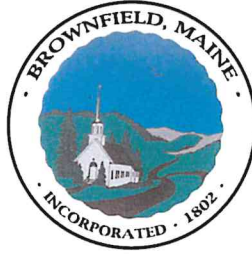


# TOWN OF BROWNFIELD



## Selectmen's Meeting September 20, 2022 Minutes

**Selectmen in Attendance:** Dick Norcross, Rick Emery and John Hicks.

**Attendees:** Fire Chief Richard Perreault; Dana Forcier; Hailey Boudreau; Town Clerk Michelle Day; CEO Mike Vane; Brian Merrill; Carrie Garland; Alice Fitzgerald; B.J. Parker; Whit Lucy; Vincent Lanovara; Daymond Steer; Abe Ruiter; Joe and Terry Egan; Gail Hart; Dan Larson; Animal Control Officer Cynthia Eaton; Bruce Collins; Ada Lane; Sooz Eland; Bob Sawyer; Matt Coen; Brian McGrath; and Frank Day. Via Zoom: Booker; Cindy W; Esther; Farylyn; John Scott; J; and M. Katz.

At 5:35 PM the meeting was called to order by Dick Norcross.

Rick read a statement received from MMA Legal Services regarding the public hearing that has been scheduled for October 7 for the comprehensive plan, noting that "the purpose of holding a public hearing is to solicit input from the public which would be difficult to do effectively on a night when another high-profile event is being held" Joe Egan spoke in regards to moving the Comp plan ahead with a special meeting being called in December or January. He would like to have the Selectboard and Comprehensive committee meet to decide on dates for meetings, public hearings and for voting. Ask Michelle to post these in the paper. Requests money, not to exceed \$500 to finish printing, mailings, newspaper and advertisements. He recommends a better sound system for meetings at the community building and a moderator to control the meetings. Terry said they came up with a budget, they try to be as transparent and welcome input and said sharing communication would be helpful for all. Sooz added to address concerns with the committee rather than backbiting. Matt said there is a lot of good stuff in this and asks the community to get involved to work together. He would like to see the town succeed. Dick said we have a new zoom account that will be available to the committee to use. Vinny said we have a comprehensive plan but Joe explained that the State said the 1991 plan is not recognized. In 2008 the State created the management plan. Bruce asked the definition of an update.

**Minutes:** John motioned, Rick 2<sup>nd</sup> to accept the Minutes of September 13, 2022. Vote was unanimous.

**Payroll and Accounts Payable Warrants** were signed.

Dick asked whether the town did much business during Fryeburg Fair week. Michelle answered yes and after a brief discussion it was agreed that the office will be opened during fair week.

There was a discussion concerning the Town Newsletter and who is liable. It is not sanctioned by the town but the cost of copying it comes out of the Administration budget. The contributors are listed on the back of the newsletter along with a disclaimer that “the Town of Brownfield is not responsible for the content of this newsletter.” Terry explained that they work together as a close team. Vinny said if the town is funding it the responsibility and liability could fall on the town. BJ said Vinny has a valid point. Dick asked whether they would entertain changing the name of the newsletter and Terry said, “Brownfield Newsletter.”

Vinny 2<sup>nd</sup> agenda item, referendum vs special or annual town meeting answered by Dick that the town will hold a special town meeting for the comp plan at a later date.

Dick reminded everyone of the public hearing on Sept 27 for the General Assistance Ordinance. The correspondence file was reviewed.

Rick read a letter requesting the planning board be on the Sept 27 agenda for discussion of “street standards for design and construction.” They will be added to the agenda for next week.

Rick said Patrick, Northledge Technology was supposed to do a block maintenance price, computer maintenance price, and computer price so Alvina was instructed to contact Patrick at Northledge Technology in regards to a contract. Dick stated we need contracts for heating and electrical as well. John asked whether we should put these out to bid.

We received the preliminary 2023 State Valuation report that shows standards ratio of 90.99% which Dick said is very good. The audit information was provided by our Assessor Robert Konczal. Dick stated if the taxpayers want, we will probably do a full revaluation next year, this year is catching up. BJ asked how often do we do revaluations and Dick said they should be done every ten years.

STRs are still being worked on according to Joe.

Dick reported that our printer costs were \$600 over our monthly fee.

John read an “executive sessions and personnel matters” document in regards to these subjects. He stated the reason for this because their executive sessions have been out of order and the reason for this was to bring it to their attention what they can and can not discuss in executive session.

Code Enforcement Officer, Mike Vane provided pictures and an explanation for action taken or to be taken concerning an unsafe structure at 66 Pig Street. He said they have made progress and granted an additional 30 days so on 10/20/22 he recommends moving forward with fines and penalties associated with the town ordinances. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> weeks of the month are for department heads.

Dicky reported on responding to a call for the Hive on Merrill’s Corner Road at 11:00PM on Thursday night while he was out of town.

At 6:53 PM John motioned to adjourn, seconded by Rick. Vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Alvina Day, Administrative Assistant