

THOMPSON BOARD OF FINANCE  
TOWN OF THOMPSON

Library Community Center  
May 15, 2014  
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

**I. ROLL CALL**

Chairman Raymond Faucher, Jr. called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Paul Dery, Aaron McGarry, Larry Groh, Jr., Susanne Witkowski, Laurent Guillot, Raymond Faucher, Jr.

Members absent: None.

Also present: Mike Martin, Dr. Jolin, Paul Lenky, Kirsten Forrester, member of the public, member of the press.

**II. APPROVE MINUTES**

**Motion** made by Laurent Guillot, seconded by Larry Groh to approve the minutes from the April 24, 2014 meeting. An error on page 4 was made in that “library insurance” should be “liability insurance”. Susanne Witkowski’s name was misspelled in the adjournment section. **Motion—Passed. Laurent Guillot abstained.**

**Motion** made by Laurent Guillot, seconded by Paul Dery to approve the minutes from the May 2, 2014 meeting. **Motion—Passed. Susanne Witkowski abstained.**

**III. CORRESPONDENCE**

Paul Lenky distributed information regarding Open Space.

An email from Aaron McGarry regarding an error in the minutes of April 3, 2014 was received.

An email from Mr. Martin regarding insurance rates was received.

**IV. CITIZENS COMMENTS**

Kerstin Forrester stated an email was sent to all Board Chairs regarding the Town of Thompson’s email addresses which should be used by all Board members. Mr. Dery noted his Town email does not always work correctly. Ms. Forrester explained Paul Baer set up emails for all Board members and is maintaining the web site at this time. Mr. Guillot expressed concern that someone who is not a Town employee is working on the Town’s website. It was noted Tonya is

the employee responsible for the upkeep of the web site. Dr. Jolin explained the school has a webmaster who will be happy to work with the Town on its website.

## **V. PAUL LENKY-SELECTMAN'S UPDATE**

Mr. Lenky discussed the State requirement that Towns have 11% Open Space by the year 2023. The Open Space is to be used for recreation, non-use land or forest land. Mr. Lenky explained there have been some donations recently of property to the Town and those properties can be kept by the Town for Open Space. In addition, the State DEP will have grants available to Towns to purchase larger pieces of land.

Mr. Lenky reported the clean-up at the Belding Mill is moving along. Several parties have expressed interest in purchasing the property but the Town does not own the property.

Mr. Lenky explained the Town is considering acquiring the property next to the Stove Shop which can be used as a boat ramp.

Mr. Lenky reported he has had several conversations with Shawn Johnston regarding CL&P's interest in the water power plant on Wilsonville Road.

## **VI. DR. MICHAEL JOLIN—SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

Dr. Jolin provided the Board with a press release regarding the graduation rate in Thompson which is 89.7% and puts Thompson third within its DRG.

Paul Dery asked about the final percentage for health insurance. Dr. Jolin reported the health insurance came in at 8.4%. Mr. Dery feels that some savings will be seen as a result as the budget called for a 10% increase. Mr. Dery asked if the employee's cost share is calculated into the percentages. Mr. Martin stated the numbers are net numbers for budget purposes. Dr. Jolin also noted cost of teacher's switching out of the Health Savings Account plan needs to be accounted for as well. Dr. Jolin explained the Board came in with an initial increase of 18% and is now hoping for 10%. Dr. Jolin stated there is an additional cost to the District of about \$2,000.00 +/- per employee who changes from the H.S.A. Dr. Jolin will not know how many employees will change over until the end of the fiscal year.

## **VII. MICHAEL MARTIN—FINANCIAL REPORT**

Mr. Martin reported there was not much change during April. There has not been any more money received as a result of the upcoming tax sales however there will be an excess in revenue this year. Mr. Martin explained \$15,000.00 may be needed to purchase a vehicle for Town employees as the current vehicle is no longer safe to drive. Mr. Martin stated once the May numbers are in he will have a firmer figure for the surplus account.

Paul Lenky noted the mechanic at the Town garage has inspected the Town vehicle and determined it is not worth repairing due to the mechanical issues. Mr. Dery noted it does not

look good to citizens to see that car in the Town Hall parking lot covered with snow in the winter and it should be cleared off after each storm.

#### **VIII. BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOURTELLOTTE FUND**

Dr. Jolin stated work to restore the floors in the 1909 building is currently in process.

#### **IX. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

#### **X. OLD BUSINESS**

Aaron McGarry stated although he voted to approve the April 3, 2014 minutes he later noticed an error in his comments regarding cutting money from the fire departments. Mr. McGarry stated he proposed to take \$10,000.00 from the fire department's budgets, \$2,000.00 from each department and not \$10,000.00 from each department as indicated as a result of a typographical error in the minutes. Mr. McGarry would like this issue researched to determine how to go back and revise those minutes so that in the future someone reading them will have the correct facts. Mr. Faucher stated he will check on this and it will be discussed again at the next meeting.

#### **XI. ADJOURN**

**Motion** by Aaron McGarry, seconded by Larry Groh to adjourn. **Motion—Passed. Unanimous.**

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta Baublitz  
Clerk of the Board