

BROOKFIELD PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, January 17, 2023, 5:30 PM

Brookfield Town Office, 40 Ralph Road, Brookfield, VT

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

The following members attended, Mike Stoddard, Michael Rutkovsky, Stuart Edson, Dan Mason and Lew Stowell. Amy Ingrassia, Treasurer, Jack Zebora, Nate Schmechel, Scott Wakefield and Walt Garner were guests in person. Linda Kelly, Rori Barden and Maddy Wennerstrom were guests by two separate phone calls.

- A. 5:30: Call to Order.
- B. Review, and revise or approve the December 20, 2023 meeting minutes. Lew Stowell offered a revision of paragraph P changing the location of Linda Kelly's car from in front of 93 Stone Road to South of 173 Stone Road facing South. Stuart Edson made the motion to accept the revised minutes and Michael Rutkovsky seconded the motion. Approved 4-0-0.
- C. Questions or issues brought by members of the public. See below.
- D. Parking and Speed Limits in Pond Village. Linda Kelly presented her towing for illegal parking incident and made a list of requests concerning parking in Pond Village. Stuart Edson offered to request from Keith Sprague, Road Commissioner that more No Parking signs be placed on the North end of the .25 mile no parking zone when the weather permits. The exact wording of the signs will be determined by what is available. This zone is described in the current Brookfield Traffic Ordinance. Linda's other requests such as a 15 MPH speed limit on Stone Road in Pond Village, a liability agreement between the town and the Old Town Hall, two permanent speed monitors on Stone Road and other parking area questions will be taken under consideration.
- E. Traffic Concerns on Cram Hill Road in West Brookfield. Nate Schmechel, Walt Garner and Scott Wakefield presented their views on the Cram Hill traffic issues in person. Rori Barden and Maddy Wennerstrom participated by phone. The issues concerned the Wakefield farm agricultural equipment traveling on Cram Hill Road. Cram Hill Road is narrow and modern farm machinery is large. Lew Stowell related that Captain Zenonos, OCSD had reported to him that he saw no law violations in the videos and in interviews with the residents. Wakefield, Schmechel, Barden and Wennerstrom were asked if they were willing to participate in either face to face discussion(s) or mediation to resolve or mitigate the issues. Wakefield was willing. Schmechel, Barden and Wennerstrom were not. The committee took the issue under consideration.
- F. Review and Discussion of OCSD activities including patrol hours, bills and reports. The Orange County Sheriff's Department conducted 21 hours of patrols in Brookfield in December 2023 at a cost of \$1155.00. Captain Zenonos will have deputies provide more information on their patrol reports including which roads they patrol.
- G. Emergency Management Shelter Volunteer Program Status. The next Shelter Training Meeting will occur in February. Rich Doolen has reported to Lew Stowell that he was prepared in the recent storms but did not have to open a shelter.
- H. Flooding Recovery Progress in Brookfield- Discussion. The committee believes that there will be more floods in the not-too-distant future.
- I. High Risk Voluntary List Program. Lew Stowell will continue to work on this in late February.
- J. Reflective Vest Program. Michael Rutkovsky reported that the program is awaiting budget action at Town Meeting.

- K. **E-911 House Number Signs Project Status.** Dan Mason will be in Saint Johnsbury in the next few days and will find out if the Corrections Department is still producing reflective house number signs.
- L. **Traffic and Road Name Sign Progress.** The road crew has been working straight out trying to keep the roads navigable and unable to work on signs or reports. Dan Mason reported that the Stop signs at the intersections of Farnsworth Lane and Cemetery Street and Farnsworth Lane and East Hill Road have been taken down and thrown off the road by persons unknown again.
- M. **Annual Report for 2023.** Lew Stowell prepared the annual report for the Public Safety Advisory Committee and provided it to Carol Monness, Town Clerk. He will send a copy to the committee members. The report will be in the town report.
- N. **Town Meeting Presentation.** The committee members present will answer any questions at the Town Meeting.
- O. **February and March 2024 Public Safety Messages.** February's tips will be about Ice Safety and March's tips will be about snow removal. Amy Ingrassia suggested that the February Safety Tips include the information that Covid test kits are available at the town office.
- P. **Acknowledging the time and date of the next meeting.** The next meeting will be on March 20, 2024 at 5:30 PM. There will be no Public Safety Meeting in February.
- Q. **Inviting one or more guest(s) to the next meeting (March).** LT Jerry Partin of the VSP barracks in Royalton will be invited.
- R. **Final Public Comment.** There was none.
- S. **Entertain a motion to adjourn the meeting.** Stuart Edson made the motion to adjourn and Michael Rutkovsky seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0.