



TOWN of **THOMPSON**

Board of Selectmen

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Linda Paradise
TOWN CLERK, Ass't

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

Tuesday, April 16, 2019 7:00 p.m.
Thompson Town Hall – Seney Room

MINUTES

- I. Roll Call: First Selectman Ken Beausoleil, Selectmen Amy St Onge and Steve Herbert. Steve Benoit (Director, Emergency Management), John Rice (Building Committee), Bill Birch (Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds, Thompson School System), Ben Barbour (School security consultant)
Members of the public; Members of the media; Recording Secretary Dotti Durst

The meeting was called to order at 7 PM by First Selectman K. Beausoleil.
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

- II. Approval of Minutes:
Motion S. Herbert seconded by A. St Onge to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting March 4, 2019 A.M carried unanimously. Note: Section II. –the Motion was made by K. Beausoleil, seconded by A. St Onge.
Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Herbert to approve the minutes of the BOS Meeting April 5, 2019 carried unanimously.

- III. Correspondence:
A. Chamber of Commerce - Health & Wellness speaker: tick-bourne Diseases, May 9
B. Northeast District Department of Health, Linda Colangelo – Thank You for April 1 event support as well as recognition of the vibrancy of the use of the Thompson Community Center.

- IV. Selectmen's Comments: A. St Onge – none
S. Herbert – called for consolidation of the voting districts to be on the agenda for decision at the next BOS meeting. He confirmed that the numbers in his study of the costs of the districts and the potential savings to the town through consolidation are correct.
–he asked about the action steps required regarding the Assessor. K. Beausoleil confirmed that the current Assessor is scheduled to leave town service on the 26th. Since re-evaluation is underway, a temp is needed. The next step is to advertise the position.
–S. Herbert will be away on May 21, the date of the BOS meeting
K. Beausoleil – the RFP for Sand Dam Road has gone out for engineering, following Wetlands approval; bids will be opened on May 21 then be sent on for review.
– a waiver of the requirement for a public hearing for re-lamping traffic signals and for work on the culvert on RT 395 between RT 200 and the Airline Trail was received
– oil spill remediation tomorrow, 04/17, in Hartford
– Trinity mediation will be 04/23 in Hartford, in an attempt to get the project done
– the Little League opening day, parade is 04/20; all Selectmen are invited, 11 AM
– on May 9, Rivermill remediation steps will be reviewed by EPA and DEEP

- a list of targeted sites is available for Roadside Cleanup Day (call Norma)
- UCONN engineering, April 29 at 6 PM, will present their solution to the Trails Committee regarding the bridge at RT 193/Airline Trail

V. Citizens' Comments: none

- VI. Bill Birch – A. School Security Grant: Following Sandy Hook, four rounds of school security grants have been available, with Thompson being fortunate in two of them. Currently, Thompson has proposed additional school security measures, including electronically-controlled entrance gates that provide for access to first responders in any situation, ballistic film for the school windows, and additional cameras. The grant application has received a favorable review, but the timeline is very tight (fy 2019 funds), requiring utilizing an engineer on the State bid list rather than using an RFP. The process requires the town to front the project costs, with reimbursement of 68.57% (or in the vicinity of \$370,000, depending on the precise total). The BOE approved moving forward last Monday and sent this request to the BOS for support. Very specific wording has been provided to the BOS to meet the precise requirements of the grant. If the BOF approves funding very soon for the schematic drawings, outline specifications and cost estimates for this 3-building school security project, the application can move forward. There has to be a town meeting and a referendum before submission.
- Motion S. Herbert seconded by A. St Onge to approve sending the grant application request to the BOF as detailed in the April 9, 2019 memo from Danielle Pederson, which includes the specific required language, carried unanimously.**

B. Building Committee Charge : By Statute, the Building Committee handles further steps in order to receive reimbursement. K. Beausoleil noted that the responsibilities of the Building Committee were recently expanded.

C. Motion K. Beausoleil seconded by A. St Onge to ask the BOF first for up to \$19,500 for the creation of the required schematics, outline and cost estimates for the 3-school security project (Tourtellotte Memorial High, Thompson Middle School and the Mary. R. Fisher Elementary schools) and then for up to \$550,000 for the School Security upgrades Grant application carried unanimously.

