

## Minutes of the Board of Selectmen Meeting

This meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:00PM on Wednesday, July 14, 2021 at the Town Offices. Dale Kiley, Jason Petraitis, and John Tripp present. This meeting was joint with East Brookfield Board of Selectmen, Joe Fish, Bob Button and Braedon Hatt present from EB.

Mr. Kiley asked if the EBBOS received complaints about the beach. We get a lot from NB abutters, daily crowds, outsiders at beach.

Joe Fish said the most people he's seen at the beach is 50 people. Bob said he's never seen a crowd there; he's lived on the lake for 20 years. There are some issues with a select group of people, but there are operational things we can do. Policing would help. They'd like to try to get jet skis off the beach and away from kids swimming.

Mr. Kiley said the rules and fines need to be posted otherwise PD can't do much to enforce. Mr. Tripp asked if there are buoys in the water. Bob said for swimming and regular boat traffic. Mr. Kiley asked if EB has a Harbormaster, yes Doug Blood. Mr. Kiley said Ryan Daley is ours and we are trying to get him a boat.

Bob said he hears complaints about density and activity. He thanked the BOS for no parking signs, that should cut down on people that don't live there, at least its posted. Bob is concerned people will start parking on lawns, could use a few more signs by the boat ramp.

Mr. Kiley said we are hearing of non-residents on the beach. We were considering a sticker program and possibly a by-law change that would include a fee. Joe said even if we could afford an attendant to check stickers it will cost more than you make. Bob said they have lifeguards, but they're too busy to check stickers. Mr. Tripp said the PD can look for stickers. Joe gave a situation of someone from out of Town watching kids (in town residents). Ashley suggested a placard as opposed to sticker so you can switch it to another vehicle if necessary.

Bob said they are trying not to leave the gate open. Mr. Tripp asked about handicap access, Bob said they give out keys, but they don't have to give driving access to the beach, it kills the trees and causes erosion.

Joe said an abutter to the beach bermed up their driveway, now they drive across Town land by the gate, Mr. Kiley will have John Couture look into it.

Mr. Kiley suggested posting a no trespassing order by both Boards.

Mr. Kiley wanted to get back to complaints. Mr. Tripp said he had a complaint from a resident who had to leave because of bad language. Bob said that could easily be residents.

Mr. Petraitis asked about rules of when people can be on the beach, Joe was not sure.

Mr. Petraitis said we want the beach limited to NB/EB residents with a placard, and enforce beach times by putting signage up. Joe said there is a sign. Mr. Petraitis said there's no meat to it, we could make a by-law. We need to control jet skis, maybe once we get a boat. Bob said PD can go over in a patrol car, enforcement should be looked at. Mr. Petraitis said we should get together and make stickers available in both towns, show ID.

Bob suggested getting both beach committees together with the BOS from each Town. Mr. Kiley was looking at the agreement which states EB Planning Board is in charge, we will have to change that. Bob said Planning Board is partially appointed, and Beach Committee is appointed.

Mr. Kiley said we haven't had a real Beach Committee in years but we do now. NB Beach met with EB and it did not go well. Bob said we need to make sure we're sharing needs and resources.

Mr. Kiley said Bond volunteered to deliver sand. They wanted the Superintendents from both Highway dept's to work together to fix the beach, but it didn't happen. Bob said you can't do that, you need permits. Bob is on EB Conservation. Bob said you need to fix the root problem. Mr. Kiley said highway was going to make sure water doesn't go down to beach. Bob said he applied for a grant to fix the beach; he's got the design. It was a competitive grant and they did not get it. Mr. Kiley suggested getting both Beach and Board's together for joint meeting to come up with a plan. Bob said the rules have changed, what we need to do is maybe more than their willing or capable of doing.

Mr. Kiley said he's been working hard to get money back in the Beach Committee budget. Joe said EB pays \$25,000 a year for lifeguards, and a few years ago they paid \$26,000 for new docks, they got new life preservers as well. Mr. Kiley said the problem with funding the beach is that every year at Town Meeting the vote to cut other budgets and give more money to the school, he's trying to get more money into other areas. This year the budget for beach is \$8000.

