

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

OCTOBER 19, 1998 7:00 P.M.

IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in election and town affairs, to meet at the Town Hall Banquet Hall in said town on Monday, the 19th day of October 7:00PM, then and there to act on the following article:

ARTICLE 1. To see if the town will vote to instruct the Selectmen, in accordance with Chapter 41, section 69C of the Mass. General Laws to include on the ballot for the annual town meeting in May 1999 a question providing for the establishment of a Dept. of Public Works exercising the powers of certain other departments and town officers, or take any action relative thereto. (Sponsored by the DPW Study Committee).

The Town voted by majority to instruct the selectman, in accordance with Chapter 41, section 69C of the Mass. General Laws to include on the ballot for the annual town meeting in May 1999 a question providing for the establishment of a Dept. of Public Works exercising the powers of certain other departments and town officers.

ARTICLE 2. To see if the town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the Stabilization Account to the Landfill Closure Account, or take any action relative thereto. (Sponsored by the Board of Health). 2/3 vote required.

The town voted to pass over this article.

ARTICLE 3. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow a sum of money to pay bills from prior fiscal years, or take any action relative thereto. (Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen). 9/10 vote required.

The Town voted unanimously to raise and appropriate a sum of \$876.76 and to transfer the sum of 612.08 from the FY 1999 Police Expense Account to pay bills from prior fiscal years, totaling \$1488.84.

ARTICLE 4. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow a sum of money to purchase wildfire protective equipment for the fire department, or take any action relative thereto. (Sponsored by the Fire Department).

The Town voted to defeat this article. (69 yes/ 75 No)

ARTICLE 5. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow a sum of money to move the police base radio and to protect the police and fire base radios, or take any action relative thereto. (Sponsored by the Civil Defense).

The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2000.00 to move the police radio and to protect the police and fire base radios.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the town will vote to issue an annual allotment of 200 trash bags for each transfer station stickers sold each year at \$50.00 apiece, or take any action relative thereto. (Sponsored by petition with 124 signatures).

The Town voted to defeat this article.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow a sum of money to increase the Landfill Expense Account for Fiscal Year 1999 to cover the added costs of bags and disposal, or take any action relative thereto. (Sponsored by the Board of Health).

The Town voted to pass over this article.

ARTICLE 8. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate transfer or borrow a sum of money purchase a parcel of land in East Brookfield off of Quaboag Street owned by Pauline Herbert, or take any action relative thereto. (Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen). 2/3 vote required.

The Town voted by a 2/3 vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$21,000 to purchase a parcel of land in East Brookfield off Quaboag Street owned by Pauline Herbert. (By majority with one opposed.)

ARTICLE 9. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow a sum of money to purchase a new computer for the Treasurer's office, or take any action relative thereto. (Sponsored by the Treasurer).

The Town voted by majority to raise and appropriate a sum of \$2500, To purchase a new computer for the Treasurer's office.

ARTICLE 10. To see if the town will vote to amend Section 2 of the town's Personnel bylaw by eliminating the position of Dispatcher, or take any action relative thereto. (Sponsored by the Personnel Board).

The Town voted unanimously to amend section 2 of the town's personnel by-law by eliminating position of Dispatcher.

ARTICLE 11. To see if the town will vote to amend Section 16 of the town's Personnel bylaw to allow for notification requirements relative to vacation time, or take any action relative thereto. (Sponsored by the Personnel Board).

The Town voted unanimously to amend **TOWN OF BROOKFIELD**, Section 16 of the Town's personnel bylaw to read:

Section 16. Vacations with pay

Annual vacation with pay will be granted to all full-time and part-time(20-35)employees from their anniversary date in the following manner:

More than one year of service	1 week
Two to four years of service	2 weeks
Five to nine years of service	3 weeks
Ten to nineteen years of service	4 weeks
twenty or more years of service	5 weeks

Vacation days must be used in the year they are granted or they will be forfeited. Pay will not be given in lieu of vacation days. When a holiday falls within an employees vacation week, the holiday is charged as a holiday and not as a vacation day. **Requests for vacation leave of 5 or more days must be approved at least a week in advance by the department head. In cases where more than one employee from a department requests vacation leave, seniority will prevail.** All requests for vacation time are subject to approval in advance from the department head.

