



**TOWN of**  
**THOMPSON**  
**BOARD OF FINANCE**

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TOWN OF THOMPSON, CT.  
2018 FEB -2 A 10:31  
*Linda Paradise*  
TOWN CLERK / ASST.

**Minutes: Regular Meeting**  
**Thursday, January 18, 2018**  
**Thompson Library/Community Center**  
**7:00 PM**

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Chairman Aaron McGarry called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

- I. Roll call
  - A. Members Present: Aaron McGarry, Larry Groh Jr., Jim Bellavance, Rhonda Rooney, Susanne Witkowski and Rob Mann.
  - B. Members Absent: None
  - C. Staff Present: Orla McKiernan-Rafferty, Diane Minarik, Recording Secretary
  - D. Also Present: Members of the Public
- II. Approve Minutes
  - A. November 30, 2017  
**Rhonda Rooney moved and Susanne Witkowski seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the November 30, 2017 meeting as written. The motion carried unanimously.**
  - B. December 21, 2018  
**Jim Bellavance moved and Rob Mann seconded the motion to approve the December 21, 2018 minutes with correction to: VI. Line 34 correct amount is \$300k not \$30K. The motion carried unanimously.**
- III. Correspondence
  - A. Copy of 2018 Meeting Schedule.  
The Board discussed dates for their budget workshops which starts on
    - 3/1/18 - School Auditorium @ 7:00pm – BOE & Selectmen present budgets
    - 3/8/18 - Thompson Library @ 7:00pm – budget workshop
    - 3/15/18 - Thompson Library @ 7:00pm – regular monthly meeting
    - 3/22/18 - Thompson Library @ 7:00pm – budget workshop
    - 4/5/18 - Thompson Library @ 7:00pm – budget workshop
    - 4/12/18 - Thompson Library @ 7:00pm – budget workshop
    - 4/19/18 - Thompson Library @ 7:00pm – regular monthly meeting
    - 3/29/18 No meeting – Holy Thursday
  - B. Letter from Diana Couture dated 12/17/17 re: this year's motor vehicle list resulted in a total of \$251,537 in additional taxes which is \$81,537 over the amount budgeted.
  - C. BOF monthly budget sheet. Orla explained the budget sheet which is their department's monthly report of expenditures. The Board would like this report every month.

## IV. Citizen's Comments: None

## V. Kenneth Beausoleil: Selectmen's Update

During the 1/4/18 snow storm the town's 24 yr old dump truck lost its rear end which cost \$3K to fix and a F350 lost an alternator which was also repaired. The Fire Study written report should be completed in a couple of weeks, the fire departments are slow getting info in. The waste-oil furnace has been replaced and is up and burning again at a cost of \$6,622 and the outdoor wood burning stove pipe has been replaced at a cost of \$1,800.00 so the Highway Garage Building Maintenance account is low. Town hall lights will be replaced with LED energy efficient lights and the estimated savings is \$2K a year in electrical costs, FY17-18 budget line item for town hall electricity is \$16K. Regarding the budgets, Ken and Melinda are working together to utilize each other. BOS have scheduled their budget meetings in February and have a tentative agreement with the union. Pending lawsuits - Starr Road trial starts 2/1/18 in Putnam Court, the schools oil spill pre-trial is set for 2/8/18 and Marianapolis Sewer Project is still ongoing but are looking at direction to settle and Trinity is still paying the towns legal costs. The town attorney search is moving forward. The BOS will discuss a town attorney update meeting for the BOF. Bill Witkowski stated the oil tanks at the school are 30 yrs old but have only been in the ground for 28 yrs, it doesn't look promising that DEEP will let us wait till summer to dig them up and replace them.

## VI. Melinda Smith: Education Update

Enrollment is holding steady at 1,010 students. The Board members will receive next year's Strategic Plan with revised program study approved by BOE. Some goals and objectives - over the next 3 years get teachers certified to teach more College Board Advanced Placement Courses, we currently offer 2 and the HS currently offers 11 college credit classes and now have received a grant to train teachers to be able to offer 2 more classes and virtual classes also. She will email their budget workshop dates to BOF. Larry Groh Jr. questioned some of the budget numbers on the Bus RFP budgets, over the course of a few years the numbers are up and down and don't add up. Melinda and Larry will meet next week to go over them and will report back to the Board at next meeting.

## VII. Orla McKiernan-Rafferty: Financial Report

Orla gave her report stating the town has received \$8.924M in property tax, \$22,050 in State and Federal Grants, \$460K in local revenue. Committed expenses for the year are \$3.922M. Cash increased by \$167K and the surplus stayed the same for the month. The auditors suggested and will file an extension. There was a discussion on the cost of snow storms; usually the town will treat the roads twice during a snow storm at a cost of \$11K and the average cost for payroll per storm is \$8-9K. This past storm cost more because it needed 3 treatments and payroll from 4am-8pm. Pot holes are already popping up at additional costs.

## VIII. Joseph Lindley: Board of Trustees of the Tourtellotte Fund Update

They had their annual trust meeting and discussed their investment objectives, since 2009 they've had an annual growth of 4.9%, they had election of officers which stayed the same. The phase 1 window project is moving ahead even with the icicle problems and hope to start installing windows in May. Everything that needed to be

done is done so they will be suggesting a lower maintenance budget than normal and looking to reserve funds to start the phase 2 of the window replacement. They are moving forward with putting the 1909 Building on the National Historic Register for additional historic preservation funding but it might be more challenging than they expected because of all the changes the town has done to it over the last 100 years or so.

IX. New Business: None

X. Old Business: None

XI. Board of Finance Members Comment:

XII. Adjourn

**Larry Groh Jr. moved and Susanne Witkowski seconded the motion to adjourn.  
The motion carried unanimously.**

Chairman Aaron McGarry adjourned the meeting at 8:27 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Diane Minarik*

Diane Minarik  
Recording Secretary