Town of West Brookfield-Board of Selectmen
Minutes of Meeting - Regular Session – September 7, 2010

LOCATION: Town Hall – Lower Level Conference Meeting Room
TIME: 6:15PM
PRESENT: David Eisenthal, Mike Frew, Johanna Barry - Executive Secretary, local access t.v. and members of the press.

Call To Order: 6:15PM - The meeting was called to order by David at 6:15pm.

McRevey – EQLT Land Acquisition:
Ms. Fern Maskell asked the Board to consider allowing her to keep an additional five (5) acres of property out of the land purchase proposed by the East Quabbin Land Trust (EQLT) for her family to use for gravel removal. Her son Dan Maskell was also in attendance. Cynthia Henshaw, EQLT, explained that the EQLT Board (comprised of twelve members) would need to vote to allow the additional land; along with the other two (2) members of the McRevey Family Trust. (Stan White and Judith Jones, members of the EQLT Board were present.) The Board stated that they did not have control over the Agreement and that the EQLT and the McRevey Family Trust would need to try to come to an agreement. The Executive Secretary reminded all present that the required STM article would need to be submitted into the Selectmen’s Office by Friday, 17 October 2010 to make the posting deadline.

Upon recommendation by Gordon DeWolf and Cynthia Henshaw, Mike motioned to accept the low bid for mapping services relating to the Open Space Plan from CMRPC for $2,680 – or $1,880 & 12 hours of LPA time. Second David. The Board voted unanimously.

Sue Bouchard – Status of Wigwam Cross Road:
Ms. Bouchard informed the Board that she had spoken with the North Brookfield Highway Superintendent and that North Brookfield intends to pave their portion of Wigwam Cross Road within the next 3-5 years. She asked the Board to forgo paving right now and to consider paving when North Brookfield proceeds with their section of the way. After some discussion, Mike motioned not to remove any trees nor pave Wigwam Cross Road at this time. Second David. The Board voted unanimously.

The Board briefly discussed installing “Scenic Road” signage and requested that the Highway Superintendent look into it.

Fire Department Job Descriptions:
The Board met with the Fire Chief to review the Chief’s job description drafts. The Board commended Chief Lupacchino for all of his hard work. Board members stated that they had a few minor wordsmithing changes. The Board took the job descriptions under advisement.

Town Treasurer - Patrick/Murray Early Retirement Proposal:
(Anna Mae Hibbard & Peggy Walker were in attendance.) Mr. Arsenault provided the Board with an overview of the Early Retirement Proposal. Mr. Arsenault offered to sit one on one with those potentially eligible for the package.

Resignations:
The Board received information from Superintendent Kustigian that Louise Fecteau would be resigning from the School Committee. It was noted that the Board will need to appoint a replacement for Ms. Fecteau in the near future.

Pre-Buy Fuel Pricing:
Mike motioned to accept Sherman Oil’s pre-buy fuel price of $2.27 per gallon; noting comparison to NewEnglandOil.com. Second David. The Board voted unanimously.

Town of East Brookfield – Request for Letter of Support:
The Board agreed to send a letter of support for East Brookfield to attain a STRAP Grant to assist with repairs to bridge on Route 9 by Lake Lashaway.

MA Broadband Institute – Request for MBI Community Rep:
The Board directed the Executive Secretary to canvass various employees in an attempt to find an appropriate MBI Representative.

DOG HEARING – Gelineau/Dupuis:
Continued to September 21, 2010 at 7:00pm.
**Charge for Road Advisory Committee:**
Mike motioned to adopt the following Charge for the Road Advisory Committee:
A five (5) member committee to be known as the Road Projects Advisory Committee shall be charged with the following duties and responsibilities:

1. Assess all public ways in terms of their overall need for repairs, maintenance or total reconstruction; while considering usage, location, drainage, sidewalks etc.

2. Estimate the costs for each project and then create a ten (10) year build out plan for corrective actions on the highest priority public ways. Please note that the Road Commissioners have already committed to Wigwam Road and Ragged Hill. Also, Lyons and Wheeler have been identified as “high priorities”. Use the *Chapter 90, Road Reconstruction & Road Maintenance* averages for the last few years as a benchmark; as all projects will be subject to funding.

3. Review current requests for private road repairs & paving. Estimate costs for each project and then create a build out plan using the *Repairs to Private Ways* account averages for the last few years as a benchmark; as all projects are subject to funding at town meeting.

4. Identify any grants for road projects.

5. Submit a final report by 1 July 2011 for the Road Commissioners to review. Final decisions on road projects will remain the Charge of the Road Commissioners.

Second David. The Board voted unanimously.

**DRAFT “Clean Up After Your Animal” Bylaw:**
Mike questioned the enforcement of the following proposed bylaw:

**CHAPTER XII Miscellaneous**
**SECTION 1.a**
Clean Up After Your Animal:
Dog owners are required to pick up their dogs’ droppings. Anyone who owns or has custody of a dog can not allow it to deposit excrement on public or private property without permission of the property owner. The person in charge of the dog will be required to clean up after it. Whoever violates this ordinance, after having been notified of such violation by the Board of Selectmen or their designate, shall be liable to a fine of up to $25 for the first offense, up to $50 for the second and up to $100 for the third; according to Chapter 1 General Provisions, Section 5.

David stated that the enforcement may be difficult but that the concept was highly desirable. He compared it to the enforcement of speed limit signs. The Board took the proposed bylaw under advisement.

**STM:**
Mike motioned to set the Fall Special Town Meeting for Thursday, October 14, 2010 at 7:00pm in the West Brookfield Elementary School. Second David. The Board voted unanimously.

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

**Septic Loan:**
Treasurer Keith Arsenault asked the Board to authorize a loan for $13,500 for a failed septic; noting a 5% interest charge. At the request of the Treasurer, Mike motioned to authorize the Chairman to execute the appropriate loan documents. Second David. The Board voted unanimously.

**Executive Session:**
Mike motioned to go into Executive Session with the Town Treasurer to discuss strategy relating to a class action grievance filed by the Police Union (NEPBA) and to adjourn directly thereafter. Second David. The Board voted Mike – yes and David – yes. (*Executive Session Minutes are kept separately.)*

The Board adjourned at approximately 8:04pm.
Respectfully submitted,

_______________________  __________Absent_________  __________________________
Chairman     Vice Chairman    Clerk