



Town of Thompson
Board of Finance
815 Riverside Drive
North Grosvenordale, CT 06255

Minutes – Special Meeting / Budget Workshop
Thursday, April 4, 2019, 7:00 PM
Thompson Library/Community Center Meeting Room

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1. Call to Order & Roll Call:
Chairman Aaron McGarry called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.
Present: Chair Aaron McGarry, Vice-Chair Larry Groh Jr., Susanne Witkowski, Rhonda Rooney, Jim Bellavance and Rob Mann
Absent: None
2. Correspondence:
 - A. Email: Revised Flyer for TPS & Milltown Grille April Fundraiser
 - B. Email: Library funding documents
 - C. Email: Letter from Branding Implementation CommitteeReceived emails after agenda posted: Fire Marshall, Fire Dept. & Ambulance Presentations
3. Citizen's Comments:
 - A. Frank McGarry, Chase Rd, compared Thompson's and Putnam's Library Budgets and asked the BOF to pass the Library Budget at \$425K
 - B. Shawn Brissette, Whittemore Ave, asked for time frame of meeting.
 - C. Mike Krogul, Walker Drive, asked about some specific items in last year's BOE budget and if they were also included in this year's budget.
4. Budget Workshop: Presented FY20 budget **started with Mill Rate increase of 2.03**
 - Finance Director had to correct a few line item errors - Mill Rate increase now **2.07**
 - Public Works requests:
 - 2 1-ton trucks w/plows & sanders, updated price \$100K, lease to own cost per year \$22K for 5 yrs.
 - John Deere 450L Backhoe discounted price \$126,423, lease to own cost per year \$27K for 5 yrs. Planning on trading in old Volvo Backhoe at dump.
 - New Salt Shed Building, \$400,000 for building only, options:
 - a) Finance \$400K from USDA w/4.25% rate \$30K per year for 20 years.
 - b) Save \$200K a year for 2 years and pay for it
 - Existing Salt Shed roof, \$10,000 to repair leaking roof needed now, finance from current FY19 budget.
 - Road Resurfacing, est. cost of \$1,192,887.50 to rebuild ONLY 5-6 miles of road by grinding existing surface into base below it to create new base, regrading and reshaping road and 2 courses of asphalt on Brandy Hill Rd, Gawron Rd & part of West Thompson Rd, cost does not include drainage, repairs or guardrails; possibly adding Red Bridge Rd, currently \$1,264,810 in FY19 line item, should be receiving Tar Road Aid of \$234K in FY19 and in FY20; also need funds for rest of road work throughout the town; has \$50K and needs another \$75K for Sand Dam Road culvert replacement project, and another project will cost \$200K.
 - Town Hall Generator, \$40,000 to replace, finance from current FY19 budget, should get rebate in FY21.

- Library & Community Center building repair fund has approx. \$73K, requesting \$50K in FY20.
- Library & Community Center building roof repair has approx. \$75K, requesting \$25K in FY20; estimated lasting 10 years
- Little League requesting \$6,850 FY20 for helmets, bats, catching equipment, ADA compliant fixtures and ½ of metal fencing

Mill Rate increase now 1.34

- Town Garage building repairs
- Severance Payments, requesting \$50,000, 3 employees eligible for retirement, build up account to be ready
- Pension, requested by BOS for potential liability to the town, need \$175K have \$111K; unknown increases in contribution %'s
- Library is one of few assets in town, need to support it, numerous towns people have spoken out to support their budget.
 - Bob LaChance, Chairman Library Board of Trustees, thanked the BOF for restoring their budget and compared it to the other budget percentages and discussed what they do for the town
- First Selectman's average salary in comparable towns in the area, w/o Town Managers, is \$61,169; Exec. Secretary is making more money; discussion on Town Manager and moving town forward soon; hoping BOS move forward on this
- Town Clerk was hired at lower salary until all certifications are meet; discussion on amount to increase
- United Services is a fee-for-service, discussion on amount and services they provide, TEEG is non-profit.
- Fire Departments and Ambulance budgets short statement and thanks for presentations.

Larry Groh Jr. moved and Jim Bellavance seconded the motion to approve the changes below to the proposed FY20 Budget.

Expenditures –				
Project Name	BOS Proposed	Action Voted	New Amount	Reason
1301 Finance & Treasurer Pg 20				
510005- Clerk	\$26,269	Add \$26,269	\$52,538	Line item error
510054- Director	\$84,544	Remove \$1,658	\$82,886	Line item error
7301 – Fringe Benefits Pg 96				
511140 – Severance Payments	\$50,000	Remove \$30,000	\$20,000	No retirees yet
511090 - Pension	\$475,447	Remove \$200,000	\$275,447	
Transfer Acct. Pension - prior catch-up MERS		Add \$25,000		Unknown Increase in Contribution %'s
8155 – Contingency Fund Pg 106				
544800 - Contingency	\$100,000	Remove \$25,000	\$75,000	Level fund line item

5101 – Library Administration Pg 71				
Library total budget	\$360,999	Add \$19,000	\$379,999	Restored Dept.'s request
1201 – First Selectman Pg 16				
510001 – First Selectman	\$48,348	Add \$11,652	\$60,000	No change since 2007
1501 – Town Clerk Pg 30				
510020 – Town Clerk	\$60,715	Add \$6,464	\$67,179	Now certified
1101 – Board of Finance Pg 12				
510053 - Secretary Board of Finance	\$3,157	Add \$2,000	\$5,157	Compensate for additional meetings & work
Capital Improvement Program Pg 110				
Project Name	BOS Proposed	Action Voted	New Amount	Reason
TH-20-001 - Generator	\$40,000	Remove \$40,000	\$0.00	Use current FY19 Budget
HW-20-001 - Salt Shed Roof Existing	\$10,000	Remove \$10,000	\$0.00	Use current FY19 Budget
HW-20-003 – 2 1-ton trucks	\$120,000	Reduce \$20,000	\$100.00	Updated price
HW-20-003 – 2 1-ton trucks	\$100,000	Remove \$100,000	\$0.00	Lease to own 5yrs @ \$22K / YR
HW-20-004 - Backhoe	\$126,423	Remove \$126,423	\$0.00	Lease to own 5yrs @ \$27K / YR
HW-20-005 - New Salt Shed Building	\$200,000	Remove \$200,000	\$0.00	Send to Referendum

A roll call vote was taken:

Aaron McGarry - Yes
Rhonda Rooney – Yes

Larry Groh Jr. - Yes
Jim Bellavance – Yes

Susanne Witkowski - Yes
Rob Mann – Yes

Motion passed 6-0

5. Board of Finance Member's Comments: none

6. Adjourn. **Larry Groh Jr. moved and Susanne Witkowski seconded the motion to adjourn.**
The motion carried unanimously 6-0

Aaron McGarry adjourned the meeting at 9:27 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Minarik

Recording Secretary
04-04-19 Minutes BOF Special Meeting