

**Board of Selectmen Meeting**  
**MINUTES**  
**7:00 PM Monday, July 01, 2019**  
**Brookfield Town Hall - Room 133**

**1) Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance**

**PRESENT:** Stephen C. Dunn, First Selectman; Sue Slater, Selectman; Harry Shaker, Selectman; Marcia Marien, Finance Director/Controller; Thomas Beecher, Town Attorney; Virginia Giovanniello, Recording Secretary; members of the public.

As a Note: You can view the entire meeting on the town website in Video on Demand.

**Monthly Agenda Items**

a) Public Comment

The following residents made public comment:

1. Joan Polzin, 16 Twilight Lane [letter attached]
2. John Nuzzi, 94 S. Lakeshore Drive
3. Barbara Locke, Brooks Quarry
4. Ron Jaffe, 21 White Pine Drive

b) Announcements

Mr. Dunn noted the following announcement items:

1. A Veteran's Awards Ceremony to recognize Korean War Veterans for their patriotic service is scheduled Monday, July 8 at 5 p.m. at the Brookfield High School Auditorium, 45 Long Meadow Hill Road.
2. Household Hazardous Waste Day with Free Drop-off is Saturday, July 20, from 9:00 - 2:00 p.m. at Brookfield High School, 45 Long Meadow Hill Road. Load your vehicle with all your unwanted chemicals and paint and it will be unloaded for you [flyer attached].
3. The next Coffee with the Community is Saturday, July 27, from 9 - 10:30 a.m. at Hi-Way Market, 616 Federal Road. We encourage residents to stop by with any questions or concerns for the Selectmen.
4. Moody's has upgraded Brookfield's AA2 rating.

c) Correspondence addressed to BOS

There was no correspondence.

d) Monthly Financial Results

An update was provided by Marcia Marien, Director of Finance/Controller.

e) Presentations

1. Streetscape Project Phases 2 & 4 - Greg Dembowski, Project Manager, gave an update on Phases 2 & 4.
2. Still River Greenway Ad-Hoc Committee - Jay Annis, Chairman, gave an update on the committee activities and plans [presentation attached].
3. Sustainable Tomorrow - David Ostermayer of ST Network, gave an overview on recouping lost utility revenue and reducing future utility costs for the town.

**2) New Items**

a) Streetscape Phase 4 - TAP Grant

Mr. Dunn noted that Brookfield is ranked number one for the grant out of eleven projects forwarded to WestCOG, but was not sure where the town ranked across the State. The Selectmen previously approved a

Letter of Support to be included with the grant application. Once a Resolution is prepared, a date will be set to schedule a Special Town Meeting, contingent upon Board of Finance approval, to approve the proposed TAP grant amount of \$2.4 Million with a town match of up to 20% of this cost, in an amount not to exceed \$480,000. At conclusion of discussion, ***Steve Dunn made motion that the Selectmen make motion to forward an 8-24 Referral to the Planning Commission for the proposed Streetscape Phase 4 Project. Motion seconded by Harry Shaker, and carried unanimously.***

b) BOE Request for Kindergarten Teacher

Colette Sturm, Board of Education Chairman, gave an overview of where the enrollment now stands and handed out information on their July 1st projections [enrollment attachment]. The Board of Education is requesting a special appropriation in the amount of \$84,490 to fund an additional kindergarten teacher for 2019-2020 [ BOE request attachment]. At conclusion of discussion, ***Steve Dunn made motion that the Selectmen forward to the Board of Finance the request by the BOE for a special appropriation in the amount of \$84,490 to fund an additional kindergarten teacher for 2019-2020. Motion seconded by Sue Slater, and carried unanimously.***

c) Energy Ad-Hoc Committee

Attorney Tom Beecher had drafted an Ordinance to create a permanent Energy Advisory Board [attachment]. At conclusion of discussion, ***Steve Dunn made motion that the Selectmen schedule a Public Hearing on Monday, August 5, 2019, at 6:45 p.m. for public comment and opinion for an Ordinance to establish an Energy Advisory Board. Motion seconded by Sue Slater, and carried unanimously.***

***Steve Dunn made motion to add the appointment of the current Energy Ad-Hoc Committee to the agenda due to their current terms expiring on July 1. Motion seconded by Sue Slater and carried unanimously.***

***Steve Dunn made motion to appoint the current Energy Ad-Hoc Committee Members Chris D'Arco, Ryan Gallo, Carolyn Nuzzi, Henry Pietras and Marcia Wilkins for a term July 1, 2019 - September 9, 2019. Motion seconded by Harry Shaker, and carried unanimously.***

### 3) Updates

a) Center School Use Ad-Hoc Committee

Discussion of Charge and appointment of members to determine the best use and purpose of the Center Elementary School building and possibly the Brookfield Library building, once the New School Project is underway and Center School will no longer be used as a school. The Selectmen tabled this agenda item.

