

Town of Brookfield Selectboard Meeting  
Monday, July 24, 2023  
6:30 pm  
Brookfield Town Office, 40 Ralph Road, Brookfield, VT

Minutes

Present: John Benson, Chair; Betty Lord, and Keith Sprague, members. Stuart Edson and Curtis Koren were not in attendance. Vicki Blanchard, Administrative Assistant, Amy Ingrassia, Treasurer; Rich Doolan, Nathan Perry, Monique Perry, Jon Binhammer, Anthony Sferlozza, Andrew Doerfer, and Steve Hill.

- A. Call to Order – Mr. Benson called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm
- B. Adjustments to Agenda – none
- C. Public Comments
  1. Justin Lee Hanks – wants to be a volunteer auditor - did not attend.
  2. Larry Brassard – roadside mowing – did not attend.
  3. Jon Binhammer – Conservation Commission: Add Sarah Shaw and Marty Allen. Mr. Binhammer reported that by adding the proposed members, it would bring the Conservation Commission to a total of six people. Ms. Lord made a motion to add Sarah Shaw and Marty Allen to the Conservation Commission as recommended by Mr. Binhammer. Mr. Benson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously 3-0-0.
  4. Monique and Nathan Perry attended to talk about her concerns about the water management through Pond Village and the impact the spring melt and seasonal storms have had on the village. Her concerns not only affect her property but several other properties within the village. The water also limits emergency access to the village during peak melt and seasonal storms. Mr. Benson reported that the Town is working with the State to address these issues and will continue to work with everyone affected.
  5. Andrew Doerfer, who owns the Fork Shop, commented on the grade of the road and how, after several years of grading, it is now slanting so that water runs directly onto the front of his property. Andrew asked for the Town's help with getting some stone put in front of his house so he could get in through his front door, as well as help working with the State to correct the way water from storms flows around his property. He mentioned putting more culverts in also. Ms. Lord will send a copy of the letter that Monique had sent to the Board as well as Andrew's concerns regarding these issues to the State Transportation Office for District 6.
  6. Rich Doolan wants the Board's permission to contact DCS and the Fire Department so he will be able to respond to fire calls. He is also looking for volunteers, to help in the event of another disaster ,who would help in the

shelter that he has setup at VTC. He is holding a meeting at the Brookfield Elementary school on Thursday, August 31, to go over what would be expected of those who volunteer. He also recommended that there should be a better way for those wanting to help or those who need help to be in contact in the event of a future disaster.

- D. Payroll and Warrants – July 24, 2023 – Ms. Lord made a motion to approve the July 24, 2023, Payroll and AP Warrants as presented with a total of \$75,033.62 with the largest payment being made to R. E. Tucker in the amount of \$47,981.00. Mr. Sprague seconded the motion which carried unanimously 3-0-0
- E. Highway Report – Mr. Sprague reported the last two weeks all road work has been in Emergency mode, and there have been two additional contractors with their crews along with our own road crew, who have been working hard to get all road passable. The work on the major damage is almost completed, and the road crew will be able to start working on the rest of the roads which are flood damaged once the emergency work is finished.
- F. New Business – none
- G. Old Business – Christian Wood Turbine Application – Mr. Christian sent the Board a copy of his application for the town’s records, noting the turbine work to be done on his property.
- H. Meeting Minutes – June 26, 2023 – Ms. Lord made a motion to accept the July 26, 2023 minutes as presented. Mr. Sprague seconded the motion which carried unanimously 3-0-0
- I. Other Proper Business
  - 1. Public Assemblage Permits – There were eight permits submitted. Mr. Benson made a motion to approve the permit applications made by the Old Town Hall. Mr. Sprague seconded the motion which carried unanimously 3-0-0
  - 2. Update on TH 45 (Old Stage Rd) – tabled until next meeting.
  - 3. Update on Route 65 – Ms. Lord reported that the State will keep the Town informed on the steps being taken regarding speeding on Route 65 after the Emergency flood work is done.
  - 4. MacDonald Road property access – The Board felt that since the majority of the road is in Williamstown, their selectmen should make the decision of whether or not to change McDonald Road from a Class 3 road to a Class 4 road, unless they specifically contact the Brookfield Selectboard for information.
  - 5. Donated painting of the Floating Bridge – Ms. Lord said that Marcia Purvis who donated a painting of the Floating Bridge will be delivering it soon and it will be placed in the Old Town Hall.
  - 6. Painting of the Town Clerk office –Painting of the Town Clerk’s office began on July 7, 2023.
  - 7. Mitigation Grant in Aid for 2024 – The Board approved Mr. Benson signing the 2024 Mitigation Grant in Aid form and returning it to the State.

8. Flood insurance – Mr. Benson reported that in order to obtain flood insurance any property would have to be in the flood plain. Ms. Blanchard will check with Two Rivers and get back to the Board.

9. Energy grant – Mr. Benson received an email from Two Rivers regarding an Energy Grant with a deadline to make a request of October 31, 2023. Mr. Benson felt it would be worthwhile for the Town to make a request for said grant. Some recommended uses would be: (1) Insulation for the Town Garage ceiling, and (2) solar panels on the south side of the garage which could be used by the garage, fire station and the Town Clerk's office.

J. Status Report – none

Mr. Sprague made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:25 pm, Mr. Benson seconded the motion which carried unanimously 3-0-0

Mr. Benson made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:57 pm, Mr. Sprague seconded the motion which carried unanimously 3-0-0.

K. Adjournment – Ms. Lord made a motion to adjourn at 8:59 pm. Mr. Benson seconded the motion and there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was unanimously adjourned.