ARTICLE 12. To see if the town will vote to amend Section 18 of the town's Personnel bylaw to allow for notification requirements relative to sick leave, or take any action relative thereto. (Sponsored by the Personnel Board).

The Town voted by majority to amend Section 18 of the **TOWN OF BROOKFIELD** personnel bylaw to read as follows:

All full time employees, following a three-month probationary period, shall be granted three (3) sick days. Thereafter, they shall receive one day per month accumulative to sixty (60) days. Department heads are responsible for maintaining records of sick leave days accumulated and used for all eligible employees in the department.

All part-time (20-35) employees shall be granted ten (10) sick days per year. These sick days cannot be accumulated.

All paid sick leave must be approved by the employee's department head or the Board of Selectman. Unused sick leave can be accrued from year to year, except that the maximum accrual shall not exceed 60 days. In order for an eligible employee to receive a paid sick day, the employee must notify his/her immediate supervisor as soon as practical of the illness and of the approximate length of absence required. Whenever possible, the employee should notify his/her immediate supervisor at least on hour before the time set for the beginning daily duties. An employee using three or more consecutive days of sick time will be required to submit a physician's statement certifying illness. If an employee needs an extended sick leave for medical reasons,(s)he must present a doctor's statement stating the amount of sick days that will be taken. Any employee claiming illness under false pretenses shall be corrective discipline, including termination.

ARTICLE 13. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow a sum of money to pay for additional work required to complete the library roof repair project, or take any action relative thereto. (Sponsored by the Library Trustees).

The Town voted unanimously to vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$3569. to pay for additional work required to complete the library roof repair project.

ARTICLE 14. To see if the town will vote to amend Chapter 12 of the Town of Brookfield's bylaws by adding Section 6 which establishes regulations for yard and garage sales, or take any action relative thereto. (Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen).

The Town voted to defeat this article.

ARTICLE 15. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow a sum of money for the Brookfield Elementary School budget for unforeseen Special Education tuition for out of district placements, or take any action relative thereto. (Sponsored by the Elementary School Committee).

The Town voted to defeat this article.

ARTICLE 16. To see if the town will vote to approve the debt authorized by vote of the Tantasqua Regional School District in an amount not to exceed \$51,302,792.00 and appropriate the town's share thereof under the Regional Agreement for the purpose of constructing a new regional high school including, but not limited to, the design, equipping and furnishing of same and all costs incidental and related thereto; such approval to supersede and replace the debt authorization as voted by the Town of Brookfield in Article #11 of the May 5, 1995 Annual Town Meeting, or take any action relative thereto. (Sponsored by the Tantasqua Regional School Committee). 2/3 vote required.

The Town voted by a 2/3 vote (83 yes, 111 no) to defeat this article.

ARTICLE 17. To see if the town will vote to authorize the Board of Assessors to use a sum of money from available funds in the Treasury for the reduction of the tax levy for the period from July 1, 1998 to June 30, 1999, or take any action relative thereto. (Sponsored by the Board of Assessors).

The Town voted by 2/3 vote (66 yes, 45 no) to defeat this article.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM. 239 voter attended.

And you are directed to serve this Warrant, by posting up attested copies thereof, at the Town Hall and Post Office in said Town, fourteen days at least before the time of the holding of said meeting.

HEREOF, FAIL NOT, and make due return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of the meeting, as foresaid. Given under our hands this 19th day of October in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-eight.

Respectfully submitted:

**Philip H. Peirce
Floyd Moores
Michael Seery
Board of Selectman**

A True Copy, Attest:

**Harvey Bennett
Constable of Brookfield**

A TRUE COPY ATTEST: Linda M. Lincoln, Town Clerk