

TOWN MEETING MINUTES
BROOKLINE, NH
March 8 & 9, 2016

The meeting was opened at 7am, on Tuesday, March 8th by Moderator Peter Webb.

Inspectors of Election/Ballot Clerks were sworn in. The ballot box was verified to be empty, the ballots were distributed and the polls were opened under Article 1.

Ballot Clerks were as follows: Marybeth Lukovits, Lori Michaelson, Elizabeth Solon & Kathleen Trasatti.

Polls closed at 7:30pm

Total names on the checklist	3677
Total Ballots cast-	536
<u>Absentee voters -</u>	<u>13</u>
Total votes	549

The business meeting was called to order at 7:00pm, on March 9th by Moderator Peter Webb.

Peter Webb led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A round of applause was given to the people who served in the military and a moment of silence for the residents that passed away in 2015.

RESOLUTION

Darrell Philpot read a resolution about Susan Adams and presented her with a gift. Be it resolved that: In acknowledgement of and with great appreciation for her service to the Town of Brookline as a Selectboard member for three years, including as Vice-Chair for the last two years, and as a member of the Economic Development Committee for the past three years, the Town of Brookline, through its Selectboard, gives thanks and recognizes Susan Adams. You have consistently demonstrated excellence and dedicated service to the Town of Brookline for which we are all very grateful.

Presented, this 9th day of March 2016

By the Selectboard, Darrell Philpot, Brendan Denehy, Karl Dowling, John Carr

Darrell Philpot presented Rena Duncklee with a gift and read the inside cover of the 2015 Town Report that was dedicated to Rena in recognition of her 38 years of service to the Town of Brookline.

Rena's service to Brookline began in 1978 when she was elected to the Melendy Pond Authority. In 1979 she took over as Town treasurer. In her year as treasurer, Rena made her mark by wisely shifting the Town's funds to certificates of deposits and other interest bearing accounts that generated an additional \$13,000.00 in income that had not been realized in prior years.

On December 1, 1980, Rena resigned as town treasurer and was hired as fulltime Assistant to the Board of Selectmen, which is the role she has remained in to today. Over this time, the Town's population has grown by about 300% from about 1750 residents to today's 5,116. The annual town operating budget has grown by a multiple of 16. When she began the annual operating budget was \$261,000 and all checks were signed by hand.

When asked about the biggest change over the years, Rena noted the "volume of work" While that has increased significantly, Rena's demonstrated an unparalleled ability to manage the increase, adapt to changing technology, and provide others with invaluable "institutional knowledge" of all things Brookline. On a daily basis, Rena has been notably diligent with taxpayer money-a fact that has and will continue to benefit taxpayers for years to come. Rena's efficiency and wisdom will be missed.

On behalf of the Brookline residents, we thank Rena for her many years of service and wish her a joyful and relaxing retirement.

Rena, we promise to save you a front row seat at future annual town meetings- its wouldn't be the same without you there.

RESOLUTION

Be it resolved that: In Acknowledgement of and with great appreciation for her service to the Town of Brookline as the Town Treasurer for one year, a member of the Melendy Pond Authority for five years and, most notably, as the Executive Assistant and Office Manager for the Selectboard for the past 36 years, the Town of Brookline, through its Selectboard. Give thanks to and recognizes

Rena Duncklee. You have consistently demonstrated excellence and dedicated service to the Town of Brookline for which we are very grateful

Presented, this 9th day of March 2016

By the Selectboard, Darrell Philpot, Brendan Denehy, Karl Dowling, John Carr

Peter Webb welcomed Brookline residents to the 246th annual meeting

1.) To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

Selectboard	3 yr	Brendan Denehy	415
		Thomas Humphreys	377
Town Moderator	2 yr	Peter Webb	510
Board of Assessors	3 yr	Peter Cook	465
Road Agent	1 yr	Gerald Farwell	453
Town Treasurer	1 yr	Eric Bernstein	452
Fire Ward	2 yr	David Joki	454
Fire Ward	3 yr	David Flannery	448
Finance Committee	3 yr	Brian Rater	448

Library Trustee	3 yr	Edward Cook	412
		Karen Jew	398
Town Trustee	3 yr	Clarence Farwell	427
Cemetery Trustee	3 yr	Gale Taylor	457
Supervisor of the Checklist	6 yr		

Question on the Brookline School District Ballot-

By Petition- Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB2) to allow official ballot voting on all issues before the Brookline School District on the second Tuesday of March

YES-278 NO-143

Question on the Hollis-Brookline Cooperative School District Ballot-

By Petition- Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB2) to allow official ballot voting on all issues before the Hollis-Brookline Cooperative School District on the second Tuesday of March

	Brookline	Hollis	Total
YES	308	452	760
NO	143	628	771

Surveyor of Wood & Lumber: On a motion by Rena Duncklee 2nd George Foley

We elected Jerry Farwell as Surveyor of Wood & Lumber.