### 4) Consent Agenda

At conclusion of review, ***Steve Dunn made motion to approve all items on the Consent Agenda. Motion seconded by Sue Slater, and carried unanimously.***

a) Selectmen Approvals for Routine Matters

1. Brookfield Library - Brookfield Education Foundation grant award in the amount of \$6,533 for local teen groups to participate in a Community Conversations Program.

b) Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes

- June 3, 2019 BOS Meeting [attachment].
- June 10, 2019 Special BOS Meeting [attachment].
- June 29, 2019 Coffee with the Community.

## c) Driveway Bond Releases

All Driveway Bond Releases are in the amount of \$750.00.

1. 43 White Pine Drive, #2252 [attachment].
2. 54 High Ridge Road, #2242 [attachment].

## d) Zoning Commission Bond Release(s)

1. 34 Longview Drive #B-19-573: Final Bond Release of \$1,500.00 [attachment].

## e) Employee Changes

New Hires:

1. Timothy Strid, WPCA Maintenance Crew, effective 6/3/19.
2. John Reiner, Interim Public Works Driver/Laborer becomes permanent, effective 7/1/19.
3. David Lathrop from Interim Fire Marshal to FT Assistant Fire Marshal.

**5) Additional Monthly Agenda Items**

## a) Appointments

1. Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority (HRRA) - *Sue Slater made motion that the Selectmen reappoint Stephen C. Dunn, First Selectman and Sheldon Conn, Building Supervisor, as Alternate Member for new term July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2021. Motion seconded by Harry Shaker, and carried unanimously.*
2. Brookfield Library - *Sue Slater made motion that the Selectmen appoint Alice Carolan as Regular Member for term July 1, 2019 - February 7, 2022. Motion seconded by Harry Shaker, and carried unanimously.*

**6) Public Comment**

The following resident addressed the Selectmen:

1. Betsy Mcilvaine, 127 Long Meadow Hill Road

**7) Executive Session**

*Steve Dunn made motion that the Selectmen move into Executive Session to discuss a contract "Discussion of Brookfield Village Agreement" and that the First Selectman certifies that public interest in maintaining confidentiality of the negotiations at this time outweighs the public interest in discussion and disclosure in open session, and invite Town Attorney Tom Beecher and Recording Secretary Virginia Giovanniello into the Executive Session. Motion seconded by Harry Shaker, and carried unanimously.*

*Steve Dunn made motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:52 p.m. Motion seconded by Harry Shaker, and carried unanimously.*

There were no motions made in Executive Session.

**8) Adjourn**

*Steve Dunn made motion to adjourn at 8:53 p.m., seconded by Sue Slater. Motion carried unanimously.*

I would like to thank the board for giving me the opportunity to speak this evening, and in light of the importance of health and safety implications of small cell towers expected to be installed in Brookfield. I would ask for a slight indulgence on the time limit of 3 minutes, so I can review some of the pertinent information we have provided to the Board over the last three months.

We are asking for an urgency Ordinance, either new or to update any previous cell tower ordinances, to address the new small cell technology and it's associated equipment. We ask that our town government provide for the protection and welfare of our residents, with special concern for the our children. Many such actions have already been taken by other towns and cities around the country, implementing set back limits to keep radiation emitting devices reasonable distances from homes, schools, places of worship, parks and playgrounds, Day Care centers, etc.

Today I will be talking about radiation, health and other issues. If you have never heard the radiation coming from your cell phones, I'd like to do a brief demonstration with a meter that can read the silent and invisible radiation. Most of us take our beloved technology for granted, and don't wonder too much about how it works. I've spent a year researching this topic, since I found out, from our own governments recently completed major research, about the connection between my daughter's brain cancer and cell phone radiation.

In the past three months, we have provided the Board with scientific information gleaned from thousands of scientific studies showing biological effects of the current lower levels of radiation emitted by our 4G technology. This is the radiation that comes from large cell towers, cell phones, wi-fi and other wireless devices. It is invisible so most people don't think about it, and there is never any media attention to the health effects. The effects are cumulative and so some of the consequences of regular exposure can take years to be diagnosed. These effects include brain cancer, heart tumors, acoustic neuromas (tumor of the nerves to the ear), unusual breast cancer in young women who keep their phone in their bra, and damage to human sperm, both in terms of DNA damage and infertility, depression, and anxiety, among other effects. It is also related to the rise in ADHD and Autism we are seeing in our children. Wi-fi in the schools is another serious issue.

