TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
April 6, 2011

Present: Al Collings       Marie Arsenault, Accountant
Tom Schnare               Barry Nadon, Jr., Selectman
Phil Landine              Mike Frew, Selectman
Roy Roberts               Lori Loughlin, School Committee
Jack Tivnan               David Dore, Reporter
Diane Vayda               Bret Kustigian, Superintendent of Schools
Nicole Vongratsamy

The meeting was called to order by Chair Al Collings at 6:35 p.m.

Minutes: Jack Tivnan made a motion to accept the minutes. Correction: Under Fleet Account strike Linda Plante and insert “Al Collings reported that the Town Moderator.” Nicole Vongratsamy second. Vote 6-1 abstain (Roy Roberts) to approve the minutes as corrected.

Review and Recommend FY2012 Omnibus budget: Budget reviewed. Budget #21 Fire Department decreased $2,200.00. Jack Tivnan made a motion to approve the Omnibus Budget of $6,874,629.85 a conditional vote if any changes at Town Meeting or State revenue changes. Tom Schnare second. Vote 6-to approve with above conditions 1 abstain (Nicole Vongratsamy–Town Clerk and Board of Health Budgets.)

Review Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles:

Article #1: Bring in votes.
Article #2: Hear and act upon Annual Reports of Town Officers and Committees.
Article #3: Compensation paid to elected Town Officers. Motion to approve: Jack Tivnan. Second: Tom Schnare. Vote 6 to approve 1 abstain (Nicole Vongratsamy.)

Article #5: Vote from Overlay Surplus a sum of money to be placed in Reserve Fund to provide for extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures. Motion to approve: Jack Tivnan. Second: Tom Schnare. Vote 7-0 to approve.

Article #6: Vote pursuant to General Laws Chapter 44 Section 53E ½ to authorize the use of a revolving fund to pay cemetery related expenses which fund shall be credited with receipts from various Burial Grounds Commission fees, such expenditures not to exceed $16,000.00 in fiscal year 2011/2012. Motion: Jack Tivnan. Second: Tom Schnare. Vote 7-0 to approve.

Article #7: Vote pursuant to General Laws Chapter 44 Section 53E ½ to authorize the use of a revolving fund to pay Police Officer Detail Expenses, which fund shall be credited with receipts from various Detail fees, such expenditures not to exceed
$50,000.00 in fiscal year 2011/2012. **Motion:** Jack Tivnan. **Second:** Roy Roberts. **Vote 7-0 to approve.**

**Article #8:** Vote pursuant to General Laws Chapter 44 Section 53E ½ to authorize the Stormwater Authority use of a revolving fund, which fund shall be credited with receipts from various Stormwater Authority fees such expenditures not to exceed $25,000.00 in fiscal year 2011/2012. **Motion:** Jack Tivnan. **Second:** Tom Schnare. **Vote 7-0 to approve.**

**Article #9:** Vote to authorize the Water Commissioners to employ their Licensed Water Commissioners at Grade 1 Step 1 ($10.61 per hour) for standby duty and emergency work in the absence of the Superintendent in Fiscal Year 2011/2012. **Motion:** Jack Tivnan. **Second:** Tom Schnare. **Vote 7-0 to approve.**

**Article #10:** Vote to transfer from Overlay Surplus Account the sum of $5,000.00 to be placed in the Revaluation Account. **Motion:** Roy Roberts. **Second:** Jack Tivnan. **Vote 7-0 to approve.**

**Article #11:** Vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of $10,000.00 to be placed in the “Repairs to Private Ways Account” to pay for repairs to private ways within West Brookfield pursuant to General Laws Chapter 40 Section 6N, the repairs to include road materials and related labor expenses only, and further, that all repairs made to private ways will be completed in strict adherence to all applicable State Laws and West Brookfield Bylaws. **Motion:** Tom Schnare. **Second:** Phil Landine. **Vote 7-0 to approve.**

**Article #12:** Vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the Treasury a sum of money to be placed in the Town Road Maintenance Account. **Motion:** Tom Schnare. **Second:** Phil Landine. **Vote 7-0 to approve.**

**Article #13:** Vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of $10,000.00 to be placed into the Tax Title Expense Account. **Motion:** Tom Schnare. **Second:** Phil Landine. **Voted 7-0 to approve.**

**Article #14:** Vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the Treasury a sum of money to be used for engineering fees associated with the School Street/Route 67/Church Street Intersection Redesign Project. **Motion:** Diane Vayda. **Second:** Tom Schnare. **Vote 7-0 to approve.**
Article #15: Vote to amend Town’s General Bylaws Chapter XII Section 1. Dog bylaw for dogs running at large. Pass Over.

