



**TOWN OF
BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
SELECTBOARD**

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*Minutes
Selectboard
Monday, October 22, 2018*

Selectboard members present: Brendan Denehy, Eddie Arnold, Tom Humphreys, Valerie Ogden and Ron Olsen along with Town Administrator Tad Putney. Also present: Drew Kellner, Shawn Jackson, Roger Ogden, Jim Solinas, David Coffey, Ann Somers, Peter Cook, Linda Saari, Mike Wenrich, Jerry Farwell and Peter Lemay.

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

Public Input

Drew thanked **Brendan** and **Ron** for their help over the weekend with the running of the 10th annual Ghost Train Rail Trail Race as well as **Jim** for briefly opening the Transfer Station to aid in the clean up after the event. **Jim** thanked town residents for their understanding concerning the transitions being made at the Transfer Station. **Brendan** announced the Drug Take Back event at the Safety Complex on Saturday October 27, 2018 from 9am – 1pm.

Approve Minutes

Eddie moved, seconded by Ron, to approve the minutes from the Monday, October 8, 2018 meeting as written; Voted Yes 5-0. Ron moved, seconded by Val, to approve the minutes from the Monday, October 15, 2018 meeting as written; Voted Yes 5-0.

Sign Warrants for Payment

The Board signed Accounts Payable Warrant #43 in the amount of \$53,470.55, Payroll Warrant #44 in the amount of \$57,117.02 and Police Detail Warrant in the amount of \$570.00.

Sign General Election Warrant

The Board signed the Warrant for the General Election for Federal, State and County officers, and constitutional amendment questions, to be held on Tuesday, November 6, 2018 from 7am to 7:30pm.

Appointments

The Board signed the appointment slip for David Coffey as Emergency Management Director. The Board signed the appointment slip re-appointing Jerry Farwell to the SRLD through October 8, 2021. The Board signed the appointment slip re-appointing Eddie Arnold to the SRLD through March 26, 2021.

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Consider Replacement Appointment to Nashua Regional Planning Commission

Tad said he received emails from three residents expressing interest in the vacant role of NRPC commissioner: Christopher Drescher, Tamara Sorell and Colin Shea. After a brief discussion, *Ron moved, seconded by Tom, to nominate Tamara Sorell for appointment to the NRPC; Voted Yes 4-1, Val Voted No.* The Board gave notice to appoint Tamara Sorell to the NRPC at the next meeting. **Brendan** suggested we let the other candidates know of vacancies on the planning and zoning boards.

Update on Health Officer Replacement Process

Tad said that a candidate interview was postponed and he will have an update at the next Board meeting.

Discuss Implications of 2018 Tax Rate on 2019 Budgeting Process

Val said with the recent increase in taxes we need to keep our options open during the budgeting process. **Roger** asked if Special Education unexpectedly gets an addition, could we use the unassigned fund balance. **Brian** said it is a School Board question as they have their own unassigned funds. He also said he would be doing some analysis of the recent increase in taxes.

Make-up/Compensatory Time

Eddie said a resident sent him an email asking about the “make-up” time for exempt employees and “compensatory” time for non-exempt employees. **Tad** said, if exempt employees hours exceed their stated hours, they can bank the extra hours (not to exceed 40) to use at another time. **Tad** said non-exempt employees are paid overtime after 40 hours. **Eddie** said the only time the Town would be on the hook monetarily for exempt positions would be if the ambulance chief uses “make-up” time during normal hours and the town pays a member of the ambulance service to maintain coverage for that period of time. **Drew** said he thought the law had changed with regard to using make-up time within a certain timeframe. **Tad** said he would check on this question. **Eddie** suggested the Board review this section of the Personnel Plan at a later date.

Camp Tevya Thank You Letter for Donation

The Board signed a letter to Camp Tevya thanking them for their donation of \$9,750.

Review Schedule for November 6th Election

The Board completed the schedule for the Tuesday, November 6, 2018 General Election.

