BOARD OF SELECTMEN

P.O. Box 372
West Brookfield, Massachusetts 01585

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 15, 2022

PRESENT: Mr. David Pierce; Chairman, and Eric von Bleicken, Clerk
ABSENT: Mr. Roland Sickenberger; Vice-Chairman
ATTENDEES: Captain Rich Lapierre

Called meeting to Order at 6:00 PM

SPECIAL/ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

As a summary, the Board felt both the Special and Annual Town Meetings went well. Our new Moderator, Bill Mansfield did a very good job as did Pam Griffing from Advisory in providing the residents with a snapshot of the town's financial status. The Board also recognized Captain Lapierre, who was in attendance this evening, as to his presentation. Although disappointed, Captain Lapierre will continue working with the financial team and on grants to try to secure a truck for the town.

POLICE CHIEF AND FIRE CHIEF RETIREMENT
FIRE CHIEF RETIREMENT

Chief Clayton Edwards advised the Board that he will be retiring effective September 3, 2022. Due to increasing responsibilities for his personal job and family commitments, he felt that he can no longer devote the necessary time to the department. Motion to accept Chief Edwards' notice of retirement with regret made by Mr. Pierce; second: Mr. von Bleicken – unanimous.

A stipulation in Chief Edwards' contract allows the Board to forgo the 90-day notice, therefore the following motion was made: Motion to appoint Captain Lapierre as Fire Chief effective July 1, 2022, made by Mr. Pierce; second: Mr. Eric von Bleicken – unanimous.

POLICE CHIEF RETIREMENT – TABLED

NEW BRAINTREE DISPATCH – BOARD OF OVERSEEERS

In light of Chief O'Donnell's impending retirement and the necessity for a seamless transition, the following motion was made: Motion to appoint Sgt. Letendre to the Board of Overseers for New Braintree Central Dispatch made by Mr. Pierce; second: Mr. Von Bleicken – unanimous.

MINUTES

Motion to approve the Minutes of June 7, 2022, made by Mr. Pierce; second: Mr. von Bleicken - unanimous.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY/CORRESPONDENCE

The office received notice from New Braintree that a public hearing will be held on June 28th at 7 PM at the New Braintree Town Hall. The applicant is requesting to renew their gravel pit permit. The town owns property abutting the proposed work area. Access to and from will be on Wickaboag Valley Road. This was forwarded to the ZBA and Planning Board. - ***Noted***

The office received a note from the Historical Commission stating their support for the removal of the American Elm tree on East Main Street adjacent to the Veterans Memorial seat area. ***The Board is in support of their recommendation.***

The Highway Department is seeking to fill the position by a recent resignation. The position was funded at Town Meeting. ***The Board was in favor.***

WARRANTS & INVOICES

Motion to approve and sign Warrant No's 22 P 25 and 22 W 25 dated June 16, 2022, in the amounts of $68,406.11 and $81,803.48 respectively made by Mr. Pierce; second: Mr. von Bleicken – unanimous.

Mr. von Bleicken asked if it would be appropriate to check in surrounding towns to see about town-wide trash pick up. Mr. Pierce had no objection.

Next Meeting Date: July 28, 2022 – 6 PM.

Motion to Adjourn made by Mr. Pierce; second: Mr. von Bleicken at 6:23 PM – unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Acerra

Rebecca Acerra
Executive Secretary

Eric von Bleicken, Clerk

7-12-22

Date Approved