



**Town of Brookfield  
Board of Selectmen Meeting  
September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**ATTENDANCE:** Richard Zacher, Selectman; Brian Robischeau, Selectman; Joanne Dolbear, Treasurer; Chris Kinville, Road Agent; Karen Servacek; and Abby Root, Secretary.

**Also Present:** Jan Ledbetter.

- **Call to Order:** Rich Zacher called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.
- **Pledge of Allegiance**

**Public Comment:** Jan Ledbetter stated that Ed Gauthier had asked her to create a bulletin board on the side of the Little Free Library for other announcements and other event notifications. It would have more community focused material in it. Jan is working on the design and placement.

Chris Kinville is happy someone is taking on the project of the newsletter. He did request that political and opinionated topics stay out of future newsletters.

- **Road Agent:** There is still work to be done on Pleasant Valley Road hoping to have it paved by October. Mr. Kinville met with someone regarding chip pavement, which can extend the service of the road by about 8 years and cost significantly less than paving. It would be put in any place where the pavement is still good. It would cost about \$37,000 a mile.
- The Selectmen discussed a proposed rate change to the Road Agent's contract. Kinville said the cause rate increase is due to about 7% inflation, equipment rental rate changes, and increased use.
- **Rich Zacher made a motion to accept the proposed rate increases effective October 1<sup>st</sup>, seconded by Brian Robischeau. The motion passed unanimously.**
- **Town Clerk:** There is a new police officer for the Brookfield area. The Selectmen signed the agreement with the Wakefield Police Officer Police Department for the new officer. Starting September 1<sup>st</sup>, a new surcharge on electric vehicles that will require \$100 to be

paid for EV and \$50 for EVH annually. This is to make up for the gas tax not paid. Dog licenses must be renewed by September 18<sup>th</sup>. No word back on merchant ID for credit card usage for online registration but it should be available in the next few weeks. She discussed how the new system works better and is well received. The Town Clerk's office will be closed on Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, but will be open Tuesday 9-5.

- Rich Zacher brought up an abatement request. There is a piece of property on the New Durham Brookfield Town line. There has been discussion on if that house is in Brookfield or New Durham. The last map indicated that the town line went through the house and the town was taxing half the house. However, the owner, Mr. Skinner had a survey done, and it shows that the house is in New Durham. They are going to abate the June tax bill.
- **Rich Zacher made a motion to grant an abatement for the Skinner property in the amount of \$1,760, seconded by Brian Robischeau. The motion passed unanimously.**
- Mr. Zacher then presented a current use change for tax map 17 (Lot 28). The tax due is \$500.
- **Rich Zacher made a motion to use the tax warrant to the tax collector totaling \$500, seconded by Brian Robischeau. The motion passed unanimously.**
- Rich Zacher presented two requests for the veteran tax credits for signatures. These were approved by the Assessing Office.
- **Motion made by Rich Zacher to approve property tax credit exemptions as presented, seconded by Brian Robischeau. The motion passed unanimously.**
- The Department of Natural and Cultural Resources sold 133,454 feet of logs and 1221 tons of wood for the chips to the logger. The timber monitor is working with the DRA to assure that the correct processes are followed.
- Still no update for snow plowing and no propane rate updates.
- Joanne Dolbear gave the selectmen the guidelines for the newsletter policy to be signed for approval. The Selectmen signed the Newsletter Guideline Policy.
- **Approval of Bills:** Joanne Dolbear presented the bills for payment totaling \$57,844.47, \$11,52.71, and \$5,375.00
- **Rich Zacher made a motion to accept the bills as read, seconded by Brian Robischeau. The motion passed unanimously.**

- **Adjournment:** Meeting Adjourned at 6:40 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Abigail Root

Secretary