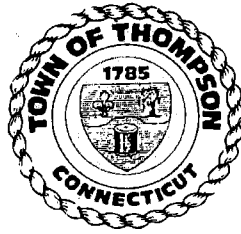


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## SELECTMEN'S MEETING June 18, 2013

The Board of Selectmen held a Selectmen's Meeting on Tuesday, June 18, 2013, at 7:01 p.m. at the Merrill Seney Room in the Town Hall.

**PRESENT:** Kenneth Beausoleil, Selectman; Kerstin Forrester, Selectman, Peter Nalewajk, Dan Jezierski, Paul Hoenig, Robert Langer, Matthew Saad, Deb Despetteau, Timothy West, Ruth Simmon, Jon Nolle, Alvan Hill, Kevin Walsh, Steven Bodreau, Joseph Gaucher, Sally White, Kathleen Herbert and other concerned citizens.

### 1) APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion made by Mrs. Forrester, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to accept the minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting of June 4, 2013.

Mr. Beausoleil - Yes  
Mrs. Forrester - Yes

### 2) CORRESPONDENCE:

Monthly Calls for Service Report from Connecticut State Police, Troop D Barracks for the month of May, 2013.

### 3) SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS:

1. Mrs. Forrester stated that she had an informal meeting with the Fire Chiefs and they discussed the Fire Protection Consultant and came up with a few suggestions. They also have decided that the Fire Advisory Committee will be meeting on the last Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm and will rotate the meetings between the fire departments. They will be posting the information on the town website.
2. Mr. Beausoleil stated that he did receive a list of various consultants that have worked in the state and he will forward the list to Mrs. Forrester.

### 4) CITIZEN'S COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Sally White commented that she had heard that the Troop D station will be closed on weekends and evenings and why haven't the townspeople been notified. Mr. Beausoleil stated that they are closing dispatch only out of Troop D and the calls will now go through Quinebaug Valley Communications then to Tolland starting on July 1, 2013. Kathleen Herbert commented that there was an article in a newspaper that there is a call box outside of Troop D still available to place calls for emergencies when their dispatch is closed.
2. Paul Baer asked if the Fire Advisory Committee will be posting the location and dates of their meetings on the website and Mrs. Forrester stated that when they meet again on June 26, 2013, they will set the dates and meeting locations for the coming calendar year.

### 5) LITTLE POND - PETER NALEWAJK:

Peter Nalewajk was present to review the ongoing problems at Little Pond. He stated that he sent a letter to Larry Groh and the BOS regarding the reduced amount of water flow coming out of Little Pond. He further stated that he has not received a response and is now following up on the letter. He explained that

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the culvert located on Sand Dam Road, which contains an inlet protection device, is now blocked and the water is backing up in Little Pond causing flooding problems for the residents. He stated that he would like to remove the device and put in some screening temporarily to bring the water level down. He also explained the situation with the beavers that have been causing additional flooding problems for many years. He further stated that they had met with Marla Butts, the Inland Wetlands Agent, and she made some recommendations regarding adding beaver deceivers at both the Sand Dam and Jezierski Lane culverts. They also discussed trapping the beavers off season which is controlled by the DEEP. Mr. Beausoleil alluded to the fact that this year has seen exceptionally heavy rainfall. Robert Langer who is also a resident on Little Pond stated that he has contacted the BOS and has never received a return call. Paul Hoenig discussed the ongoing beaver problem as well and asked who is responsible for the two culverts. Mr. Beausoleil stated that the town is and Leo Adams has been attempting to maintain the culverts. He also commented that since the device currently in the Sand Dam culvert is not a device that was put in place by either the Inland Wetlands office or the town, that they do not have jurisdiction on this device. He further stated that he has had a lengthy discussion with Ms. Butts about the flooding problems and they are looking at finding an answer. Paul Baer reminded the Little Pond residents that they need to have written documentation of the problems for the off season trapping permit from the DEEP. Mr. Beausoleil concluded that he will contact Ms. Butts to set up a meeting with the BOS, Leo Adams and the residents on site to view the culverts and to discuss what action or actions need to be taken to find a permanent solution.

