



TOWN of
THOMPSON
BOARD OF FINANCE

Minutes: Budget Meeting
Thursday, May 21, 2015
Thompson Library/Community Center
7:00 PM

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Paul Dery called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

I. Roll call

1. Members Present: Paul Dery, Larry Groh, Jr., Laurent Guillot, and Susanne Witkowski.
2. Members Absent: Raymond Faucher, Jr., Aaron McGarry
3. Staff Present:
Tina Fox, Recording Secretary
Orla McKiernan-Rafferty, Finance Director
4. Also Present: Kerstin Forrester, Paul Lenky, Bill Witkowski, Members of the Public

II. Approve Minutes

1. **Laurent Guillot moved and Susanne Witkowski seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the April 9, 2015 meeting with the following corrections:**
 - a. Page 1, Section I: "...and Seating of Alternates" should be removed
 - b. Page 2, Section IV(6): "...Finance Tax Clerk..." should have 'Finance' omitted.

Paul Dery – Yes Larry Groh, Jr. - Yes
Laurent Guillot – Yes Susanne Witkowski- Yes

The motion carried unanimously.
2. **Laurent Guillot moved and Larry Groh, Jr. seconded the motion to go over the April 16, 2015 minutes at the next (regularly scheduled monthly) meeting.**

Paul Dery – Yes Larry Groh, Jr. - Yes
Laurent Guillot – Yes Susanne Witkowski- Yes

The motion carried unanimously.

3. **Laurent Guillot moved and Susanne Witkowski seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the April 29, 2015 meeting with the following corrections:**
- a. Page 1, Section II(3): Add "...on teacher longevity line being close to the same as FY15 not as indicated in the proposed budget."
 - b. Page 2, Section III(6): Citizen's name is Bob Bentley, rather than Bob Ventley.
 - c. Page 4, Section IV(7)(a): "...increase in the education budget..." should be "...increase in the education tax warrant..."
 - d. Page 5, Section IV(18): Motion should be worded: Larry Groh, Jr. moved and Susanne Witkowski seconded the motion to send the total proposed budget of \$24,192,518, and the notes, to Town Meeting.
 - e. Page 5, Section IV(17): Health insurance change was 9.5% to 8%, rather than 9.5% to 8.5%.
- Paul Dery – Yes Larry Groh, Jr. - Yes
 Laurent Guillot – Yes Susanne Witkowski- Yes
- The motion carried unanimously.**

III. Correspondence

- 1. Information regarding volunteering at the Thompson Library.
 < <http://thompsonpubliclibrary.org/about/volunteer.shtml> >
- 2. NEASC report from the Superintendent's Office, available at various places such as the library and school.

IV. Citizen's Comments

- 1. Kerstin Forrester, Selectman, asked that the correspondence that the Board received regarding volunteering at the Thompson Library, which was a link to the Library's website, be added to the minutes for this meeting.

V. Paul Lenky: Selectman's Update

- 1. P. Lenky provided a brief update on the Marianapolis Sewer Project, stating that equipment will be in place by Tuesday. P. Lenky provided an update on road work, stating that they will be seeking bids for pulverizing the road for work at the lots by the following week. He added that the engineering is being finished for Sand Dam Road, and CLA Engineering is finalizing the drawing for the Quaddick Road Bridge.
- 2. P. Lenky stated that a vendor, Service Station Equipment, was chosen for removal of the fuel tanks at the highway garage, at a price of \$243,250. K. Forrester stated that Service Station Equipment was the second lowest bid, and the lowest bid was not complete. She added that the owner of Service Station lives in Thompson and is very active in the community.
- 3. P. Lenky mentioned that there had been a meeting that morning with Charter to discuss a new phone system at Town Hall. K. Forrester explained that there is a choice between a three year and five year contract, with the five year contract looking the most lucrative. She stated that the Town current pays \$950 per month, and this will increase that bill to \$1,135 per month. She added that the new system can increase productivity as it will be more effective, and that the price would be fixed for five years, which the current plan is not.

VI. Dr. Michael Jolin: Education Update

- 1. Bill Witkowski stated that the school received full accreditation, and thanked everyone who was involved. The Board congratulated Bill Witkowski/the school.

VII. Orla McKiernan-Rafferty: Financial Report

1. Orla McKiernan-Rafferty provided an update on financial reports through the end of April. She mentioned that the Town is over on Data Processing, Town Counsel, Town Garage, Municipal Insurance, and Snow Removal, and that more updates will be available once May is complete. She added that the Town's auditors will be coming to do a pre-audit, and that she will provide information in regards to that pre-audit at the next meeting.
2. Larry Groh, Jr. asked how far over-budget the Snow Removal is, to which Orla McKiernan-Rafferty replied that it was over \$98,560.

VIII. Board of Trustees of the Tourtellotte Fund

1. Bill Witkowski stated that there was nothing new to report.

IX. New Business

X. Old Business

1. Paul Dery asked Bill Witkowski about special education, asking if the \$173,000 figure had changed. Bill Witkowski stated that he did not believe it had changed, but that he had not asked Neal Breen about it that day.
2. Paul Dery referred to the April 29, 2015 minutes regarding correspondence from the Superintendent's Secretary. The longevity for FY15 education budget is \$12,500 and the proposed FY16 is at \$24,500.

XI. Adjourn

1. **Larry Groh, Jr. moved and Susanne Witkowski seconded the motion to adjourn.**
Paul Dery – Yes Larry Groh, Jr. - Yes
Laurent Guillot – Yes Susanne Witkowski- Yes
The motion carried unanimously.
2. Paul Dery adjourned the meeting at 7:32 PM.

Tina Fox
Recording Secretary