



SELECTMEN'S MEETING

APRIL 9, 2024

MINUTES

Selectmen in Attendance: Dick Norcross, John Hicks and Frank Day.

Attendees: Fire Chief, Richard Perreault; Animal Control Officer, Cindy Eaton; Hailey Boudreau; Dana Forcier, Jr.; Code Enforcement Officer, Michael Vane; Brian Merrill; Dan Larson; Public Works Director, Cliff Cousins; Tiffany Caswell; Chad Pine; Vincent Lanovara; Deborah Tait; Recreation Director, Willy Tracy; Dave and Robin Leonard; Whit Lucy; Terry Blake and Jean Blake; Joe Egan; Alice Fitzgerald; and William J Flynn. Zoom: Cristin's iPad.

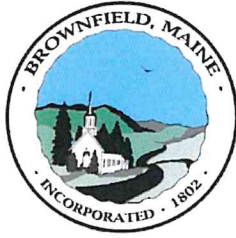
Chairman, Dick Norcross called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM and called for a Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

Dick motioned, John second to approve the Minutes of April 2, 2024 Selectmen's Meeting. Voted unanimously by a show of hands.

Payroll (and Accounts Payable) have been approved.

Dave and Robin Leonard met to discuss the history of a structure on their property that is in violation of the town ordinance. Robin explained in 2023 she contacted Mike and gave the history of the structure and stated they are using it for storage, she said it would cause a hardship to tear it down. CEO, Mike Vane said this is not a personal vendetta and we have a town ordinance, he received complaints and must look into them. Mike said in the file it said it is supposed to be removed because it was a dwelling. The structure itself is the concern. It's an unsafe building. John asked, if it was a shed and structurally sound, would it be in violation? Dick said it should be Mike's call. Dave said it will be structurally sound when he gets done. Mike said he has to deal with a violation when a complaint comes in. He has to do his job and the Code Enforcement position is to enforce the code. John said they will support him. Mike suggested if things can be pulled together by June and it is safe they can move forward. Dave said you want to see what I want to do with the building and he has an idea what he wants to do. Frank explained another neighborhood complaint that caused problems. Brian asked why have laws and ordinances if no one is going to enforce them. Cindy asked who prosecutes violations? She said the DA will not prosecute. Dick suggested that they work with Mike and come up with a plan.

Cindy said she didn't have much to report, stray cats and jury duty soon. She has had a whole bag of cat food donated. She asked if we have heard from Matt Randall yet. Answer was no. Dick reported that on the 19th Alvina reached out to Matt and we have not heard back. Dick said we will reach out again.



Code Enforcement Officer, Mike said that there are a few other violations going on in town, some on Main Street and that he hates to be the bad guy.

Public Works Director, Cliff Cousins said there were no major breakdowns. He said they need to come up with a plan for the concrete slab at the Rec Center. Frank suggested the handicap ramp should be under the roof. Cliff will get bids on tearing the concrete out. He has access to a boom truck and asked to purchase a battery run chain saw. It was agreed that the guys did a good job with what was thrown at them.

Recreation Director, Willy Tracy reported Friends of Rec are sponsoring a trip to the SeaDogs; Spring Sports are starting, the first game will be April 27. They will be working on the dugouts and suggests paving the parking lot soon and finding a generator for the building.

Dick Norcross thanked the FD for working with the PW during the storm. Fire Chief, Dicky started with mutual aid for structure fires; They had 5 people out during the storm, and that the Fire Department is the first to be called out. They had access to the transfer station backhoe. They set up the Rec Center for 45 linemen last night and he took it down with help from Bob Sawyer. The EMA office said we were one of the first departments to set it up since 1998. Dicky said he received the first start on the grant process. Dicky thanked Brian Merrill for use of his tractor and asked to repair what was broken out of the emergency preparedness account, about \$200.00.

The ordinances for the Planning Board will be held for signatures until they understand it. After a brief discussion on the Franchise agreement Dick motioned, John 2nd, to sign the contract. Voted unanimously by a show of hands. The engagement letter from RHR Smith shows a figure for \$11,700 for 2024. Concern over not receiving the audit for 2022 or 2023 was discussed. Alvina will reach out to RHR this week.

BernSteinShur Attorney, Mary Costigan e-mailed us that the fee for their services will remain at \$20,000 for this year. She also answered that the ordinance itself is not something the town could reasonably implement as drafted and said that if he is able to collect signatures, they can discuss the merits of the ordinance then. There was an e-mail from Bob Spear, Denmark ATV club regarding Brownfield ATV Access Route request for Route 160; GA hotline was closed on April 4; Several items were posted to the web for the Planning Board, Rec Dept, and Town updates. There was a letter of concern from Kendra Griffin on the status of Center Conway Road during the recent snow storm; and Whit Lucy presented an article to transfer \$225,000 from the General Fund/Surplus to a Public Safety Building Construction Account.

John motioned, Frank second to adjourn. Voted unanimously by a show of hands.

The meeting adjourned at 5:34 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Alvina Day, Administrative Assistant