



TOWN of **THOMPSON**

Board of Selectmen

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SELECTMEN'S MEETING
Tuesday, June 18, 2019 7:00 p.m.
Thompson Town Hall – Seney Room
MINUTES

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

- I. Roll Call: First Selectman Ken Beausoleil; Selectmen Amy St Onge and Steve Herbert.
Attorney William St Onge
Others: John Rice (P&Z, Building Committee), Steve Benoit (Emergency Management), Tyra Penn-Gesek (Town Planner), Charlene Langlois (PnZ and EDC Commissions), Jamie Seney (Fire Marshal), Constantino Galasso (Burning Official)
Members of the public; WINY; Recording Secretary Dotti Durst

II. Executive Session:

Motion K. Beausoleil seconded by S. Herbert to go into Executive Session at 7:03 PM with Attorney William St Onge in attendance. Items to be discussed:

A. Litigation - School Oil Spill, B. Litigation - Starr Road, C. Litigation Trinity Sewer, and D. Assessor Position. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive session was paused at 7:50 PM. No action was taken. Because there are members of the public present for some agenda items, a recess from Executive Session has been taken. The Session will resume at the end of the agenda.

III. Approval of Minutes:

Motion S. Herbert seconded by A. St Onge to approve the minutes of the BOS Meeting of 6-04-2019 carried unanimously.

Motion S. Herbert seconded by A. St Onge to approve the minutes of the BOS Special Meeting of 6-07-2019 carried unanimously.

IV. Correspondence

- A. Karl Kuhn Sr. – Letter regarding the parcel of land on Center Street near Schoolhouse Pond which had taken over by the town after a tax auction. The matter has gone to PnZ for review.
- B. Prescription Card Savings Report - April 2019
- C. United Services, Inc – Invitation
- D. St. Onge & Brouillard – Litigation: next court appearance June 26
- E. Since the Agenda was prepared: a package from CCM of legislation that had been proposed in the past session in Hartford.

V. Selectmen Comments:

- A. St Onge – none
- S. Herbert- referendum reminder

K. Beausoleil - the referendum will be held on Friday, June 21. If it is successful, the BOF will set the mill rate that night. The BOS will meet on Saturday, 9 AM, to complete the process

- praise is due to S. Herbert and his wife Kathleen for the great job they did, presenting facts and figures on WINY about the proposed budget
- West Thompson Road: the roadbed work has begun; it will be repaved in its entirety
- CCM has provided data showing the anticipated increase in the MERS (Municipal Employees Retirement System)
- library staff member Sarah Zapka has resigned; she will help train the replacement
- it has been announced that now the Councils of Government have the ability to borrow; NECCOG will begin to negotiate with Killingly to purchase their site, where the regional Animal Shelter and Transit System are based
- an opportunity for a Hazmat Grant has been extended
- the Milltown tour went well, with many key decision-makers in attendance
- the \$218,000 brownfield grant has been completed and closed; now the BAR Grant is active
- the Branding exercise was a success with great participation. T. Penn-Gesek is compiling and assessing the data. S. Herbert offered praise for the interactive event with so many Board/Commission members in attendance
- the oil tanks replacement bids are due June 25; the BOS will meet Tuesday June 25 in the late afternoon to open them

Motion S. Herbert seconded by A. St Onge to add an agenda item under #12, Other: Topic related to the town budget, carried unanimously.

VI.Citizen Comments: J. Rice – great job on WINY by Kathleen Herbert

VII.Community Fire -Boot Drive, 8-1, July 13 (Landfill & Riverside Drive /Main Street
Motion S. Herbert seconded by A. St Onge to approve the Boot Drive request as presented carried unanimously.

VIII.DPW - Summer help: 6 applicants were interviewed and recommendations presented
Motion S. Herbert seconded by A. St Onge to approve the recommended hires carried unanimously.

IX.Fort Hill Farms Energy Proposal: They ask 1). will electric power be sold to Thompson?
K. Beausoleil – the information has been received and the data reviewed with their engineer. In comparing the proposal with Eversource, a 15% reduction in the cost of power is proposed; the town has an interest. There will be further review and a consensus reached.
2). Building permit fee: the fee is \$41,024 on a project calculated to cost over \$4 million.
K. Beausoleil – in what way can this expense be handled so as to support this business growth? The town needs growth such as this to move Thompson ahead. S. Herbert -perhaps this question should go to the EDC for consideration of a possible policy; the idea was supported by A. St Onge. J. Rice- consider barter for the electric power Fort Hill will be selling to the town. T. Penn-Gesek- clarified this to be a business-success request, after review of the data and financials, based on an uncommon financial burden. K. Beausoleil- yes, the town will have a multi-year power contract at a favorable rate; even with some accommodation of the fee amount, the town will gain. Perhaps the fee can be amortized over a period of years, beginning after power generation begins.
A. St Onge – yes, this is reasonable; one year from July 1 they should be operating, with power generation beginning the following year.

Motion S. Herbert seconded by A. St Onge to amortize the payment of the town Building Permit fee over 10 years, beginning January 1, 2021, carried unanimously.

X.Fire Marshal (Training): J. Seney, Fire Marshal, requests that the BOS send the Burning Officer, C. (Dino) Galasso to the fire training school run by the state, at no cost to the town, giving him the training required to subsequently be appointed as Deputy Fire Marshal.

Motion K. Beausoleil seconded by A. St Onge to sponsor C. Galasso to attend the Fire Training course, after which he would be appointed Deputy Fire Marshal, carried unanimously.

XI.Ordinances - Fee Schedules: The Town Fee Schedules will be a part of the Ordinances, yet can adjusted without having to change the Ordinance itself. J. Seney- the Fire Marshal fees were derived from studying neighboring towns and adjusting for how Thompson is different; the fees are on the lower end of the data spread. He reviewed the various required inspections and reviews. The fire codes were explained and the various Fire Marshal responsibilities.

Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Herbert that the Fire Marshal Fee Schedule be accepted as presented, effective July 1, carried unanimously.

The Bingo, Bazaar and Raffle Permit Fee schedule needs to be added to the Ordinance package.

Motion S. Herbert seconded by A. St Onge to adopt the Permit Fee Schedule as presented, to take effect July1, carried unanimously.

XII.Other Business:

*K. Beausoleil-the oil spill mediation is now resolved. The amount came in at \$555,000. Taking out legal fees, a check for \$506,829 was received. S. Herbert requests an itemization of the expenses.

*S. Herbert asked about the BOF decision to increase the First Selectman's salary.

K. Beausoleil- it was put into the budget without his input, nor that of the other Selectmen.

Motion S. Herbert seconded by A. St Onge, that an increase in the First Selectman's salary take effect after the next municipal election for First Selectman, carried unanimously.

XIII.Citizens' Comments: C. Langlois, Lowell Davis Road- Other businesses are aware of this. The town needs to welcome new businesses and business growth. It would be nice for the town to set a policy which encourages new businesses. K. Beausoleil – will ask the EDC to discuss incentivizing business growth.

XIV.Tax Refunds- none

Motion to resume Executive Session K. Beausoleil seconded S. Herbert at 8:53 PM carried unanimously. Executive session ended at 9:27 PM. No action was taken.

XV. K. Beausoleil adjourned the meeting at 9:28 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.