



## SELECTMEN'S MEETING

### July 3, 2012

The Board of Selectmen held a Selectmen's Meeting on Tuesday, July 3, 2012, at 7:30 p.m. in the Merrill Seney Community Room. Mr. Beausoleil was out of town to attend to personal issues and could not attend this meeting.

**PRESENT:** Lawrence K. Groh, Jr., First Selectman; Kerstin Forrester, Selectman; Kerensa Konesni – Thompson Villager; Jason Bleau– WINY Radio; Joseph Gaucher; Kevin Walsh; Paul Baer; Lis Burton; Kathleen Herbert; Al Landry; Steve Benoit; other concerned citizens

### ***APPROVAL OF MINUTES***

*Motion made by Mrs. Forrester, seconded by Mr. Groh, to accept the minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting of June 19, 2012.*

<i>Mrs. Forrester</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

### ***CORRESPONDENCE***

None.

### ***SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS***

Mr. Groh wished all citizens a safe and enjoyable Fourth of July Holiday.  
Mrs. Forrester agreed and encouraged citizens to attend the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Jamboree on the Common in East Woodstock.

### ***CITIZENS' COMMENTS***

Mr. Walsh asked for clarification on the Probate Court situation. Mr. Groh gave a brief update. It has been reported that the Probate Court is considering a move to Brooklyn. Mr. Groh stated that the district has not met to discuss this matter until this past Friday. Their last meeting was in January regarding heating and cooling concerns. Some research has been conducted regarding this situation. Recently, there have been some concerns expressed regarding having a physical barrier, such as a counter, between the clients and workers. Mrs. Forrester asked if this type of counter had been available in previous locations. Mr. Groh replied that there had not been any type of barrier. There will be a district meeting in August to discuss these issues. Mr. Groh stated that the space is good and economical for the District and would not want to see the Court move. Mr. Landry stated his concerns regarding the regionalization of the Probate Court System. Could this be located in one of the courthouses in Putnam or Danielson?

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Mr. Walsh asked if the Judge had communicated her concerns about safety to the First Selectman. Mr. Walsh asked about the status of the Putnam Armory building as a location for the Probate Court. Mr. Groh stated that this was discussed at the last Probate District meeting. Mr. Baer expressed his concerns regarding regionalization and the impact of the Probate Court regionalization in particular. Mrs. Herbert asked for the status of the cooling and heating situation. Mr. Groh stated that portable units have been used, but more needs to be done at this time. Mr. Gaucher stated that the first concerns regarding safety were reported in the newspaper by a local attorney. Mr. Landry suggested a local building for sale as a location for the Probate Court. Mrs. Forrester asked who decides the choice of the location. Mr. Groh replied that the 28<sup>th</sup> Probate Court District will decide on the location. Mr. Groh will continue to endeavor to save money for the Town of Thompson. Mr. Gaucher asked if local residents near the railroad tracks could be informed to dispose of their trash properly. Mr. Landry suggested installing a wildlife motion detector camera to identify the culprits. Mr. Baer asked if Community Fire Department had filed their annual reports in March with the State of Connecticut. Mr. Groh stated that he was informed that this was done. Mr. Baer stated that the Secretary of State does not have a record of their Annual Report. Mr. Baer asked for information on the Fire Advisory Committee and stated that he sees that one of the responsibilities of this committee should be that such reports are correctly filed for legal existence and licensing. He expressed concern about Mutual Aid Agreements, Emergency Service Plan, the status of their legal entity status, and the priorities of this committee. Mr. Gaucher asked for information on the water bill at Community Fire Department. Mr. Groh stated that the Community Fire Department is responsible for their water bill. Mr. Baer requested information on training all town firemen for the operation of the aerial truck. Mr. Groh stated that Mr. Baer should request this information from Chief Seney. Mrs. Herbert asked for clarification regarding the Fire Advisory Committee. Mr. Groh stated that a charge had been given to the Committee. Mrs. Herbert stated that the Board has the authority to monitor this and other advisory committees. Mr. Landry reported on the recent meeting of the Transfer Station Advisory Committee. Part of their discussion was to recommend to the Board that signage at the Transfer Station reflect the progress in recycling and income from that recycling.

### **65 MAIN STREET ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Mr. Groh is suggesting that a committee be formed to consider the future of the town-owned building at 65 Main Street that was formerly occupied by TEEG. He suggested that the committee include Tourtellotte Trust Committee members who have done previous research on this site, including Joe Iamartino of the Thompson Historical Society, Joe Lindley, of the TMHS Alumni Association, the First Selectman, Mike Martin, Finance Director, Bill Witkowski, Chair of the Board of Education and Chair of the Board of Finance, Ray Faucher, Jr.

*Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mr. Forrester, to table the charge and membership of the 65 Street Advisory Committee to the next meeting.*

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*Mr. Groh* -Yes

*Mrs. Forrester* -Yes

Discussion on Motion: Mrs. Forrester requested that the list of proposed members and a draft of the charge be forwarded to the Board prior to the next meeting.

### ***THOMPSON'S WEB-SITE UPDATES***

Mr. Groh stated that many things have occurred with the Town of Thompson web-site since the last meeting. He stated that the "Coming Soon" icons have been replaced, that updates have been made, the contractor has signed documents to insure that the domain name will be owned by Town of Thompson within ten days, that the Town of Thompson owns website, and that a training schedule has been created. The Town will have full control and access.

Mr. Walsh asked for examples of this work.

Mr. Groh asked Ms. Burton to reply and she stated that 2012 holidays and membership terms for Boards and Commissions have been updated, all links will be opened in a similar fashion and contact information has been added and will be improved in the future. There is a need for additional information on Boards and Commissions as well as their contact information.

Mr. Walsh stated that the Board approved an expenditure of \$3,350.00 at their May 4, 2010 meeting.

Mr. Groh stated that this was for building the web-site and it is the responsibility of the Town to maintain the site.

Mr. Baer feels that the contract was not fulfilled and that the link to Systems Solutions should be removed. Mr. Baer suggested having our TMHS students perform work on this website.

Mr. Groh stated that any additional expenditures for the web-site would be from the IT Department budget.

Mr. Landry asked if the most current minutes are available at the beginning of the file, rather than at the end. Mr. Groh replied that the most recent minutes are now available at the top of each file.

Mr. Walsh stated that the web-site is a potent tool for communication and is underutilized at this point. Mr. Groh stated that major tasks are being done and will continue.

Mr. Baer asked if the Town is continuing its business relationship with System Solutions. Mr. Groh replied that this relationship has ceased.

### ***TAX REFUNDS***

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

Thomas M. Hopkins	\$140.70
Daniel J. Labeck, Jr.	\$ 40.81
Sandra A. Roy	\$ 26.77

*Mr. Groh* -Yes

*Mrs. Forrester* -Yes

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***OTHER BUSINESS***

None.

***ADJOURN***

*Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mrs. Forrester, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:30 p.m.*

<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Forrester</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

Recorded and transcribed by:  
Lynn Landry