Town of West Brookfield-TOWN HALL
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Board of Selectmen

DATE: 5/24/23

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, May 23, 2023 – 6:00 PM
Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Selectmen Sickenberger, Selectmen Eric von Bleicken, Selectmen Brad Merkel, and Town Administrator Ron San Angelo. Also, in attendance Chief of Police Hagglund, Sgt. Letendre, Officer Rodrigues, and Highway Superintendent Daily. Minutes taken by Selectmen Merkel.

1. **Call Meeting to Order in Open Session at 6:00 PM.**

2. **Police Policy 102.A Post-Shooting Procedures**

   Motion to adopt 102.A Post Shooting Procedures as detailed by the Police Chief.

   Discussion- No discussion.

   Motion made by Selectmen Merkel
   2nd by Selectmen von Bleicken
   Vote 3-0

3. **Police Policy 1.05 Patrol Response to A Crime Scene**.

   Motion to adopt 1.05 Patrol Response to A Crime Scene as detailed by the Police Chief.

   Discussion – No discussion

   Motion made by Selectmen Merkel
   2nd by Selectmen von Bleicken
   Vote 3-0

4. **Police Policy 1.06 Interviewing Victims Witnesses.**

   Motion to adopt 1.06 Interviewing Victims Witnesses as detailed by the Police Chief.

   Discussion – No discussion

   Motion made by Selectmen Merkel
   2nd by Selectmen von Bleicken
   Vote 3-0

5. **Police Policy 27.0 Body Worn Cameras**

Motion to adopt 27.0 Body Worn Cameras as detailed by the Police Chief.

Discussion – A question was asked why the sudden change in policy number. The Chief informed the board that this policy was implemented back in 2016 and as he is reviewing policies and updating to POST standards per Policing Reform. He is presently making changes and revisions to several policies and once these policies are approved per union discussion they are drafted and brought to the Board for proper discussion and voting before implementation.

Chief introduced a new full time Police Officer, Officer Rodrigues who is about to finish the Bridge academy. He is currently in Field training. The department has two part-time officers in the background process at this moment and another full-timer in the academy (week 6) and is doing well. No further discussion.

Motion made by Selectmen Merkel
2nd by Selectmen von Bleicken
Vote 3-0

6. **Worcester Regional Retirement System – Possible vote to adopt a 2% COLA for retirees.**

Motion to adopt a 2% COLA for retirees of the Worcester Retirement System and to provide a copy of this vote to the Worcester Retirement System.

Discussion - No issues- Administrator explained that local towns are implementing this change and to stay on top of changes. This is a reasonable request.

Motion made by Selectmen Merkel
2nd by Selectmen von Bleicken
Vote 3-0

7. **ARPA Funds for funding of temporary and or permanent easements.**

Motion to authorize the spending from ARPA Funds of $70,000 for the purpose of funding temporary and or permanent easements, and any and all other incidental or related costs, of proposed improvements of Route 9, as further identified as Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) as MassDOT Project No's 606517 and 609049.

Discussion - was made by the HIGHWAY Superintendent, there are three phases of this project. We presently must pay for Phase 1 and Phase 2. These funds will be used for phase 1 and 2 of the project. Which are presently going out to bid as we speak. The widening project is described as a 12-ft traffic lane with 4 to 5 ft bike Lanes. Phase 1 is from the town line of

Ware to Welcome Road, Phase 2 will be from Welcome Road to Pierce Road, and third phase will be from Pierce Road and ending by Northeast Pizza. Highway superintendent was asked if he is capable of staying on task with the items documented in the checklist for phase 3, Highway superintendent confirmed he is confident that he will handle all tasks due to the fact of presently handling both first and second phases. Most of this project is covered by grant funding and the town will receive a little over 11 million however the town is responsible for engineering costs. ARPA funds should cover the engineering for Phase 1 and 2 however phase 3 will have to be discussed at a later point in time. The project is estimated to begin around 2024 to 2025 with an unknown completion date.

Motion made by Selectmen Merkel
2nd by Selectmen von Bleicken
Vote 3-0

8. ARPA Funds for funding of engineering design of Route 9.

Motion to authorize funding from ARPA Funds of $530,000 for the purpose of funding the engineering design and any and all other incidental costs or related costs, of proposed improvements to the intersection of Route 9.

Discussion – No further discussion.

Motion made by Selectmen Merkel
2nd by Selectmen von Bleicken
Vote 3-0

9. Motion made by Selectmen Merkel to add to the current agenda the approval of the Meeting Minutes of May 16th, 2023, and to renumber the agenda.

Motion made by Selectmen Merkel
2nd by Selectmen von Bleicken
Vote 3-0

10. Motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of May 16, 2023.

Discussion - None

Motion made by Selectmen Merkel
2nd by Selectmen von Bleicken
Vote 3-0

11 Town Administrator Report

Not present due to having a meeting with the Advisory Committee.

12. Warrants & Invoices

None.

13. New Business

None.

14. Public Comments & Concerns

Discussion - Sgt Letendre- informed the board of the Memorial Parade and asked if the Board was attending. Confirmed two members will be attending and the possibility of the Administrator. Selectmen Merkel will be unable to attend due to working a Memorial Parade event. No further items to discuss.

15.Next Regular Meeting Date: June 6, 2023, at 6:00 PM.

16, Adjourn 6:32 PM.

Motion made by Selectmen Merkel
2nd by Selectmen von Bleicken
Vote 3-0