



**TOWN OF  
BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
SELECTBOARD**

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*Minutes  
Selectboard  
Monday, December 3, 2018*

Selectboard members present: Brendan Denehy, Eddie Arnold, Tom Humphreys, Valerie Ogden and Ron Olsen along with Town Administrator Tad Putney. Also present: Finance Committee members Brian Rater and Steve Russo and residents Ann Somers, Drew Kellner, Roger Ogden, Kevin Visnaskas, Tom Solon and Webb Scales.

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

**Brendan** asked for a moment of silence for the passing of President George H.W. Bush.

**Public Input**

**Val** said the temporary traffic light system that was recently put in place for the bridge work done on Main Street worked effectively. She said she thinks the same system could be used on Mason Road during the busy summer season at the lake.

**Approve Minutes**

**Ron moved, seconded by Tom, to approve the minutes from the Monday, November 19, 2018 meeting as written; Voted Yes 5-0. Eddie moved, seconded by Ron, to approve 3 sets of non-public minutes from the Monday, November 19, 2018 meeting as written; Voted Yes 5-0.**

**Tad** noted that a correction was made to the November 20<sup>th</sup> 2018 payroll warrant, resulting in a gross payroll increase of \$131.88. The revised total payroll warrant was \$57,069.05

**Sign Warrants for Payment**

**The Board signed Accounts Payable Warrant #49 in the amount of \$4,178,525.98, 250th Anniversary Warrant #9 in the amount of \$17,983.53, Payroll Warrant #50 in the amount of \$63,773.29 and FD Call Pay Warrant in the amount of \$23,632.24.**

**Appoint Gary Nedelman to Transfer Station Evaluation Committee**

**Eddie moved, seconded by Val, to appoint Gary Nedelman as a Resident at Large to the Transfer Station Evaluation Committee; Voted Yes 5-0.**

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**Review Year-to-Date Expenses**

**Tad** said through November we were 92% of the way through the year and had spent 83% of the operating budget.

**Finalize Selection of Printer for Annual Report**

After some discussion, *Tom moved, seconded by Eddie, to accept the Country Press bid of \$1,607.42 for the production of the 2018 Town Report; Voted Yes 5-0.*

**Review Invoice for Bond Street Bridge; Authorize Capital Reserve Expense**

*Eddie moved, seconded by Ron, to request the Trustees of the Trust Funds provide timely payment from the Bond Street Bridge Capital Reserve Fund to Hoyle Tanner for the first invoice of engineering work on the bridge; Voted Yes 5-0.*

**Schedule Department Head Performance Reviews**

The Board scheduled four performance reviews for Monday, January 14, 2019 prior to the regular Board meeting. **Brendan** requested the self-evaluations be received before that date and the Board agreed to review the evaluation form at the next Board meeting.

**Update on Mason Ambulance Contract Meeting**

**Tad** said he, **Brendan**, **Val** and **Chief Jackson** met with the Mason Board of Selectmen on Tuesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. He said we presented the costs of ambulance “operational readiness” and the resulting 2019 contract amount of \$75,251. **Tad** said they saw the rationale behind the numbers and will now be presenting it to their voters for approval in March.

**Drew Kellner re Proposed Conservation Easement Warrant Article**

**Drew** presented a warrant article for placing a conservation easement on the lots that comprise the Hobart/Fessenden Woods. He said the article was similar to the one recently approved for the Austin/Martin parcel.

**Melendy Pond Planning Committee (MPPC) – Final Report**

**Tom Solon** thanked committee members for all of the work that was done. He said he is pleased with the outcome. **Tom** presented the final report and reviewed the Executive Summary portion in detail. He said there are 23 leased lots that expire between now and 2032 and the MPPC is recommending that the Board have a warrant article for town meeting to allow current lease owners a one-time chance during 2019 to have new leases or licenses that extend through 2032. The MPPC is also recommending the Board approve a warrant article to dissolve the Melendy Pond Authority and for it to deed the property back to the town of Brookline. **Tom** said the MPPC is also recommending a third warrant article that would set up a revolving fund for rent monies to be deposited with the funds to be used for future demolitions. **Brendan** said we want to be respectful of the residents that live there and he added that the committee has created a road map to offset future costs and he really appreciates the work that was done. *Ron moved, seconded by Val, to accept the MPPC’s final report; Voted Yes 5-0.*

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**Review Peer Town Survey Data on 2019 Pay Increases**

**Tad** said he received a response from 16 peer towns out of 24 that were contacted. He said the median 2019 pay increase for the towns is 3% for non-union employees. **Val** asked how much of a cost a 3% increase is for us. **Tad** said a 3% increase for about 50 full-time, part-time and on-call employees results in a total cost increase of \$37,034. *The Board agreed on a 3% pay increase for non-union employees in 2019.*

**Review Warrant Articles and “Sense of Support” from Board Members**

**Tad** reviewed an updated draft of the warrant articles for March.

Board members agreed to provide a “sense of support” for drafted warrant articles, but noted the formal votes will be taken at the end of the Budget Hearing in January. The levels of support were as follows:

- Public Works Cap Reserve Fund (\$150,000) – Four Board members in favor, **Val** said she would support it at \$100,000; both Finance Committee members supported.
- 2017 Highway Block Grant to Bond Street Bridge Fund - all were in favor.
- New Ambulance Lease, assuming no grant (annual lease of \$54,695) – Four Board members in favor, **Eddie** undecided; both Finance Committee members supported.
- New Ambulance Purchase, assuming a grant (\$13,500) – all were in favor.
- Facilities Contingency Fund (\$10,000) – all were in favor.
- Conservation Easement for Hobart Fessenden – Two Board members in favor; three undecided
- Three Melendy Pond Warrant Articles – All Board members in favor; one Finance Committee member in favor; **Brian** abstained.
- Elderly, Disabled and Blind Exemption Changes - all were in favor.
- Keno – Three Board members in favor, one against and one abstention as to whether to put it on the warrant. **Brendan** invited the public to provide input to the Board on whether they want to see it on the warrant and a final decision will be made at a later date.

**Review Agenda Items for Next Meeting**

**Tad** confirmed the following items for the next agenda:

- Ambulance Billing Committee
- Review of performance evaluation form
- Items from 2019 budget that could be purchased in 2018

**Review mail folder**

The Board reviewed the mail folder.

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

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

**Tom** said he would like to modify the approach to taxes so that if a taxpayer has children in the schools or works for the schools, they pay the school portion of the tax bill; if they do not, then they do not pay school taxes. **Eddie** suggested the idea was better suited for representatives in Concord. **Tom** said he had talked with them and he will have more details on the topic at the next Board meeting.

***Eddie moved, seconded by Tom, to adjourn the meeting; Voted Yes 5-0.***

9:02pm meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Sharon Sturtevant.

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Brendan Denehy

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Tom Humphreys

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Valerie Ogden

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Eddie Arnold

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Ron Olsen