

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MINUTES
MARCH 4, 2013 – 7:30 P.M.
BROOKFIELD HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER**

CALL TO ORDER: First Selectman William R. Davidson called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

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

PRESENT: William R. Davidson, First Selectman; Howard Lasser, Selectman; George Walker, Selectman; William Leverage, Controller; interested members of the public and press; Virginia Giovanniello, Recording Secretary.

MONTHLY AGENDA ITEMS

PUBLIC COMMENT(S): There was no public comment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mr. Davidson made the following announcements:

- Brookfield Matters will be published today. Sign up on the Town's website to receive the monthly newsletter.
- The Brookfield Arts Commission and The Friends of the Arts of Brookfield, Inc., have been awarded an Arts Catalyze Placemaking Grant from the Department of Economic and Community Development, which also receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. The grant will support a public art project "Reflections in Mosaic" to be installed in the lobby of Town Hall. Contact the First Selectman's office for further details.
- This past Thursday, the Selectmen unanimously approved a budget in the amount of \$59, to forward to the Board of Finance, who will deliberate for the month of March. The Municipal budget is a 5.8% increase due to pension contribution, health insurance, sand/salt, special School Resource Officer position, and capital spending to maintain town structures.

CORRESPONDENCE: Mr. Davidson reviewed the following correspondence: a) A committee in Windsor, CT is organizing a Connecticut Trees of Honor Memorial, Inc. and have requested a contribution of \$3,000 from Brookfield to recognize individuals that have died in Iraq/Afghanistan by planting a tree and creating a plaque for each hero being honored at this memorial in the City of Middletown. Brookfield has lost two community members: Marine L.Cpl. John Schmidt III in 2005 and Navy Seal Petty Officer Jason Dale Lewis in 2007. The Selectmen would like to see constituents of the state and town make contributions to this memorial; b) the Board of Education letter dated February 7th requested that the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance join the Board of Education in a comprehensive demographic study of the town. A committee is being formed and one of the three Selectmen will be a member; c) the Board of Education letter dated February 7th requested that the Board of Selectmen

include the addition of four School Resource Officers in the town budget and one position was recently funded; d) the Selectmen received a number of e-mails from parents requesting SROs in the schools.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL RESULTS: Controller William Leverage reported on the monthly financial results.

NEW ITEMS

EMERGENCY PLAN REGISTRAR OF VOTERS: Mr. Davidson reported that it is now required by law that each town has a plan on file to cover any emergency situation which might present itself on Election (Referendum) Day or immediately before, for polling place location and safety, response to emergency situations and internal polling place procedures by the end of March. Mr. Davidson requested the Selectman's approval to sign this plan when it is completed.

WPCA REQUEST – HIGH MEADOW SEWER PROJECT: WPCA Attorney Jeffrey Sienkowitz and Mr. Roger Prinz, WPCA's Chief of Maintenance, were present to answer questions on the proposed project. At conclusion of discussion, **George Walker made motion that the Selectmen recommend to the Board of Finance an appropriation of \$2.5M to pay for the Sewer Project at High Meadow, Ledgewood and Newbury Crossing Condominiums. Funding to include engineering, legal, applications, land acquisition, construction and all other necessary and appropriate expenses. The Project cost will be financed by borrowing. Motion seconded by Howard Lasser, and carried unanimously.**

SEWER AUTHORITY (AD-HOC) COMMITTEE: Mr. Davidson stated that the Selectmen have not yet discussed the report submitted by the committee and deferred conversation to the April BOS meeting when the Chairman of the WPCA and ad-hoc committee members are able to be present.

SCHOOL SECURITY ADVISORY COUNCIL: Mr. Davidson reported that the School Security Advisory Council's first meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 5th at 4:00 p.m., in the Selectmen's Conference Room.

INDIAN FIELD POND PROPERTY: The homeowners at Indian Fields are requesting to donate a pond at Indian Fields which equals approximately four acres. The Conservation Commission voted 4-2 to accept the pond property. Indian Fields entered into an Asset Purchase Agreement with Aquarion Water Company by which Indian Fields will sell its water system assets to Aquarion and its 55 homeowners will become customers of Aquarion. The sale does not include the pond and is currently held by the association as open space. Because it is not necessary for the use and operation of the water system, Aquarion would not agree to take title to the parcel. Attorney Anne Peters who is representing the Indian Field Property owners, was present to answer questions. There were also eight Indian Fields residents present who explained why this donation would be a benefit to the town and the association. Attorney Peters explained that access to the pond is at the end of the cul-de-sac on Cherokee Drive, and that it was her understanding the fire department uses the pond for fire protection purposes. There is no tax revenue impact. The Selectmen were concerned about the maintenance of small pieces of open space that doesn't lend to public recreation, the limited access and neighbors in close vicinity, and that it

could add to the town's operating cost and no offsetting revenues. Mr. Davidson mentioned that he might have suggestions to help the owners with their situation. At conclusion of discussion, **George Walker made motion that the Selectmen table this item, seconded by Howard Lasser. Motion carried unanimously.**

