



**TOWN of**  
**THOMPSON**  
**Board of Selectmen**

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2019 SEP 10 A 9:57  
*Linda Paradise*  
TOWN CLERK, ASST

SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
Tuesday, September 3, 2019  
Thompson Town Hall – Seney Room  
MINUTES

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

I. Attendance: First Selectman Ken Beausoleil, Selectmen Amy St Onge and Steve Herbert. Charlene Langlois and John Lenky (Planning and Zoning Commission), Christine Chatelle, Marie Mongeau (Executive Assistant to the Selectmen). Members of the public, WINY Staff: Recording Secretary Dotti Durst

I. Approval of Minutes:

**Motion S. Herbert to approve the minutes of the 8-20-2019 BOS Meeting seconded by A. St Onge carried unanimously** noting: in IV, the word is *completion* not competition.

**Motion S. Herbert to approve the minutes of the 8-22-2019 BOS Special Meeting seconded by A. St Onge carried unanimously.**

II. Correspondence

- A. Hartford Marathon Foundation/August RiMaConn Race – “Thank You” memo
- B. Recreation Department - 2019 Volunteer of the Year Nomination, by anyone for any Thompson resident, due 09/16 by mail or recreationdirector@thompsonct.org
- C. Chamber of Commerce - Health/Wellness Forum: Dr. Botta & team
- D. DESPP Report: July 2019
- E. Energy Stream LLC- Putnam hydropower plant/Quinebaug River: notification
- F. Lavery Scholarship 15<sup>th</sup> annual Motorcycle Run 09/15, Newington start
- G. Ato Ashun – Tax Request:

**Motion K. Beausoleil seconded by S. Herbert to add discussion of this correspondence as an agenda item under XII, Other, carried unanimously.**

- H. Town of West Hartford – Gun Violence Prevention resolution: K. Beausoleil has distributed it widely for review
- I. E-mail Correspondence re: 363 Quaddick Town Farm Road

III. Selectmen Comments-A. St Onge was approached by the Reverend Greg Gray to encourage the vote for the referendum. Perhaps all 3 Selectmen should appear together on WINY to stress participation in the vote.

S. Herbert – let’s determine if this would constitute a meeting, requiring legal notice and Minutes. K. Beausoleil – as long as all comments concern reminding the public to exercise their right to vote, this should be no issue. S. Herbert- caution should be taken as the most careful wording can be taken wrong.

K. Beausoleil- the Fire Advisory Committee requests a review of the Tax Abatement Ordinance details including a state-allowed increase of \$500 this year and another \$500 next year, above the current permitted amount of \$1,000. Kim Austin’s

presentation last month brought up the question of the format for the annual report. A sample has been provided which clarifies that activity of all the stations is to be combined, such as total training hours and other data.

IV. Citizen Comments- none

V. Discussion and Possible Action on Town Meeting date and Referendum date:

K. Beausoleil -a proposed budget has come in from the BOF. The town needs to maximize efforts to get the word out for participation in the vote. Precise timing for the legal notices is a priority; Marie Mongeau is present to handle any questions. A temporary budget is in place; if the referendum is held on September 24, the BOF will need to approve another 30-day budget at their September 19 meeting.

**Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Herbert to schedule the Town Meeting on Thursday, September 12 anticipating that it will be sent to a referendum on Tuesday, September 24 carried unanimously.**

VI. Open Bids for 0 Center Street- 4 bids were received. One came in beyond the deadline and cannot be considered

Margaret Johnson, 500 Riverside Drive (present): bid amount \$500.

Dorothy Johnson/Tim Johnson, 77 Brown St, Cherry Valley, MA: \$750

Karl Kuhn, 144 Center Street: \$550

Charles Thayer, 40 Lakeview Street: \$1,750

K. Beausoleil recommends that copies be made for the Selectmens' review; the legal notice/rfp states that bids can be declined if technical requirements were not met.

VII. **Motion S. Herbert seconded by A. St Onge to accept the resignation of Ross Eddy from the Thompson Agriculture Commission, effective 08/22, with thanks carried unanimously.** He has been very active in Thompson and is now moving to a near-by community.

VIII. **Motion A. St Onge seconded by K. Beausoleil to accept the recommendation of Robert LaChance, Library Board of Trustees Chair, for the hiring of Jay Hassett as Library-Community Center Evening Custodian carried, with S. Herbert voting nay.**

IX. Appointments :

**-Motion S. Herbert seconded by A. St Onge to approve the appointment of Christine Chatelle to the Fire Protection Advisory Committee for an indefinite term carried unanimously.** K. Beausoleil thanked Ms. Chatelle for being willing to serve, as positions on the committee for members of the community who are non-responders are important for balance.

**-Motion S. Herbert seconded by K. Beausoleil to approve the appointment of Renee Waldron to the Recreation Commission through April 15, 2021 carried unanimously.**

X. Discuss Forming an Oversight Committee for the Gravel Operations in Thompson:

S. Herbert – the 8/19 correspondence from the Town Attorney regarding the series

of emails about 363 QTFR is a good reminder. The BOS has general oversight of the work of the ZEO but does not have specific authority to direct or overrule the decisions of the ZEO. A. St Onge- the purpose of the proposed forum was for people to come together to share perspectives. The large number of emails about the subject indicated a need. K. Beausoleil- the PnZ and the ZEO seem in control of implementing and enforcing the Zoning Regulations. The court system provides an appeal process to ZEO decisions, but the appeal time period has expired. Since re-writing of the Regulation is currently underway, it is good that this matter has arisen now, so that section of the Regulations can be carefully reviewed and these concerns addressed. Creating a forum may imply that people could implement changes outside of that structure, but by statute, the Zoning Regulations, which were voted into place by the townspeople, prevail. J. Lenke- yes, the PnZ and ZEO are following the Regulations carefully; some verbiage should be examined. At a recent meeting, members of the public were provided an extended opportunity to express concerns. C. Langlois- the meetings of the PnZ subcommittee reviewing the Regulations are open to the public; the next ones are 09/16 and 09/30. It is very helpful for a member of the public to put a suggestion in writing and send it in, as that way the committee members have time to consider the idea. A. St Onge- let's remind everyone that all PnZ Commission members are volunteers and are to be commended for all they handle. S. Herbert- the public was concerned that their voices were not being heard, thus the idea of a forum. A. St Onge- given that the process seems to be moving ahead, I am comfortable with waiting to see if a forum is still needed to alleviate the frustration. By consensus of the BOS, no action will be taken at this time.

XI. Other Business: Added agenda item, Correspondence from Ato Ashun with a personal property (vehicle) tax relief request- Mr. Ashun owes about \$1,100 – 1,200 in taxes, part of which is penalty. He is homeless and has no income. S. Herbert – cannot find any precedent for a tax abatement in such a situation. K. Beausoleil- if Mr. Ashun cannot pay his taxes, he will be unable to re-register the vehicle, thereby preventing him from working. S. Herbert- a dis-similar situation recently occurred: a local business received the deferral of a permit fee, the payment of which will be stretched over time. He suggests setting the matter aside while we look further for data. By consensus of the BOS, no action will be taken at this time.

XII. Citizens' Comments: none

XIII. Motion to approve the itemized tax rebates totaling \$169.72 by K. Beausoleil seconded by A. St Onge carried unanimously.

Lillian C. Mahon \$86.02 and Lillian C. Mahon \$83.70

XIV. Motion to adjourn by S. Herbert seconded by A. St Onge carried unanimously. K. Beausoleil adjourned the meeting at 7:40 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.*