

Minutes of the Board of Selectmen Meeting

This meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:00PM on Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at the North Brookfield Police Department. Dale Kiley, Jason Petraitis, and John Tripp all present.

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve the following minutes: 8/11, 7/6, 7/6 exec, 7/14, 7/14 exec, and 7/20. So voted.

Approval of Warrants: Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve the following warrants: Payroll # 8 for 340,119.83 and General #1016 for \$71,496.64. So voted.

New Business:

Sign Xerox Contract-already approved at 9/14 meeting

Police Dept. Appointments:

Chief Smith introduced Nicholas Newman as the new part time policer for North Brookfield. Nicholas graduated from the Police Academy, lives in Town and is currently employed as a part time officer in Ware. Mr. Tripp asked Nicholas if was staying in Ware. Nicholas said he was for now but hopes to move to a full-time position in North Brookfield. Mr. Kiley said he has 100% confidence in Chief Smith's recommendations. Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to appoint Nicholas Newman to the North Brookfield Police Department as a part time officer. So voted.

Chief Smith introduced John Francis as the new full time police officer in North Brookfield. John graduated from the Police Academy and had applied for a full-time position previously. John's current Police Chief highly recommended him for the job. Mr. Tripp asked Chief Smith if we were losing someone, Chief Smith said Sgt. Chris Donais would be retiring in a year. Mr. Tripp asked Chief Smith if both new hires were in the budget, Chief Smith said yes. Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to appoint John Francis to the North Brookfield Police Department as a full-time officer. So voted.

Conservation Appointment:

Samuel Biagetti applied to join the Conservation Committee. Brandon Avery stated that Samuel has attended several meetings already and is pleased that he's decided to apply. Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to appoint Samuel Biagetti to the Conservation Commission. So voted.

Mikhail Sukharev applied to join the Capital Improvement Planning Committee as an At Large Member. Mr. Petraitis said that Mikhail attended the last meeting. Mr. Petraitis is on the committee and recommended Mikhail but did vote on his appointment. Mr. Tripp moved, and Mr. Kiley seconded, a motion to appoint Mikhail Sukharev to the Capital Improvement Planning Committee. So voted.

Inventories: Mr. Petraitis reminded everyone that each department has to submit their inventories to the accountant on a yearly basis. Many departments have not yet done this. Ashley will send reminders to departments that have yet to submit theirs.

Set STM Date and Sign Warrant:

Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to hold a Special Town Meeting on Tuesday, October 26, 2021 at 6:30PM at the North Brookfield Police Department. So voted.

Mr. Kiley read the warrant article: To see if the Town will vote to amend its action taken under Article 32 of the Warrant at the Special Town Meeting held on May 7, 2021, which action approved the borrowing of \$1,510,000 to acquire, by purchase or eminent domain, the fee and/or other property interests in a certain parcel of property containing 3.71 acres, more or less, located at 63-65 Donovan Road, further identified as Parcels 38-56-63, and 38-56-65, Assessors' Map 38 for general municipal purposes, so as to delete the provision therein requiring approval of a debt exclusion ballot question before any funds can be borrowed or expended thereunder, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve and sign the Warrant. So voted.

Power Management Contract: Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to accept Power Management's 36 Month agreement price. So voted.

Police Report: Mr. Petraitis read the September 2021 Police Report. Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to accept the report. So voted.

Sgt. Donais Retirement: Mr. Kiley read and acknowledged receipt of the letter Sgt. Chris Donais wrote stating he would be retiring September 4, 2022.

Chief Mark Smith gave the Board a letter from the Police Union regarding payment through ARPA Funds. Ashley will forward the letter to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Tripp stated he will be meeting with an insurance agent at Huck's. He will also be meeting with a representative from a solar company to discuss proposals for panels and or battery storage at Huck's, the School, and the Police Department.

Mr. Tripp asked residents to make sure their shrubbery is not encroaching on sidewalks and roads. He pointed out Grove St and Central St as hazards, pedestrians are having to walk in the road.

Mr. Tripp spoke about speeding downtown, especially large trucks. We need to move the electronic speeding signs, but his bucket truck is out of commission. He will speak to the Chief Smith and Chief Holway to come up with a plan to move the signs and reduce speeding on North Main St. He will also speak with Highway about the loading zone on the corner of Maple and North Main.

Mr. Tripp thanked Rich Lee for a donation of \$100 to buy mums for the park on North Main, and thanked Tina Floria for planting them and cutting the grass. Amanda Hart donated a new picnic table in memory of her late husband, the table is installed and plaque will be ordered shortly.

Public Comment:

Mikhail stated that speeding Oakham Road is a problem and invited the police to park in his driveway to monitor traffic. Mr. Tripp said speeding on Elm St is a dangerous issue as well. Mr. Petraitis reminded residents not to blow leaves in the road, the same rule applies to snow. Brandon Avery echoed the

concern of speeding on Elm St. Mr. Tripp also noted people are parking on the sidewalks on Elm St and Bell St.

Katie Byszeck from the NB Decorating Committee asked the Board for help with decorating the Town for Christmas. They are looking for volunteers and wondering about guidelines and recommendations. Mr. Tripp asked them to use eye hooks and wires and not screws in the Town House siding/trim. Make sure to put any decorations high enough that the plows won't bury or hit them, and clean up at the end of the season.

At 6:40PM there being no further business Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to enter executive session for reason #2, to discuss contract negotiations. So voted. Mr. Petraitis noted that the Board would exit executive session to adjourn. Roll Call: Kiley, yes; Petraitis, yes; Tripp, yes.

At 7:09PM the Board exited executive session. Roll Call: Kiley, yes; Petraitis, yes; Tripp, yes. Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to adjourn. So voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Barre