Town of West Brookfield-Road Commissioners
Minutes of Meeting-Regular Session – July 16, 2007

LOCATION: West Brookfield Highway Facility TIME: 4:00PM
PRESENT: Tom Long, John Tivnan, Barry Nadon, Jr., Johanna Barry - Secretary, Jason Benoit – Superintendent and Marc Astrella - Foreman.

Call To Order: 4:00PM
The meeting was called to order by John at 4:00pm.

Superintendent Benoit provided the Board with an overview of the current status of Chapter 90 funds. The current balance, including FY08, is $366,482.54. ($186,831.54 FY08)

The Board discussed proposed road projects for FY08. The Board agreed to add John Gilbert, Old Warren Road – one side and Ragged Hill to the list of public ways being considered and Checkered Lane to the private way list. The Board stated that they were concerned that Mass Highway funding was not sufficient to keep up with the wear and tear on town ways. The Board will consider adding money to the Road Maintenance Account or providing additional warrant articles to cover specific road projects. The Board also discussed the possibility of transferring the Sidewalk Expansion on Wickaboag Valley Road article money ($60,000) to an FY08 proposed road project. The Board will ask to be put on the next Advisory Committee Agenda to discuss same.

Foreman Astrella and Supt. Benoit provided a tour of the 50 x 80 foot expansion currently in progress. Both answered questions from the Board. Board members expressed their appreciation to the highway department for their hard work in making the project go forward so smoothly and professionally; and at such cost savings to the Town. The Board was very impressed with the department’s efforts.

Supt. Benoit asked the Board to consider a geo-thermal heating system for the new building. Supt. Benoit asked the Board if he could spend $3,500 to have plans drawn up in an effort to apply for a grant. After some discussion, Tom motioned to allow the Supt. to spend $3,500 on geo-thermal plans. Second Barry. The Board voted unanimously.

The Board talked about the open cellar hole where Remiszewki’s smaller house was located. After some discussion, Barry motioned to allow the Supt. to contract to remove the foundation and fill the hole; with the cost not to exceed $4,000. Second Tom. The Board voted unanimously.

The Board adjourned at approximately 5:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Chairman Vice Chairman Clerk