

Select Board Minutes
March 25th, 2025

Present: Paul Kleinman
Letty Bedard
Jim Michaud
Jon Morgan (via Teams)

At 6:00pm, Kleinman called the meeting to order.

The Board signed the payroll and accounts payable summary register.

Motion: Michaud motioned, seconded by Bedard to accept the consent agenda which consisted of public minutes from March 18th, and the following building permits

- Brian & Elizabeth Keane, 30 Northrup Drive, Electrical
- Cocav & Adam Rauwerdink, 5 Wendell Drive, Plan Examination
- River Run Development, LLC, 8 Edgewater Drive, Plumbing
- James Erricolo & Meghan Ward, 6 Ole Gordon Road, Plan Examination
- Martin & Tracy Flinders, 60 Mohawk Lane, Minor Projects
- 10 Doe Run Road, LLC., 59 Deer Hill Road, Building
- MacDonald Family Living Trust, 166 Pickpocket Road, Electrical
- First Baptist Church, 201 North Road, Electrical

All were in favor. Motion carried.

Motion made by Bedard, seconded by Michaud to have Morgan participate remotely. All were in favor.

Corporal Chris Spitalere promotion to Sergeant

Motion: Bedard motioned to appoint Corporal Chris Spitalere to Sergeant, seconded by Michaud. Kleinman – aye; Bedard – aye; Morgan -aye; Michaud – aye. All in favor, motion carried. Town Clerk, Daphne Woss swore in Sergeant Spitalere. The Brentwood Police Department was present to show their support for Sergeant Spitalere.

Chief Doty said it has been quite a year. He wouldn't be where he is without Sgt. Spitalere. It is truly an honor to see Chris promoted to Sergeant. Kleinman wanted to let the department know how proud he is of this police force. They bring honor and integrity to the department.

Public Comment

Kleinman noted that public comment will be moved to after regular business starting next week.

Chief Doty wanted to offer some public comment. He believes in transparency with his department. Chief Doty gave recent statistics compared to other towns his officers are out there making stops. A lot of the stops are on Route 125. Last year they had 804 traffic with surrounding towns being much less. Chief Doty also mentioned that the Municipal Building Committee has

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been meeting and making progress. Kleinman said the deterrence effect has been noticeable on Route 125.

Liz Faria, South Road, was made aware that the Select Board will be going to their summer schedule next month. She doesn't know any schedule that has April as a summer month. She would suggest the Board continues to meet every week until June.

Kate from Middle Road. She learned that the highway was not on the impact fee list and is this something that the Board can work on in the future. Bedard said the Planning Board would be the committee that works on it. Kleinman said he would discuss it with the Planning Board.

Regular Business

Police Department – cruiser purchase:

Chief Doty said this year he budgeted for a cruiser. He is asking for permission from the Board to purchase the cruiser. This is part of the cruiser rotation plan which is replacing a cruiser every year. The cost of the cruiser is \$46,708.80. There is one on hold for us. He is still waiting for a quote for the buildout of the cruiser. It should be about \$15,000 - \$16,000. He can use the detail revolving account if needed. Michaud noted that the cruiser replacement plan was a good plan. These cruisers are driven hard.

Motion: Michaud motioned to approve the \$65,000 purchase for a cruiser which includes the building and if it goes over Chief Doty will come back to the Board. Bedard seconded. Kleinman – aye; Bedard – aye; Morgan -aye; Michaud – aye. All in favor, motion carried.

Chief Doty mentioned he has the black and white Tahoe that has over 100,000 miles on it. We just replaced the transmission. He would like to move the equipment in this Taurus and put it in the Tahoe. The outfitter will swap out the equipment and keep the Taurus. This wouldn't cost the town any money. It would be an exchange.

Chief Doty said the Chair of the Municipal Building Committee drafted an RFQ. He would like to forward it to the Town Administrator so she can post it. He will send it to her by Friday.

Fire Department – overnight staffing and Lieutenant position:

Chief Bird wanted to bring a couple of things to the Board. He noted the two vehicles had been moved to the town shed. He asked the Board what they would like to do with them. Michaud thought they should go over the specs and put them out online and try to sell them ourselves.

Chief Bird said they are hoping to have the Deputy Chief start by April 14th. He already discussed some items with him such as the budget. Kleinman mentioned that we haven't announced his hire yet. Hansen announced that Roy Olsen will be the new Deputy Fire Chief. He will start on April 21st and Roy comes to Brentwood with over 20 years of experience. Chief Bird added that Roy has worked for the town from 2009-2014. He lives three minutes from the

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station. He was introduced to the staff last night and he plans on meeting with each member of the department.