Mr. Petraitis said we can take care of after hours with a bylaw and send a cruiser down a couple nights. Bob said they'll take care of the gate; they got a grant for better access. Mr. Petraitis asked about parking passes, Bob said it would be hard to enforce and very expensive. Mr. Kiley said it would solve the problem of out of towners at beach.

Bob wondered if it's worth it to spend money on placards. Mr. Kiley said the cost is negligible, you could charge people a small fee for the placard, but it's not feasible to employ someone to check passes. Bob said if the PD went down, they'd have to get out of their vehicles to check. Mr. Kiley said a bylaw could be created: \$300 fine and a citation left on the window; people can appeal it if they're a resident. Bob said we have more out of towners that use the beach than locals, it's only an issue 3 months a year. Mr. Tripp said he's heard that locals won't use the beach because of everyone else down there. Bob said we can't exclude people.

Mr. Kiley said EB could hire a detail officer on warm or active days and issue a bunch of citations.

The Boards agreed to meet again with the EB/NB Beach Committees on August 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00PM in the East Brookfield Town Hall, meeting room A, on Connie Mack Drive.

Bob wanted to discuss another issue regarding the Water Department. East Brookfield received an order from DEP, they're trying to work some stuff out but know NB has issues with capacity, EB is looking to help out NB. Mr. Petraitis said they spoke with NB Superintendent, we don't know if we can help EB, our infrastructure is old and there are treatment issues.

Bob said EB may need a couple days of support during construction, might allow us to back feed to you, or feed people around the lake, there may be opportunities to work together. Mr. Kiley asked if our Water Superintendent knows, Bob said no. Mr. Kiley suggested having the EB Water Super get in touch with ours. Mr. Kiley thanked the East Brookfield Board for coming to meet.

#### Request for Transfers:

Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve the Police Department request to transfer \$368.00 from Animal Control Expense to Gasoline to cover cost of gas increase and usage. So voted.

Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve the Police Department request to transfer \$217.52 from Police Offices Expense to Gasoline to cover cost of gas increase and usage. So voted.

Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve Board of Health request to transfer \$1275.10 from BOH Clerk Salary to BOH Recycling Contract to cover end of year costs. So voted.

Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve the Board of Health request to transfer \$4169.07 from Recycling Monitor Salaries to Recycling Contracts to cover end of year costs. So voted.

Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve Board of Health request to transfer \$218.64 from Recycling Electricity to Recycling contracts. So voted.

Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve Board of Health request to transfer \$550.72 from Recycling Expense to Recycling Contracts. So voted.

Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve Board of Health request to transfer \$200.00 from Recycling General Supplies to Recycling Contracts. So voted.

Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve Board of Health request to transfer \$820.00 from BOH Purchase of Service to Recycling Contracts. So voted.

Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve Board of Health request to transfer \$3.00 from Landfill Repairs to Recycling Fuel. So voted.

Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve Water Department request to transfer \$1000.00 from Repairs/Vehicles to System Improvement to cover cost of excessive water main breaks. So voted.

Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve Board of Selectmen request to transfer \$1504.00 from Beaver Eradication to Town Counsel to cover last invoices for FY 21 legal services. So voted.

Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve Board of Selectmen request to transfer \$20.00 from BOS Beaver Eradication to ZBA advertising to cover last invoice. So voted.

#### Grant Agreements:

Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve an intermunicipal agreement between North Brookfield and Leicester for a shared Public Health Services grant. So voted.

Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve an agreement between MassDEP and North Brookfield for a Sustainable Materials Recovery Grant for Mattress Recycling. So voted.

At 7:00PM Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss complaints against an employee. Roll call: Kiley, yes; Petraitis, yes; Tripp, yes. So voted. Mr. Petraitis noted that the Board would exit Executive Session only to adjourn.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:02PM. Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to adjourn. So voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Barre