



SELECTMEN'S MEETING

April 3, 2012

The Board of Selectmen held a Selectmen's Meeting on Tuesday, April 3, 2012, at 7:30 p.m. at the Thompson Hill Fire Engine Co. Mr. Groh thanked the Thompson Hill Fire Engine Company for hosting this evening's meeting. Mrs. Forrester is not able to attend this meeting due to illness.

PRESENT: Lawrence K. Groh, Jr., First Selectman; Kenneth Beausoleil, Selectman; Jason Bleu – WINY Radio; Kevin Walsh; Steve Benoit; Paul Horanzy; Joseph H. Gaucher; Alison Boutaugh; Craig Hanford, Jr.; Paul Baer; Ron Tillen; Al Landry; other concerned citizens

Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to add to Other Business as Item 13.a.: Appointment to Fire Station Advisory Committee as Member-at-Large, Raymond Faucher, Jr.

<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to accept the minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting of March 20, 2012.

<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Groh presented the following correspondence:

- from the CT Dept. of Public Health regarding National Public Health Week.
- from the CT Dept. of Transportation regarding the state-funded repairs to the salt shed at Exit 99, Route 395.
- from the Dept. of Army National Guard regarding the 63rd CT Armed Forces Luncheon to be held on May 18, 2012.

Mr. Groh also presented correspondence from Town Clerk Jeffrey Barske stating his concerns regarding the Town Hall alarm system.

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS

Mr. Groh presented the resignation of Renee Rawinski from the Inland Wetlands Commission. He asked to be contacted by anyone who is interested in serving on this commission.

Mr. Groh noted that the Board of Finance will resume meeting at the Thompson Public Library/Community Center on Thursdays at 7 p.m. on April 12, 2012 for budget deliberations. They will meet until consensus is reached. He stated that the Annual Town Meeting will be held on May 21, 2012 at 8 p.m. in the TMHS Auditorium.

Mr. Beausoleil commented that he was pleased with the large turnout for the Budget Presentation and encouraged citizens to continue to be involved in this process.

Mr. Beausoleil announced that the security system at the Thompson Public Library/Community Center is currently being installed.

There was a discussion of citizen participation at Board of Finance meetings.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Mr. Baer asked for an update on the town web-site. Mr. Groh stated that many tasks were accomplished recently. Mr. Baer asked that information regarding the Fire Advisory Committee be included on the website and Mr. Groh agreed that it should be included.

Mr. Gaucher stated that there is still litter in the Market Street area.

Mr. Groh stated that Thompson Together is organizing the annual town-wide roadside and river clean-up. He encouraged citizens to contact Craig Hanford or Norma O'Leary for further details and to also clean their own roadside areas. The River Clean-Up is scheduled for April 14, 2012.

Mr. Landry announced that the 9th Annual Thompson Community Art Show will be on display through April 27, 2012 at the Thompson Public Library/Community Center. The Opening Reception is April 4, 2012 from 6:30 p.m. through 8 p.m. Donations to the TEEG Food Pantry or of art supplies for TEEG programs will be appreciated.

Mr. Benoit announced that the Neighborhood Watch Program will reconvene on April 4, 2012 at 7 p.m. at the Thompson Public Library/Community Center. The presentation will be completed and there will be an opportunity for questions and answers.

Ms. Boutaugh stated that the Thompson Public Library/Community Center will close at 8 p.m. on April 5, 2012 and open at noon on April 9, 2012 to allow for the Bibliomation upgrade.

Mr. Walsh questioned the process of changes to the budget prior to the budget presentation to the board of Finance. Mr. Groh noted that changes to expenses and income occur throughout the budget workshops.

Mr. Walsh expressed concern about NECCOG being regionalized into an entity for the entire Eastern part of the state. There was a discussion of the experience of such a combination with tourism and emergency management. Mr. Groh and the NECCOG member towns wish to see NECCOG remain as it is.

Mrs. Landry gave an update from the Agriculture Commission regarding the Farmland Connections presentation at the last meeting. The Commission has asked the Conservation Officer Carolyn Werge to research the status of town owned land in regard to prime and important agricultural soils. Mr. Groh asked for research on establishing a community garden in Riverside Park.

SPRINKLER SYSTEM AT THOMPSON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Mr. Groh and Ms. Boutaugh gave a brief history of the problems with the sprinkler system. There have been substantial repairs performed recently. The system has some material and pitch issues that need to be addressed. Mr. Baer requested information on the installer's liability. This

issue will need to be addressed in the near future. The Library Repair Fund will also need to be used for the security cameras and replacing the granite curbstone.

POLICY FOR FIREFIGHTER TAX ABATEMENT PAYMENT

Mr. Groh read into the record a statement to clarify the procedures and dates for Ordinance 10-019 concerning the Firefighter Tax Abatement Program. Mr. Beausoleil stated that this policy outlines and simplifies the procedure for this program that has been in effect since 2004.

Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to implement the policy as presented, adding Sewer Tax to Items #3 and #4 as appropriate.

<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

LETTER OF RECOGNITION FOR NORMA O'LEARY – TRANSFER STATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mr. Groh, to send a letter of thanks to Norma O'Leary for serving on the Transfer Station Advisory Committee.

<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

APPOINTMENT TO TRANSFER STATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE – CRAIG HANFORD, JR.

Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to appoint Craig Hanford, Jr. to the Transfer Station Advisory Committee, term indefinite.

<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

DISCUSSION ON LIMITING TRANSFER STATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO SEVEN MEMBERS

Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mr. Groh, to limit the Transfer Station Advisory Committee to seven members.

<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

Discussion on Motion: There remains an opening on this Committee.

DISASTER RECOVERY PLAN

A Disaster Recovery Plan has been requested by the auditors for the last two years. Mr. Groh presented a draft document. Mr. Beausoleil noted that this document has a good format and guidelines and may be reviewed and updated periodically.

Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mr. Groh, to send the First Draft of the Disaster Recovery Plan to the Board of Finance.

<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

Discussion on Motion: Mr. Groh will obtain the priority information from the Assessor's Office. Mr. Groh stated that this plan will allow the Town to function in the case of a disaster, with input from the First Selectman and Emergency Management Coordinator.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – POSSIBLE LAND TRANSFER

It was the consensus of the Board to address this issue when the full Board is present.

TAX REFUNDS

Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to refund the following overpayments, as recommended by the Tax Collector, Rene Morin.

Jeffrey Greene	\$45.25
Sandra Blanchette	\$123.96
Denise Young	\$68.56
Kim Fafard	\$24.96

<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

OTHER BUSINESS

APPOINTMENT TO FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AS MEMBER-AT-LARGE – RAYMOND FAUCHER, JR.

Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to appoint Raymond Faucher, Jr. to the Fire Advisory Committee as a Member-at-Large, term indefinite.

<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

ADJOURN

Mr. Groh thanked the Thompson Fire Engine Co. for hosting this meeting.

Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:50 p.m.

Mr. Groh *-Yes*

Mr. Beausoleil *-Yes*

Recorded and transcribed by:
Lynn Landry