

MINUTES OF MARCH 25, 2015
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
WEST BROOKFIELD TOWN HALL – GRAND HALL

PRESENT: David A. Delanski, Chairman, Robert E. Lavash, Sr. Vice-Chairman, Dario F. Nardi, Clerk
ATTENDEES: Superintendent Brett Kustigian, Camie Lamica , Warren Finance Committee, West Brookfield Selectmen, West Brookfield Advisory Board, School Committee members, Warren residents, West Brookfield residents.

The Board of Selectmen was invited to join the Quaboag Regional School District budget presentation. Various Town Officials from both communities were present as well as school committee members and residents alike.

Dr. Kustigian called the meeting to order at 6:10 PM at the Grand Hall room of the West Brookfield Town Hall. He gave the opportunity for respective Boards present to open their meetings as well. Chairman Delanski opened the Selectmen's meeting at 6:13 PM.

Dr. Kustigian ran the meeting giving an overview of Chapter 70 and the challenges faced by the community. He further gave a brief overview of the proposed budget approved and voted on by the School Committee which calls for the addition of 7 new positions within the district.

The evening progressed with a question and answer format; and then with periods of general comments by residents; some Town officials and members of the School Committee. Topics of discussions ranged from language instruction at both the middle and high school level to tax implications to residents when it comes time to meet the budget requests of the school system.

The West Brookfield Advisory Board called for a recess at 7:23 PM and reconvened at 7:33 PM with the announcement that West Brookfield would bring forth a request for a 2 1/2 override.

Chief Financial Officer Camie Lamica offered comments as to increases in the FY 2016 budget; aside from lower revenue sources from the state they have seen a substantial increase in their health insurance premiums amounting to a 10.9% increase for the coming year which equates to \$300,000.00 for health insurance alone. She also noted that settled contracts that had previously been negotiated amount to a 3% increase for their staff – both of these factors are reflected in the budget numbers presented, these two items amount to \$600,000.00 of their \$800,000.00 increase.

Dr. Kustigian thanked everyone for attending and participating in this evening's discussion.

Mr. Nardi motioned to adjourn the Warren BOS meeting; second: Mr. Lavash – unanimous at 7:43 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Lorena Prokop
Administrative Secretary

Dario F. Nardi, Clerk