Town of West Brookfield-Board of Selectmen
Minutes of Meeting – Regular Session – November 12, 2015

LOCATION: Lower Level Conference Room – Town Hall TIME: 7:00AM
PRESENT: Diane Vayda, John Tivnan – Selectmen; Jim Daley, Highway Superintendent

Call to Order: 7:00 am

7:00 am – The Board will enter into Executive session for #3: “To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the government’s bargaining or litigating position. Also, to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel; to actually conduct collective bargaining and contract negotiations with non-union personnel;” and will not adjourn the meeting at the conclusion of Executive session, but will return to Regular session. The polled vote was: Diane – yes, Jack – yes.

7:22 am – Returned to Regular Session and waited for Town Accountant Marie Arsenault to arrive at 7:30 am. Sarah Allen arrived.

7:30 am – Talked with Marie who has been our Town Accountant since 1980 about her retirement which will occur on Dec. 31, 2015, after 35 years of dedicated service to the town. According to the Retirement Board, after her retirement date Marie must wait 2 weeks before she can be employed by and Massachusetts municipality. She proposed that she work for the town for 960 hours per year at a salary of $38,000, the maximum allowable. She stated that she will perform all the work required within those hours. This salary would be $21,000 less than she was receiving prior to retirement. No vacation, sick time, or holidays would be included. The Board discussed making her position as Accountant salaried vs. hourly, as it is at the present time.

Sarah moved to appoint Marie Arsenault to the position of Town Accountant for one year beginning on January 18, 2016 at a salary of $38,000, subject to approval by Atty. Colin Boyle. Second by Jack. Approved unanimously.

7:45 am – Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Vayda
Chairman

[Signatures]

Vice Chairman

Clerk