Chief Bird said he would like to get the Lieutenant positions filled as soon as possible. One would be promoted from within, and the other is on his call list. He is full-time in Bedford. This will leave him with one open full-time position.

Liz Faria, South Road, feels that there should be a “pause” on filling the 2 open positions in the Fire Department.

Deputy Fire Chief: Announced in previous discussion

Standby Stipend:

Chief Bird presented the board with the 2025 projection to cover the standby stipend. This would start May 1, 2025, the total projected cost is \$95,309. Chief Bird has the majority of the money in his budget, he believes he can find the remaining \$640. Chief Bird states that surrounding towns have at least two staff on at night. Kleinman would like Artimovich to be present for this conversation, moves to table. Morgan stated that when people call 911 on their worst day, that Brentwood should have the staff to respond, and feels that the Board is walking away from their duties if they cannot provide emergency services. Michaud seconds the motion to table this discussion until next week. Michaud – aye; Bedard – aye; Morgan – aye; Kleinman – aye, motion carries.

Front-end loader maintenance agreement:

Road Agent, Wayne Robinson was present to discuss the service agreement for the front-end loader. Kleinman questioned why a service agreement is needed when the machine has a 5-year warranty.

Jim Michaud stated that he had met with Chappell Tractor and has negotiated a 2024 Hitachi wheel loader with under 200 hours with a 6-year or 3,000-hour warranty for \$131,000. Michaud states he would like to add a rear camera, fenders and strobe lights to this machine, likely an additional \$6,000. Michaud motions to purchase the Hitachi wheel loader from Chappell Tractor, to include the rear camera, the rear fenders and the strobe lights, up to \$140,000, seconded by Bedard. Michaud – aye; Bedard – aye; Morgan – aye; Kleinman – aye, motion carries.

CCC – P & S:

Kleinman asked if there were any comments regarding the purchase and sales agreement presented by the Conservation Commission last week. Kate Locke-Parks, Middle Road, thanked the Conservation Commission/Open Space Committee for their hard work. Michaud, seconded by Bedard, motioned to approve signing the purchase and sales agreement. Michaud – aye; Bedard – aye; Morgan – aye; Kleinman – aye, motion carries.

Cemetery Trustee - Superintendent continuance & alternate appointment:

Jim Hajar, Cemetery Trustees, Chair, (also in attendance Skip Belanger, Cemetery Trustees and Joyce Keegal, Super Intendent of Cemeteries) was present to discuss the Cemetery Trustees desire to have Joyce Keegal remain the Super Intendent of Cemeteries. Keegal has just returned after a leave of absence and her roles in town may be changing. Keegal has expressed that she

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would like to maintain that role, the Cemetery Trustees are in support of this. The Board thanked Hajjar for letting them know.

Hajjar also let the Board know that the Cemetery Trustees do not have any alternates. Hajjar asked the Board if they would appoint a previous alternate, Caleb Labbe, until June 30, 2025 so that the Trustees could have 1 alternate. The Trustees typically recommend 2 alternates each year per RSA. Michaud motioned, seconded by Bedard to approve Caleb Labbe as a cemetery Trustee through June 30, 2025. Michaud – aye; Bedard – aye; Morgan – aye; Kleinman – aye, motion carries.

Health Trust Update:

Hansen stated that a Senate bill has come out and they feel that Healthtrust is falling below their reserves, Healthtrust's response was that the towns would need to set aside money to cover the reserves. Healthtrust requested that towns increase their premiums up to 4% over 4 years. If this bill passes Healthtrust has announced they will end their insurance on December 31, 2025.

The Board discussed the Town's reconciliation status. Hansen has reached out to a contractor who has over 20 years of experience in municipal finance. Kleinman is looking for this contractor to come in for up to 8 hours at \$125/hour to assess the status of Brentwood's financials. The contractor will come back with an estimate as to how many hours it will take to get Brentwood ready for the upcoming audit. Michaud motions to approve hiring the finance contractor for up to 8 hours, seconded by Bedard. Michaud – aye; Bedard – aye; Morgan – aye; Kleinman – aye, motion carries.

At 7:40pm Kleinman opened public comment.

Becky Dunham, Block Dive, Conservation Commission, Chair, announced a Green Snow Pro representative will be presenting at the Conservation Commission meeting on May 14th. Dunham also announced it is tick season!

Seeing no other comments, Kleinman closed public comment at 7:43.

Michaud has met with Police, Fire and Highway and has requested a list of their equipment so that he can keep track of things.

Michaud attended the ALS ribbon cutting. Brentwood is happy to have community ALS service in town.

Respectfully submitted,

Jillian Benedix