HAND VOTE-YES

Melendy Pond Authority: On a motion by Ann Webb 2nd Peter Cook

We elected Francis Lafreniere to the Melendy Pond Authority.

HAND VOTE-YES

Sexton: On a motion by Rena Duncklee 2nd George Foley, We elected Jerry Farwell as Sexton.

HAND VOTE-YES

2.) (By Ballot) Are you in favor of adopting the amendments to the Uses Permitted by Special Exception in the Residential/Agricultural District and adopting the new ordinance for Bed & Breakfasts as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Brookline Zoning Ordinance? (See full text on page 15 of the annual report).

YES-452 NO-80

3.) (By Ballot) Are you in favor of adopting the amendments to the Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Brookline Zoning Ordinance? (See full text of amendments on page 19 of the annual report).

YES-415 NO-106

4.) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,331,557 to defray town charges for the ensuing year and make appropriation of the same. Ann Somers made a motion 2nd George Foley

Darrell Philpot made a motion to decrease the budget to **\$4,274,938** 2nd Rena Duncklee

Darrell Philpot spoke to the Article. Brian Rater from the Finance Committee spoke to the Article.

HAND VOTE-YES

Rui Loura made a motion to amend the Article by \$20,000 changing the budget to \$4,254,938 Eric Pauer made a motion 2nd Peter Walker

Amendment FAILED

5.) To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to enter into a 3-year lease/purchase agreement for a total of \$297,122 for the purpose of leasing and purchasing new high-band radio equipment for both cell towers, fire apparatus, and pagers and to raise and appropriate **\$101,318** (including interest) for the first year's payment. If approved, additional lease payments of \$101,318 will be due in 2017 and 2018. Said lease agreement contains a fiscal funding clause, which permits the termination of the lease on an annual basis should the funds necessary to make the required payments not be appropriated at town meeting.

Michael Wenrich spoke to the Article. Charles Corey made a motion, 2nd Richard Gribble

SECRET BALLOT

YES-115 NO-53

Motion PASSED

6.) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$62,000** for the purpose of hiring and equipping an additional full-time Brookline Police Officer, or to take any other action relative thereto. This amount will fund the position for 2016 and is prorated to begin May 1st (the 12-month total annualized cost is \$91,570). The amount raised will be incorporated into the Police and Personnel Administration budgets for accounting purposes.

Police Chief William Quigley Spoke to the Article. Brendan Denehy made a motion 2nd Tad Putney

SECRET BALLOT

YES- 104 NO-42

Motion PASSED

7.) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,000 for the purpose of road/bridge improvements, or take any action relative thereto. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until December 31, 2021.

Jerry Farwell spoke to the Article. Brendan Denehy made a motion 2nd Rena Duncklee
HAND VOTE-NO
Motion FAILED

8.) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$30,000** for the purpose of engineering the reconstruction of the Bond Street bridge, or take any action relative thereto. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until December 31, 2021.

Jerry Farwell spoke to the Article. On a motion from Rena Duncklee 2nd Doug Barnett
HAND VOTE-YES

9.) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$20,200** to purchase a power lift stretcher for the Brookline Ambulance, or to take any action relative thereto.

Lee Duval spoke to the Article. Eric Pauer made a motion 2nd George Foley
HAND VOTE-YES

10.) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$18,600** for the purpose of expanding the Library's part-time Assistant Director to a full-time position. Said sum is prorated to begin on April 1st (the 12-month total annualized cost is \$24,800). The amount raised will be incorporated into the Library budget for accounting purposes.

David Partridge Spoke to the Article. Rena Duncklee made a motion 2nd Ed Cook
HAND VOTE
YES- 79 NO-48

11.) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$15,000** to be expended at the discretion of the Selectboard in opposition to the proposed Northeast Energy Direct high-pressure gas pipeline, including, but not limited to, expenditures for legal representation and consultants, administrative and court filing fees, participation in multi-town coalitions, and any and all other expenses reasonably related to opposing said pipeline project. Brendan Denehy spoke to the Article. Buddy Dougherty made motion 2nd Eric Pauer
HAND VOTE-YES

12.) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$18,590** for efforts to control non-native invasive species in Lake Potanipo and Melendy Pond. Said appropriation will be offset by a Department of Environmental Services grant in the amount of \$7,436 and \$11,154 from general taxation. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until December 31, 2021.

