

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MINUTES
JANUARY 3, 2012 – 7:30 P.M.
BROOKFIELD HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER**

CALL TO ORDER: First Selectman William R. Davidson called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

PRESENT: William R. Davidson, First Selectman; Howard Lasser, Selectman; George F. Walker, Selectman; Jay Wahlberg, Controller; members of the public & press, Virginia Giovanniello, Recording Secretary.

MONTHLY AGENDA ITEMS

2011 POP WARNER NATIONAL CHAMPIONS: Mr. Davidson presented a Certificate of Recognition to Mr. Bob Drysdale, Coach of the Bobcats Midget Football Team for their outstanding accomplishments and winning the 2011 Pop Warner National Champions.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Larry Miller, the Chairman of the Brookfield Charter Revision Commission (BCRC), gave a brief update along with a written update of the BCRC's work to date, and after evaluating extensive sources of information they have arrived at preliminary positions with regard to the Brookfield Town Charter. He stated that they have not recommended changing the town meeting form of government as people should have the right to participate in meetings and local government, but the BCRC do feel there is some need for improvement. The BCRC have scheduled a second Public Hearing on Thursday, January 26th at 7:00 p.m., at the Whisconier Middle School Seminar Room, to present their preliminary positions and for residents to attend and participate with comments.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mr. Davidson made the following announcements:

- Brief overview of the 2012-2013 Town Budget timeline.
- Barring construction or weather delays, public water will flow to Greenridge on or around January 23. This is fabulous news for those in Greenridge, Route 25 and Town. Connection work has to be done in the community of Greenridge.
- Settlement Agreement with Morganti has been signed between the Town and Morganti and subcontractors that will bring to a close all litigation regarding the high school project. Final paperwork must be processed between the Town and the State of CT.
- Meeting tomorrow with the State Historic Preservation Commission to review the current status and improvements they will be asking the town to make.
- Debris removal from storm Alfred was extensive and they are still removing debris from the roadside and tree hangers that are 50-60 feet in air over the roadways. There is another week's worth of work.
- The Board of Finance took the initiative to put their own tab on the town's website. The Board of Selectmen has a new tab, the third one down on the home page. Town is working on a brand new website that is going live on March 1st.

CORRESPONDENCE: Mr. Davidson noted the following correspondence:

- Planning Commission memo requesting assistance to identify alternate members.
- Letter from two Zoning Commission members to re-select legal counsel.

PARKING APPEALS: Mr. Davidson noted that a few of the parking appeals on the agenda were from the High School, as parents attending an open house closely exceeded the parking places allotted and were ticketed for parking in fire zones and in illegal spots. Mr. Davidson stated he would like to see this problem relieved in the future and will meet with the Chief of Police and Superintendent of Schools. At conclusion of discussion, **Howard Lasser made motion that the Selectmen grant all of the parking appeals as noted on the agenda, seconded by George Walker. Motion carried unanimously.** Mr. Lasser noted that the granting of these appeals should not be a precedent as these were unusual circumstance.

NEW ITEMS

MAILBOX POLICY: Mr. Davidson noted that several residents did not believe that the Town's Mailbox Policy was fair. He decided to look at a few of the surrounding town policies, and stated that the Selectmen might want to modify the town's policy closer to Bethel and New Milford. The Selectmen did not make a decision this evening, but suggested that Mr. Davidson bring forward a suggested policy for their review.

UPDATES

GURSKI HOMESTEAD COMMISSION (CHARTER SECTION C7-7): The Public Hearing was held at 7:00 p.m. prior to the Board of Selectmen Meeting. At conclusion of discussion, a Public Hearing and/or a Special Town Meeting will be scheduled in February or March to discuss and approve the rewording and update of the Conservation Commission's Ordinance to include the responsibility for management of historical properties and the education of the public on historic and agricultural heritage. The Selectmen requested that the Board of Selectmen receive a time line and interim check points to keep tract of the progress. **Howard Lasser made motion that the Selectmen dissolve the Gurski Homestead Commission per Charter Section C7-7, seconded by George Walker. Motion carried unanimously.**

