Town of West Brookfield-Board of Selectmen
Minutes of Meeting - Regular Session – February 13, 2018
LOCATION: Lower Level Conference Meeting Room, Town Hall – Town Hall TIME: 6:30PM
PRESENT: Diane Vayda, Philip Landine and Deborah Provencher – Selectmen.

Call To Order: 6:30PM - The meeting was called to order by Diane at 6:33pm

Minutes:
Phil motioned to accept the Minutes of January 30, 2018 (Regular Session). Second Deborah. The Board voted unanimously.

Phil motioned to accept the Minutes of January 30, 2018 (Executive Session). Second Deborah. The Board voted unanimously.

Dan Bigda, Advisory Committee – Decommissioning Bonds for Solar Arrays:
(The following Advisory Committee were present: Lori Loughlin, Pam Griffing, Tom Long, Doug Aspinall & Roland Sickenberger. Christine Long, Advisory Clerk, was also present. BOH members Melvin Dorman, Jason Paquette and John Frizzell were present along with their Administrative Assistant, Sarah Allen. Zoning Board of Appeals members present were Renee Adams-White, Kevin Dorman, George Hibbard and Richard Ullman.) Mr. Bigda gave a presentation to the Board with regards to his findings relating to decommissioning bonds; specifically with solar arrays. There was concern over the expiration of bonds and use of LLC’s and LLP’s. There was discussion on what monetary value should be attached to the decommissioning of the sites. Mr. John Perry and Mr. John Motta from Dynamic Energy provided some insight to the Board with regards to the State and Federal guidelines involved with the disassembly of solar facilities. Jeff Taylor, Building Inspector, told the Board that in the Town of Leicester the Planning Commission regulates solar under their bylaw; not the Zoning Board of Appeals. The Board took all of the information under advisement. The Board agreed that decommissioning costs were a major concern of the town.

Lorraine Walsh – 5 Foster Hill Road:
Ms. Walsh asked the Board for an update with regards to the removal of a structure on 5 Foster Hill Road. Ms. Walsh submitted a signed petition asking the Board to assist with the demolition of a nuisance structure on 5 Foster Hill Road. Ms. Walsh asked who, if anyone, is paying the property taxes on the parcel. Board of Health members (John Frizzell, Jason Paquette & Melvin Dorman) were present. The Board explained that the Town was limited in what they could do to the property, as it is private property. If the Town decided to condemn the structure they would need to notify the owner of record, which at this time is not specifically known. The BOH members also stated that they could not trespass on private property and would also need the owner of record to move forward with health complaints lodged against the property.

Phil motioned to instruct legal counsel to perform a title search on 5 Foster Hill Road. Second Deborah. The Board voted unanimously.

Personnel:
Phil motioned to accept the resignation of James Pierce from the Housing Authority, with regret. Second Deborah. The Board voted unanimously.

Phil motioned to appoint Chief McDonald, Monson MA, to the Fire Department Needs Assessment Committee. Second Deborah. The Board voted unanimously.

Judy Bergdorf – Thank You to Gregg Waterman, Highway Employee:
Ms. Bergdorf wrote the Board to thank Mr. Gregg Waterman, Highway Employee, for assisting her when she fell earlier this month. Having had a recent knee replacement having someone care enough to stop an assist meant a lot. The Board concurred with the sentiments of Ms. Bergdorf.
Colleen Mucha, Principal WBES – Annual WB Classic 5K:
Principal Mucha wrote the Board to inform them that the Annual WB Classic 5K was scheduled for Saturday, June 23, 2018. The Board noted that Principal Mucha was working through Police Chief O’Donnell to insure a safe race.

Amy Dugas, Asparagus & Flower Heritage Festival:
Ms. Dugas wrote the Board to state that the Asparagus Festival would take place on May 19th from 10-4 on the Common. Ms. Dugas provided information relayed information relating to shuttles and parking.

Special Use Permits:
Phil motioned to approve the following Special Use Permits, as written:
Aluminum Fishing Series 4.6.18
Aluminum Fishing Series 9.21.18
MA Bass Alliance 10.7.18
MA Bass Alliance 10.13.18
Second Deborah. The Board voted unanimously.

Miscellaneous:
The Board signed a Reserve Fund Transfer for $25,000 to cover a forensic audit.

Phil motioned to have the BOS apply for a DLTA Grant; specifically to assist with the creation of a Master Plan Implementation Committee. Second Deborah. The Board voted unanimously.

The Board agreed to put an article on the ATM Warrant regarding local taxation on marijuana. The Board noted that the Final Form Regulations regarding marijuana are due out on March 15th.

The Board agreed to post a work session on Saturday at 10am to discuss budgets, proposed changes to the Employee Handbook and the accountant vacancy.

Phil motioned to adjourn at 8:02pm. Second Deborah. The Board voted unanimously.

respectfully submitted,

Chairman
Vice Chairman
Clerk