Drew Kellner spoke to the Article. Tad Putney made a motion 2nd Buddy Dougherty

HAND VOTE-YES

13.) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$10,000** for the purpose of funding an update to Brookline's town history (from 1914 to the present), which will be completed in time for the town's 250th anniversary in 2019. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until December 31, 2020.

Scott Grzyb spoke to the Article. Brednan Denehy made a motion 2nd George Foley

HAND VOTE-YES

14.) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$7,200** to purchase an automatic generator and related equipment for the Ball Hill Antennae Site, or take any action relative thereto.

Lee Duval spoke to the Article. Darrell Philpot made a motion 2nd George Foley

HAND VOTE-YES

15.) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,720 to add to the Ambulance Service Expendable Trust Fund with said **\$1,720** to come from the unassigned fund balance.

John Carr spoke to the Article. Judy Cook made a motion 2nd John Liska

HAND VOTE-YES

16.) To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 41:9-a and authorize the Selectboard to establish or amend fees, including for, but not limited to, use of the transfer station, until rescinded at an annual or special town meeting.

John Carr spoke to the Article. Brenden Denehy made a motion 2nd Darrell Philpot

HAND VOTE-YES

17.) Shall the Town adopt the provisions of RSA 72:61-64 inclusively, which provide for an optional property exemption from the property's assessed value, for property tax purposes, for persons owning real property, which is equipped with solar energy systems intended for use at the immediate site? Such property tax exemption shall be in the amount equal to 100% of the assessed value of qualifying solar energy system equipment under these statutes.

Peter Cook spoke to the Article. Judy Cook made a motion 2nd George Foley

HAND VOTE

YES- 49 NO-44

18.) Shall the town adopt the provisions of RSA 72:65-68 inclusively, which provide for an optional property tax exemption from the property's assessed value, for property tax purposes, for persons owning real property, which is equipped with wind powered energy systems intended for use at the immediate site? Such property tax exemption shall be in the amount equal to 100% of the assessed value of qualifying wind-powered energy system equipment under these statutes.

Jim Townsend made a motion 2nd George Foley

HAND VOTE-NO

19.) Shall the town adopt the provisions of RSA 72:69-72 inclusively, which provide for an optional property tax exemption from the property's assessed value, for property tax purposes, for persons owning real property, which is equipped with wood heating energy systems intended for use at the immediate site? Such property tax exemption shall be in the amount equal to 100% of the assessed value of qualifying wood-heating energy system equipment under these statutes. Brenden Denehy made a motion 2nd- Lori Michaelson

HAND VOTE-NO

20.) (By Petition) To see if the town will urge:

That the next President and Congress fight big money politics and restore government of, by, and for the people by championing the We the People agenda:

1. Ban Super PACs and overturn Citizens United
2. Expose secret donors and require full transparency
3. Ban bribes from big-money lobbyists and government contractors
4. Establish small-donor, citizen-funded elections
5. End gerrymandering and modernize voter registration
6. Close loopholes and enforce campaign finance laws

That the New Hampshire State Legislature support concrete legislation to enact the We the People agenda.

The record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice from the selectmen to the NH congressional delegation and to Brookline's state legislators, and to the President of the United States informing them of the instructions from their constituents within 30 days of the vote.

Judy Cook made a motion 2nd Melaine Levesque

HAND VOTE

YES-42 NO-28

21.) To see if the Town will vote to accept the following legacies:

- a. The sum of \$300 for general cemetery maintenance (Miner Lot #205) in Pine Grove Cemetery.

b. The sum of \$1,200 for general cemetery maintenance (Whipp Lot #351A) in Pine Grove Cemetery
Webb Scales made a motion 2nd George Foley

HAND VOTE-YES

22.) To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.
To accept the reports of the Selectboard and other Town Officers and Committees.

David Partridge made a motion, 2nd Judy Cook

HAND VOTE-YES

Eric Pauer made a motion to adjourn Rena Duncklee .

The meeting adjourned at 11:20pm

Monies raised and appropriated-\$4,559,566.00

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Howard-Barnett
Brookline Town Clerk