Town of West Brookfield-Board of Selectmen  
Minutes of Meeting - Regular Session – July 10, 2012

LOCATION: Town Hall – Lower Level Conference Meeting Room  
TIME: 6:15PM

PRESENT: Mike Frew, Mark Long, Barry Nadon Jr. (late 6:50pm) – Selectmen, Johanna Barry – Executive Secretary and members of the press and cable t.v.

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:
Mark motioned to accept the minutes of May 29, 2012 (Regular Session). Second Mike. The Board voted unanimously.

Mark motioned to accept the minutes of June 12, 2012 (Regular Session). Second Mike. The Board voted unanimously.

Paul Lupacchino – Ambulance Housing:
Rescue President Paul Lupacchino asked the Board to consider temporary housing for the old ambulance, along with the sign board and other fire equipment currently stored outside. He stated that the Rescue Squad was willing to use some of its funds to purchase and install temporary housing. Paul stated that in the past the Rescue Squad had originally built the current ambulance barn. The Board questioned why the old ambulance was being “plugged in” at the fire station. Paul stated that technically he should have asked permission from the Board since the ambulance is a private entity; however he felt that since it was minimal in cost and was a public safety vehicle he did not see a big issue with it. The Board stated that they were still not sure of the specific use of the land located adjacent to the Town Hall. The Board also discussed the fact that Hazmat was looking to place a storage trailer on the same site, with consideration of other sites. Mark motioned not to allow any structures on the Cottage Street site at this time, stating that the Board was still considering options for the parcel. Second Barry. The Board voted unanimously.

Mark questioned Paul about serving in both capacities (Rescue and Fire) and stated that he felt that the Town should have two segregate department heads. Mark stated that when his father was a Selectman he appointed Paul with the preface that he would transition out of the Rescue Squad as its President. Paul stated that he did have a conversation with Tom Long, but that there was no condition to step down as President of the Rescue Squad within a two year limit as a condition of his appointment. Paul stated that he believed that there was no conflict of interest involved. Mark stated that he was not eluding to any conflicts of interest but instead felt as though each department should have its own department head. The Board agreed to research past Minutes to determine if there were conditions to the Chiefs appointment.

Appointments/Resignations:
Mark motioned to accept Madaline Arn’s resignation from the White Christmas Committee, with regret. Second Mike. The Board voted unanimously.

Mark motioned to accept Ursula Couture’s resignation from the White Christmas Committee. Second Mike. The Board voted unanimously.

Mark motioned to appoint Michelle Niemiec to the White Christmas Committee. Second Mike. The Board voted unanimously.

Polearm Productions – Request to Film at the Town Beach:
Noting no objections from the Police Chief, Mark motioned to allow Polearm Productions to film at the Town Beach on August 5, 2012 between the hours of 3-5:30pm. Polearm is not to include any children under the age of 17 without express written consent of their parent/guardian. Second Mike. The Board voted unanimously.

Tom Coughlan – Appreciation Letter RE: Officer S. Patrick Swain:
Tom Coughlan wrote a letter of appreciation for Officer Patrick Swain for his assistance with his brother John, a resident of Westbrook Heights. Tom stated that “Officer Swain befriended a man in need; he gained John’s trust and friendship, which is something we don’t see very often anymore.” He thanked Officer Swain for going above and beyond. The Board agreed to place the letter in Officer Swain’s personnel file.

Clowning for Kidz Foundation – Saturday, July 21 2012:
The Board received a letter from Jim Allard, President, stating that they would be hosting a Car Show and Family Fun Day at the football field on Cottage Street on Saturday, July 21, 2012. The Board forwarded the request to the Police Chief for his review and stated that they had no concerns with the request.
Shoreline Drive – Top Coat:
Mike stated that the Highway Superintendent had priced out a firm chip seal coat quote of $9,225. The Board agreed to pay one half of the cost and to have their Executive Secretary sent notice to Charlie Reim, President stating the same. Mike stated that this would be scheduled for this Fall.

DOG HEARING – Levite:
The Board recessed from 7:10pm to 7:15pm pending arrival of the ACO. Motion by Barry. Second Mark. Unanimous.

Those testifying were sworn in by the Chairman.

Ann Dick – Stated that Bob Levite walks his dog off leash. His dog chases her when she walks her dog. He has an electric fence but he does not make his dog wear a collar.

Ann Marie Kilborn (Daughter of Ann) – Stated she sees Mr. Levite walking his dog off leash. She is concerned for her mother’s safety.

Bob Levite – Questioned when his dog chased Ann’s dog?

Ann Dick – Last week. Bobs dog came after us. Bob kicked his dog and grabbed it by the collar and brought it home. Bobs dog was lying in the road. She called the Selectmen’s office and ACO. He illegally walks his dog in the neighbor’s yard.

Bob Levite – Stated that he does walk his dog off leash; however he believes that he has full control over his dog. His dog is under his complete voice control. The neighbor’s yard is not posted. His dog has not gone after Mrs. Dick. He took Mrs. Dick to small claims court for approximately $180 for the last dog issue and won. He feels this is retaliation. He had to put one of his dogs down since the last issue. He put in an electric fence about two years ago. My dog has never been within 40 feet of Mrs. Dick. A Hearing has been set up in East Brookfield Court for July 30th to discuss a filed Harassment Prevention Order against Mrs. Dick. He takes his dog down into the woods for walks. My dog has never hurt anyone. I have an Australian Shepherd who is very friendly.

Leah Shattuck ACO – Wants to meet all of the dogs involved. Would like to bring a puppy from her kennel to see reactions from the dogs in questions. The ACO stated that Mrs. Dick had called her to complain yesterday and one other time during the current month.

Bob Levite – Mrs. Dick’s small dog is not an issue.

Ann Dick – My dogs are well trained. My dogs are well behaved. I want his dog on a leash at all times.

Bob Levite – Mrs. Dick should call the ACO and not the Police about dog issue. The Selectmen agreed. Mrs. Dick stated that she would contact the ACO.

Both Ann and Bob agreed to allow the ACO to visit with their dogs. Barry motioned to close the Hearing. Second Mark. The Board voted unanimously. The Board will await a report from the ACO before rendering any decision.

Cindy Larson, Ye Olde Tavern – Request for Outdoor Liquor License Permit:
Mark motioned to allow Ye Olde Tavern to have a One Day Outdoor Liquor License for Saturday, August 4, 2012. The cost to be $25 & the applicant to abide by any rules and regulations set forth by the Police/Fire Chiefs. Second Barry. The Board voted unanimously.

The Board adjourned at approximately 7:350pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Chairman     Vice Chairman    Clerk