

THOMPSON Board of Finance

Regular Meeting - Minutes

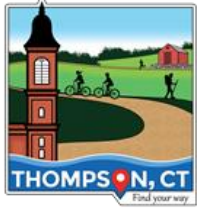
Thursday, April 15, 2021

via Zoom from remote locations

1. The call to order by Chair Aaron McGarry was at 7:02 PM with all members present.
Roll call: Members-Aaron McGarry (Chair), Jim Bellavance, Rob Mann, Rhonda Rooney, Robert Werge, Steve Herbert. Others- First Selectman Amy St Onge, Selectmen Susanne Witkowski and Ken Beausoleil, Orla McKiernan-Raftery (Finance Director), Board & Commission members, Town Officials. Department heads. Members of the public, Recording Secretary Dotti Durst
 2. Approve minutes:
 - a. **Motion R. Rooney seconded by J. Bellavance to approve the March 18, 2021 Regular Meeting minutes carried 6-0**
 - b. **Motion R. Werge seconded by J. Bellavance to approve the March 25, 2021 Special Meeting/ Budget Workshop minutes carried 6-0**
 - c. **Motion R. Rooney seconded by R. Mann to approve the April 1, 2021 Special Meeting/ Budget Workshop minutes carried 6-0**
 - d. **Motion J. Bellavance seconded by S. Herbert to approve the April 6, 2021 Special Meeting/ Budget Workshop minutes carried 6-0**
 - e. **Motion S. Herbert seconded by R. Werge to approve the April 8, 2021 Special Meeting/ Budget Workshop minutes carried 6-0**
 3. Correspondence: a series of emails from the Finance Director, including today at 6:09 PM: possible additional revenue
 4. Citizens' comments: three minutes per comment, please:
 - * Steve Herbert, 122 Wilsonville Rd- Thanks for the Community Trash Pick-Up which is going very well
 - * Kathleen Herbert/BOE Chair- requests that the Capital Improvement Plan for FY 2023 indicate \$40,000 for Schools repairs, this amount having been removed from the current budget proposal.
- In the interest of completion of the Budget review and in anticipation of having the Legal Notice of the Town Meeting and Budget referendum ready as required by Ordinance:
- Motion A. McGarry seconded by S. Herbert to skip ahead to Agenda Item 10, Budget Workshop, carried unanimously.**
-
5. Selectman's Update-First Selectman Amy St Onge
 6. School District update-Superintendent of Schools Melinda Smith
 7. Financial Report- Finance Director Orla McKiernan-Raftery
 8. Tourtellotte Fund update – Board of Trustees
 9. Board of Finance Member Comments

10. Budget Workshop:

Review of the proposed budget included many Department and line-item requests from the Town, the Schools and in the Capital Improvement Plan. BOF members stressed the need for diligence in examining the budget proposals and for putting forward a budget for the taxpayers that they can accept on the first vote. Each member expressed a possible goal of either an increase by only a fraction of a mil or as a low percentage. A. McGarry noted that the previous fiscal year precluded any vote by the taxpayers, per the Governor's Executive Orders, and that an extremely tight budget was enacted, causing some important matters to be set aside.



THOMPSON Board of Finance
Regular Meeting - Minutes
Thursday, April 15, 2021
via Zoom from remote locations

*The Finance Director clarified that the trade-in value for the Transfer Station Roll-off Truck is not included in the lease-to-own calculation. * It was noted that the Schools researched ways to reduce contractual and other matters affecting the budget and put forward a minimal increase. * The DPW Director identified a small amount in the current years' budget that, due to a change of circumstance, may not be entirely utilized. * Another review took place of the budget proposals for the Schools' technology needs for Distance Learning, of the proposal to determine a plan of action for the Bull Hill soccer fields and for the track at the Schools, of Parks and Cemeteries, the Salt Shed, Zoning Officer, the Fire Marshal's office, and others. * A review of fees from various permits and licenses took place, examining each in the current fiscal year compared to the projected FY 21-22 budget. *The DPW need for a 9-ton vehicle was examined again, with some alternate approaches considered.

Motion R. Werge seconded by S. Herbert to reduce 3204 Transfer Station (Equipment Repairs/Parts, 533240) from \$13,500 to \$7,500 carried unanimously.

Motion S. Herbert seconded by R. Mann to increase 3040 Revenue (Local Revenue/Building Fees, 490395) by \$15,000 to \$140,000 carried unanimously.

Motion A. McGarry seconded by R. Mann to reduce 3301 Building Official (Fireproof cabinets, 533150) by \$2,500, level with the previous year, carried unanimously.

Motion A. McGarry seconded by R. Werge to reduce \$15,000 from Capital Improvement Plan (Roadwork/ Resurfacing), \$15,000 from Schools and \$15,000 from Surplus for a total reduction of \$45,000 carried unanimously.

Motion A. McGarry seconded by R. Mann to send to Town Meeting and Referendum the FY 2021-2022 combined Town/Schools/Capital Improvement Plan budget in the amount of \$27,286,857 carried unanimously.

11. Motion S. Herbert seconded by J. Bellavance to adjourn carried unanimously.

Chair A. McGarry adjourned at 9:52 PM praising all who participated.

To see this meeting, click on this link or copy/paste it to your search bar:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/3Z_MZvCpse-C53ZZSQ3ArZjDpd4xQHBRC2U8dL1tlgsOB8ogfmOAnKhQSWGgzHMD.y8sa1lY0u7zxW_TN
Passcode: ki6Yk\$mf

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

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.