



## **SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

### **August 7, 2012**

The Board of Selectmen held a Selectmen's Meeting on Tuesday, August 7, 2012, at 7:32 p.m. in the Merrill Seney Community Room. Mr. Beausoleil could not attend this meeting due to a personal emergency.

**PRESENT:** Lawrence K. Groh, Jr., First Selectman; Kerstin Forrester, Selectman; Jason Bleu and John Mahon III – WINY Radio; Joseph H. Gaucher; Kevin Walsh; Gary Bessette, Brenda Duchesneau; Brian Howell; Jane Howell; Steven Benoit; Paul Baer; Al Landry; 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 July 17, 2012, as presented.*

*Mrs. Forrester            -Yes*  
*Mr. Groh                    -Yes*

### ***CORRESPONDENCE***

Mr. Groh presented the monthly update on crime statistics from Troop D.  
Mr. Groh presented correspondence from Thompson Hill Fire Engine Co., Quinebaug Fire Department and West Thompson Fire Dept. stating that all three departments received \$2500 grants from the DEEP Forestry Division. Mrs. Forrester inquired if these departments had made a joint application and if the other two departments had also applied. Mr. Groh stated that he had not received correspondence from East Thompson Fire Department or Community Fire Co. regarding this matter.

Mr. Groh presented a letter from Judith Rondeau stating her resignation from the Conservation Commission. She had previously served as the Wetland Enforcement Officer. Mr. Groh expressed his appreciation for her service to Thompson.

Mr. Groh presented a copy of new legislation regarding mandatory training for animal control officers.

Mr. Groh distributed copies of a letter from Norman Babbitt regarding paving suggestions.

Mrs. Forrester commented on a letter to Tax Collector Rene Morin from an irate taxpayer. A copy was given to each member.

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

None.

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## ***CITIZENS' COMMENTS***

Mr. Gaucher reported four-wheeler traffic on Riverside Drive and improper parking on Circuit Court.

Mr. Landry expressed thanks for the picnic table recently installed near the gazebo in Riverside Park. He commented on a recent news report that included comments from Pomfret's First Selectman Jim Rivers concerning the recent Emergency Management Drill.

Mr. Groh expressed his appreciation to Emergency Management Director Steve Benoit for keeping him informed of the status of this drill.

Mr. Benoit reported that, during the drill, all available methods of communications were used, including phone, fax, internet and radios. There was a liaison person present from CL&P during the drill and that future work will include GPS location of crews. Mr. Benoit stated that the drill was very effective and helpful and we are well prepared.

Mr. Baer stated that the difference between a Category Three Hurricane and a Tropical Storm is quite large, with the damage for a Category Three being fifty times the damage of Category One, and a Tropical Storm as zero damage.

Mr. Walsh expressed concern about a recent Thompson Villager article regarding childcare prior to the school day. He asked if funds would be allocated from the school budget, the Recreation Department or the General Fund. He asked if the Board of Selectmen is responsible for this program.

Mr. Groh replied that the Board of Selectmen is not directly responsible. He will ask the Recreation Director for clarification. Mrs. Forrester asked Mr. Groh to find out if these employees are full time with benefits.

Mr. Baer expressed concern with the contract for the West Thompson Fire Company Roof Project. He stated that the contractor has not filed proper documents with CT Secretary of State's office. He stated his concerns about payment, subcontractors and oversight of this project. There was a discussion of the definition of a certified payroll, Certificates of Insurance, and STEAP requirements. Mr. Groh stated that he is reviewing the list of concerns that Mr. Baer has presented, and will contact him.

## ***PETITION FOR QUADDICK RESERVOIR WATER QUALITY DISTRICT***

A petition was delivered by Gary Bessette to the First Selectman on August 7, 2012 asking for the establishment of the Quaddick Reservoir Water Quality District. According to State Statute 7-325, the Town may call a Town Meeting or a referendum to establish a Water Quality District. The Town Clerk has certified the forty-two signatures. The District would include waterfront properties in Map 141 and 142 of Block 16 and 17 of the Thompson Land Records as well as those who own property valued at \$1,000.00 or more that is housed on leased land, and those properties with waterfront access across a street or road. Mr. Groh read an opinion letter from Town Attorney St. Onge, dated July 28, 2011, which clarified the Town's role in this matter according to Chapter 105 of the State Statutes, and stated that only those residing or owning property in the affected area would be able to vote at the Town Meeting.

Mr. Bessette presented maps to the Board and an explanation of the codes used.

Mrs. Forrester questioned the Statute Numbers referenced in the documents and clarification will be obtained.

