



**TOWN of THOMPSON**  
**Board of Finance- Minutes**  
**Special Meeting/Budget Workshop**  
**via Zoom from remote locations**  
**Thursday, March 11, 2021**

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1. The call to order by Chair Aaron McGarry was at 7:01 PM via Zoom: the meeting was recorded.

Roll call: Members-Aaron McGarry (Chair), Rob Mann, Rhonda Rooney, Robert Werge, Steve Herbert, Jim Bellavance. The Chair noted that all members are present.  
Others- Orla McKiernan-Raftery (Finance Director), First Selectman Amy St Onge, Melinda Smith (Superintendent of Schools), Board and Commission members, Schools and Town Officials and Department heads, Members of the public, Recording Secretary Dotti Durst

2. Correspondence: The Salt Shed report from the Finance Director had been emailed

3. Citizens' comments – three minutes per person maximum:

A. McGarry, 256 Chase Road- the Selectman's Office sent notification that a dedicated email address has been re-activated for citizens' budget questions ([budget@thompsonct.org](mailto:budget@thompsonct.org))

4. Budget Workshop:

Chair A. McGarry noted that as in the past, the BOF Budget review begins with Revenue, then follows the pages of the Budget proposal; this allows citizens to judge approximately the point from which the next Budget Workshop might resume. He noted that frequently, after the preliminary review, the BOF goes back to re-examine some departments or to integrate information which had been requested.

-A. St Onge and O. McKiernan-Raftery offered to keep the town department heads informed of the progress after each meeting.

– A list will be maintained of additional information the BOF requests, along with the department or person who has been asked to provide it.

-R. Werge proposed to end the Budget Workshop meetings at around 9 PM as Chair A. McGarry had implemented last year; the BOF agreed.

Budget Review through page 30:

\* Summary page - indicates a Mil Rate to Taxes increase of 1.58 mils

\* Pages 5-10: Revenue

\* General Government proposed budget

Pages 15-16: further review is planned including the budget split with the Town/Schools for a shared HR position; more detailed understanding of the work allocated to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Executive Assistant/clerical staff at the DPW.

Page 16: A. St Onge will gather information about how the town of Brooklyn splits expenses between their Town/School for the shared H R person



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Page 16- **Motion A. McGarry seconded by R. Werge to retain the First Selectman's salary at \$60,000 carried unanimously-6-0. Aaron McGarry – yes Rob Mann- yes Rhonda Rooney- yes Robert Werge - yes Steve Herbert yes Jim Bellavance - yes**

Page 20: R. Werge asked the Finance Director to provide the magnitude of non-union 2.5% wage increases proposed across all departments (14 at the DPW/6 at the town hall).

- Page. 30-Town Clerk: final page of Budget Review at this meeting

**5. Motion S. Herbert seconded by R. Rooney to adjourn carried unanimously.**

Chair A. McGarry adjourned the meeting at 8:59 PM

To hear the meeting on Zoom, **click on the link, or copy/paste to your Search bar.**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/TmndVp7VKl0U21iy8QTMokDIuytuTUSLaUrYd\\_tWLztioJ6QK5m5G5JXYrIb46Md.pPgxxQQJxEN-IYbb](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/TmndVp7VKl0U21iy8QTMokDIuytuTUSLaUrYd_tWLztioJ6QK5m5G5JXYrIb46Md.pPgxxQQJxEN-IYbb)

Passcode: U51!=4gT

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.*