

# DRAFT



## SELECTMEN'S MEETING August 20, 2013

The Board of Selectmen held a Selectmen's Meeting on Tuesday, August 20, 2013, at 7:02 p.m. at the Town Hall – Merrill Seney Room.

**PRESENT:** Larry Groh, First Selectman; Kenneth Beausoleil, Selectman; Kerstin Forrester, Selectman, Kevin Walsh, Alvan Hill, Norma O'Leary, Christine Campbell and daughter, Linda Jarmolowicz, Roger Tremblay, Joseph Gaucher, Kathleen Herbert, Paul Baer, Pete Pezanko, Blake Correia 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 August 6, 2013, with one correction made by Mrs. Forrester.

Mr. Groh - Yes  
Mr. Beausoleil - Yes  
Mrs. Forrester – Yes

**Correction:** #3 Selectmen's Comments - Mrs. Forrester stated that the contract for Marianapolis had been signed, and Mr. Groh stated that if there are no major changes, then the BOS will be signing the contract.

### 2) CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1) Memo dated August 8, 2013, from the Thompson Water Pollution Control Authority – Subject: Notice of Public Meeting, to be held on Thursday, August 22, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. at the Thompson Sewer Treatment Facility, 40 Riverside Drive, to receive public comment on a proposed rate hike of 4.7%.
- 2) Letter dated August 13, 2013, to Larry Groh from the DEEP announcing that two of Thompson's local Fire Departments have been awarded a Volunteer Fire Assistance grant. The Community Fire Company, Inc. has secured \$2,500.00 and the West Thompson Fire Department has secured \$1,221.00.
- 3) Memo dated August 19, 2013, from Carolyn Werge for the Conservation Commission (Ms. Werge requested that the memo be read into the record) regarding a Commission budget item mentioned in the BOS minutes of June 18, 2013, page 4 of the report that "Ms. Sally White stated that she discovered that Bernie Davis from the Conservation Commission is using their budget to pay one of the members to set up their website." Ms. Werge wrote that this is an unfortunate misunderstanding of the true facts. At its November 19, 2012, meeting, the Commission voted to have Bernie Davis handle the matter of developing its own website. On or about November 26, 2012, Mr. Davis made arrangements for a domain name and web hosting with Verio, Inc. The charges from Verio, Inc. totaled \$155.81, and Mr. Davis paid for the charges with his charge card. He was then reimbursed for that exact amount by the Finance Department. The next day, Mr. Davis proceeded to create the Commission's website; his work was as a volunteer member of the Commission. No one was paid to set up the website except for Verio, Inc., a web page hosting company.

### 3) SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS:

- 1) Mr. Groh had no comments.
- 2) Mr. Beausoleil stated that the Community Fire Company's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary was a great day and well received. He stated that it was a "picture perfect day" for the occasion. Also, Mr. Beausoleil made a

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comment regarding the bent vent pipe at the library since it was fixed, and he stated that it was not broken that there was a 2 or 3 inch pipe which was jarred. No damage was reported. The pipe was re-installed.

3) Mrs. Forrester asked the Board if anyone had been in touch with Mr. and Mrs. Morin regarding their driveway issue. Mr. Groh stated that he did speak with Leo Adams again. Mrs. Forrester also inquired if anyone knows if the library lobby is open 24 hours, and Mr. Groh stated that he was not sure but when he goes there often times the door is locked.

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

Kevin Walsh – He asked Mr. Beausoleil what is the pipe venting at the library and Mr. Beausoleil stated it is probably for one of the sinks. Mr. Walsh inquired about the Special Selectmen's Meeting held on August 12, 2013, and that there was an Executive Session on a Pending CHRO Complaint and what does CHRO refer to. Mr. Groh stated that it means "Connecticut Human Rights and Opportunities". Mr. Walsh requested an update on the Belding-Corticelli site and what can or cannot be done at the site, and Mr. Groh stated that they cannot do anything on the site until there has been a Phase 1 test done by the DEEP. Mr. Walsh asked about how the Conservation Commission handled the Bernie Davis reimbursement, and Mr. Groh stated that a purchase order would be requested and submitted to the Finance Department and that money would have come out of the Conservation Commission budget to pay for the reimbursement.

