



TOWN of THOMPSON
Board of Finance- Minutes
Special Meeting/Public Hearing
via Zoom from remote locations
Thursday, March 4, 2021

1. The Special Meeting of the Thompson Board of Finance was called to order by Chair Aaron McGarry was at 7:01 PM. He noted the meeting is being recorded on Zoom.
BOF Members-Aaron McGarry (Chair), Robert Werge, Rob Mann, Steve Herbert. Rhonda Rooney. Jim Bellavance-absent.

Others- Amy St Onge (First Selectman), Ken Beausoleil and Susanne Witkowski (Selectmen), Melinda Smith (Superintendent of Schools), Kathleen Herbert (Chair, Board of Education), 43 others, including School District Personnel. Members of Boards/Commissions/Committees and Members of the public, Recording Secretary Dotti Durst
2. Budget presentation/Public Hearing: Thompson Public Schools
 - A. Melinda Smith, Superintendent of Schools: provided an overview of the state of the Thompson schools; Covid ramifications; the Bradley Program/Special Education enrollment; and Alliance District concerns She pointed out that accreditation of the Schools hinges on unfunded Capital Expenses, which are listed.
 - B. Kathleen Herbert, Chair-Board of Education: thanked all who helped the Schools get through a tough year; noted the positive impact of a change of insurance providers; reviewed the BOE budget, providing detail of the proposed .81% increase.
3. Budget presentation/Public hearing: Town General Government
 - i. General Budget: First Selectman Amy St Onge reviewed the proposed decreases and increases with explanations, including: the proposed addition of a shared H R officer; Fire Fighters Tax Abatement and Fire Department Grant; NDDH costs; Labor costs Building Official.
 - ii. Capital Improvement Plan: 11 items were reviewed in detail, with background information about each. The Schools track repair is not listed but is being considered.

– The proposed combined budget, including all capital items, would result in a 1.58 mil increase to taxes.

Copies of both budget proposals were distributed to BOF members; detailed copies are posted on the town website.

Chairman McGarry thanked the presenters of the respective proposed fiscal year 2021-2022 budget. He noted that over the next two months, the BOF will meet every Thursday evening and will review each proposal, line-by-line, being quite a deliberate process. Each meeting is open to the public and comments will be welcome.

4. Motion R. Rooney seconded by R. Werge to adjourn carried unanimously, 5-0.

BOF Chair A. McGarry adjourned at 8:04 PM.

To see the entire meeting on Zoom, click on the link or copy/paste it into your search bar

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/ta_pouax8LnugAbrao5nSw0w55eQqDPNhdS1pUR9y5ddHuzdalm_C4i3nVrbUgpe.QS_N2lWwUUAkb9_F Passcode: #X^jdna1

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.