

Town of Brookfield Selectboard Meeting
Monday, August 10, 2026
6:00 pm
Brookfield Town Office, Brookfield, VT

MINUTES

Present: John Benson, Chair; Keith Sprague, Laura Rochat, Stuart Edson, Curtis Koren, members. Vicki Blanchard, Administrative Assistant. Kristi Ehler, Treasurer. Betty Lord and Toni Sferlozzo.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm

Public Comments

Betty Lord reported that repair work on the Hippo has been completed, and that David Bliss of Mastic, NY has donated a granite bench for Hippo Park. A thank you letter will be sent. She also noted that Ted Elzey purchased materials to repair the bench given to the Hippo Park in memory of Leonard Hodgson.

Toni Sferlozzo attended to ask if the Town was still working with the Windsor County Sheriff's department. The Zoning Board had asked the Department to check that he had removed some of his property from his driveway according to their requirements. Mr. Sferlozzo noted that a Sheriff's car had been parked in front of the driveway to his house for 15 to 20 minutes. He asked to see the invoice of that charge, and wondered why the Town was charged for 5 hours "directed patrol" on July 30, the day in question. The Selectboard recommended he talk with Zoning Administrator Steve Reid.

The 2026 – 2027 tax rate was presented by Town Treasurer Kristi Ehlers. Education rates are 1.5175 for residents and 1.5084 for non-residents; the

total residential tax rate is 2.1238 with a total non-residential tax rate of 2.1147. The new municipal rates were approved as presented.

Payroll and AP Warrants — A motion to accept the August 10, 2026 warrants in the amount of \$163,807.28 with the largest going to Avery Excavation in the amount of \$94,126.00 was unanimously approved.

Old Business

1. **Sign updated Dog Ordinance** – A motion to adopt the updated Dog Ordinance was unanimously approved.
2. **FEMA** – After inspection of the McKeage Road Project, the project Manager Mike Hildebrand and Road Foreman Tim Higgins determined the road needed to be raised with 2 additional feet of material as required in the original bid. This was done and the McKeage FEMA project is now completed. Also complete is the FEMA Parker Road project.
3. The **Town garage energy grant work** is now complete and work on the Fire House is almost done.

New Business

1. Town email needs will be discussed again on August 24, 2026.
2. The Town Clerk will be asked to respond to an Email request from writer Erica Housekeeper requesting information on the Brookfield area.
3. The Town Clerk will be asked to research the procedures for approving the seven current Justices of the Peace running for re-election.
4. Mr. Sprague will check with Mr. Higgins about how the Brassard Battery and Electrical work for Sun Common on Bear Hill should be done. The Board would also like confirmation and a description of exactly where and how this work is performed by Sun Common, in case further work is necessary in the future.

5. Six public assemblage permits from Brookfield Community Partnership and Green Trails Inn were approved. One event at the Inn entailing outdoor live music, horseshoes, Corn Hole and outdoor family movies for nine weeks on Thursday evenings was not approved for 9/3 as it does not meet the 30 day pre-approval requirement. The Selectboard also asked that the Inn be considerate and respectful about the duration and noise level of events on Thursday evenings during the school year.

6. Planning Commission review of road bylaws will be revisited at the next Board meeting.

Meeting Minutes – A motion to accept the minutes from July 27, 2026 as presented was unanimously approved.

Executive Session - A motion to go into Executive Session at 7:30 pm for a Personnel matter (1(V.S.A. §313(a)(1)(B) was unanimously approved, as was a motion to come out of Executive session at 8:15 pm.

Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 pm

Respectfully submitted
Vicki Blanchard
Administrative Assistant