

**Town of Brookfield  
Selectmen's Meeting - Special  
Town Hall, Selectmen's Office  
Tuesday, April 19, 2012**

Chairman O'Connell called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm in the Selectmen's office of the Town Hall. Other members present: Rudy Heller. Stephen J. Comtois II was excused

**Camera Operator:** None

**Press:** None

*Note: This meeting was to be a prelude to a joint meeting with the Advisory Committee at 7 pm, but the Advisory Committee previously cancelled the meeting because it lacked a quorum.*

Mr. Heller moved and Mr. O'Connell seconded a motion to accept wording clarifying in the Police contract when a newly hired patrol officer would move from Step I on the salary schedule to Step II on the salary schedule; so voted.

Unless otherwise stated, all motions were made by Mr. Heller and seconded by Mr. O'Connell and so voted.

1. **RHE COOP CONTRACT:** The contract between the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and Brookfield as the lead community was reviewed and on the motion made by Mr. Heller to authorize the Chair to sign, Mr. O'Connell signed the required two copies, which will be sent in the evening mail. Mr. O'Connell suggested that rather than paying Ms. Thompson a stipend for her work as the grant coordinator, that she be paid her regular rate to work extra hours. Mr. Heller will talk with Ms. Thompson.
2. **SAW MILL POND PHASE II REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS:** Ms. Neylon had revised the draft RFP for a Phase II study of Mill Pond Dam after review by consultant Chris Cullen of Fuss and O'Neill. The Board voted to approve the revised RFP and the revised schedule and authorize it to be sent out, with the proviso that the bidders submit their proposal in one sealed envelope and their cost bid in a second sealed envelope as has been the usual procedure.
3. **MILL STREET BROWNFIELD CHANGE ORDER:** David Foss, Project Director of the grant-funded Mill Street Brownfield project had requested a change order related to the amount and price of fill at the site. The Board voted to approve the change order and Mr. O'Connell signed it.

5. **FY13 BUDGET REVIEW:** Mr. O'Connell distributed a draft budget that reflected the votes taken to date by the Advisory Committee, a few of which differed from the Selectmen's votes. The Board approved the following changes to the FY13 budget:
- A. Restored a budget line for the Bannister Common & Mall Committee that had been inadvertently omitted in previous budget drafts, and voted to support its request for a \$1,050 budget. Mr. O'Connell volunteered to ask the Advisory Committee to correct its budget.
  - B. Voted to keep the Assessors expense figure at \$4,465 (the Advisory Committee had voted to reduce the figure to \$3,665 because the Assessors had turned back \$971 the previous year). However, the Selectmen agree that the Assessors will need the higher figure to send a new assessor to required training courses at a cost of \$900.
  - C. Voted to keep the Conservation Commission Expense budget at \$500 rather than the \$400 voted by the Advisory Committee since the Conservation Commission has already expended their \$500 budget this year, so it is likely that they will need a similar amount next year.
  - D. Reduced the Planning Board expense budget from \$1110 to \$800 in agreement with the Advisory Committee's vote.
  - E. Reduced the Zoning Board of Appeals budget from \$700 to \$500 in agreement with the Advisory Committee vote.

Mr. O'Connell will email the Board's votes to the Advisory Committee and ask them to review their votes on the Assessors and Conservation Commission's expenses.

6. **ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT:** The Board voted the following:
- A. At the request of the Board of Health, removed the Board of Health's requested article to set up a revolving fund;
  - B. Removed the two Water Department articles to transfer money, which were not needed this year;
  - C. Rescinded the Board's previous vote to support the purchase of a new loader to replace the 1985 Dresser loader and voted instead to support the purchase of new rims and tires for the loader to keep the loader in service for perhaps five more years.
  - D. Discussed the Recreation Committee's request for funding to pay the driveway and a new parking area between the ball fields. Mr. Heller reported on a conversation he had had with Jeff Landine and Herb Chafee about a relocation of the driveway and the creation of a parking lot in a location where cars would not be threatened by foul balls. This idea was

to be discussed at a recent Recreation Committee meeting and Mr. Chafee was going to investigate possible costs for a phased project. No action was taken on the article.

- E. Renumbered the articles and made minor edits in the text of articles and explanations.

Mr. O'Connell will ask Ms. Neylon to send the revised warrant to Town Counsel Pat Cantor for review and to assist in drafting the article for the acquisition of rights of way related to the Route 148 Bridge Reconstruction over the Quaboag River. He will ask her also to send the revised warrant to the Advisory Committee.

- 6. **OTHER:** Mr. O'Connell asked Mr. Heller if there had been any further discussion with the Cemetery Commissioners, Board of Health, the Recreation Committee and the Highway Department about a cooperative effort for grounds keeping around town that could reduce equipment costs and increase safety. Mr. Heller said he would follow up.

**ADJOURNMENT:** At 7:10 pm Mr. Heller moved to adjourn the meeting; Mr. O'Connell seconded; so voted.

Respectfully submitted

Peter O'Connell, Chair

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_