

Minutes of the Board of Selectmen Meeting

This meeting was called to order at 6:00PM on Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at the North Brookfield Police Department. Dale Kiley, Jason Petraitis and John Tripp present.

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve the minutes from 10/13 and 10/20. So voted. Mr. Tripp moved, and Mr. Kiley seconded, a motion to approve the minutes from 11/27. So voted.

Approval of Warrants: Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve the following warrants; Payroll # 10 for \$335,639.69, School # 1021 for \$102,095.34 and General # 1022 for \$532,551.33. So voted.

CARES Act: Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve the CARES act requests for the school. So voted.

Trevor Brusco from the BOH stated they are looking to purchase more cots and toddler sized masks. NBEMA wants heavy-weight cots. Chris Donais and Trevor also discussed getting a new electronic sign. The BOH is preparing for a drive-thru style vaccination clinic at the School. We will host for Brookfield and West Brookfield. Signs and cones will need to be ordered.

Trevor and Mr. Kiley discussed the CARES Act funding. Mr. Kiley is going to get clarification on the FEMA funds, Ashley and Trevor tried to apply for FEMA but it seemed it would be reimbursements, we'd need to submit invoices and only certain items are covered. We would need to pay the invoices and get reimbursed.

New Business:

- A. Grant for recycling center-John Alphin explained the grant, we submit information to the state and get money based on what we offer at the recycling center. We will get \$4200.00 annually with limits on what we can spend it on.
 - a. Mr. Kiley asked John to put together a written policy on the recycling center. There was some discussion about hazardous waste days at the center.

Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve the grant contract for the recycling center. So voted.

- B. Pole Hearing-Bigelow Road-At 6:18PM Mr. Kiley opened the pole hearing. Mr. Kiley read the petition, a representative from National Grid stated that there is a new house going in and this pole will be between pole 35 & 36, to provide underground wiring. Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve the petition. So voted. Pole hearing closed at 6:21PM.
- C. Cider Mill Bridge-postponed until DOT can submit their comments
- D. Transfer Station User Fees: Mr. Kiley stated there was an issue the user fee, everyone getting a bill and having the ability to opt out. Town Counsel said that the authority belongs to the BOS and fee structure is not valid according to case analysis. Suggested that anyone who wants to use the transfer station pay for and obtain the sticker. Trevor asked if the BOH should send out bills to last years users. Mr. Kiley said no, users should take affirmative action to obtain sticker. Discussion on multi-families: a sticker for each unit is needed. It's not fair for a mult-family to use one sticker and a single family has less trash and same cost. John Alphin said some landlords

provide the sticker for their tenants and some don't. Mr. Kiley asked how they monitor the station so that only trash from North Brookfield is brought in. John Alphin said it can be difficult but users have to buy specific trash bags to North Brookfield, they are familiar with the users and they do random inspections. John said North Brookfield residents are good at recycling, which reduces the amount of trash. John Alphin said he thought they could send out bills to last year's users, Mr. Kiley said no, a letter is fine, but not a bill. Discussion on how to pay for the sticker. The Tax Collector shouldn't be receiving the fee, it should go to the Clerk, BOS, BOH or purchased at the center itself. John said that could be a problem, the employees at the center won't have access to information about addresses and multi-family units. The BOH and BOS are going to work together to get a policy created. We will explore the ability to pay online, similar to dog licensing fees. John Alphin stated he is working on getting quotes from Waste Management and Casella for solid waste removal. The prices have gone up. John would like to sit down with BOS and Fin Comm to discuss budget, sticker price, and bag price.

- E. Fire Report for September and October: Mr. Petraitis read the Fire Report to September and October. Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to accept the reports. So voted.
- F. Appoint Michelle Petraitis to ZBA-Thomas Waugh resigned from the ZBA and Michelle Petraitis volunteered in his place. Mr. Tripp moved, and Mr. Kiley seconded, a motion to appoint Michelle Petraitis to the Zoning Board of Appeals. So voted. Mr. Petraitis abstained from voting.

Announcements: John Tripp read letter from Spectrum explaining price increase for new users.

Public Comment:

Mr. Kiley said we need to appoint a Cable Advisory Group. Ashley will get in touch with Jake Anderson from LPAC.

Kathy Crevier asked what is happening with Camp Atwater. Mr. Kiley said it is owned by the Urban League of Springfield. They only open when they've got enough funding, depending on donations and grants. Kathy thought it would be nice if the Town reached out and see if there's anything that can be done to help.

Chet Lubelczyk asked about the McGrail property for sale, asking about the ½ acre lot. Mr. Kiley said you can't make a lot non-conforming.

Kathy Crevier asked if the BOS would be involved when a COVID vaccine is approved. Mr. Kiley said it would go through the Board of Health first.

John Tripp thanked everyone for help with the Town Park. Patio blocks have been put down, Tina and Brandon helped with that. John and Mindy bought trees and shrubs and planted them. John ordered pole lights, and there is another donation of loom coming.

Kathy Crevier asked who officially runs the park, Mr. Kiley said The Town, and by default, the Board of Selectmen. Kathy reminded the board that the park used to be called Industrial Park.

NBHelps has new Christmas flags, Glenna Stocks is getting them prepared and John and Mindy volunteered to install them.

At 7:18PM, there being no further business, Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to adjourn. So voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Barre