

Minutes of
THE BROOKFIELD ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AUGUST 9, 2012
BROOKFIELD TOWN HALL

Members Present: Ian Von Hold, Gerald Johnson, Mary Lou Knight, Roger Lafleur, Cindy Mundell, Tim Roughan

Members Not Present: Ana Afton, Michael Breuer, Mary Beth Harrity

Guests: Donald Taft, Cindy Thompson

Meeting called to order at 7:00PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Review of Submitted Articles for 9/7/2012 Special Town Meeting

Motion was made by Roger Lafleur inviting Donald Taft to speak about Articles #9 and #11. Seconded by Cindy Mundell. Passed

Article #9 – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow the sum of \$5,000.00 to replenish funds in the Clean Lakes Account, or take any action relative thereto. Sponsoring Person's Name: Donald R. Taft

Mr. Taft explained that these funds will be used by QQLA to help defray expense of weed mapping, treatment of weeds in North and South Ponds and other actions necessary to help manage and protect these waters. QQLA has received \$5,000 from East Brookfield and will request \$5,000 from Sturbridge at their Special Town Meeting.

Motion made by Cindy Mundell to approve this article pending funding. Seconded by Tim Roughan. Passed unanimously

Article #11 – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow a sum of money not to exceed @20,000.00 for the purpose of contracting with an Architect/Engineer for a Study of a new 6,000SF Police Station to be built on the town owned property at Prouty Street, or take any action relative thereto. Sponsoring Town Department: Municipal Facilities Planning Committee

Mr. Taft explained that the Municipal Facilities Planning Committee supports the construction of a 6,000 sq.ft. Police Station on the Prouty Street property. The current 2,400 sq.ft. leased building is inadequate and substandard and does not meet the needs of the Police Department.

These funds would be used for an Architect/Engineer to prepare a study. The scope of the study would include site visits, meetings with town officials, a preliminary facility plan and estimated construction costs. The funds will also cover all costs associated with site borings and survey if necessary.

There was discussion about remodeling the Town Hall to include the Police Department. Mr. Taft reported that the Police Chief is hesitant to have a mixed use facility.

The Committee decided to table this Article and revisit it at the next meeting.

Cindy Thompson arrived to speak to the articles sponsored by the Highway Department.

Article #2 – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow \$7,500.00 to paint the centerlines and/or fog lines on the roads in town, or take any action relative thereto. Sponsoring Town Department: Highway Department.

Ms. Thompson said that this should be an annual article. Was held over from the Annual Town Meeting. 2013 spring line painting will be before the Annual Meeting date and a substantial savings is available through our membership in the Regional Highway Equipment Sharing Cooperative.

Motion was made by Roger Lafleur to approve this article. Seconded by Tim Roughan. Passed unanimously.

Article #3 – To see if the Town will vote to accept a sum of money received for the October, 2011 storm reimbursement, or take any action relative thereto. Sponsoring Town Department: Highway Department

This is \$154,090.30 as reimbursement from FEMA for the October storm. Acceptance is the first step required.

Motion was made by Tim Roughan to approve this article. Seconded by Roger Lafleur. Passed unanimously.

Article #4 – To see if the Town will vote to reimburse the deficit uncured from the October 2011 storm clean up by transferring the sum of \$75,000, or take any action relative thereto. Sponsoring Town Department: Board of Selectmen

These funds were deficit spent with the approval of the Board of Selectmen and the Dept. of Revenue. Will be replaced from the \$154,090.30 at some point.

Motion was made by Roger Lafleur to approve this article. Seconded by Cindy Mundell. Passed unanimously.

Article #5 – To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money to purchase a new 1-ton truck for the Highway Department, a new SUV for the Police Department, and to transfer the current Police SUV to the Fire Department and then to convert that vehicle for Fire Department use, or take any action relative thereto. Sponsoring Town Department: Highway Superintendent, Police Chief, Fire Chief

Ms. Thompson showed pictures of the rust and holes on the 1 ton truck and gave cost estimates for the vehicles as: 1-ton truck - \$58,000; Police SUV - \$42,000; Fire convert - \$5,000.

Motion was made by Roger Lafleur that we approve the concept as a good plan pending funding. Seconded by Tim Roughan. Passed unanimously.

Article #6 – To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds to the Cemetery Department the amount of \$69.75; to the Water Dept. the sum of \$510.00 and to the EMS Department \$92.65, as reimbursement for expenses relating to the October 2011 storm, or take any action relative thereto. Sponsoring Town Department: Highway Superintendent, Cemetery Commissioners; Water Commissioners; EMS Chief

Motion was made by Tim Roughan to approve this article. Seconded by Roger Lafleur. Passed unanimously.

Article #7 – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate transfer or borrow the sum of \$6,500.00 to hire a seasonal part time laborer for the highway department, or take any action relative thereto. Sponsoring Town Department: Highway Department

This seasonal laborer will replace highway staff currently used in grounds maintenance. CDL Licensed personnel are being used to mow lawns. Ms. Thompson stated that addition of Prouty St, Washington Monument, Mill Station Park and boat ramps at both ponds have required additional maintenance. \$6,500 is based on an estimate of \$13.50/hr from May 1 to Nov. 1.

Motion was made by Roger Lafleur to table pending further discussion. Seconded by Tim Roughan. Passed unanimously.

Article #8 – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow the sum of \$500.00 as their portion of a stipend for inter-municipal highway administration, or take any action relative thereto. Sponsoring Town Department: Highway Department

This position is funded by a grant until December 31, 2012. Cindy Thompson currently holds this position for the Reg. Highway Equipment Sharing Cooperative. There is a possibility this will be funded under a new grant.

Motion was made by Tim Roughan to approve this article. Seconded by Roger Lafleur. Passed unanimously.

Remaining articles and tabled articles will be discussed at the next meeting.

Dues for State Finance Committee

Brookfield has been a member in the past. The dues for a town the size of Brookfield are \$150 per year. One benefit of rejoining will be the availability of an updated handbook on CD in October.

Motion was made by Tim Roughan to approve this article. Seconded by Cindy Mundell. Passed unanimously

Sign Voucher for Select PS (Warrant Book)

No motion required. Return to Betty Benoit.

Approve Minutes of 7/12/2012 Meeting

Chair requested the minutes include the discussion of the Municipal Relief Transfer that moved \$1,000 to the Legal Services Account. No specified account from which the money should be taken.

Motion was made by Roger Lafleur to approve the minutes as amended. Seconded by Tim Roughan. Passed unanimously.

Date of Next Meeting

There will be a joint meeting with the Board of Selectmen on August 28th at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall. The article on the Route 148 Bridge will be discussed.

Next meeting of the Advisory Committee will be August 30th at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall.

White's Landing

Chairman Jerry Johnson reported that Mr. Correia of White's Landing was invited to meet with the Advisory Committee at 7:00 PM on 8/9/2012. He was personally invited by Mr. Johnson during a telephone conversation and a follow-up email. Mr. Correia told Mr. Johnson that he or Ms White would attend. It is now 8:00PM and neither Mr. Correia nor Ms White is present.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Roger Lafleur to adjourn. Seconded by Cindy Mundell. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:13PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Lou Knight

Secretary – Brookfield Advisory Committee