Town of West Brookfield-Board of Selectmen
Minutes of Meeting-Regular Session – July 17, 2007

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

Call To Order: 6:30PM - The meeting was called to order by John at 6:30pm.
The Board thanked the Highway and Fire Departments for their efforts in creating a fabulous Fourth of July Bonfire. The Board also thanked the Music Committee/Friends of the Band Stand for their efforts in securing a fantastic band for the festivities.

Gittes Property – Richard Rossman, Chairman Historical Commission:
Richard Rossman presented the Board with a letter from the Historical Commission stating their concerns about the fate of the two (2) Gittes properties; recently acquired through tax title. The Commission stated that they would like to see both structures rehabilitated; rather than demolished, as both structures date back to the early 1800’s. The Board took the Commissions request under advisement. The Board briefly discussed ideas on securing the premises. Barry motioned to have the Building Inspector provide an inspection of both houses, pending an ok from legal counsel. Second Tom. The Board voted unanimously.

Richard Magwood – Quaboag River Canoe Trail:
Richard Magwood outlined the next step in the creation of the proposed Quaboag River Canoe Trail; specifically a Land Management Agreement with the Department of Fish & Game. The Board asked Mr. Magwood to have the Dept. of Fish & Game draw up a Land Management Agreement for the Town.

Bob Benson & Lester Paquette – Co-Chairmen Police Spatial Needs Committee – RE: Member Appointments:
Bob & Lester inquired as to why the Board had not appointed Ms. Rayne Petruzzi to the PD Spatial Needs Committee. The Board stated that it was their understanding that Ms. Petruzzi had moved out of town. The Co-Chairmen asked the Board to re-consider Ms. Petruzzi’s appointment, stating that she was an asset to the Committee i.e. taking notes. Tom stated that he felt the Committee should be made up of town residents. After some discussion, Barry motioned to appoint Rayne to the PD Spatial Needs Committee. Second Tom. The Board voted Barry and John – yes, Tom – no.

Resignations & Appointments:
Tom motioned to accept Tom Giguere’s resignation from the Police Department, with regret. Second Barry. The Board voted unanimously.

Tom motioned to appoint Robert Spera to the Computer Technology Committee. Second Barry. The Board voted unanimously.

Disclosure of Financial Interest:

Brookfield BOS – Letter Inquiring About Regionalizing Animal Control:
The Board received a letter from the Brookfield BOS inquiring if the Board was interested in regionalizing the position of Animal Control Officer. Tom motioned to send a letter to the Brookfield BOS stating that West Brookfield is very interested in discussing Regionalization, including perhaps other departments such as fire, police, building inspector, zoning officer. Second Barry. The Board voted unanimously.

End of Year Budget Transfers – GL C44 s33B:
Tom motioned to transfer the sum of $4,317.64 & $3,165.79 (Water Dept.) as outlined by the Town Accountant. Second Barry. The Board voted unanimously.

PD Proposed Ground Rules for Union Negotiations:
The Board received proposed ground rules from NEPBA. The Board took the rules under advisement.

Economic Development Fund Grant Application:
Tom motioned to be a joint application for a $500,000 “Economic Development Fund Grant”; with Palmer being the lead applicant; to be processed through the MA Dept. of Housing & Comm. Dev. Second Barry. The Board voted unanimously.

The Board adjourned at approximately 7:00pm.
Respectfully submitted,

Chairman __________________________ Vice Chairman __________________________ Clerk __________________________