

Board of Selectmen  
Minutes September 10, 2019

Convened at 6:00 pm

Present:

Andrew Artimovich  
Ken Christiansen  
William Faria  
Phyllis Thompson

Artimovich called the meeting to order. The board opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Board met and reviewed payroll, accounts payable and signed the register. The Selectmen reviewed and signed the recreation register.

Jonathan Ellis was in to present the weekly Treasurer's report. Please see last page to view report.

Kip Kaiser, Building Inspector, had the following permits to be signed this week:

- Conquer Self Defense, 313 Rte. 125, sign permit: signed by Board
- William Dunkerly, 313 Rte. 125 electrical permit: signed by Board
- Laurie Monsell, 31 Longmeadow Drive, electrical for porch addition: signed by Board
- Ray Durbin, 313 Rte. 125, install new egress: signed by Board
- Three Ponds LLC, 13 Three Ponds Drive, electric for clubhouse: signed by Board.

The Brentwood Police Department would like to congratulate Officer George Abele who was promoted to the rank of Corporal this evening at the Board of Selectmen meeting. Corporal Abele has been with the Brentwood Police Department for six years and presently serves as the department's K-9 officer. Corporal Abele grew up in Ipswich, Massachusetts and graduated from Ipswich High School in 2003 with honors. Corporal Abele played football, track, and lacrosse while at Ipswich High School. He was Captain of his football team his junior and senior year and named defensive player of the year. His senior year he got to participate in the All-Star Agganis football game. After graduation, he attended Mount Ida College where he played football and was a two-year Captain. He was also a pre-season All-American linebacker his senior year. He graduated with a degree in Sports Management and health and wellness. Having an interest in law enforcement he attended and graduated from the Massachusetts part-time police academy in 2012. This is an academy where the recruit has to fund their own attendance. He was hired full-time with the Brentwood Police Department in 2014 and graduated with the 164th class of the New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Academy. In 2016, he received a lifesaving award for rescuing a suicidal male subject attempted to asphyxiate himself. He retrieved the male subject who was transported to Exeter Hospital and then med-flighted to Boston. In 2017, he graduated from the elite Boston K9 Academy where he and his K9 partner Dax received extensive training and certification in patrol and narcotics. In the last year, he and his K9 partner Dax have located and apprehended several subjects wanted on felony level offenses. Furthermore, they located a male subject who fled an accident scene in the winter time and had passed out in the woods. The temperature was sub-zero and if not located in a timely manner, the subject would have frozen to death. In addition to their finds, Corporal Abele and Dax have assisted several surrounding agencies with narcotics searches with successful results. In the winter of 2018, Corporal Abele became a member of the Rockingham County Drug Task Force and recently investigated and arrested two major drug traffickers where close to a kilogram of fentanyl was seized. Corporal Abele serves as the department's defensive tactics instructor, PT instructor, and ground tactics instructor. We are very excited to have Corporal Abele on board in our supervisory ranks. Congratulations Corporal Abele. Corporal Abele's mother, Karen Abele, pinned Corporal Abele's badge on his uniform.

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Chief Arcieri said they responded to a call for a burglary in progress at 32 Middle Road. There was no weapon shown, and they have a couple of leads they are following up on. She said she received great support from the county, state, and other local agencies. She will update the board as more information can be made available.

Christiansen made a motion, 2nd by Thompson to approve the public minutes of 09/03/2019 as written. All were in favor.

Faria made a motion, 2nd by Christiansen to approve the nonpublic minutes of 09/03/2019 as written. All were in favor.

Chief Joe Bird, Fire Chief, has some figures for adding back the second full timer in the 2019 budget. If he on boards in November, the cost will be about \$13K for benefits and payroll. The impact for 2020 would be about \$70K. This would provide coverage from 6am-6pm 7 days a week. The rotation would be 2 full timers and 4 per diems. About \$45K of this cost is for the added hours of coverage going from 8.5 hour days to 12; however, the majority of calls responded to are during these peak hours. Thompson said with the increases from Three Ponds she thinks it is time. Artimovich said he was ok with this but wants to wait for Mantegari to vote.

Bird invited everyone to attend the 9/11 ceremony at the fire station. He would like everyone to arrive by 9:45.

