TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
March 26, 2008

Present:  
Al Collings  Barry Nadon, Selectman  
Bev Potvin Kenniston  Marie Arsenault, Accountant  
Roy Roberts  Johanna Barry, Executive Secretary  
Jeffrey Belanger  Tom Long, Selectman  
Phil Landine  
Tom Schnare

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Al Collings at 7:03 p.m. Bev Potvin Kenniston made a motion to approve the minutes of March 19, 2008. Jeff Belanger second. Voted 6-0 to approve.

The Advisory Committee signed a letter to be sent to Sandie Day.

#32 Education budget update. Al said he has received correspondence from Joe Scanlon and a letter on the textbooks. He has talked with Sue Comeau, Warren Advisory Chairman who stated that her Committee supports a foundation of 3%, the textbook article and discretionary monies.

Phil Landine made a motion not to support the school article for books and to ask the selectmen to delete the article from the warrant. Jeff Belanger seconded the motion. Voted 6-0 to approve the motion. At this time, the selectmen voted 2-0 to take the article off the warrant. Al will let the school know of this decision and ask them to attend our next meeting on April 2, 2008 for budget discussion.

#36 Cemetery. The Cemetery committee requested taking money out of the Fleet Account that was to be used for a truck and to use the money to repair the roads. This cannot be done. Selectmen will talk with Jason Benoit, highway superintendent, and ask him to get bids for the roads. Cemetery Committee has perpetual care monies they could use for this project.

Fleet Account memorandum- Review and will be discussed in April.

Al explained to the Selectmen present the consensus of the Committee with regards to the Fleet Account FY 2009 Purchase option of replacing the Fire Chief’s 2001 Explorer with Highway 2005 F350 Super Duty Ford and purchasing for the Highway Department a 2009 F350 Super Duty Ford.

Discussed Omnibus Budget funding: Will discuss the following option over the next few weeks and adjust the figures as necessary.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Raise and appropriate</td>
<td>$5,439,683.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free cash to eliminate part of deficit</td>
<td>39,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apply a fixed percentage reduction of expenses (excluding salaries) across all department submitted budgets. (Will send out letter to all departments to reduce their budgets by 12% to balance the budget).</td>
<td>71,085.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To be balanced in October</td>
<td>9,643.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$5,584,411.42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Discussed Article and Free Cash budget balancing options.

Warrant Review
Article 3: Vote to determine the compensation to be paid to elected Town Officers. Motion by Tom Schnare, second by Bev Potvin Kenniston. Vote 6-0 to approve.

Article 4: Pass over.

Article 5: Vote to transfer from Overlay Surplus the sum of $25,000.00 to the Reserve Fund to provide for extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures. Motion by Tom Schnare, second Bev Potvin Kenniston. Vote 6-0 to approve.

Article 6: Vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of $212,078.00 to pay principal and interest payments owed on bonds for the West Brookfield Elementary School.

Article 7: Vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of $75,886.00 to pay West Brookfield’s share of the principal and interest payments owed on bonds for the Quaboag Regional Middle/High School.

Motion to approve Article 6 and 7 by Bev Potvin Kenniston, second by Jeff Belanger. Voted 5 to approve 1 abstain.

Article 8: Vote 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.

Article 9: Vote 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 $25,000.00 in the fiscal year 2008/2009.

Article 10: Vote 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 2008/2009.

Motion to approve Articles 8, 9, and 10 by Bev Potvin Kenniston, second by Jeff Belanger. Voted 6-0 to approve.

Article 11: Transfer from Water Surplus Account the sum of $30,000.00 to the Fy2008 Reserve Fund. Motion by Tom Schnare, second Jeff Belanger. Voted 6-0 to approve.

Article 12: Vote to authorize the Water Commissioners to employ their Licensed Water Commissioners at Grade 1 Step1 ($9.99 per our) for standby duty and emergency work in the absence of the superintendent in Fiscal Year 2009. Motion by Tom Schnare, second by Jeff Belanger. Voted 6-0 to approve.
Article 13: Vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury a sum of money to be used to replace the rubber roofs on the West Brookfield Elementary School. Deferred vote until figures are available.

Article 14: $13,800.00 for purchase of books for Quaboag Regional School District. Article taken off the warrant by Selectmen.

Article 15: Vote to transfer the sum of $15,799.00 from Water Surplus Account to the Water Department Expense Account to pay for services rendered for the replacement of media in all four filters. Motion by Tom Schnare, second by Jeff Belanger. Voted 6-0 to approve.

Article 16: Vote to authorize the Town Treasurer with approval of the Board of Selectmen to borrow the sum of $200,000.00 to replace the Long Hill River Crossing Pipe and to pay all necessary legal and borrowing costs associated with the project as authorized under the M.G.L. and to allow the Town to accept any Grant Money from the USDA. Motion by Bev Potvin Kenniston, second by Roy Roberts. Vote 6-0 to approve.

Next meeting will be April 2, 2008. Will meet with the School and Lisa from the Library.

Motion to adjourn by Bev Potvin Kenniston, second by Jeff Belanger. Voted 6-0 to adjourn at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine M. Long,
Secretary