RETIREMENT BENEFITS ADVISORY COMMITTEE: The Public Hearing was held at 6:55 p.m. prior to the Board of Selectmen Meeting. There was no public comment at the Public Hearing. **Howard Lasser made motion that the Selectmen allow "three electors" on the committee in place of two electors, seconded by George Walker. Motion carried unanimously.**

MEADOWBROOK MANOR/HILLSIDE CIRCLE: Mr. Davidson reported that the State DEEP will visit Meadowbrook Manor on January 26th for a site walk that will end at the discharge area. Mr. Davidson invited the Selectmen to participate if they wish.

KID'S KINGDOM PLAYGROUND: Mr. Davidson reported that most of the physical equipment is up and that the rest will be finished quickly in the spring time.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL RESULTS: Mr. Jay Wahlberg reported on the monthly financial results. He updated the Selectmen on the debris cleanup costs to date and the town will be reimbursed 75%. He doesn't see the need to touch Fund Balance for the remainder of the costs.

SENIOR CENTER PROJECT: Mr. Davidson reported that the project is definitely under budget and final payment will be made to Verdi Construction.

DEMOLITION ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS 96-7: The Selectmen discussed the revised Ordinance, and Mr. Lasser was concerned about the Historic District Commission having sufficient notice time when a demolition permit is filed for a historically significant building. Mr. Davidson stated he will make sure concerns are addressed

in the wording of the Ordinance to bring forward to a Public Hearing. At conclusion of discussion, **George Walker made motion that the Selectmen schedule a Public Hearing on February 6, 2012, at 7:00 p.m., prior to the Board of Selectmen Meeting in the High School Media Center, seconded by Howard Lasser. Motion carried unanimously.**

STILL RIVER GREENWAY: Mr. Davidson reviewed the Still River Greenway costs and appropriations to date. The Town has officially authorized \$110,000 which was the 20% match of the original \$440,000 grant from January 2003. An authorization request was approved by the Board of Finance in 2006 for an additional \$100,000, but this action was never officially acted on at a Town Meeting. The work being done for the project is still reimbursable at the 80% Federal and 20% Town split. To date the Town's actual expenses are \$110,891 voted on in 2003, and the Town will need to spend another \$5,000 above the \$110,000 to finish the permitting work. Mr. Lasser suggested that the independent Consultant, Andy Carrier, hired by the State from VHB be invited back for another conversation and address some of the concerns to make sure there is a proactive approach and ensure we stay within our budget numbers. Mr. Davidson stated that this approval tonight has nothing to do with the 800 feet project; this request is to finish the final permitting process, the two mile stretch to eventually bring forward to the Board of Finance and Town Referendum to ultimately appropriate \$361,000 more to build the Still River Greenway. Mr. Walker stated he would like a lot more detail and explanation. At conclusion of discussion, **Howard Lasser made motion to approve the Still River Greenway First Supplemental Agreement for the Development of Contract Plans, Specifications and Estimates, seconded by William Davidson. Motion carried by majority with George Walker abstaining.**

HIGH SCHOOL RENOVATION REVIEW COMMITTEE (EX-OFFICIO): At conclusion of discussion, **William Davidson made motion that the Selectmen appoint the High School Renovation Review Committee Ex-Officio to discuss and evaluate all aspects of the high school renovation project in order to determine what went well and what problems arose and why, offer suggestions for future major town projects, with a charge to hold not less than one public meeting, prepare formal report for the Board of Selectmen at their regular monthly meeting on July 2nd unless extended, and dissolve committee effective December 1, 2012, seconded by George Walker. Motion carried unanimously.**

William Davidson made motion that the Selectmen appoint the following members of the High School Renovation Review Committee Ex-Officio, seconded by Howard Lasser. Motion carried unanimously.

