

Town of Brookfield Selectboard Meeting

Monday, January 8, 2024

6:30 PM

Brookfield Town Office, 40 Ralph Road, Brookfield, VT

MINUTES

Present: John Benson, Chair; Betty Lord, Stuart Edson, Curtis Koren, members of the Selectboard. Vicki Blanchard, Administrative Assistant; Amy Ingrassia, Treasurer. Kristi Ehlers and Tom Garbitelli, Brookfield Listers. Jack Zebora. Keith Sprague did not attend.

- A. Call to Order – Mr. Benson called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.
- B. Adjustments to Agenda – Move Listers Mapping Contract up to the beginning of the meeting from Other Proper Business. Tom Garbitelli and Kristi Ehlers, Town Listers, reported they had met with the mapping company, CAI, and planned to have the 2024 map contain both 2023 and 2024 updates as the 2023 map was not printed. The mapping costs will only be for one year. The map will arrive in April 2024. Mr. Benson made a motion to approve the contract to CAI for updating our Town Map for \$1,650.00. Mr. Edson seconded the motion which carried unanimously 4-0-0.
- C. Public Comments - none
- D. Payroll and AP Warrants – Ms. Lord made a motion to approve the January 8, 2024, Payroll and AP Warrants as presented for a total of \$51,832.02, with the largest payment being paid to R.E. Tucker for \$31,333.50 for stone. Mr. Benson then added an amendment in the total amount by \$2,500.80 so a check could be cut this week made out to the State of Vermont for the resubmittal application for the Town Garage since the first application had expired. The new amount is \$53,912.02. Ms. Koren seconded the motion which carried unanimously, 4-0-0.
- E. Highway Report - The Roadcrew has been dealing with snow removal and muddy roads all week. Currently the grader is down. ... Mr. Benson will be reviewing the costs for the replacement of the culvert for Bear Hill, as the first costs were given to the VTrans four or five years ago. ...Ms. Koren

reported that she had a conversation with Ms. Linda Kelly regarding parking in the village. Ms. Kelly felt there should be a “No parking” sign near the hydrant by the bridge and maybe it should have “A Fine can be Enforced” on it. Ms. Kelly also said she would like to see No Parking signs from the Fork Shop to Stone Road since the Inn has new owners now and there will be more parking in front of the Inn. The new owner of the Inn has indicated that he does plan to put parking behind the Inn, and that is an issue he will need to take up with the Zoning Commission. Ms. Kelly would also like to see a 15 mph speed limit sign coming into Town on VT 65 but Route 65 is a State Road and that issue would need to be taken up with VTrans.

....Ms.Kelly also wants the resident on Stone Road with a number of parked vehicles in his yard way, be required to have the vehicles removed. This is a subject for the Planning Commission, so she will need to talk to Gwynn Zakov regarding this subject. Ms. Kelly would also like to change Twin Pond Road from a Class 3 to a Class 4 road. Mr. Benson pointed out that any costs incurred in doing so would be at the expense of Ms. Kelly.Ms.Koren reported that Stan Wheeler has almost finished painting the Town Clerk’s office roof; and will complete the job when the weather allows.

F. New Business - none

G. Old Business

1. Budget Discussion – Mr. Benson and the rest of the Board went over a draft of the 2024-2025 budget, making any changes that needed to be made.

H. Meeting Minutes – Mr. Edson made a motion to approve the December 27, 2023, minutes with two amendments. The first in the December 11, 2023, minutes is, the motion should read that it was carried unanimously 4-0-1 and not 4-0-0 as Mr. Edson was not present at the meeting. The second under the Highway report should read: “Mr. Edson will contact the Town’s attorney, Michael Monte, to see if a letter needs to be sent to the parties in dispute in West Brookfield and how the Town should proceed.” Mr. Edson will contact Mr. Monte and report back to the Board.

I. Other Proper Business

1. Barre Town EMS – Mr. Benson reported that the new Barre EMS Contract has been received in the amount is \$6,500 for 2024-2025. Mr. Benson made a motion to accept the services of Barre EMS for the year July 1,

2024 – June 30, 2025. Mr. Edson seconded the motion which carried unanimously 4-0-0.

2. Speed Limit Reduction on VT-65 certification - Ms. Lord reported that she received a Certification Notification from the State of Vermont which
 3. states the speed limit on VT Rte. 65 from West Street to Bear Hill Rd.
 4. has been from reduced from 35mph to 30 mph as requested by the residents who live on that stretch of road.
 5. Highway Mileage Certificate for 2024 – The 2024 Highway Mileage certification was received and will be signed. Mr. Edson will notify the appropriate people that there will be two changes reported in the near future, one for Montgomery Rd and the other one, Old Stage Road. The Town is waiting for information from the surveyor. Mr. Edson will complete the form and return it to the State.
 6. Petition for special appropriation – Randolph Playhouse first made a request for \$3,000, but then changed their request to \$1,500 after the request was warned for the Selectboard meeting. Mr. Benson said they should get a petition signed by eleven registered Brookfield voters and then submit the petition to the Selectboard at the January 22, 2024 meeting. It will then be placed on the Warning for Town Meeting.
 7. Ms. Lord requested that the Town Report be dedicated to Ed Koren and have one of his drawings on the Town Report cover. Everyone on the Board thought that it was a great idea.
- J. Status Report - none
- K. Adjournment - There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Edson made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Koren seconded the motion which carried unanimously 4-0-0.