#### **6) REQUEST FOR RFP (REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL) – SOLAR ADVISORY COMMITTEE:**

Alvan Hill, Chairperson of the Solar Advisory Committee, was present to review a written bid for PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) SYSTEMS on five municipal buildings. He read aloud the first paragraph – The Town of Thompson Connecticut is seeking bids from Connecticut Registered Companies to survey five (5) municipal structures that have been identified as possible sites to receive solar panel systems. Further, the company will assess each site and design an appropriate system for the site sufficient in detail for inclusion in a Request for Proposal (RFP). The Selected Company will work with the Town of Thompson to explore avenues of funding for the Photovoltaic project such as possible government grants and energy credits through State Utilities. – Mr. Hill then asked the BOS for their advice and input or to accept the bid as it is so that could then hand it over the Town Planner.

Mr. Beausoleil stated that at the original meeting, there was some discussion that there was no fee chart in the earlier bids and they didn't know what they were getting into for costs. Then at the last meeting they discussed basically the same thing about knowing the fees. Also, they do not know if they will purchase or lease the system. He further stated that they want to know the qualifications, adding the language about being a Connecticut Registered Company is good, but they also need to request a fee for the proposal. Kathleen Herbert commented that this bid was supposed to be a request for quote, or Phase 1, on the design of a system before going out for a request for proposal, or Phase 2, for the design of the actual system.

Paul Baer stated that they are back to the same thing again and further commented that if they don't know what they are doing then they shouldn't be on a committee. He did not understand what the problem is about going out for a request for a proposal for a system.

Mr. Hill stated that Mr. Baer was not present at the last meeting and that the committee, the town and the BOS discussed the plan in detail.

Mr. Beausoleil and Mrs. Forrester stated that what they want to see is a combination of a design plan and a quote for the system. Mr. Beausoleil stated that he would like to see five different types of plans and then compare the projects and their equipment before making a final decision. He also asked, when is the next cycle for energy credits, and Mr. Hill answered in the spring of 2014. Mrs. Forrester stated that, according to Mr. Baer, the Committee is forever going to be tainted by the history of the first group and now the Committee does not have the ability to get this done.

Mr. Hill commented to Mr. Baer that they are more than qualified to do this, they can read and are adults and they don't need to be lectured and are more than willing to listen to him but don't talk to them like they are children.

Kevin Walsh stated that it has been three months since they have started this program and maybe they should contact the Renewable Energy Committee to get their input. Mrs. Forrester commented that they have been approached and they stated that they do not want to be involved and Mr. Walsh commented

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that if they cannot get them to help them out or at least get a reason why they will not help, then they should be dissolved as a committee.

Motion was made by Mrs. Forrester, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to request the First Selectmen to send the Renewable Energy Committee a letter requesting that they participate with the Solar Advisory Committee, if no, then they must give a reason why they cannot participate.

Mr. Beausoleil - Yes  
Mrs. Forrester - Yes

The BOS agreed to table until the next meeting to see what the Renewable Energy Committee has for comments.

Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mrs. Forrester, to add Kerstin Forrester to the Solar Advisory Committee.

Mr. Beausoleil - Yes  
Mrs. Forrester - Yes

#### **7) TAX REFUNDS:**

Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mrs. Forrester, to refund the following overpayment as recommended by the Tax Collector, Rene Morin.

Mr. Beausoleil - Yes  
Mrs. Forrester - Yes

**Timothy D. Larson \$6.31**

#### **8) OTHER BUSINESS – None.**

#### **9) CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:**

**Paul Baer's comments:** •He commented that System Solutions is still being paid to do work over at the library even though they are no longer under contract to the town; they have worked for the library as recently as May 30, 2013. •Prescription cards are available for free to supply to the elderly or needy residents and why hasn't this system been provided to the residents? Mr. Beausoleil stated that they approved this and the company was supposed to provide them with the information. He stated that they will follow up on this. •Another free program is now available to provide special medical needs to AT&T so that the 911 service already has your medical needs on file in case there is an emergency. •There is also a card/form available from File of Life Co. that is filled out and placed on your refrigerator for any first responders to review if they need to go into your home. •For the Fire Advisory Committee, what is the status of the EMS and Mutual Aid Agreements? Steve Boudreau stated that the Mutual Aid Agreements are done and EMS is in progress. Also, Mr. Beausoleil stated that they haven't had a meeting in two months and Mrs. Forrester will organize some of these items once they start to have meetings. There are also missing minutes and it was stated that the secretary left four months ago and they are backed up but Mrs. Forrester will look into this. •On the June 4, 2013, BOS minutes, why was an email on fire department issues not read aloud but instead a letter regarding boy scouts placing flags on grave sites for Memorial Day was read in its entirety? •How did they arrive at a number of \$9,500.00 for the fire department consultant? Mr. Beausoleil stated that they came up with the number after the Fire Advisory Committee put together items that they would need from a fire protection consultant. •Does the town have a policy for selling their equipment? Mr. Beausoleil stated that they have town auctions on occasion. They apply for grants for housing authority equipment. There is not a budget for the housing authority. •When you apply for grants for the housing authority is it awarded to the town? Mr. Beausoleil stated that the sewer project up on Thompson Hill, for example, to sewer the school is under court order from the DEEP and the only way that they can apply for the grant is through the town; they cover all funding. Then

