TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

TUESDAY, April 14, 2026 – 6:00 PM

West Brookfield Town Hall, 2 East Main Street, Conference room, 1st Floor

MINUTES

CALL MEETING TO ORDER IN OPEN SESSION

STAFF PRESENT: Roland Sickenberger, BOS Chair; Catherine Lamica, BOS Vice Chair; Brad Merkel, BOS Clerk. (virtual); Theresa Cofske, Town Administrator; Beth Gobeille, Exec. Asst. to TA/BOS; Jacob Conway, WBCTV.

GUESTS: Quaboag Regional District: Nicki Goncalves, Steve Duff, Marc Astrella; Henry Brogna, resident; Nicole Eagle, Resident/Bonin Wood Products; Jonathan Bonin, West Brookfield Firefighter/Resident/Bonin Wood Products; Melannie Waugh, Resident/White Christmas Committee.

6:03PM: MOTION TO OPEN THE BOS MEETING

BOS MINUTES FROM MARCH 26TH, MARCH 31ST OPEN MEETINGS FOR APPROVAL –

Motion: ***I move to approve the March 27th, 2026 Board of Selectmen open meeting minutes as presented with 1 correction made by Ms. Lamica. Second by Mr. Sickenberger. Vote: Unanimous (2-0). All in favor.***

Motion: ***I move to approve the March 31st, 2026 Board of Selectmen open meeting minutes as presented made by Ms. Lamica. Second by Mr. Sickenberger. Vote: Unanimous (2-0). All in favor.***

RESIGNATIONS –

Motion: ***I move to accept the resignations regrettably of Betty Frew as Program Coordinator for the West Brookfield Senior Center with her last day as June 30, 2026 and Beth Gobeille, Executive Assistant to the Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator with her last day as April 24th, 2026 made by Ms. Lamica. Second by Mr. Sickenberger, adding with great regret and thanks for their work and service with the Town. Vote: Unanimous (3-0). All in favor.***

MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL BUILDING AUTHORITY (MSBA) -

Discussion about the Town's contribution to the West Brookfield Elementary School's Doors and Windows project. Mr. Duff explained that the decision would be needed by April 17th, 2026. It was decided that the Town could not proceed with this project at this time.

Motion: ***I move that at this time, we do not proceed with the Massachusetts School Building Authority windows and doors project for the West Brookfield Elementary School made by Ms. Lamica. Second by Mr. Sickenberger. Vote: Unanimous (2-0). All in favor.***

BONIN WOOD PRODUCTS DONATION -
Mr. Bonin explained that Bonin Wood would like to donate Hemlock mulch to be used at Town Hall, Town Common and the Bandstand and hauling and stacking wood pallets to be used for the bonfire.

Motion: ***I move that we gratefully accept the donation from Bonin Wood Products to the Town for mulch for use at Town Common, Town Hall, Bandstand and pallets for the bonfire made by Ms. Lamica. Second by Mr. Merkel. Vote: Unanimous (3-0)***

The Board of Selectmen asked Ms. Cofske to coordinate the donations to the Town with Bonin Wood Products.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE REVISITED –
Ms. Gobeille explained that there were questions and concerns with the previously approved Holiday Schedule with regards to employee or union contracts. The Holiday Schedule has been streamlined and holiday time off for employees with contracts would be handled by their manager and will been added as an addendum for the Employee Handbook.

Motion: ***I move to approve the revisited 2026 Holiday Schedule and Employee Handbook updates as presented on 4.14.2026 made by Ms. Lamica. Second by Mr. Merkel. Vote: Unanimous (3-0), All in favor.***

TOWN HALL INVENTORY DECLARED AS SURPLUS -

Motion: ***I move to declare as surplus at sale or disposal as listed below:***

1. ***1 metal locker cabinet (6 compartments), previously used in Police changing room. *No longer needed. Dimensions: 12" wide x 19" deep x 72" tall***

2. ***Micro Design microfiche reader, Serial 003117 *Used previously in the Town Clerk's office, does not work.***

3. ***4 Bay West paper towel dispensers *No longer required. Replaced with Air dryers.***

4. ***Wooden/Metal Keyboard stand, armrest *used in Town Clerk's office, no longer needed.***

5. ***Fire Dept. Rescue 1, Ford F5550 2000 Pierce Fire Truck***
   ****This vehicle was placed out of service with Engine 1 when Engine 5 was purchased.***

made by Ms. Lamica. Second by Mr. Merkel. Vote: Unanimous (3-0). All in favor.

ELECTION WARRANT:

Motion: ***I move to approve the Warrant for Annual Town Election to be held on May 5th, 2026 at the West Brookfield Senior Center, 73 Central Street, West Brookfield made by Ms. Lamica. Second by Mr. Merkel. Vote: Unanimous (3-0). All in favor.***

TREASURY WARRANTS –
Motion: ***I move to approve FY26 Accounts Payable Warrant #21 and FY26 Payroll Warrant #21, as presented made by Ms. Lamica. Second by Mr. Merkel. Vote: Unanimous (3-0). All in favor.***

Motion: ***I move we move into Executive Session pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, sec. 21(a)(3) to discuss the Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of West Brookfield and AFSCME Council 93 Local 1364 (Fire Union) pertaining to four (4) Unfair Labor Practices filed with the Department of Labor Relations and docketed as MUP-25-11382, MUP-25-11453, MUP-25-11519, and MUP-25-11707 made by Mr. Sickenberger. Second by Ms. Lamica. Vote: Mr. Sickenberger, aye; Ms. Lamica, aye; Mr. Merkel, aye. Unanimous (3-0). All in favor.***

6:42pm. Back to open session.

The next Select Board open meeting will be Tuesday, April 28th at 6pm. Mr. Sickenberger cannot attend.

6:43pm: Motion: ***I move to adjourn the meeting made by Ms. Lamica. Second by Mr. Merkel. Vote: Unanimous (3-0). All in favor.***

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Lamica 5/4/2026 — Authorized Party for the BOS — Date

Klarissa Rose 5/7/2026 — BOS Clerk — Date