- VII. School Security - A. Update/Action: B. Barbour reviewed the progress of training and procedures manuals and other protocols, and he displayed a sample red shirt the school security personnel will wear (labeled School *Safety* Staff, as that term is perceived to indicate a person approachable and available to be helpful within the school environment). The 5 individuals, selected after two rounds of interviews which included participation by the Schools, are identified as ideal candidates for school security and are being acclimated, CPR and other training is being updated, security checks conducted, radio communications put in place and other steps toward implementation are underway. School faculty, the student body and staff seem amenable to this program, which would provide security staff from 3 PM through evening activities (9-9:30 PM). S. Herbert confirmed that the staff will be trained and supervised by the school district, and therefore are technically hired by the District, although town funds will be used for their pay. Question: will trained dogs be utilized? Yes, the State police will periodically bring them in.

B. Motion S. Herbert seconded by A. St Onge to endorse the five individuals selected for school security staff and recommend their hiring by the School District carried unanimously

VIII. Fire Marshal Mutual Aid Services Agreement: An updated copy of the proposed Fire Marshal Ordinance has been distributed. K. Beausoleil noted on page 1, SERVICES, that the need to call in a Fire Marshal on short notice can occur; he proposes striking the word "BOS" and inserting "First Selectman" as there may not be time to notice and conduct a BOS meeting. Other adjustments, which were suggested in the previous review and are now included in the updated draft, were discussed and clarified.

Motion A. St Onge seconded by K. Beausoleil to authorize the First Selectman to enter into the Fire Marshal Mutual Aid Services Agreement as modified carried with S. Herbert voting "no."

IX. Ordinance Discussion: K. Beausoleil- the text is prepared for the other 3 of the proposed Ordinance revisions.

A. Bingo, Raffle

B. Town Budget

C. Fire Marshal Ordinance Fee

D. Inland-Wetlands

- A. St Onge questioned, in the proposed Fire Marshal Ordinance, the 30 day/45 day window for inspections. Waiver of fees was discussed in terms of "for the good of the town" which seems nebulous. Consensus: modify language to insert BOS to grant approval. K. Beausoleil will follow up on these matters. He notes: the proposed fee schedule is only a draft at this point, as there is no Ordinance yet.

- A. St Onge: an Ordinance possibility of the revision to the number of voting districts.

Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Herbert to add an agenda item under Other Business: Discussion of a possible Ordinance regarding the number of voting districts carried unanimously.

X. Thompson Congregational United Church of Christ – Request for Bates Avenue Usage Sunday, June 2, for Outdoor Church Service 8 – 10:30 AM.

Motion S. Herbert seconded by A. St Onge to endorse the closure of Bates Avenue as requested carried unanimously.

XI. Motion S. Herbert seconded by K. Beausoleil to endorse the appointment of Paul Provost to the Trails Committee for an indefinite term carried unanimously.

Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Herbert to endorse the appointment of Planner Tyra Penn-Gesek as Fair Housing Officer for an indefinite term carried unanimously.

XII. Motion A. St Onge seconded by K. Beausoleil to endorse the hiring of Lesley Munshower as Recreation Director carried unanimously. She will begin on May 13, with the interim director remaining on for orientation and training for two weeks.

- XIII. Other Business: Discussion of the concept of reducing the number of voting districts – S. Herbert's data-gathering shows a reduction in the costs of voting by as much as \$132,000 over time if the number of voting districts is reduced to one. S. Herbert and A. St Onge advocate that the issue should go to a town meeting for debate; K. Beausoleil agreed but since there are diverse positions on the matter, the town meeting should not be during the budget season. Other town meetings are being scheduled and this matter can be publicized then added to one of the upcoming town meetings.
- XIV. Citizens' Comments: none
- XV. **Motion K. Beausoleil seconded by A. St Onge to approve the tax refund as listed carried unanimously.**
Randall A. Rogers \$40.79
- XVI. **Motion S. Herbert seconded by A. St Onge to adjourn carried unanimously.** K. Beausoleil adjourned the meeting at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Dorothy Durst, Recording Secretary *Dorothy Durst*

These minutes have not yet been approved by the Board of Selectmen. Please refer to next month's meeting minutes for approval of and/or amendments to these minutes.