

THOMPSON Board of Finance Special Meeting/ Budget Workshop - Minutes Thursday, April 1, 2021 via Zoom from remote locations

1. The call to order by Chair Aaron McGarry was at 7:00 with 5 BOF members present/ R. Werge at 7:02 PM.

Roll call: Members-Aaron McGarry (Chair), Jim Bellavance, Rob Mann, Rhonda Rooney, Steve Herbert, Robert Werge (7:02). Others- First Selectman Amy St Onge, Selectmen Susanne Witkowski, Lesley Munshower (Recreation Director), Rich Benoit (Director/DPW), Orla McKiernan-Raftery (Finance Director), Board & Commission members, Town Officials. Department heads. Members of the public. Recording Secretary DottiDurst

2.Correspondence:

-Tax Collector R. Morin: Fire Fighter Rebate program Overview /data specific to each Department & Volunteer ** After the Agenda was posted, additional correspondence:

- * K. Beausoleil: email 04-01 comparison regional salaries/ Finance Directors
- * O. McKiernan-Raftery: as requested by the BOF, data specific to pages reviewed
- * O. McKiernan-Raftery: re-sent Fire Departments detailed budget requests

3. Citizens' Comments: Three minutes per person maximum: none

4. Budget Workshop: The Workshop began with page 52 (DPW/Parks) and ended on pages 71-72 (Library Administration) where it will resume. R. Benoit and A. St Onge provided detailed data in several DPW departments regarding current fiscal year expenditures/activities, each significantly impacted by Covid 19. L. Munshower added information regarding work planned for Parks this spring. In the first quarter, Kelley Genest compiled data about Transfer Station tipping fees/costs; A. St Onge and O. McKiernan-Raftery will update and resend. General Services: NE Transit is doubling the fee; A. St Onge will ask about a phase-in. A. St Onge has ridership data over the past few years and will send to the BOF. NDDH asks a substantial increase (44% over 3 fiscal years). After discussion: Motion S. Herbert seconded by J. Bellavance to authorize the BOF Chair to explore a compromise or to negotiate the fee increase with NDDH carried unanimously.

The BOF has requested further information:

- Income from Transfer Station/Bulky Waste compared to costs with data compiled 1st quarter updated
- The income streams from every department in order to put budget requests in perspective
- NE Transit District Ridership data over a few years

- Overview of Water/Sewer charges and data specific to each town-owned site

The Finance Director reviewed the Budget process timeline provided by the Town Clerk. An Ordinance calls for the budget Town Meeting on the first Monday in May. Accordingly, the BOF will accelerate the Workshops in order to meet the timeline, adding meetings Tuesdays in April at 7 PM via Zoom.

5. Motion J. Bellavance seconded by R. Rooney to adjourn at 9:06 PM carried unanimously.

The next Budget Workshops are Tuesday, April 6 and Thursday, April 8, both at 7 PM.

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

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/PycZvBFBHf0xBWjelE32VhBHNnrb5tp4hAS0kuwEBTw3NGIgarjAT0Babj5p4M 13.qu_K8kCQehq3Gvjo Passcode: GRX16d7!

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.