TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
May 28, 2015

Present: Phil Landine
        Lori Loughlin
        Tom Long
        Richard Gobi

Absent: Kevin Paquette
        Brad Hibbard

The meeting was called to order by Chair Richard Gobi at 6:41 p.m.

MINUTES: Phil Landine made a motion to approve the minutes of May 19, 2015. Tom
Long second. Vote was unanimous to approve the minutes of May 19, 2015 as presented.

Phil Landine made a motion to approve the minutes of May 21, 2015. Tom Long second.
Vote 3 to approve, 1 abstain (Lori Loughlin). The minutes of May 21, 2015 were
approved as presented.

FIRE CHIEF: Phil Landine said a letter needs to be written to the Fire Chief in regard
to the recruitment and retention e-mail sent to Select Board.

STIPENDS: Select Board did not approve stipends or cost of living raises because of
the union.

HEALTH INSURANCE: Town Counsel said this has to be negotiated. Treasurer does
not have the authority to sign the contract. Negotiations would have to be done by July 1,
2015 to have changes for the upcoming year. Richard Gobi would like all contracts to
come due and negotiated at the same time.

TAX COLLECTOR CLERK: Put on June 2, 2015 agenda to ask Select Board if they
increased the tax collector’s budget $5,720.00 additional money for a clerk.

TIME CLOCKS: Tom Long called Harpers who said they need to put in software.
Treasurer’s budget increased $5,000 line item Harpers-Time Clocks.

GENERATOR: Richard Gobi said Johanna is going to let Shepherd Engineering, Inc
know that they would not be able to bid on the generator.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: Colleen Mucka, Principal of Elementary School,
Leanne Pierce, School Committee Member and Bret Kustigian, Superintendent of
Schools were present. Richard Gobi read the proposed Opening Remarks to Voters. Richard Gobi explained the process of going through the whole budget. Holds on budgets will come up for discussion. To fund the whole budget, it will take a two-thirds vote because some money will be coming out of stabilization. Colleen Mucka stated that she understands the financial issues but that Warren voted it in. If West Brookfield does not vote the money in, she has the fear of a district meeting, losing school choice, possibly combining the two elementary schools, and parents panicking. Bret Kustigian asked what the proposed amount was and the answer was $200,000. Phil Landine said the Advisory Committee is not against the school but they need to get voters to attend the Town Meeting.

**REVISED BUDGETS:** The following budgets were revised: #2 Selectmen, #4 Town Accountant, #6 Treasurer, #9 Town Clerk, #37 Board of Health and #38 Council on Aging. Phil Landine made a motion to accept the above-mentioned revised budgets. Lori Loughlin second. Vote was unanimous.

**RECREATION BUDGET:** New members have been appointed. Phil Landine made a motion to approve the budget with the recommendation that they come back to see us with a plan ASAP. Tom Long second. Vote was unanimous to approve the budget with the provision that they return with a plan.

Phil Landine made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tom Long second. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine M. Long