POLICE DEPARTMENT OUTSIDE SERVICE FUND: Mr. Davidson noted that Chief Montgomery and Major Purcell discussed their proposed request at a recent BOS Budget Deliberation Meeting. At conclusion of discussion, **Howard Lasser made motion that the Selectmen approve an expenditure of funds from the Police Department Outside Service Fund in the amount of \$14,000 for a three-project proposal. Motion seconded by George Walker, and carried unanimously.**

UPDATES

2013/2014 BUDGET TIMELINE: Mr. Davidson referred to the budget timeline in the Selectmen's meeting packet for the dates of the upcoming Board of Finance deliberations, Public Hearing and Annual Town Meeting that will be posted on the Town's website.

TOWN OWNED COTTAGE AND BARN – 148 WHISCONIER ROAD: Mr. Davidson reported that the Auction date is Saturday, March 16th at 11:00 a.m. at the Brookfield Library which is next door to the property. All the particulars are on the Town's website including the Bidders List and Proposed Contract. He noted that the State Department of Transportation has guaranteed that the buyer of the property can have a private driveway.

CELL TOWER: Mr. Davidson reported that the proposed Agreement for the cell tower behind the Pocono Road Fire Department is being reviewed by the Town Attorney. It should be ready in a couple of weeks to be reviewed by the Selectmen in an executive session. The CT Siting Counsel would then review and approve a proposed cell tower.

CONSENT AGENDA

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

- February 4, 2013
- February 14, 2013
- February 20, 2013
- February 21, 2013
- February 22, 2013
- February 26, 2013
- February 27, 2013
- February 28, 2013

NEW HIRE REPORT: Staffing changes for the month of February:

- New Hires: Christopher Symes, Tree Warden, Public Works Department, Part-time Non Union, Effective 2/4/13.
- Terminations: Laurel Shaw, Assistant Sanitarian, Land Use Department, Full-time Non Union, Effective 2/19/13.

SELECTMEN APPROVALS FOR ROUTINE GRANT MATTERS: a) ConnDOT Grant: Authorizing First Selectman's signature on Grant Assignment Certification, Maintenance of Effort Certification and Incumbency Certificate for the Regional Grant Submission Application prepared by HART for a State Matching Grant Program for Elderly and Disabled Transit Services.

ZONING COMMISSION BOND(S): 84-140 Federal Road (BJ's Wholesale Club), Application #2011001126 – Bond Reduction by \$605,000.

CONSENT AGENDA MOTION: Howard Lasser made motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion seconded by George Walker, and carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL MONTHLY AGENDA ITEMS

APPOINTMENTS:

Howard Lasser made motion that the Selectman appoints Christopher Symes as part-time Tree Warden, Public Works Department. Motion seconded by George Walker, and carried unanimously.

Howard Lasser made motion that the Selectmen appoint Marilyn Wilkes as a regular member on the Commission on Aging. Motion seconded by George Walker, and carried unanimously.

Howard Lasser made motion that the Selectmen appoint the following residents to the 225th Brookfield Anniversary Committee (Ad-Hoc) Members, with a modification to the list that any members of the committee that are not electors of the Town be named Ex-Officio members. Motion seconded by George Walker, and carried unanimously.

- David Scribner - State Representative
- Susan Murphy – Brookfield Chamber of Commerce
- Anita Barney – Director of Brookfield Library (Ex-Officio Member)
- John Furlong – Brookfield Historical Society and Museum
- Candice Smith – Brookfield Lion's Club
- Barbara Prete - Heather Lawless – Brookfield Craft Center
- Betty Hensal - Women's Club of Brookfield
- Ellen Melville – Senior Center Director
- Mark Gerber – Gerber Studio
- Elaine Rajcula – Brookfield Garden Club

PUBLIC COMMENT(S):

Peg Peterson, Board Member Indian Fields Homeowners Association

ADJOURN: George Walker made motion to adjourn at 8:31 p.m. Motion seconded by Howard Lasser, and carried unanimously.

William R. Davidson
First Selectman

Howard Lasser
Selectman

George F. Walker
Selectman

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