

## Minutes of the Board of Selectmen Meeting

This meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:00PM on Tuesday, March 21, 2023 in the Town Offices. Jason Petraitis, John Tripp, and Brooke Canada present. Mr. Tripp moved, and Mrs. Canada seconded, a motion to enter into executive session for reason #2 to discuss contract negotiations. Mr. Petraitis noted the Board would exit executive session to open in regular session. Roll call: Jason Petraitis, yes; John Tripp, yes; Brooke Canada, yes. So voted.

At 6:32PM Mr. Tripp moved, and Mrs. Canada seconded, a motion to exit executive session and readjournal in open session. Roll Call: Jason Petraitis, yes; John Tripp, yes; Brooke Canada, yes. So voted.

Jason Benoit explained that Todd Taylor took a job with the State and he can transfer his vacation status. Todd is requesting a letter from the Board of Selectmen defining Todd's start and end dates and how much vacation time he had available when he left. Mr. Petraitis asked if we had to pay money, Jason said Todd is entitled to his unused vacation and sick time, which he does not have in his budget, but will be discussing with Finance Committee. Mr. Petraitis said it should be in his budget, Jason explained he covered the cost by waiting 3 weeks to replace Todd. Jason explained the transmission in one of the Highway trucks failed but he may be able to cover the cost to replace/repair in his budget.

Request for Resources: The Coalition for a Healthy North Brookfield submitted a request to host a carnival on the Common for Memorial Day weekend. Mr. Tripp asked who pays for this, Jillian Phillips explained the carnival company and the coalition split the profits. She provided the appropriate Certificates of Liability Insurance. Mr. Tripp asked about electricity and portable toilets. She stated the carnival provides the toilets but they will need to access electricity on the common. They said someone from the carnival has already looked at the Common. Mrs. Canada moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve the request. Discussion: Mr. Tripp asked if they needed water. Mr. Petraitis said if there's no access to water, they won't be able to host the carnival. Mr. Tripp also stated there is limited electrical supply on the Common and advised the company will have to bring generators. All in favor. So voted.

Pioneer Valley Planning Commission-Lien Discharge: Ashley explained how the program income works for this grant. Mr. Tripp moved, and Mrs. Canada seconded, a motion to discharge the lien. So voted.

Senior Center Request: The Senior Center requested to remain open on Patriot's Day, Juneteenth and Columbus Day. Mr. Tripp moved, and Mrs. Canada seconded, a motion to approve the request to remain open on those holidays. So voted.

Stabilization Account: North Brookfield signed up for an Opioid Settlement and will receive funds. Guidelines on the settlement state the funds must be deposited into an Opioid Stabilization Account. Mr. Tripp moved, and Mrs. Canada seconded, a motion to open an Opioid Stabilization Account. So voted.

Lake Lashaway Association request for funds to help with treatment: Mr. Petraitis suggested we settle the Beach Agreement with East Brookfield before discussing funds for the association. Mr. Petraitis said he would write up a list for the agreement and send it to Ashley. We can review and vote on it later.

Pioneer Valley Planning Commission Town/Owner Agreement: Mr. Tripp moved, and Mrs. Canada seconded, a motion to sign and approve the Town/Owner agreement for 10 Mill St Brookfield.

One Day Liquor License Request: Brookfield Orchards has requested a One Day Liquor license for several events planned in their 2023 season. This is an annual request. Mr. Tripp moved, and Mrs. Canada seconded, a motion to approve the one-day liquor license for the list of dates. So voted.

Planning Board Request: The Planning Board submitted a letter to the Board of Selectmen requesting that a Master Plan Committee be created, this committee would oversee implementation of the goals outlined in the 2022 Master Plan. The request asked for a 9-member committee be formed with one member each from the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Board of Health, Finance Committee, Board of Selectmen, and two members from the community. The Board felt a 5-member committee would suffice. Mr. Tripp moved, and Mrs. Canada seconded, a motion to create a 5-member, plus 2 alternates, Master Plan Committee. So voted.

Ashley said she is working on matching up the proposed contract with BSC Group with documents, emails, and spreadsheets provided to her by Bill Paille at BSC and Sheila Orsi.

Mrs. Canada said she is looking into grants in the Community One Strop program, which will match cities and towns with available grants and assists with the application. She said it's too late for the letter of interest but she is going to submit one and try to get grants. Mr. Petraitis advised to look out for any "red tape." He gave the example of the Race to the Top program that led to unfunded mandates which leave you on the hook financially for years at the detriment of other programs.

Mr. Tripp asked about funding the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event planned for July 1<sup>st</sup>. He wants to have a Parade and celebration on the Common. Last year we had a lot of donations. Ashley said we'd need to ask for donations again, as there is no funding for this.

There being no further business, at 7:47PM Mr. Tripp moved, and Mrs. Canada seconded, a motion to adjourn. So voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Barre