TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
May 29, 2018

Present:  Lori Loughlin
Brad Hibbard
Tom Long
Pam Griffing
Doug Aspinall

Absent:  Roland Sickenberger
Dan Bigda, Selectman
Phil Landine, Selectman
Diane Vayda, Selectwoman
Barry Nadon, Water Dept.
Lester Paquette, Water Dept.

Others Present:  Dan Bigda, Selectman
Phil Landine, Selectman
Diane Vayda, Selectwoman
Barry Nadon, Water Dept.
Lester Paquette, Water Dept.

The meeting was held in the Selectmen’s office and called to order at 6:15 p.m. by Chair Lori Loughlin.

MINUTES:  Brad Hibbard made a motion to approve the minutes of May 21, 2018 as presented. Pam Griffing second. Vote was unanimous to approve the minutes of May 21, 2018 as presented.

BUDGETS:
Recreation #42:  Committee recommended adding $2,000 for an equipment shed at the Town Beach as previously discussed.
Cemetery #36:  Committee received copies of bids for a new mower for the cemetery. The Cemetery Commission accepted bid to purchase a lawnmower for $10,499.15. One-half of the cost ($5249.58) will be added to their FY19 budget and they will fund the remaining portion from their in-house funds.
Computer Tech #17:  The Selectboard requested that an additional $10,000 be added to the FY19 budget to address technology issues at the Town Hall. General discussion on whether to add to the Technology Committee or Selectboard budget. The Selectboard will decide on where to place the additional funds and advise.

SCHOOL:  Lori is waiting for more information. Our committee is not in favor of changing current policy of returning excess transportation monies to the town. The Superintendent and School Committee are meeting on Thursday to discuss the issue. Lori is seeking a second opinion on what happens if West Brookfield votes to retain the reimbursement. Our committee supports the level services budget requested by the Superintendent and accepted by the School Committee.

WATER DEPARTMENT BUDGET #51:  Water Commissioners Barry Nadon and Lester Paquette were present. Lori Loughlin said the Advisory Committee was recommending that the money to pay the New Braintree Road Water Project loan be funded half from Town funds and half from the Water Stabilization Fund. General discussion held about the water line project and payment of the loan. Lester Paquette would like to know if we can pay half this year and half next year. Lori will ask Johanna Swain to check into this.
SPECIAL AND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLES:

Brad Hibbard agreed to speak at the Annual Town Meeting prior to leaving meeting at 7:00pm.

Special Town Meeting Articles: Articles reviewed. Tom Long made a motion to recommend the articles. Pam Griffing second. Vote was unanimous to recommend approval of the Special Town Meeting Articles.

Annual Town Meeting Articles: Articles reviewed.
Article 17: At Jim Daley’s request the committee recommends passing over this article.
Article 18: Committee recommends splitting the cost of the remaining loan 50/50 between ATM article and Water Department stabilization funds.
Financial Articles: Pam Griffing made a motion to recommend approval of the remaining financial articles on the warrant. Tom Long second. Vote was unanimous.
Zoning Articles: The committee will not provide recommendations on the marijuana and solar zoning articles as it does not have sufficient information to support a recommendation.

REQUEST FOR TRANSFER FROM THE FY18 RESERVE FUND: Pam Griffing made a motion to transfer $1,688.40 from the Reserve Fund to the Council on Aging Budget for shortfall in salary. Tom Long second. Vote was unanimous to transfer $1,688.00 to the Council on Aging Budget.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine M. Long
Secretary