



TOWN of
THOMPSON
BOARD OF FINANCE

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Linda Paradise
TOWN CLERK, Ass't

Minutes: Regular Meeting
Thursday, July 19, 2018
Thompson Library/Community Center
7:00 PM

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Chairman Aaron McGarry called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

I. Roll call

- Members Present: Aaron McGarry, Larry Groh Jr., Susanne Witkowski, Jim Bellavance and Rob Mann.
- Members Absent: Rhonda Rooney
- Staff Present: Orla McKiernan-Rafferty, Diane Minarik, Recording Secretary
- Also Present: Members of the Public

II. Approve Minutes:

A. June 21, 2018 Regular Meeting

Larry Groh Jr. moved and Rob Mann seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the 6/21/18 regular meeting as written.

Susanne Witkowski and Aaron McGarry Abstained – they did not attend the meeting.

The motion carried.

III. Correspondence

- A. BOF's monthly Budget Report - None
- B. BOS minutes: 6/5/18, 6/11/18, 6/19/18, 7/12/18
- C. BOE minutes: 6/11/18, 6/20/18
- D. EDC/Branding minutes: 6/6/18, 6/20/18
- E. Email rec'd on 7/11/18: BOE Agenda for 7/16/18 Special Meeting & 7/16/18 Executive Session
- F. Email rec'd on 7/16/18 from Noel Lafayette of SHR Energy Management LLC re: Solar Project (to be read out loud)

Reports/Updates handed out at meeting

- o First Selectmen's Update
- o Thompson Public Works July 2018 Update
- o Financial Report June 2018, fiscal year end 2018

IV. Citizen's Comments:

- Larry Groh stated Rhonda Rooney called him right before the meeting and said something came up and she won't be able to make it.

V. Kenneth Beausoleil: Selectmen's Update

- o CT Water is replacing 3500 ft of water main pipe; the search for a new Town Planner is on-going; the previously shared building official now only works for Thompson part time; the Town has received \$30,747.00 from an insurance claim filed last year for missing funds; Ken Slater of Halloran & Sage is the new town

attorney; Trinity sewer project is moving forward with a possible alternative drilling route; town is applying for a \$10K State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) grant to be used in conjunction with the BAR grant; new town website is in the design stages; John Filchak from NECCOG is meeting with PZC Sub-committee on 7/30/18 re: P&Z regulations; VFIS Fire Study is being reviewed by the fire depts. & BOS;

- o EDC Update: ANYA Restaurant had a soft opening on 7/14 & 7/15.
- o DPW Update: The new 9-ton dump truck has been delivered, the F-550 mason dump and the Paver should be here in a couple weeks and the used Bucket truck Rich purchased should arrive tomorrow, once paving is completed this fall they will focus on tree maintenance; there are a lot of failing drainage systems posing problems in town and will be re-lining collapsing culverts on Hill Rd & Ravenelle Rd; mowing is on-going around vacations; DPW Garage and grounds have been cleaned up, all is invited to stop by and check it out, old surplus equipment is being recycled, scraped and sold on [gov.deals](#) and Rich is asking for this income to be put back into the DPW budget.

7:21 Board Member Jim Bellavance left the meeting.

A discussion ensued regarding the resolve of the missing funds insurance claim.

7:25 Board Member Jim Bellavance returned to the meeting.

A discussion ensued regarding busses, vans, DATTCO, the Fire Study Report and sewer line drilling.

VI. Melinda Smith: Education Update

- o 70 students enrolled in summer programs; 13 students in EMR Training; currently 76 kindergarten enrollees; a lot of professional development training for staff this summer; a lot of building improvements this summer, floors, walls, doors, the Middle School Library (thanks to the budget passing in May) and safety upgrades, kudos to the custodial staff; DATTCO took over summer routes, replaced all but 2 of Thompsons fleet and purchased 4 new busses; \$400 K Alliance funding for FY18 bought 635 Chromebooks for all students grade 5-12, but no additional monies for FY19; BOE has hired Mr. Robert Gentis as Finance Director; several safety measures completed; trouble boring through floors, hit bedrock, soil samples are at the lab, awaiting report; FY19 budget did not include Alliance monies; small open house will be scheduled when work is complete.

VII. Orla McKiernan-Rafferty: Financial Report

- o Property Taxes total is \$16.261 M; current taxes are higher than last year; prior tax collections, Interest and Liens and Motor Vehicle Supplements are all lower than last year; received 3 grants; Local Revenue for the year is \$1.085 K; Expenses committed for the year \$7.097 M; cash decreased by \$2.827 M for the month but up \$2.072 M from last year; est. use of Surplus only \$100-200 K not \$675 K; current Fund balance is \$2.119 M; closing out FY18 budget in August, real numbers at September BOF meeting; audit start date is 9/10/18 and will be presenting in November. Discussion on if a Transfer Fund has been set up yet or not and setting up yearly deposits into fund for upcoming pension pay-outs.

VIII. Board of Trustees of the Tourtellotte Fund Update

- Fund has \$2.789 M; museum windows are being built to look like originals with energy efficient glass; front doors being restored; south side of roof was damaged during a storm and being submitted to insurance company, not coming out of Trust; no change in investment strategies.

IX. New Business:

- A. BOE - discussion on establishing a savings account with any remaining funds at years end up to 1% of the school budget as allowed under state statute. This idea was brought to the BOF a couple years ago. With current changes in financial records, omissions, wrong assumptions about their spending plan and the uncertainty of the Alliance Fund, the BOE would like the BOF to reconsider this account. The BOE's FY19 budget is tight and would not be able to cover a boiler failure or something catastrophic. This account would be for emergencies or unforeseen circumstances only. The Board requested the state statute information and tabled to next meeting.

X. Old Business: None

XI. Board of Finance Member's Comments:

- Explanation and discussion on why there were so many minutes under Item III. Correspondence; for less confusion these items will be moved to the end of Correspondence.
- No BOF meeting in August 2018, the next meeting is on September 20, 2018, unless something urgent comes up.

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

Chairman Aaron McGarry adjourned the meeting at 8:47 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Minarik

Diane Minarik
Recording Secretary