TOWN OF BRANDON MINUTES INFORMATION MEETING APRIL 29, 2024

Present: Select Board Members Doug Bailey, Ralph Ethier, Tim Guiles, Heather Fjeld-Nelson, and Brian Coolidge, Town Manager, Seth Hopkins, Moderator Bill Moore, Clerk Susan Gage, and 32 voters.

Moderator Bill Moore called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance. Moderator Moore then addressed the ground rules of the meeting and urged everyone to maintain civility. Following the reading of the warning, Tim Guiles motioned to open article one, which was seconded by Linda Gebhard.

1. To hear a presentation by the Select Board of its revised budget for fiscal year 2024-2025. This budget will be voted by Australian Ballot on April 30, 2024, at the Brandon American Legion Post #55, 550 Franklin Street, Brandon, VT, between the hours of 7 am and 7 pm.

Selectboard chair Doug Bailey led the presentation of the revised budget. The presentation enumerated changes from the initial budget to the revised budget along with comparisons to prior year actual. Graphics were also presented showing the portions of the property tax allocated to municipal funding and school funding, as well as graphics showing the breakdown by municipal department. The presentation also included a summary of the ARPA spending.

Moderator Bill Moore then opened the floor to questions from the attendees. Discussion ensued, some in support of the revised budget some suggesting enough cuts were not made. Select board member Brian Coolidge was the lone selectboard member who spoke against the revised budget.

2. To transact any other business proper to be done when met.

The attendees were reminded of Arbor Day tree handout at the Senior Citizens Center on Friday, May 3, and Green Up Day on Saturday, May 4th.

3. Adjourn.

Seth Hopkins made a motion to adjourn, seconded by George Fjeld. Meeting was adjourned at 7:18 pm.

Susan Gage, Clerk

Bill Moore, Moderator