



**THOMPSON Board of Finance  
Regular Meeting - Minutes  
Thursday, July 21, 2022  
Town Hall-Merrill Seney Room  
and via Zoom from remote locations**

1. The meeting was called to order by Chair Aaron McGarry at 7 PM with all 6 members present. Roll call: Aaron McGarry, Robert Werge, Steve Herbert, Rob Mann, Dave Johnson, Laurent Guillot. First Selectman Amy St Onge, Bill Steglitz (Finance Director), Many members of Boards and Commissions and of the public. Dotti Durst (Recording Secretary)
2. Approval of minutes:
  - a. **Motion S. Herbert seconded by R. Werge to approve the June 16, 2022 BOF Regular Monthly Meeting minutes carried unanimously,**

Correspondence:

- a. June 21 copy of PA 490 Open Space Ordinance proposed revision from First Selectman
- b. June 30 memo regarding the EMS contract, from Caroline Sloat
- c. June 28 Invitation to Ashford's FOIA training for Board/Commission members
- d. July 5 memo from the BOS
- e. July 5 memo from Superintendent of Schools

3. Citizens' comments: none

4. Selectman's Update-First Selectman Amy St Onge: \* Two RFPs have gone out: 1) Doing some forward thinking about the current sidewalk project, next the town will need the Main Street engineering and design work done in order to submit for a grant. 2) The Salt Storge and Public Safety Complex design and site planning is going out. \* The Chase Road and Bates Avenue work is underway. \* Arborist Josh Butts drove several roads with the First Selectman, identifying major gypsy moth damage on Fabyan and Ravenelle Roads. Eversource needs to handle many of these as the trees overhang the roads and power lines. The town can address some of the work. \* Blain Road intersection upgrade: NC Inc, the firm doing the sidewalk work, will look at the situation when time allows. \* Roadside mowing and catch basins are being taken care of, as is a drainage issue on Emil Drive.\* Hazardous Waste Day took place at the DPW facility, with about 150 cars coming through. \* The cooperation with Putnam EMS is operating as expected, with mutual aid going smoothly when needed. \* Next Tuesday, the Town Meeting which seeks approval of modifications/revisions to 3 Ordinances will take place, including to become in compliance on the MS4 Storm Drain issue. \* Quaddick State Park is where individuals are posing a safety concern and are engaged in facility abuse. The DEEP, the Ranger and State Police have been contacted but residents should utilize the Tip Line (860-424-3333) to make a report in real time. \* Concerts in the Park are underway, and the Town-Wide Yard Sale is scheduled, all contributing to a fun summer.

Board of Finance questions:

- S. Herbert asked about hybrid-model town meetings. This is not possible at this time.
- R. Werge noted the billboard efforts with thanks. He asked if the Buckley Hill Road project is included with the Blain Road work. Only 2 bridges, not the intersection.
- S. Herbert asked about the Schools Security letter of July 5. The Building Committee will review the matter followed by an approach to the BOF
- R. Werge asked about the timeline. It appears that they will meet in August.

5. School District Update- none, as the Superintendent of Schools is away. Data was provided last month regarding the close of the school year.
6. Financial Report- Finance Director William Steglitz:
  - \* Revenues are trending well, with \$188.7M collected to date, or 101.7% of budget.
  - \* Tax collections continue to be ahead of budget and PY due to higher taxes due in FY22 and an improved collections rate. Back taxes collection is going well on pre-tax sale for several properties.
  - \* Local Revenues are ahead of last year due to higher conveyance taxes (+\$25K) and property/equipment sales. Motor vehicle supplement taxes are higher \$118K) as well.
  - \* Misc income of \$86K is from the sale of 1395 Riverside Dr and sale of surplus equipment.
  - \* The third of three installments of the Pequot Indian Grant has arrived (\$13K)
  - \* Total expenses (excluding debt refinancing) are \$8.2M, or approximately \$59K above the full-year budget. Town Counsel costs exceeded budget: increased services for debt refinancing, property tax sale, and for Planning and Zoning and employee-related matters.
  - \* As was previously noted, adjustments were made in Animal Control lines as the veterinary expenses (about \$7K) were moved to the off-budget Dog Fund, and the identification of NECCOG expenses was modified. A. St Onge noted that the part-time employee is the reason for the budget overage. The ACO expenses seem to be on track.
  - \* Temporary staff expenses during the transition to the full-time shared Finance Director's position (about \$27K) allowed for successful grant applications.
  - \* All the year-end closings are underway; the annual audit is scheduled for mid-August.

Board of Finance questions:

R. Werge offered thanks for the thoroughness of the report and asked for additional data.
7. Tourtellotte Fund update – Board of Trustees: The Finance Director commented that building the handicapped access to the auditorium is underway and the windows replacement project is wrapping up. The Trustees are exploring a different investment advisor including discussion with any local/regional investment management firms. R. Werge: The Trustees have been very active with projects for the facility during recent times and are aware of the impacts of each project on the Fund.
8. Board of Finance Member Comments: none
9. Adjourn: **M Motion S. Herbert seconded by R. Mann to adjourn carried unanimously.**  
Chair A. McGarry adjourned the meeting at 7:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Dorothy Durst, Recording Secretary *Dorothy Durst*

**The ZOOM recording of the meeting, audio and video, in its entirety:**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/l4Q3eBbbs3jNLF7zLjz6NeSOqW918NW0MbL3l1xM\\_VYoRqWkMjH0RVfIrWvx7V.1yaWDJcMZQhEc69L](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/l4Q3eBbbs3jNLF7zLjz6NeSOqW918NW0MbL3l1xM_VYoRqWkMjH0RVfIrWvx7V.1yaWDJcMZQhEc69L) Passcode: ff1jzy^=

*These minutes have not yet been approved by the Board of Finance. Please refer to next month's meeting minutes for approval of and/or amendments to these minutes.*