Janice Wiers, Library Director, and Jim Clark, Library Trustee, were present to request funds from impact fees. There was a memo in the mail explaining the job in detail. Clark said the office was originally designed for the director. Wiers said now the children's librarian and the person tasked with cataloguing use the space but more often than not there are 4-5 people in that office. Clark said this causes some delay on waiting on customers and adding a new workstation would decrease traffic around the existing circulation desk. They are need to improve the lighting. Christiansen made a motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Thompson to approve up to \$27000 out of library impact fees for the construction of a new workstation, lighting, and related contingency. All were in favor.

The following members of the Budget Committee were present: Keith Levitsky, Chair, Michelle Siudut, Kris Magnusson, Melissa Hanlon, Liz Faria, and Melissa Litchfield.

Levitsky said they are hoping to work more collaboratively with BOS on the upcoming budget. They worked to standardize some policies and procedures realizing that the largest portion of the tax bill is the COOP. Levitsky said they are looking to be as fair as possible. Magnusson said the increases have been substantial over the last 5-10 years, and the increases are not sustainable. Levitsky said the budget committee is looking for a 0% increase with the exception of health insurance. Magnusson said the department heads need to make a priority list of wants and needs. It needs to be give and take and if someone wants a raise, then something else has to go. Faria said the teacher contract have 2.6% increases and the cost of living increase is 1.6%-1.8%. Faria said he did not agree with 0% but to make an effort to balance the budget with other revenue.

Faria said look at the fire department for example. If the department adds personnel, maybe they give up some equipment for a year but the town also has to balance that with the coverage benefits. Magnusson suggested a regional approach. Faria said perhaps we should approach the county and be a little more aggressive about receiving some money to offset all of the ambulance calls. Artimovich said you cannot go to the county and ask every other town to increase their budget to help offset our cost.

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Artimovich said he could get on board with zero percent if the school and the COOP were at zero percent. The town employees should not suffer and the schools need to control their spending.

Artimovich suggested setting a date for all budgets to be due to allow BOS and BudCom to view an estimate of the total operating budgets then begin weekly appointments to finalize each budget. Litchfield asked why some departments are coming in now asking for items that will have a budget impact and not waiting for budget season to start. Artimovich said this has been an ongoing issue. We have an emergency on our hands and we have no weekend ambulance coverage. It is a regional problem prompting departments to move to full time but then our per diems are training here and then leaving for full time employment.

Bruce Stevens, 84 South Road, said the cost is not all personnel. If the school contract guarantees a certain percent, then the town should get the same.

Litchfield provided a brief update on the school board and the Exeter regional finance committee.

Thompson made a motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Christiansen to appoint Justin Kane as an alternate to the cemetery trustees. All were in favor.

The board read and signed the letter to Jeremy Smith.

Christiansen made a motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Thompson to participate with DTC in the public rights of way ordinance. All were in favor.

Artimovich made a motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Faria to close the office for staff to attend the 9/11 ceremony. All were in favor.

Clement to get an update from Steve Cummings on the wetlands permit for Rowell Road West.

Robinson received a complaint about cracks on Peabody Drive. Robinson said he would prefer to wait to crack seal until after Rowell Road West was done. Artimovich said he should have the money in his budget to do it now. It is cheaper to crack seal than to reclaim a road.

Artimovich requested a copy of the budget. L. Faria asked for a copy be sent to Levitsky as well.

At 7:44 pm a motion was made by Christiansen, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Faria to adjourn. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Clement

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WEEKLY TREASURER'S REPORT				
<b>DATE:</b>		<b>9/10/2019</b>		
<b>Citizens General Fund:</b>				
	Previous Balance:	18,689.41		
	Deposits:	31,807.57		
	Payroll:	22,837.68	DD: \$21678.40	CK: \$1159.28
	FICA:	6,131.14		
	to Impact Fees			
	A/P: Regular	\$51,205.07		
	Non-A/P			
	void checks			
	From MMA	50,000.00		
	To Rec	-		
	TO MMA			
	Account Balance:	20,323.09		
	Interest Earned YTD:	38.98		
	CD's	3,000,000.00		
<b>MMA:</b>	Unrestricted Balance	353,688.09		
	Total Invested Funds:	3,353,688.09		
	Interest Earned YTD:	27,604.46		