

Minutes of
THE BROOKFIELD ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MARCH 7, 2013
BROOKFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Members Present: Michael Breuer, Mary Beth Harrity, Gerald Johnson, Mary Lou Knight, Cindy Mundell, Tim Roughan

Members Not Present: Ana Afton, Roger Lafleur, Ian Von Hold

Guests: Peter Martell, Fire Chief

Meeting called to order at 7:02

Pledge of Allegiance

Approve Minutes

Motion was made by Mary Beth Harrity to approve the minutes of the 02/28/2013 meeting. Seconded by Mary Lou Knight. Passed.

Request for Transfer

The Highway Superintendent has requested permission to deficit spend on an as-needed basis for the Snow and Ice Account. The account is very low due to the large amount of snow and ice this winter.

Motion was made by Mary Beth Harrity to approve. Seconded by Cindy Mundell. Passed.

Discussion regarding Unemployment expense

Town Counsel has stated that the Town is responsible for the payment of unemployment. The school could voluntarily "chip-in" but cannot be required to do so. Meeting with Deb Boyd is on hold pending further information from the Treasurer.

Fire Department Budget

Chief Martell discussed the 2014 budget. He had requested an increase of \$1,550 in the Fire Expenses account to cover the additional cost of shipping and materials. The Selectmen have level funded this account. Chief Martell stated that level funding does not allow for extra replacements damaged in fire responses.

The Recertification/Training account is up by \$200. The length of certification varies making it difficult to budget but the Chief believes the increase is needed.

Current Article 18 on the Warrant is a request for \$10,000. This is \$5,500 for Air Bottles and \$4,500 for Protective Clothing. Clothing is mended when practical but replacement is needed to meet current safety standards.

Current Article 14 on the Warrant is \$8,000 for Rescue Tools. This is what is generally known as the "jaws of life". Current unit is 22 years old and the cutters and spreaders need to be replaced to better cut through modern vehicles.

Repairs to Engine 3 – This account is under budget by \$4,000. Money was moved to the asset repair account to replace the air compressor. The fire trucks are plugged into the air compressor to keep up the air pressure. Money from the current budget was used but the Chief may need to come back for additional funds.

Next Budget Reviews

Selectmen
CIPC
Transfer Station – Expenses up 14.14%
School
Assessors – Consulting services up 61%
Tree Warden
Library – Assistant wages are up
EMS – wages are up \$25,000 since 2011

Discussion

The Elementary School Committee will meet on March 12th at 6:00. Budget discussion is scheduled for 6:30. Tantasqua budget discussion will be on March 19th. Advisory Committee members are encouraged to attend.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made to adjourn by Tim Roughan. Seconded by Michael Breuer. Passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03.

Next meeting is Thursday, March 21th at 7:00 PM at the Elementary School.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Lou Knight

Secretary – Brookfield Advisory Committee