A request was made to have the Water Company water main pipe installation project be moved under #9A Other Business.

Motion made by Mrs. Forrester, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to add Water Company water main pipe installation project under #9A Other Business.

Mr. Groh - Yes  
Mr. Beausoleil - Yes  
Mrs. Forrester – Yes

Paul Baer discussed the Transfer Station Advisory Committee and that he went through 2 years of records from 2001 through 2003 and could not find any formal membership or formal charge. They will be having a meeting on Thursday, August 22, 2013, and he would like to discuss this further with the BOS. Mr. Groh stated that Mr. Baer was not able to find a vote to establish the Committee.

Motion made by Mrs. Forrester, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to add the Transfer Station Advisory Committee discussion under #9B Other Business.

Mr. Groh - Yes  
Mr. Beausoleil - Yes  
Mrs. Forrester – Yes

Paul Baer asked why the Special BOS meeting minutes have not been posted on the website, since there was a vote, and Mr. Groh stated that he will talk with Tonya Parkes. Mr. Baer inquired why there are no policies in place on disciplining employees who have violated the law. Mr. Groh stated that he is working with the labor attorney and they are drafting a policy which will then be presented to the BOS. Mr. Baer attended a Housing Authority meeting and that this is the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting he has attended with an attempt to educate. He stated that the Chairperson should be removed from the Committee and he found it difficult to tolerate what went on at the meeting and found the behavior to be inappropriate especially with the elderly residents present. Also, they want to purchase a golf cart for the maintenance person which he thought was not necessary. Mr. Baer presented a photo of the driveway at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Morin which has not been fixed. He also presented a photo of the broken posts around the playground on Pompeo and Wilsonville Road; he stated that they should be fixed before there is a tragedy because of the proximity of the playground to the road and the wetlands. He stated that he is also waiting for the report and video on the duct cleaning at the Town Hall. He presented a photo showing mold on ceiling tiles. He stated that Town employees went to a ballgame at Fenway. He referred to Ordinance 10-009 which concerns conflicts of interest in those town employees cannot accept or receive any trips or gifts

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from a vendor. He stated that the employees went during the day and the offices were closed. Mr. Groh stated that no employee can accept a gift of more than \$25.00 and that he would set up a time to discuss this matter with Mr. Baer. Lastly, Mr. Baer gave a website update.

Kathleen Herbert commented again on the repair of the guard rails, the roadwork repair and the driveway repair and that they should contract this work out. The mowing hasn't been done. There was a road work employee doing weed whacking without safety equipment. Mr. Groh stated that no one weed whacks they along the side of the road, that he is aware of, they use mowers and the mowers are in the Quaddick area mowing right now and that they are doing the best that they can. She stated that they are not doing the best they can they need to hire someone.

Mrs. Forrester stated that she also saw someone out weed whacking, and she did not have on safety glasses and had shorts on and they should have safety policies. She saw this person by the bridge on Fabyan Road. Mr. Groh stated that they do have safety policies.

#### **5) PROCLAMATION – PAIN AWARENESS MONTH:**

Mrs. Forrester read the Pain Proclamation for the records.

Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mrs. Forrester, to approve the Pain Proclamation for Pain Awareness Month.

Mr. Groh - Yes  
Mr. Beausoleil - Yes  
Mrs. Forrester – Yes

#### **6) 3RD ANNUAL GRAVEYARD GRIND:**

Erin Abrams sent a request for approval of the Graveyard Grind to be held on September 28, 2013, to provide funding for Woodstock Elementary and Middle School enrichment programs. The bike ride goes through several towns as outlined in her memo.

Motion made by Mrs. Forrester, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to approve the Graveyard Grind through Thompson.

Mr. Groh - Yes  
Mr. Beausoleil - Yes  
Mrs. Forrester – Yes

#### **7) APPOINTMENT – DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:**

Brian Howell was introduced as the new Deputy Director of Emergency Management and he stated that he was glad to be here in Thompson and he also reviewed his past employment. Mr. Groh thanked him for volunteering.

Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mrs. Forrester, to appoint Brian Howell as the new Deputy Director of Emergency Management.