Preliminary 2019 Budget Review

Ambulance- Proposed Budget - \$258,259

Ambulance Chief **Shawn Jackson** said he would like to increase the Town of Mason ambulance service contract to \$50,589 to bring it more in line with Mason’s portion of the department’s actual operating budget. It was noted that Mason was notified in August 2018 that the contract would be increasing, so they could factor it in to their budget. **Shawn** said he would like to direct the Mason funds to saving for a new ambulance. **Shawn** said he is proposing a warrant article for \$54,695 as the first payment of a five-year lease-to-own an ambulance to replace the current 13 year-old

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one. If accepted at Town meeting, it would reduce the proposed ambulance maintenance costs. **Shawn** said that his budget also includes an increase of about \$38,000 for on-call pay to attendants for coverage during the year. **Linda** asked if this additional cost was included in the Mason contract. **Shawn** said it was not included in the preliminary figures provided to Mason. Following discussion, **Eddie moved, seconded by Val, to increase the ambulance service contract with the Town of Mason to include their portion of the added costs to provide attendants with on-call pay; Voted Yes 4-1, Brendan Voted No.**

Revaluation of Property - \$31,372

Peter Cook provided background on the proposed 2019 budget. He also said the Board of Assessors is proposing a warrant article to increase the assets means test for the elderly exemption to \$200,000 from \$100,000. He said they were also proposing warrant articles to update the elderly exemption, disabled exemption, and blind exemption to account for the changes in assessed values due to the town-wide revaluation.

Highways, Streets and Bridges - \$737,101

Mike Wenrich said he has reduced the proposed budget by \$15,000 from last year adding that he believes now with his full-time position, we can begin to save money in some areas. He said he has made changes in the breakdown of the budget categories, so he can more clearly see where money is being spent. **Brendan** asked if the Board had any questions about the DPW proposed budget. **Tom** asked when his road is going to be paved. **Eddie** said to **Tom** if you want to speak as a town citizen, then you should sit in the audience, not at this table, because from this table, you are using your position of power. **Tom** said he was not. **Brendan** directed attention back to the meeting. **Mike** said he is proposing a warrant article of \$150,000 for the Public Works Capital Reserve Fund, primarily for the purchase of a new backhoe that would be available for the DPW as well as at the Transfer Station and to reduce our subcontracting for equipment. There was discussion about looking into purchasing a used backhoe and **Mike** said he would pursue it, but has reservations.

Sanitation - \$ 316,870

Mike Wenrich said he is breaking down the “Contracted Services” budget line item further to better track spending in 2019. He said with the new compactor now in place and another one coming, we should see significant savings in the cost of recycling going forward. **Mike** said without compacting plastics we are paying to haul a lot of air.

Election & Registration - \$3,650

Linda Saari said the budget is down for 2019 due to there being only one election versus three in 2018. She said the ballot clerk stipends have gone up to \$150.

Planning & Zoning

Val asked that the Planning Board be present to discuss their proposed budget and any zoning amendments. The Board moved them to the November 19, 2018 meeting.

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Patriotic Purposes - \$8,750

Tad Putney said the budget is flat. The Board agreed that no increase was needed.

Cemeteries - \$22,000

Tad Putney said the annual cemetery budget of \$16,000 has not increased since 2004. He said the proposed budget from the Cemetery Trustees has increased due to some basic surveying that is needed on the unused portion of Pine Grove Cemetery and some needed tree maintenance and graveling of pathways. He said the tree work involves a two-phase plan to complete about \$6,500 in tree trimming/removal that will address dead limbs or trees that are at risk of damaging headstones. He said \$3,500 of the tree work has been budgeted for 2019 and the balance for 2020.

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

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

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

9:06pm meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Sharon Sturtevant.

Brendan Denehy

Tom Humphreys

Valerie Ogden

Eddie Arnold

Ron Olsen