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There was a discussion of the history of the weed problems and control methods. Becoming a Water Quality District would give the Quaddick Lake Association the benefit of being able to apply for and administer grants.

Brenda Duchesneau stated that the proposed flat fee would pay for treatment to take care of the lake so that it doesn't become a swamp.

Mr. Groh stated that there is no land owned by the Town of Thompson on Quaddick Lake or Schoolhouse Pond. All land is owned privately or by the State of Connecticut.

Mr. Walsh asked if any studies have been conducted to determine the source of this problem. Mr. Bessette described a previous study and actions that have been taken.

It was the consensus of the Board to call a Special Selectmen's Meeting, consult with Town Attorney and call a Town Meeting for this purpose. A tentative date of Saturday, August 25, 2012 was discussed.

### ***BULL HILL SOCCER FIELDS***

Mr. Groh presented correspondence from J&D Engineering regarding the history and proposed projects for the Bull Hill Soccer Fields on Messier Road. The NECONN Soccer League cares for the fields and are requesting to do some improvements. The Recreation Department oversees all parks and schedules the use of the Bull Hill Soccer Fields.

*Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mrs. Forrester, to allow the NECONN Soccer League to complete the improvements proposed in the May 30, 2012 letter from J&D Engineering, contingent on approval by the Recreation Commission.*

*Mr. Groh -Yes*

*Mrs. Forrester -Yes*

Discussion on Motion: There was a discussion of Town expenditures for this area. The Town provides fertilizer and mows the outer area. NECONN, a private soccer organization, pays for improvements, mows the soccer fields, and has first rights to use the fields. The Recreation Commission can allow other entities to use it when it is free.

### ***APPOINTMENT TO TRAILS COMMITTEE – H. CHARLES OBERT***

Mr. Groh noted that Mr. Obert has been attending Trail Committee meetings and volunteering on trail projects.

*Motion made by Mrs. Forrester, seconded by Mr. Groh, to appoint H. Charles Obert to the Thompson Trails Committee, for an indefinite term.*

*Mrs. Forrester -Yes*

*Mr. Groh -Yes*

### ***CONTRACT FOR PARAMEDIC INTERCEPT PROGRAM***

Mr. Groh read the proposed contract between NECCOG and the Town of Thompson into the record. This program has been in effect for several years.

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*Motion made by Mrs. Forrester, seconded by Mr. Groh, to allow the First Selectman to sign the contract between the Town of Thompson and NECCOGG regarding Paramedic Intercept Program after page two of the contract is corrected to state Town of Thompson in the appropriate areas.*

*Mrs. Forrester            -Yes*  
*Mr. Groh                    -Yes*

Discussion on Motion: Mr. Groh noted that this a one year extension of the current contract and that NECCOG has been exploring future options. Mr. Baer stated his concerns with the language of the contract.

**ROAD USE REQUESTS:**

**A) DAY KIMBALL HEALTHCARE**

Mr. Groh presented a request for road usage for the annual DKH Deary Memorial Cycling event.

**B) WOODSTOCK EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

Mr. Groh presented a request from the Woodstock Education Foundation for road usage. Our permission is needed for them to obtain their State Permit.

Mr. Groh stated that requests from other fundraising entities have been approved in the past.

*Motion made by Mrs. Forrester, seconded by Mr. Groh, to approve the requests from Day Kimball Healthcare and the Woodstock Education Foundation for road usage for their events.*

*Mrs. Forrester            -Yes*  
*Mr. Groh                    -Yes*

**TAX REFUNDS**

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

Bonnette, James P; & Belt, Barbara J.	\$17.45
Brissette-Miller, Angela	\$39.98
Caron, Nathan P.	\$20.98
Duncan, Irene	\$68.82
Fafard, Charles R.	\$46.18
Fort Hill Farm, LLC	\$37.18
Gebhardt, Richard L.	\$33.81
Guertin, Patrick C.	\$19.87
Horanzy, Michael J.	\$ 8.44
Martinetty, Kimberly A.	\$18.32
Para, Randy N.	\$ 41.07
QTFR Properties, LLC	\$39.18
Raftery, James D.	\$38.45
Roy, Philippe F.	\$ 2.89
Rushford, Everett L.	\$ 8.03
Smith, Dale A. & Margaret S.	\$190.48

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Smith, Dale A. & Margaret S.

\$ 46.89

*Mr. Groh* -Yes  
*Mrs. Forrester* -Yes

***OTHER BUSINESS***

None.

***ADJOURN***

*Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mrs. Forrester, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:30 p.m.*

*Mr. Groh* -Yes  
*Mrs. Forrester* -Yes

Recorded and transcribed by:  
Lynn Landry