Mr. Groh - Yes  
Mr. Beausoleil - Yes  
Mrs. Forrester – Yes

#### **8) TAX REFUNDS:**

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

Mr. Groh - Yes  
Mr. Beausoleil -Yes  
Mrs. Forrester –Yes

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Camille Benjamin	\$ 24.81
Robert R. Biernacki	\$ 14.15
Frank J. and Debra A. Cataldo	\$ 93.91
Julie Cote	\$140.91
Robert Frongillo	\$ 86.80
Marianne Hulten	\$ 40.35
George A. Knight	\$ 12.40
John J. Naylor	\$ 6.88
Eddie S. or Teresa Parzych	\$ 51.68
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Janet D. Peckham	\$ 1.48
Jeffrey S. and Cheryl L. Pompeo	\$ 35.00
Patrick M. Quaiel	\$ 17.98
Tara M. Scanlon	\$ 15.47
Stephen Soltys, Sr.	\$ 10.78
Lois B. Thompson	\$ 45.75
Martha B. Wetzel	\$ 85.86
Lisa A. Deuyour	\$ 6.55
Toyota Motor Credit Corp.	\$ 46.45
John Tycz	\$ 2.58
Julie Maliff	\$ 35.99

#### **9) OTHER BUSINESS:**

9A) CT Water Company - Blake Correia from the CT Water Company was present to give a brief presentation to correct non-conforming water services along route 12. He explained that they will be looking to have installed about 50 feet of water main along Floral Avenue and Holmes Street. They are looking to go out to bid. He wanted to know if there should be a minimum amount to have this bonded. Mr. Groh stated that they will go to the highway foreman to get his recommendation.

Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mrs. Forrester, to approve with a minimum bond of \$10,000.00, contingent on Leo Adam's review.

Mr. Groh - Yes  
Mr. Beausoleil -Yes  
Mrs. Forrester –Yes

Mrs. Forrester asked if they can get reports on the work that is being done. Mr. Groh asked if the map presented includes where there are fire hydrants and Pete Pezanko stated that the hydrants are listed on the map. Mr. Beausoleil stated that they have been receiving complaints from residents regarding work not being completed, i.e., reseeding of grass not taking place. Mr. Correia stated that they did try reseeding in July, but the heat burned everything up so they are going to wait until mid-September to plant any grass. He was asked to do a timetable for the residents. Mr. Beausoleil also asked about the timetable on the tank. Mr. Correia stated that they are planning to do the site work in the fall of 2013.

9B) Transfer Station Advisory Committee – Mr. Baer stated that no formal documentation or charge has ever been documented on the Transfer Station Advisory Committee. No decisions were made unless they advised the BOS, thus their position was as an advisory committee. It was stated that there was a Special BOS meeting on September 18, 2001, to discuss Transfer Station concerns. A Transfer Station Advisory Committee was formed and first met on October 10, 2001. A Mission Statement was created by the Committee on August 26, 2003, which states – The Thompson Citizen's Advisory Committee is an ad hoc committee of residents and volunteers formed to develop a waste disposal for the Town of Thompson which is cost effective, equitable for users of the transfer station and environmentally sound. This committee addresses issues facing the town transfer station regarding cost, regulations, recycling and options for operations. By acting as a forum for transfer station issues we hope to increase awareness of Thompson residents to care for the environment and be responsible citizens for the beautification of town. – Mrs. Forrester stated that they need to define the charter and the membership and to determine what

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constitutes a quorum. There will be a TSAC meeting on Thursday, August 22, 2013, to discuss these issues. The BOS will add this to their September 3, 2013, agenda.

9C) K&R Automotive Service burned down in the month of March 2013. Mr. Desrochers came in to the BOS's office and asked Mr. Groh if they could waive the personal property tax owed. Mr. Groh referred to State Statute Section 12-64A Subsection C which states that the BOS can abate all or a portion of the personal property tax as a result of a fire and cannot be used as its prior use from date of damage to the following October 1.

Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to abate K&R Automotive Service (Richard Desrochers, Principal Owner) from date of fire to October 1, 2013, as stated by State Statute Section 12-64A Subsection C, to be determined by Tax Assessor and Tax Collector.

**10) ADJOURN:**

Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:26 p.m.

Mr. Groh - Yes  
Mr. Beausoleil -Yes  
Mrs. Forrester -Yes

Recorded and transcribed by Patricia Lacasse.