

**Town of Brookfield
267 Wentworth Road
Brookfield, NH 03872**

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES
February 9, 2010**

Attendance: Ernie Brown, Chairman Clifton Camp & Craig Evans
Staff: Ed Nason CEO, Marilou Maclean Treasurer, Janet Murfey Planning Board Chair, Diana Peckham Tax Collector and Jennifer Sonricker Admin. Assistant
Reporter: Heather Terrigni
Public in attendance: 4

Clifton led us in the pledge of allegiance.

Hearing on 2010 Town Budget:

The budget hearing was opened at 6:36 PM. Clifton reviewed an error with the budget distributed tonight; depending on the action taken this evening regarding the town truck the total appropriations will need to be adjusted. \$71,899 is actual appropriation to purchase a new truck; in the proposed budget \$39,899 was budgeted, this number was derived by reducing the total cost of the truck by trade in values of the existing truck and application of money from road agent budget. DRA notified us this can't be done this way; the total cost of the truck needs to be included in the appropriation. If we move forward with the new truck the total appropriations would increase to \$801,920. The public questioned why the town was considering a new truck; asking what was wrong with the existing truck. Maintenance concerns discussed. Road Agent Nason provided details of a design flaw that exists on the truck explaining this has accounted for many of the required repairs over the years; he expressed concern because this design flaw still exists on the new truck being considered. Discussions continued regarding the town truck. Craig expressed he is not in favor of expending money on a truck this year, he feels there are too many unanswered questions and feels the next year should be spent deriving a plan on how to move forward regarding the town truck. The public expressed overwhelming support not to make the purchase this year. Clifton explained the board will make a final decision after the line-by-line review of the budget.

Revenues reviewed line by line. Planning & ZBA questioned, it was decided to add \$100 to this line. Land Use revenue discussed, the Tax Collector questioned revenue being received in 2009; the Treasurer will need to check into this.

Expenses reviewed line by line. Clifton explained that Town Meeting, Town Contracts and Perambulation moved from another section to Executive, they are not new lines. Perambulation discussed briefly, it was explained that Nate Fogg will translate all the old markers and log all GPS coordinates for all town boundaries for the \$1,800 fee included in the budget. Election line discussed, it is up this year because of the number of elections scheduled. Treasurer's Salary line discussed; Craig suggested increasing this line by \$600 to \$3,600; with little discussion all agreed to this increase.

MOTION: Craig moved to create an article for March warrant increasing the Treasurer's salary to \$3,600, seconded by Ernie. A vote was taken, all in favor. Motion Carries.

Tax Collector line reviewed, a Title Search line was added and assigned a value of \$750. Assessing reviewed; the revaluation required in 2010 is separate from the Assessing budget. Planning Board 'planning & development' line discussed, this is in the budget in case the services of a professional planner are required. ZBA budget was up this year because additional meetings are anticipated. General Buildings discussed. \$22,000 has been added to 'repairs to building' line. This number is based on the following repairs: Electric to Salt Barn, connection of electrical, correction of drainage problem and installation of lawn between Town House and Town Office Building and removal of small above ground propane tank. Archival supplies explained; \$750 included for purchase of archival supplies needed for planned archival projects, this includes purchase of flat storage units for storing all plats, septic designs and subdivision plans. This is a multiyear project. Emergency Management line increased \$1,750; this is to allow for purchase of two heart defibrillators and an antenna for the town office building allowing for HAM radio

communications in the case of an emergency. Highway & Streets reviewed. If a decision is made not to purchase a new town truck the town truck and equipment expenses line will be reduce to around \$15,000. Health Agencies line questioned by the public, these are set forth by requests from the agencies. Parks and Recreation line explained; this is new line item resulting from pending agreement with Wolfeboro Parks and Recreation allowing Brookfield residents to buy into the Wolfeboro Parks & Rec. program and receive the "town" discount. The Heritage and Conservation Commission have warrant articles requesting \$500 be applied to each fund. Expendable Trusts reviewed; it was question whether \$5,000 in Building Maintenance & Grounds Funds was adequate given the expected projects. The fund currently has \$24,000, no increase was suggested. In conclusion Clifton explained the 2009 budget was under by ~\$16,000. Total appropriations stand at \$803,270, including purchase of new truck.

The public portion of the hearing was closed at 8:24 PM.

MOTION: Ernie moved to drop proposed warrant article #14 (purchase of new truck) from warrant, seconded by Craig. A vote was taken, all in favor. Motion Carries.

The 2010 budget with all changes results in a \$91,769 reduction over 2009 budget. The budget is as follows:

- Expenses - \$731,371
- Revenue - \$273,030

No further comments, budget hearing closed at 8:35 PM.

After a brief recess Clifton called the public meeting to order at 8:38 PM.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from January 26th meeting reviewed.

MOTION: Craig moved to accept the minutes from January 26, 2010 as submitted, seconded by Ernie. A vote was taken, all in favor. Motion Carries.

Public Comments:

No public comments

Report of Town Officials:

CEO/Building

Inspector Nothing to report

Heritage

Commission Marilou reported on Valentine Breakfast planned for this Saturday, there will be an exhibit on Saint Valentines and the history of Valentine's Day.

Road Agent

Ed provided an update on electric to Salt Shed, the conduit has been run and the meter base installed; he is waiting on PSNH to provide power to the meter. He has received an estimate to finish the lighting work which includes internal and external lighting and block heater circuits. The quote to finish electrical added to the work that has already been completed is lower than the original projected costs. Signage being added to the Salt Shed discussed, Ed has few ideas and is considering using an old town plow.

Second poly tank for storing liquid material used to prevent buildup of ice on roads discussed. Ed explained there is a new product that can be used both for winter and summer applications. In the winter it is used to prevent ice buildup and in the summer it is used for dust control on dirt roads. In order to get this product he needs to order a full truck load and in order to store this much product a second storage tank is required. There is a significant costs savings when purchasing a full truck load of product. After brief discussion by the board they authorized the purchase of an additional tank. Craig suggested Ed develop a 1 page handout containing the details and specifications of the product and have it available for the public upon request.

Ed asked for permission to cut down several trees on Tumbledown Dick Road. The Planning Board had granted permission to PSNH at an earlier date to cut down these trees; PSNH cut down many trees but several were missed. The location of the trees causes damage to the plow. No objections were expressed. The Selectmen asked what will happen to the trees; Ed explained he usually offers it the landowner first and if they don't want it he usually takes it and burns it. The Selectmen requested any hard wood trees removed be added to the town wood supply that is being made available to individuals receiving fuel assistance.

Treasurer Marilou presented checks to be signed. A new law requires community emergency responder members be certified; Marilou will get a list of all first responders from Brad. Marilou proposed a new process for the Treasurer position, she would like to have all bills be approved before cutting checks, she is proposing presenting all invoices at the Selectmen's meeting for approval and then cutting the checks the following day and providing the checks to the Selectmen for signature outside the meeting. No objections were expressed.

Old Business **Timber Ordinance update** – New draft distributed for review, it will be discussed at the next Selectmen's meeting.

All other old business is postponed till next meeting.

New Business None

Town Mail Mail reviewed. New mapping information from cartographic received, the Board will wait till the Assessor Clerk is present to discuss.

No new business before the board meeting adjourned at 9:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Sonricker
Administrative Assistant