Town of West Brookfield-Board of Selectmen
Minutes of Meeting - Regular Session – January 22, 2013
LOCATION: Lower Level Conference Meeting Room – Town Hall  TIME: 6:15PM
PRESENT:  Mike Frew, Mark Long and Barry J. Nadon, Jr. - Selectmen, Johanna Swain – Exec Sec and members of the press & cable tv.

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

The Board executed the Payroll & Expense Warrants.

Accept Minutes:
Barry motioned to accept the minutes of October 18, 2012 (Regular Session), December 11, 2012 (Regular Session) and December 11, 2012 (Executive Session). Second Mark. The Board voted unanimously.

Mark motioned to accept the minutes of November 27, 2012 (Regular Session). Second Mike. The Board voted Mark & Mike – yes, Barry – abstain.

Trish Settles & Janet Pierce, CMRPC:
Ms. Settles and Ms. Pierce provided the Board with an overview of CMRPC’s Rural 11 Prioritization Project. The objective of this project is to work with eleven communities to identify three types of investment: Priority Development Areas, Priority Protection Areas and Priority Infrastructure Investments. Another objective is to explore the local agricultural economy. A third objective of this project will be the initial creation of a sub-regional identity, one that recognizes the similarities of the priorities and moves toward the formation of a shared vision for the area. Barry motioned to participate in the Rural 11 Prioritization Project. Second Mark. The Board voted unanimously.

Jim Dimaio, Tree Warden – Tucker Road Forestry Management Project:
Tree Warden Dimaio answered questions regarding his proposed Timber Sale Contract (FSC Certificate Number SW-FM-COC-004783). Barry motioned to approve the Timber Sale Contract, as submitted. Second Mark. The Board voted unanimously.

Board of Assessors:
Upon the recommendation of the Board of Assessors, Barry motioned to appoint Beverly Kenniston as an Assessor, until the Annual Election on May 7, 2013. Second Mark. The Board voted unanimously.

After some discussion, Barry motioned to appoint Renee Adams-White as an Assistant Assessor, 16 hours weekly at a Grade 3 Step 4 ($14.07), contingent upon the receipt of a written job description. Second Mark. The Board voted unanimously.

The Board spoke with Bill Mansfield & Kevin Dorman about a letter received from the Advisory Committee questioning stipends and work being accomplished by the elected Assessors. After some discussion, the Assessors assured the Board of Selectmen that they would not be creating warrants for the balance of their stipends. It is the intention of the Assessors to turn back ½ of their respective stipends to the Town. Field card work would go to the new Assistant Assessor, and as a result the present two members would NOT be drawing on their stipend balances. The Selectmen agreed to pay the newest Assessor Beverly Kenniston a pro-rated value for her work in FY13. Bill stated that the Assessors would be reverting back to their stipend schedule of two Assessors at $2,400 yearly and the Chair at $4,000 for FY14.

Appointments/Resignations:
Mark motioned to accept Jean Wrobel’s resignation as Planning Board Clerk. Second Barry. The Board voted unanimously.

Barry motioned to accept Claudia Tourigny’s resignation from the AFHF Committee. Second Mark. The Board voted unanimously.
Barry motioned to appoint Jennifer Bujnevicie to the AFHF Committee. Second Mark. The Board voted unanimously.

**Special Use Permits:**
Barry motioned to approve the Wickaboag Sportsmen’s Club’s request for a Special Use Permit for February 10, 2013. Second Mark. The Board voted unanimously.

Barry motioned to approve the South Middlesex Bass Angler’s request for a Special Use Permit for April 27, 2013. Second Mark. The Board voted unanimously.

**Remote Participation Authorization:**
The Board tabled conversation until the next Selectmen’s meeting.

**James Aprea, CAP Advocate – Audible Pedestrian Alarms:**
The Board agreed to place Mr. Clapham’s request for audible pedestrian alarms on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant in May 2013.

**ZBA Vacancies:**
Barry motioned to appoint Richard Ullman, 147 Wickaboag Valley Road, to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Second Mark. The Board voted unanimously. The Board agreed to interview Douglas Aspinall, Bob Levite & Bill Mansfield for the Associate Member vacancy on the ZBA.

**Police Chief, C. Thomas O’Donnell:**
The Selectmen reviewed the Chief’s FY14 proposed budget. After some discussion with the Chief, Barry motioned to allow the Chief to advertise for one, possibly two, part time patrolmen. Second Mark. The Board voted unanimously.

Barry motioned to go into Executive Session under reason number two (2) to conduct negotiations with non-union personnel – specifically the Chief of Police; and to adjourn directly thereafter. The Board will also use reason #1 regarding an officer on paid administrative leave. Second Mark. The Board voted Mark – yes, Barry – yes and Mike – yes. (Executive Session Minutes are kept separately.)

Mark motioned to adjourn at 8:34pm. Second Barry. The Board voted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Chairman     Vice Chairman    Clerk