BOARD OF SELECTMEN

P.O. Box 372
West Brookfield, Massachusetts 01585

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 2, 2022

PRESENT: Mr. David J. Pierce; Chairman, Mr. Roland Sickenberger; Vice-Chair and Mr. Eric von Bleicken, Clerk

ATTENDEES: Barry Nadon, Lester Paquette, Kathy Landry, Benny Benson, William Mansfield, Gary Simeone, Sgt. Letendre, Ofc. Charron, Ofc Ryan, Captain Rich Lapierre and Don Varney

Called meeting to Order at 6:00 PM

WATER DEPARTMENT – LELAND ROAD WELL PROJECT – STATUS UPDATE

The Board met with the Water Commissioners this evening for an update on the Leland Road Well Project. Our new legal counsel (Atty. Heather White, Petrini & Associates) has requested that the Water Department provide a list of all deliverables to date. She is also asking that the previous invoices be revised to accurately reflect the work done to date that lines up with the scope of work. Mrs. Landry will reach out to McClure Engineering and request the information. The Board thanked the Commissioners and Mrs. Landry for coming in this evening.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS – ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT POSITION

Mr. Mansfield and Mr. Simeone addressed the Board this evening with a request to increase the Administrative Assistant position's hours from 30 to 32 hours per week. Mr. Mansfield stated that the previous employee was working 36 hours so it would still be a reduction in time. This increase in hours is due to this being a revaluation year and the work needs to be done in a timely fashion. With no objection from the board the following motion was made: ***Motion to increase the Administrative Assistant position by two hours per week for the remainder of FY 22 and for FY 23 as requested made by Mr. Eric von Bleicken; second: Mr. Sickenberger – unanimous.***

CHIEF THOMAS O'DONNELL

Chief O'Donnell addressed the Board this evening to officially announce his retirement effective August 5, 2022. He will be physically present throughout the month of June with his last on-site day as of June 30, 2022. He will be using earned time until August 5, 2022. After 26 years as Chief, he has taken a role in the private sector. The compensation was right, and the position is close to home. He stated that he is willing to be a resource and has been working with Sgt. Letendre on the departments' immediate needs. He stated that it has been an honor and a privilege to work in this community. The Board thanked the Chief for his time and praised his efforts throughout his career.

SPYROCK FARMS, LLC – 198 West Main Street

After months of communication and several vetting's by legal counsel, an agreement was reached between the town and Spyrock Farms, LLC on a Host Community Agreement for the manufacturing and

cultivation/retail of marijuana, the following motion was made: ***Motion to sign the HCA in the amounts of $7,000 for Retail, $1,500 for cultivation and $1,500 for manufacturing marijuana made by Mr. Pierce; second: Mr. von Bleicken – unanimous.***

TOWN TREASURER POSTION

The town received a few applicants, one being rather strong, therefore Mr. Sickenberger along with the Town Accountant will schedule interviews.

FY 2023 BUDGET DISCUSSION

With the Special and Annual Town Meeting next week, members of the Advisory Committee were in attendance to discuss the school budget. They are currently asking for $350K above minimum. The AC is unsure of where the money will come from and cuts in general government may need to be made.

TOWN WEBSITE

After a discussion, the office will draft a policy that will be sent out to all departments/committees for posting requirements.

TREASURY WARRANTS

Motion to approve and sign Warrant No's 22 P 24 and 22 W 24 dated June 2, 2022, in the amounts of $78,772.29 and $256,611.27 respectively made by Mr. Sickenberger; second: Mr. von Bleicken – unanimous.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE

The office received a memo from the Historical Commission to express their displeasure in the new door that recently came in. They stated that the new door was not in keeping with the historical nature nor the guidelines required under the Preservation Restriction – Noted

SCM Elderbus is seeking a representative from the Town of West Brookfield to serve as a representative. With no objections, the following motion was made: Motion to appoint Karen Phillips to SCM Elderbus representative made by Mr. von Bleicken; second: Mr. Sickenberger – unanimous.

Motion to Adjourn made by Mr. Sickenberger; second: Mr. von Bleicken – unanimous at 7:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Acerra

Rebecca Acerra
Executive Secretary

Eric von Bleicken, Clerk

08/09/2022
Date Approved