Town of West Brookfield-Board of Selectmen
Minutes of Meeting - Regular Session – February 2, 2016
LOCATION: Lower Level Conference Meeting Room – Town Hall TIME: 6:00PM
PRESENT: Diane Vuyda, Sarah Allen & John Tivnan – Selectmen, Johanna Swain – Executive Secretary.

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

Linda MacCoy – Appointment of COA Director:
John motioned to appoint Linda MacCoy as the Director of the COA. Grade 8 Step 3. Second Sarah. The Board voted unanimously.

6:35PM PUBLIC HEARING – 172 PIERCE ROAD:
The Board spoke briefly with Atty Meilus regarding a proposed Right of First Refusal for 172 Pierce Road. The Board agreed to continue the Hearing on Thursday, February 4, 2016 pending estimated rollback taxes from the Board of Assessors.

Janet Pierce & Danielle Muciarone, CMRPC – Green Communities:
John motioned to approve the scope of service and to execute a Work Program Agreement with CMRPC relating to the Green Communities Technical Assistance. Second Sarah. The Board voted unanimously.

Kevin Dorman – Meals Tax:
Mr. Dorman asked the Board to consider placing an article on the ATM Warrant to adopt the local option on the meals tax. This would impose a .75 percent local option sales tax on meals. This money would be remitted directly to the Town; as income. The Board agreed to consider placing a meals tax article on the ATM Warrant.

Jim Boulette, Land Planning – Shea Acres Restricted Covenant:
Mr. Boulette asked the Board to execute a Restricted Covenant for Shea Acres. Planning Board Chairman, Tim Morell, explained to the Board that the Covenant was created with the assistance of the Town's legal counsel and that the Planning Board had already executed the Covenant. After some discussion, John motioned to approve and execute the Restricted Covenant for Shea Acres; as submitted. Second Sarah. The Board voted unanimously.

Dannie Berthiaume, House Rep.:
Rep. Berthiaume discussed the financial state of Massachusetts. The Board stated their issues with the school foundation formulas and their negative impacts on the towns. They stated that the current formulas are unsustainable by the towns. The Board stated that it appears to be pushing towns into the override process,

Dave Svedka & Teri Roberts, Burial Grounds Commissioners – Care Takers Position and Budget:
The Commissioners asked the Board to consider relieving the Highway Superintendent of his duties involved in the cemetery and to allow the Commissioners to hire a Care Taker and Assistant. The Commissioners presented the Board with a proposed budget, taking money back from the highway and installing into their budget. They stated that it doesn't appear that any money is being saved and that the process would run more efficiently with an “in house” Care Taker. Mr. Svedka stated that they had an unusually high number of burials this year. The Commissioners presented draft job descriptions to the Board for their review. The Board took the request under advisement.

MMA Trade Show:
Diane and John stated that they attended the MA Municipal Trade Show in Boston. Both agreed that the networking aspect of the Show was a great learning tool. John talked briefly about an Act to Modernize Municipal Finance and Government; attempts to cut through red tape and allow government to work more efficiently.

Denis Childs – Request To Hold 5K Road Race:
Upon approval from the Police and Fire Chiefs, Sarah motioned to approve Mr. Childs request to host a 5K on June 11th. Second John. The Board voted unanimously. The Board agreed to invite Mr. Childs into a Selectmen’s meeting approximately one month after the race to review the events and plan for the next year.

Fiona Andrewes, Housing Authority Director – Use of Town Fuel:
Sarah motioned to allow the Housing Authority access to the fuel system located at the highway facility and to be back charged accordingly. Second John. The Board voted unanimously.

Lisa Baker, Gavitt Wire and Cable Co. – Fire Pumper Storage:
Ms. Baker wrote the Board stating that Gavitt Wire can no longer store the Fire Pumper. The Board agreed to work with the Fire Chief to obtain storage space for the pumper.
ISO – Public Protection Classification Program:
The Board read a letter from the Fire Chief stating that the ISO rating in Town went down with the hard work of the Fire and Water Department. This should save, conservatively, $36,000 a year for residents on their fire insurance premiums.

RESIGNATIONS:
John motioned to accept the resignation of Cynthia Norden from the Elderbus Board. Second Sarah. The Board voted unanimously.


NOMINATION PAPERS:
Sarah noted that Nomination Papers are now available in the Town Clerks Office and information will be placed on the Town’s WEB page.

UNION NEGOTIATION SESSION WITH NEPBA Unit A:
John motioned to go into Executive Session under reason number three (#3) to conduct a Union Negotiation Strategy Session and to adjourn directly thereafter. Second Sarah. John – yes, Sarah – yes and Diane – yes.
(*Executive Session Minutes are kept separately.)

John motioned to adjourn at approximately 8:10pm. Second Sarah. The Board voted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signatures]
Chairman
Vice Chairman
Clerk