **Dana** said she doesn't think the Selectboard should decide this. **Eddie** said we have the ability to review documents without another committee. **Dana** said there are compromises that can be made, but the drafted ordinance is not acceptable to her. ***Ed moved, seconded by Eddie, for the Board to establish direct communication with the public and conduct a survey asking for information on individual well and water problems in Brookline, and have the Selectboard review current information and meeting minutes from the Well and Water Committee and the School and Town Facilities Committee related to the topic; Voted Yes 5-0.*** **Buddy Dougherty** said he is a member of the Well and Water Committee and he doesn't feel the Selectboard should decide whether or not to go forward with this. He said the committee has already been enacted, so you should include them in the discussion. **Buddy** said as for the Building Inspector and Health Officer deciding how this goes, he doesn't know how they have that power. **Eddie** said per RSA the Health Officer has the authority to recommend an ordinance to the Selectboard.

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Preliminary Discussion of 10-Year Visioning

Brendan said the “Master Plan” process is a Planning Board process and it is time for it to be updated and the first step is the “visioning” part. **Brendan** quoted from the 2011 Master Plan: *“The overall vision for Brookline is a community that supports and preserves it’s rural character while simultaneously embracing 21st century technology, environmentally progressive strategies, and local business opportunities.”* **Brendan** said he wants the Board to start thinking about how we can engage our boards and committees to start thinking about a vision for the future. He suggested once a month invite someone from a board, committee or department to the meeting and have ten minutes to look at the big picture. **Eddie** said he has an SRLD meeting next week and he can provide some visioning thoughts for the Transfer Station at the next Board meeting. **Brendan** said we should reach out to department heads to get them scheduled. **Tad** will do so.

Review 2022/2023 Selectboard Task List and Schedule

Tad reviewed the Task List and Schedule with the Board. It was agreed that the visioning section will be expanded.

Thank You Letters

The Selectboard sent thank you letters to the **Brookline Women’s Club** for including the much needed replacement of the Town Hall window blinds in their “Presidents Project”; **Brian Wilson** for donating the labor to install the new 60-inch monitor in the Town Hall meeting room; and **Ron Pelletier** for his 18 years on the Planning Board.

Review Items for Next Meeting’s Agenda

It was agreed the following topics will be discussed at the next meeting:

- Purple Heart community proclamation
- Transfer Station visioning
- Well water information
- Update on potential spending of APRA funds

Review Mail Folder

The Board reviewed the mail folder.

8:58pm Eddie moved, seconded by Dana, to go into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3 II (a) personnel, (c) reputation and potentially others; Roll Call Vote Yes 5-0.

10:20pm Eddie moved, second by Brendan, to come out of non-public session and seal the minutes; Roll Call Vote Yes 5-0.

Extension of P&S Agreements

Tad said we need three extensions of the Purchase & Sales agreements for the purchases approved at town meeting as bond proceeds will not be available until mid-July. *It was moved, and seconded, to extend the P & S agreements until the end of July; Voted Yes 5-0.*

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10:21pm meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Sharon Sturtevant.

Eddie Arnold

Brendan Denehy

Dana Ketchen

Steve Russo

Ed Perry