

Town of Brookfield Selectboard Meeting
Monday, March 13, 2023
6:30 PM
Brookfield Town Office, 40 Ralph Road, Brookfield, VT

MINUTES

Present: John Benson, Chair; Betty Lord, Curtis Koren, Keith Sprague, Stuart Edson, members; Vicki Blanchard, Administrative Assistant; Amy Ingrassia, Assistant Treasurer.

1. The Town Clerk swore in the two re-elected Selectboard members, Betty Lord and Keith Sprague before the meeting started.
2. The Selectboard re-elected Kristi Ehlers for lister who was not present. Ms. Lord made a motion to re-elect Kristi Ehler as lister and Mr. Sprague seconded the motion which carried unanimously 5-0-0
3. Mr. Edson made a motion to re-elect Mr. Benson as Chair to the Brookfield Selectboard, Ms. Lord seconded the motion which carried forward 4-0-0
 - A. Call to Order – Mr. Benson called the Selectboard meeting to order at 7:53.
 - B. Selectboard Organization – Mr. Benson asked if anyone on the board would like to change what they are currently responsible for but everyone is happy with their responsibilities. Going forward the plan is that Ms. Lord will accept a two year term, Ms. Koren will take the other two year term and Mr. Benson, Mr. Sprague and Mr. Edson will take three year terms. Mr. Benson asked Mr. Edson to touch base with the town attorney to make sure this is proper procedure. Mr. Sprague made a motion to approve the new terms as Mr. Benson presented. Mr. Edson seconded the motion which carried unanimously 5-0-0
 - C. Town Meeting minutes approval – Ms. Lord made a motion to accept the Town Meeting minutes as presented by Teresa Godfrey and Mr. Sprague seconded the motion which carried unanimously 5-0-0
 - D. Inclusion Initiative short zoom presentation – Moved prior to the meeting being called to order. Bob Harnish & Al Wakefield gave a brief zoom presentation regarding each Vermont municipality adopting and implementing a Declaration of Inclusion. To Adopt means formal approval by the municipality's governing body. To Implement means the

development of plans, programs and the initiation of actions which support and advance both the intent and the spirit of the Declaration. (For more information on this you can go to the following website:

www.vtdeclarationofinclusion.org The Board said they would look it over and if they had any questions they would email them.

- E. Adjustments to Agenda – Moved Selectboard Organization to the beginning of meeting.
- F. Public Comments None
- G. Payroll and AP Warrants – Ms. Lord made a motion to accept the AP Warrants as presented with the total of \$32,805.84 with the highest payment to VT League of Cities and Towns in the amount of \$9,183.50. Mr. Edson seconded the motion which carried unanimously 5-0-0
- H. Highway Report – The Board talked about the purchase of a new one ton truck. Mr. Benson has a quote on a new one and will show it to Mr. Higgins to be sure it is what is needed. There is additional money for road maintenance and Teresa will let the board know just how much. Mr. Benson would like to have a plan for summer work just how much money is available would be helpful with that plan. Since the shed was voted on it and approved the shed should be started in the late summer. The current shed can be torn down by the road crew so then the concrete people will be able to get started and ready to build late summer. The building inspector will come out before this all gets started. The trucks have been down a lot which has caused problems keeping the roads plowed and sanded. For this next storm all three should be on the road.
- I. New Business - none
- J. Old Business
 - 1. Montgomery Road (TH 54) Mr. Edson followed up with the State and the Town is going to have this surveyed this summer. Teresa will look at the Road Description book and the Land Records and see if these are done correctly. The survey will prove if everything is right or wrong. In the road description it should tell if it is a class 3 or class 4.
- K. Meeting Minutes – February 27, 2023 – Mr. Sprague made a motion to accept the February 27, 2023 as presented, Ms. Koren seconded the motion which carried unanimously 5-0-0
- L. Other Proper Business – The Selectboard was given an invitation to an open house at Green Mountain Power at their Royalton Business Office. The Selectboard also got a letter from the Orange County Sheriff's Office which

stated that they will continue to honor their contract with the Town of Brookfield. It stated that Brookfield is being patrolled regularly, they currently have four full-time certified officers on staff, Chelsea Superior Court required two deputies daily. Additionally they have one part-time officer who is certified. They also have a single part-time deputy. The Superior court requires two officers and at times three for jury trials. He said they have one deputy dedicated to patrol duty to cover active contracts. Provided we do not lose any deputies, I for see the service of contracts will remain at current levels. The speed cart is available should the Town wish to use it.

M. Status Report – none

Mr. Benson made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:20 pm to discuss personnel issues. Mr. Edson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 5-0-0 After the discussion, Mr. Benson made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 9:10 pm Mr. Edson seconded the motion which carried unanimously 5-0-0

N. Adjournment – Mr. Edson made a motion to adjourn at 9:11 pm, Mr. Sprague seconded the motion and there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was unanimously adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
Vicki Blanchard
Administrative Assistant
to the Selectboard