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they put the checks and balances in place, for any negligence or delinquencies, so that the town is held harmless. Mrs. Forrester stated that there is only one line item under housing authority in the budget and it is an income line item for \$8,000.00 and she will check to see what it is for. •What is the status of the library curbing and paving project? Mrs. Forrester stated that it is on hold and they need to get the library directors approval that they are ok, then she will work with Leo Adams as agreed, to compare quotes.

•The sewer vent pipe on the library roof appears to be disconnected. •The library sent an email to have the town put their webpages on the town's website. Mr. Beausoleil inquired if they have access or are they trained on our website. No one knew. Mr. Baer also added that the library has not been adding their agendas and minutes to the town's website either, but they put them on their webpages and keep them posted for six months. •The library budget numbers on their graphs are different than what is actually in their budget and there is a statement that the numbers may not be accurate. •It was agreed that the library would purchase a plaque honoring the directors of the library from the budget and he found out that the Friends of the Library paid for the plaque. •Mr. Baer also brought up an issue regarding signage on events taking place in Webster but placed along the road in Thompson. Mr. Beausoleil stated that he will discuss this issue with the Town Planner and the Zoning officer.

•Sally White asked how is Mr. Wagner paid. Mr. Beausoleil stated that all of his fees arrive from a grant.

•Ms. White stated that she discovered that Bernie Davis from the Conservation Committee is using their budget to pay one of the members to set up their website. Also, at a previous BOS meeting, Ms. White stated that she had an interest in being appointed to the Conservation Committee and that it was supposed to be put on the next BOS meeting agenda. Mr. Beausoleil stated that he would look into this. Mr. Baer stated that he recently attended a Conservation Committee meeting and Carol Smith had been appointed and also her sister is on the same committee. Mr. Baer asked the same question as to why Sally White was not considered. Mr. Beausoleil stated that on some of the committees, the First Selectmen is allowed to appoint a person to that committee. •Kevin Walsh stated the he has reviewed the testing information on the Belding-Corticelli property and the CME summation stated that there are two 15,000 gallon oil tanks and one 10,000 methanol tank still located on the site. He further stated that there is no information on whether the tanks have been removed. Mr. Beausoleil stated that he will get a report from the DEEP on what can and cannot be done on this property. It was also stated that CME recommends that the town consult with an environmental attorney. Supposedly there was also a Phase 1 study done on the property. There was \$4,000.00 appropriated to do this study. Mrs. Forrester stated that there should be a report on the study or she can at least find out if they did get the money. Mr. Baer stated that he read the memo from the Belden-Corticelli Improvement Committee recommending that hiring a demolition company to come in to remove the buildings was a great opportunity for the town to take in lieu of paying back taxes. Mrs. Forrester stated that she wanted to make a rebuttal on this in that they were smart enough to see that this was not the right thing to do and, therefore, they did not take the Committee's advice. Mr. Baer also stated that if the Committee is providing false information to the BOS that they should be sanctioned. •Ms. White asked that they have action items from previous meetings added to the agenda so that they can get some answers and be brought up to date. •Alvan Hill inquired who paid for the CME study, and it was stated that the town paid \$3,100.00 in 2010. •Ms. White asked about town employees golfing and are they getting paid to do this. Mr. Beausoleil stated that they get time off like anybody else but they do not have jurisdiction on elected officials.

#### **10) ADJOURN:**

Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mrs. Forrester, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:15 p.m.

Mr. Beausoleil -Yes  
Mrs. Forrester -Yes

Recorded and transcribed by Patricia Lacasse