**Paul Checco, Municipal Building Committee
Rob Gianazza, former member of Board of Education
Ron Jaffe, Board of Finance
George Walker, Board of Selectman
Kerry Swift, member of the public**

WPCA BENEFIT ASSESSMENT: At conclusion of discussion, **Howard Lasser made motion that the Selectmen request that the Board of Finance approve an appropriation in the amount of \$485,000 for the purpose of paying the Water Pollution Control Authority's Benefit Assessment for the High School Sewer, and that the Selectmen recommend to the Board of Finance that the appropriation come from Fund Balance, seconded by William Davidson. Motion carried unanimously.**

CONSENT AGENDA

BOARD OF SELECTMENT MEETING MINUTES: December 5, 2011 Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes; December 8, 2011 Special Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes; December 14, 2012 Special Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes.

NEW HIRE REPORT: Departing Staff: Craig Renda, Parks & Recreation Ground Maintainer, and effective 12/16/11.

SELECTMEN APPROVALS FOR ROUTINE CONTRACT MATTERS: New Opportunities, Inc. Annual Site Host Agreement for meals provided at the Senior Center.

BOND RELEASES:

Driveway Bonds in the amount of \$750: 58 Riverford Road; 49 Obtuse Rocks Road; 6 Cove Road; 15 Fawn Ridge.

Zoning Commission: 15 Logging Trail Lane, #200400876, Final Bond Release of \$3,050.

22 Logging Trail Lane, #200501302, Final Bond Release of \$2,450.

49 Federal Road, #200600933, Bond Release of \$9,000.

14 Gereg Glen Road, #201100271, Bond Reduction of \$1,950.

CONSENT AGENDA: Mr. Walker was concerned with the angle of the driveway at 49 Obtuse Rocks Road, and he will contact the Public Works Director. At conclusion of discussion, **William Davidson made motion that the Selectmen approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of a Driveway Bond for 49 Obtuse Rocks Road, seconded by George Walker. Motion carried unanimously.**

ADDITIONAL MONTHLY AGENDA ITEMS

APPOINTMENTS: William Davidson made motion that the Selectmen approve the following Appointed Officers for the term 2/6/12 – 2/3//14 as designated in 5a of the agenda, seconded by George Walker. Motion carried unanimously.

Assessor	
Denise Hames	
Building Official	Demetrio
Parpana	
Chief of Police	Robin
Montgomery	
Controller/Director of Finance	Jay Wahlberg
Director of Civil Preparedness	Wayne Gravius
Director of	
Health	Dr. Raymond
Sullivan	
Director of Parks & Recreation	Dennis DiPinto
Director of Public Works	Ralph Tedesco
Fire Marshal	Wayne
Gravius	
Deputy Fire Marshals	Gary
Gramling	
David Lathrop	
Timothy Gravius	
Land Use Attorney	Neil Marcus
Land Use Enforcement Officer	Katherine Daniel

	Includes: Erosion/Sedimentation Wetlands Enforcement Land Use Zoning Enforcement Officer	
	Municipal Agent for the Elderly Municipal Historian	Alice Dew Jeannette Holliday Peter N.
Thompson		
	Sanitarian	Paul
Avery		
	Tax Collector	Lauraine
Paquin		
	Town Attorney	David
Grogins		
	Neil Marcus	
	Tree Warden	Walter
Loesch		
	Assistant Tree Warden	John
Plummer		

The Selectmen scheduled a Special Board of Selectmen's Meeting for the Board/Commission appointments on Monday, January 23, 2012, at 4:00 p.m., in the Selectmen's Conference Room.

WPCA BENEFIT ASSESSMENT: William Davidson made motion that the Selectmen schedule a Special Town Meeting on Tuesday, January 31, 2012, at 7:00 p.m., in Meeting Room 133, to consider the approval of the \$485,000 appropriation presuming motion made by the Board of Selectmen is approved by the Board of Finance, seconded by Howard Lasser. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment.

ADJOURN: Howard Lasser made motion to adjourn at 9:20 p.m., seconded by George Walker. Motion carried unanimously.

William R. Davidson
First Selectman

Howard Lasser
Selectman

George F. Walker
Selectman