

Minutes of the Board of Selectmen

This meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order on Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 6:00PM at the North Brookfield Police Department. Dale Kiley, Jason Petraitis, and John Tripp present.

Approval of Warrants: Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve the following warrants: Payroll #19 \$329,065.33, General #1046 \$60,530.44, School #1047 \$138,529.93, CDBG# 1048 \$13,923.66. So voted.

CARES approval: Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve CARES act request from the School for Speech Therapy in the amount of \$418.00. So voted.

Transfer request: Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve a BOS transfer request to move \$2,300.00 from Technology Expense account to Purchase of Service. So voted.

Salem donation money request: Salem Estate donated money to NB Emergency Services. Chief Joe Holway had submitted a request to spend some of the funds but decided to use the funds in another way and submitted another request. Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve the request to spend Salem funds for invoices for NB Emergency Services. So voted.

Mr. Kiley announced that he got a call about paying Tax bills with one check vs. multiple checks. He spoke with Lisa Taylor, Tax Collector, who explained that if you're paying multiple Excise Tax bills you can use one check. But, if you're paying Sewer/Water/Real Estate, you need to write separate checks. The Collector has to batch payments and can't split a check between multiple types of taxes.

Old Business: Final Approval for Easter Basket giveaway. Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to give final approval on Cami Zalauskas' request to use the Park to give out Easter Baskets through the National Honor Society. So voted.

Mr. Tripp read the Police reports for January and February. Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to accept the reports. So voted.

Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve and sign a contract with Solitude Management for Water Treatment (through Water Dept). So voted.

BSC Group submitted a contract for engineering services related to Complete Streets. Finance Committee approved the initial cost of \$10,800.00 to get the engineering done. The contract had a second task included, but we don't want to be held to committing to task 2. Ashley will send contract to Town Counsel.

MassDOT contract extension: Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve and sign a contract extension with MassDot for Cider Mill Bridge project. So voted.

Public Comment:

Mr. Tripp stated he was walking the Rail Trail and saw tire marks from dirt bikes. He reminded the public that no motorized vehicles are allowed on the trail, if neighbors to the trail see unauthorized vehicles they should call the Police Department. He also mentioned that National Grid left a pile of brush to the side of the trail, we should see when they are coming to clean it up. The gates for the trail are made, Mr. Tripp is just waiting to get them painted. He's also trying to get telephone poles for street crossings.

Since there are over 50 double poles in Town, he doesn't think this should be an issue. Mr. Tripp is looking to finish the Park behind the Town sign; he could use some more donation money to get grass and neaten up the area. He needs about \$4000 to pay some unpaid bills and finish up. He also mentioned that Highway has been working to get potholes filled and sidewalks swept.

Brandon Avery spoke about the Town Forest Park, there are a couple semi-open spots that you can go down to the pond. There's a view of the old Mill Dam, he thinks a petition to have it named Whilcot Park would be a good idea.

Mr. Tripp said there is 29 acres of protected property off the rail trail, it would be a great place to make some more trails and another park. He's working on clearing some of it, but not clear-cutting completely. He needs to get the trash out, and Tina Floria and her granddaughter helped mark out a trail.

Mr. Kiley said there are no new COVID cases in Town, that he's aware of.

Announcements:

Excise tax now overdue, demands have been issued, due March 30th.

Water Demands are due March 22nd.

Sewer bills have been mailed, due April 1st.

Dog licenses are due April 1st.

At 6:41PM, Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to enter into executive session. They will exit executive session only to adjourn. So voted.

There being no further business, Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to adjourn at 7:31PM. So voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Barre