Town of West Brookfield-Board of Selectmen
Minutes of Meeting-Regular Session – October 7, 2008

LOCATION: Town Hall - Lower Level Conference Room  TIME: 6:30PM
PRESENT: Barry Nadon, Jr., Tom Long, David Eisenthal, Johanna Barry, Executive Secretary and members of press.

Call To Order: 6:30PM - The meeting was called to order by Barry at 6:30pm.

Accept Minutes:
David motioned to accept the minutes of September 23, 2008 (Regular Session), as submitted. Second Tom. The Board voted unanimously.

David motioned to accept the minutes of September 23, 2008 (Executive Session), as submitted. Second Tom. The Board voted unanimously.

STM Warrant:
Tom motioned to open the STM Warrant. Second David. The Board voted unanimously.

David motioned to accept the STM Warrant, as presented with Eighteen (18) Articles, and to close the Warrant. Second Tom. The Board voted unanimously.

Schedule Meetings:
The Board scheduled a Road Commissioners Meeting for Wednesday, October 29, 2008 at 10:00am.
The Board rescheduled their November 4, 2008 meeting to November 3, 2008. The Board agreed to invite the Warren BOS to discuss the possibility of a regional police complex on November 3rd.
The Board scheduled Highway Union Negotiations for the end of the regular Board meeting on November 3rd.

Cell Phone Policy:
Board members agreed that personal cell phone usage should be kept to a minimum during work hours and that personal usage incurred over and above the allocated minutes under the current plans should be reimbursed by the employee. The Board asked the Executive Secretary to draft a cell phone policy for the Boards review.

Police Cruiser – Auction:
Tom motioned to allow the Procurement Officer to put the “out of commission” cruiser to auction. Second David. The Board voted unanimously.

McMullen – Follow Up Dog Complaint:
Barry excused himself to avoid any potential conflict – stating his father is the Animal Inspector who quarantined the dog. After stating that he felt that he had heard enough testimony, Tom asked the Animal Control Officer, Leah Shattuck for a recommendation. Leah stated that she felt as though the dog should be euthanized. Tom motioned to order the McMullen’s to keep their dog permanently restrained with adequate fencing around their entire property. Further the animal, if walked outside of the owners property, be on a 4’ or shorter leash with a muzzle at all times. Any infraction of this order and the owner will need to immediately remove the dog from town limits. (banish the dog from town). Second David. The Board voted unanimously.

Director COA – Invitation to Annual Veteran’s Appreciation Dinner:
Ms. Norden wrote to invite the Board to the 3rd Annual Veteran’s Appreciation Dinner on November 5 at 5pm at the Senior Center.

Historical Commission – Old Bay Path Indian Trail:
The Chair of the Historical Commission wrote the Board to ask their opinion as to whether or not preserve property should be given to a land trust or the local Conservation Commission in conjunction with the expansion of local hiking trails. The Board provided no opinion but asked that the Commission provide copies of any appraisals completed on the property.

The Historical Commission copied the Board on a letter sent to the Trustees of Reservations relating to their pursuit to list the Lucy Stone Homesite on the National Historic Register.

Police Chief – Eastern Hampden County Regional Emergency Planning Committee:
The Board agreed to invite Mr. Bruce Augusti, MEMA, into the next Board meeting to obtain more information.
President Hardwick Fair – Thank You to Fire Department:
Mr. Fay Butler wrote the Board to express his appreciation with the Fire Departments assistance in supplying lighting at the recent Hardwick Fair.

Knights of Columbus – Permission to Host Annual Tootsie Roll Drive:
David motioned to approve the Knights request to host their Annual Tootsie Roll Drive on October 11th & 12th. Second Tom. The Board voted unanimously.

Madeline Arn, Chair – White Christmas:
David motioned to approve the White Christmas Committees request to host its 16th Annual White Christmas on Sunday, December 7th. Second Tom. The Board voted unanimously.

Quaboag Student Population Strategy/Status:
After some discussion, the Board agreed to call in the Interim- School Superintendent and the WB Registrars to the next Selectmen’s meeting in an effort to resolve the discrepancies in the Quaboag Student Population. The Board requested the Executive Secretary ask the Registrars for an updated accurate listing of students from West Brookfield attending Quaboag.

Kopelman & Paige, PC. – Opinion Letter – Quaboag On The Common:
The Board agreed to send a directive to the Assessors to follow up on Counsels recommendations as outlined in her opinion letter dated 10 September 2008. The Board noted that if the Assessors believed that further legal counsel was necessary, they be instructed to inform the Board first.

USPO – PO Boxes on 15 Lakeshore Drive:
As a result of a recent audit, the USPO asked the Board to provide a letter to the PO stating that the Town currently had no objections to the PO Boxes on 15 Lakeshore Drive. The Board executed a letter stating the same.

The Board adjourned at approximately 7:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman ____________________ Vice Chairman ____________________ Clerk ____________________