Article #16: Vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the treasury the sum of $5,300.00 to purchase an Accuvote Vote Counting Machine. Motion: Phil Landine. Second: Diane Vayda. Vote 6-to approve 1 abstain (Nicole Vongratsamy)

Article #17: Vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of $5,000.00 to hire a consultant for the restoration of Rice Fountain. Pass over until fall.

Article #18: Vote to amend Chapter XII (Miscellaneous), Section 10 of the General Bylaws by deleting the entire text: “SECTION 10 A new schedule for Town Clerk’s fees in accordance with the provisions of General Laws Chapter 262, Section 34, the schedule being available in the Clerk’s office and posted on the Town Bulletin Board.” Motion: Jack Tivnan. Second: Phil Landine. Voted 6-to approve 1 abstain (Nicole Vongratsamy)

Article #19: Vote to amend its General Bylaws by adding a new Chapter XVIII Fire Department Cost Recovery Program. Motion: Phil Landine. Second: Diane Vayda. Vote 7-0 to approve.

Article #20: Vote to amend its General Bylaws by designating the Right to Farm Bylaw as Chapter XIII, designating the Automatic Sprinkler Systems Bylaw as Chapter XIV, designating the Stormwater Bylaw as Chapter XV, designating the Hazardous Materials and Waste Recover Bylaw as Chapter XVI, and adding a new Chapter XVII Fire Department Alarm Fees. Motion: Jack Tivnan. Second: Phil Landine. Vote 7-0 to approve.

Article #21: Vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept, on behalf of the Town, the real property shown on Assessor’s Map 53, Block 146, located on 43 Forest Drive, consisting of approximately .24 acre, as a gift from the estate of Roland and Laurette Rouleau, said land to be used for general municipal purposes. Motion: Tom Schnare. Second: Nicole Vongratsamy. Vote 7-0 to approve.

Article #22: Vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the Treasury a sum of money to purchase and install carpeting and shelving in the Merriam
Gilbert Public Library. Tom Schnare has issues with this article and wants a full accounting of trust funds and Friends of the Library. Pass over.

**Article #23:** Vote to transfer from the Road Machinery Account the sum of $6,000.00 to purchase a road compactor for the Highway Department. **Motion: Tom Schnare.**
**Second: Diane Vayda.** Vote 7-0 to approve.

**Article #24:** Vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of $150,000.00 to be used to supplement the Town’s Chapter 90 money, which is used for road construction/reconstruction and repair; or take any other action relative thereto. **Motion: Tom Schnare.** **Second: Jack Tivnan.** Vote 7-0 to approve.

**Article #25:** Vote to transfer the sum of $53,000.00 from the Water Stabilization Account to pay for engineering fees for the design of a well field and well house at Leland Road Well#2. **Motion: Tom Schnare.** **Second: Jack Tivnan.** Vote 7-0 to approve.

**Article #26:** Vote Town of West Brookfield – Back Lot Zoning Bylaw. Tom Schnare made a motion not to recommend. Not seconded. Phil Landine said need to do more work. Pass Over.

**Article #27:** Vote to approve the debt authorized by the Quaboag Regional School Committee on March 21, 2011 to be expended under the Regional School Committee’s direction for the purpose of capital projects to update facilities at the West Brookfield Elementary School, including engineering, design, and other costs incidental and related thereto, in accordance with General Laws Chapter 71 Section 16D and the District Agreement for which the Town’s share of the Regional School District’s borrowing is estimated to be $700,486.00. **Question: If it fails at ballot, question can it pass at Town Meeting without debt exclusion. Ask Town Counsel.**

**Article #28:** Vote to approve the debt authorized by the Quaboag Regional School Committee on March 21, 2011 to be expended under the Regional School Committee’s direction for the purpose of capital projects to update facilities at the Quaboag Regional Middle/High School, including engineering, design, and other costs incidental and related to, in accordance with General Laws Chapter 71 Section 16D and the District Agreement for which the Town’s share of the Regional School District’s borrowing is estimated to be $325,750.00. **Motion: Jack Tivnan made a motion if the ballet article passes.** **Second: Tom Schnare.** Vote 7-0 to approve if the ballet article passes.
Barry Nadon, Jr. talked about the Fleet Account and if a second-hand trailer could be obtained, could we use the fleet account.

Next meeting will be on April 20, 2011 at 7:15 p.m. at the Senior Center and this will be an informational meeting on the Annual Town Meeting articles.

Respectfully submitted,

Minutes taken by Accountant, Marie Arsenault
Transcribed by Secretary, Christine M. Long