Recently in the news: A school in Ripon CA has reported, 4 cases of cancer in children, including brain cancer and one child'd death, as well as cancers in 3 teachers, within the past three years. Over 200 parents demanded a small cell tower that had been in front of the school for about 10 years, be removed. Sprint denied any culpability, but removed the tower.

Holding a cell phone to your ear allows radiation to enter the brain (much more so in children), doing it's gradual damage. There is a latency period of around 10 years for the development of Glioblastoma, the primary brain cancer caused by cell phone radiation, to become symptomatic, and by then it is incurable. I'm here in honor of my daughter who died from Glioblastoma at the age of 40. In the past the average age of onset of this cancer was 64. Now I'm hearing about so many cases of this brain cancer and others cancers related to cell phones, in people in their early 40's. Sadly we may see much more needless suffering in the coming years, with so much cell phone and wi-fi use. We need to educate ourselves and figure out solutions for safer technology, which will probably involve wired connections as much as possible.

Young children should not have cell phones or tablets that use wi-fi. School children should have only wired technology in their school, which is much safer. Think also about the new school building.

We have also provided the board with copies of actual Ordinances passed by other towns and cities to provide for local control without defying the Federal Government's plan to implement this technology in our country. Some good suggestions for regulation include setbacks from

homes of 500 feet, 1500 feet between the small cells or even prohibiting sites on local residential streets and downtown zoning districts. Other terms: in all locations, accessory equipment underground other than the antenna, defending and indemnifying of the town, fee schedules, warning signs on the poles

Today we are asking for the Board to take action in developing an ordinance to control the deployment of 5G small cells installation of this UNTESTED and potentially more dangerous technology that has already begun in Brookfield. The waves emitted by 5G are shorter and will require transmitters and antennas very close together to operate. That means on the tall telephone poles, every 2 to 10 houses apart in every neighborhood, and very near our houses. The houses that are close to the small cells, may experience high levels of radiation and property values will probably be affected (just as with the large towers).

These devices work on much higher frequencies, which we expect will do cellular damage to living things faster, and in a different way. They will mainly cause damage to our skin and eyes, according to the research, but with long term exposure may have many other harmful effects on humans. Our government is allowing the telecommunications industry to use the bands of radiation in the microwave range. This is the level of radiation used to heat and cook food in our microwave ovens and that has also been used by the military. **WE DO NOT NEED THESE OUTSIDE OUR FRONT DOORS or NEAR OUR SCHOOLS!**

If an intruder came into your home, what would you do to protect your family? These 5G transmitters and antennas emitting microwave radiation will be an ever-present and invisible threat to you family, as well as to all living things, humans (especially fetuses, children, elders and people with chronic diseases), as well as trees, plants, animals, insects..all life forms made of cells.

I believe that an urgency ordinance can be modified later. If we see that the over 30 cities in the USA that are already wired for 5G are doing great, we can get 5G later. But in the meantime, using the precautionary principle, let's take action against the 5G equipment in our town, and see what happens in the next couple of years. Its the right thing to do. Thank you.  
**Worthwhile links for further understanding and action:**

[americansforresponsibletech.org](http://americansforresponsibletech.org)

And sister site, [5Gcrisis.com](http://5Gcrisis.com)

[mystreetmychoice.com](http://mystreetmychoice.com)

Environmental Health Trust, [ehtrust.org](http://ehtrust.org). (a lot of info, plus pages on **town ordianances**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kBsUWbUB6PE&fbclid=IwAR2ADdKdED0MgXIDbDw1gTNZ2b7CsHtlcrEmAICPx7KjJuQxaeTXXTYeSfU>. (9 minute video by a prominent researcher/scientist about biological effects of wireless radiation.)

[https://europaem.eu/attachments/article/131/2018-04\\_EU-EMF2018-5US.pdf](https://europaem.eu/attachments/article/131/2018-04_EU-EMF2018-5US.pdf). (a lengthy and thorough science paper by Dr. Pall on the harmful effects of EMFs (electromagnetic fields i.e. 'radiation',  
For those who would like to understand the mechanisms and categories of biological harm in detail).

Joan Polzin, Brookfield citizen