

Town of Brookfield Selectboard Meeting
Monday, April 10, 2023
6:30 PM
Brookfield Town Office, 40 Ralph Road, Brookfield, VT

MINUTES

Present: John Benson, Chair; Stuart Edson, Keith Sprague, Curtis Koren; members; Vicki Blanchard, Administrative Assistant; Amy Ingrassia, Assistant Treasurer. Betty Lord, member, attended via zoom. Pamela Krause, Gary Urie, Beth Urie, Jon Binhammer and Linda Garrett.

- A. Call to Order – Mr. Benson called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm
- B. Adjustments to Agenda – Mr. Benson suggested to move Declaration of Inclusion discussion be moved up, as well as Payroll and AP Warrants to the beginning of the meeting.
 - 1. Declaration of Inclusion – Mr. Benson stated that the two men who started this program had attended the previous meeting by Zoom to explain their goals and vision and to ask the Brookfield Selectboard to approve the Declaration along with many municipalities who have already approved it. Six residents attended the meeting, five of whom were in favor of the Declaration, and all six shared their views. The majority stated it is wrong to discriminate against people and would like to see more people treat others respectfully. The one dissenting opinion felt it should be understood that treating others kindly is a way of life and that it did not have to be in writing. Mr. Edson made a motion to approve the Declaration of Inclusion and that it be added to the Town's website, Ms. Koren seconded the motion which carried unanimously 5-0-0
 - 2. Payroll and AP Warrants for April 10, 2023 – Mr. Edson made a motion to approve the Payroll and AP Warrants as presented with a total of \$20,371.89 and the largest payment being made to Reynolds and Sons in the amount of \$8,708.83. Ms. Koren seconded the motion which carried unanimously 5-0-0
- C. Public Comments - None
- D. Payroll and AP Warrants – see above

E. Highway Report

1. One Ton Truck – Mr. Higgins is getting a quote on a truck from G Stone Motors. Hopefully he will get a quote within the budget.
2. The road crew have been dealing with a resident regarding not wanting water from the road to run on his property, so he has been making alterations to the town road which has been going on for a while. Mr. Benson will talk to the Town Lawyer to see what the Town's rights are, so this situation can be resolved. Discussion on the new shed as to how to position it, how many garage doors, etc. have been taking place, and before the project is started, the road crew plans to do a lot of clean-up. They are going to tear down the old shed, as well as clean-up in the garage. The Board also plans on sending out a notice with tax bills asking people to not plow snow out into the main roadways.

F. New Business

1. Public Assemblage permit – A family memorial for the Reid family. Mr. Benson made a motion to approve the Brookfield Community Partnership Public Assemblage for May 20, 2023, Mr. Sprague seconded the motion which carried unanimously 5-0-0

G. Old Business

1. Montgomery Road (TH 54) – Mr. Edson talked with Rob Townsend about doing an appraisal for the Town. Mr. Edson will find out when he can be available and will contact those who would like to be there.
2. Update on Town Office computer/network situation – David Doda recommended that three of the Town Office older computers be replaced this year and the server next year. Mr. Edson is going to look into other programs that might be needed to add to these new computers.

H. Meeting Minutes – March 27, 2023 – Mr. Sprague made a motion to accept the March 27, 2023 minutes as presented, Mr. Edson seconded the motion which carried unanimously 5-0-0

I. Other Proper Business

1. Budget – Mr. Benson and Ms. Lord went over the budget and the Highway and General fund are close to 75% spent. The Library budget and the Listers budget need to be watched carefully until the year ends on July 1st. Also, sand for next year needs to be purchased before July 1, 2023.
2. Declaration of Inclusion Initiative for the Town of Brookfield – see above

3. Bridge design update – Mr. Benson and Ms. Blanchard had a meeting with TRORC regarding the four companies that bid on the Halfway Brook culvert project and are now waiting for a response from TRORC to see if one of them is accepted.

4. Vtrans filings update – The Bear Hill paperwork will be sent out this week so this project can be started.

J. Status Report

1. Repainting metal roof on Town Clerk office and Library – Mr. Sprague will contact Mr. Coniff to see when he can begin.

K. Adjournment – Mr. Edson made a motion to adjourn at 8:30 pm, Ms. Koren seconded the motion and there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was unanimously adjourned.