



TOWN of THOMPSON

Board of Selectmen

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2020 MAR -5 P 12: 22

Linda Paradise
TOWN CLERK, ASSR

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

Tuesday, March 3, 2020 Thompson Town Hall - Seney Room
MINUTES

First Selectman Amy St Onge called the meeting to order at 7 PM;
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call: First Selectman Amy St Onge and Selectman Susanne Witkowski: a quorum was present. Ken Beausoleil was out of state but would call in for the budget portion of the meeting. However, when the time came, a connection could not be made.

Also- Orla McKiernan-Raftery (Finance Dir), John Rice (Building Com), Steve Herbert(BOF), Charlene Langlois (PZC). Members of the public; WINY; Recording Secretary Dotti Durst

I. Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to approve the minutes of the BOS Special Meeting 2-11-2020, the BOS Meeting 2-18-2020 and BOS Special Meeting 2-12-2020 carried unanimously. Item #7 Sentence should read "...thanks for the update; *the BOS decided that a vote is not needed* but is supportive the new subcommittee."

II. Correspondence – Assessor's Memo 02-27-2020: the 2019 Grand List increase was 97,104,024. The split between real estate, personal property and motor vehicles is detailed. Note was made that there were 112 new vehicles, bringing the total to 10,071 taxable vehicles.

III. Selectmen Comments- S. Witkowski: none at this time

- A. St Onge: proposed adding an agenda item

Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to add, under Agenda item XIV: Repairs to the generator at the TEEG Building carried unanimously.

IV. Citizen Comments: none

V. Girl Scout Proclamation 2020: A. St Onge read the Proclamation into the record.

Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to enact this Proclamation to recognize the 108th anniversary of the Girl Scouts of the USA through support for Girl Scout Week, March 12, 2020 carried unanimously.

VI. Motion S. Witkowski seconded by A. St Onge to authorize the West Thompson Fire Department Boot Drive at the Transfer Station on April 11, 8 AM- 2 PM carried unanimously. The funds will be used for training equipment.

VII. Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to approve the Recreation Department's Annual Easter Egg Hunt on the Thompson Common, necessitating a road closing on Saturday, April 4 (snow date, Sunday, April 5) from 10 AM-3 PM carried unanimously.

VIII. Motion S. Witkowski seconded by A. St Onge to approve the VFW Post 10088 annual Poppy Sale at the Transfer Station and other locations on May 20, 21, 22 and 23 carried unanimously.

IX. Resignations:

Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to accept with regret the resignation of Claire Berube as of May 8, who served as the Assessor's secretary and clerk for 15 years, carried unanimously.

Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to accept the resignation of Donna Godzik, a member of the Recreation Committee, with regret, carried unanimously.

X. A memo was received from the PZC/ ZBA recommending that Gloria Harvey be hired as Recording Secretary for the Planning & Zoning Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Motion S. Witkowski seconded by A. St Onge to hire Gloria Harvey as recording secretary carried unanimously.

XI. Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to appoint Wayne K. Barber to the Recreation Commission, Orla McKiernan-Raftery to the NDDH Board and Delpha Very as an alternate to the NDDH carried unanimously. S. Witkowski asked about the required political party ratio for appointments; A. St Onge will verify compliance with these requirements.

XII. Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to accept Donovan Drive Phase 1A as a town road, based on a favorable motion at the Planning and Zoning Commission which recommended the acceptance of the road with the condition that bonds be submitted to the ZEO and Finance Director for final approval. Motion carried unanimously. The DPW advocated for the acceptance of the road.

XIII. Discussion & Possible Action on the Appropriation of up to \$200,000 to help defend and settle the Marianapolis Sewer Project Litigation: the Board of Finance accepted the Board of Selectman's recommendation and moved to appropriate up to \$200,000 to handle this matter: A Special Town Meeting is needed; attorneys can be present to answer voters' questions. A. St Onge read the Legal Notice of the meeting, dated March 3, 2020 into the record.

Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to hold a Special Town meeting to be held at the Thompson Public Library, Louis P. Faucher Community Center on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at 7 PM, for the purpose of considering and act upon a Resolution that the town appropriate up to \$200,000 to defend and settle the litigation regarding the Marianapolis Sewer Project, such funds to be taken from Fund Balance.

XIV. Other Business: The TEEG building generator began to fail on January 10; a contractor has made a diagnosis and recommends repair. John Rice (Building Committee) obtained one bid for the work, (\$2,745.32) but no other quotes have come in. The bidding contractor has outstanding credentials. A limited number of companies are qualified to handle a generator that size has the work. The TEEG building is owned by the town which handles upkeep of the facility. The generator is essential for a significant amount of refrigerated/frozen food storage. Motion S. Witkowski seconded by A. St Onge to send the matter of the repair of the

generator at the TEEG building to the BOF, so they can determine the financial process needed for the hiring of a contractor to address the matter carried unanimously.

XV. Citizens' Comments:

- Charlene Langlois (PZC) asked about the video equipment for broadcasting town board and commission meetings. A. St Onge: yes, equipment is being purchased from this year's budget to begin filming/live streaming soon, and a budget request for next year will permit the equipment to be kept in the two most-frequently used locations for ease of accessibility by staff.
- Roman Jamieson, 56 Taylor Road, asked about the Marianapolis issue. A. St Onge: yes, the contractor failed to deliver as contracted for and is suing the town.
- Roman Jamieson wonders about the condition of Quaddick Road; patching seems to be not working. A. St Onge: yes, this is a "connector road" and carries quite a bit of traffic. It is a top priority of the DPW and the town is seeking funding for this work.

XVI. Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to approve a tax refund in the amount of \$104.48 to David Shuster carried unanimously.

XVII. Discussion and Possible Action to send FY 2021 Board of Selectmen Budget to the Board of Finance: after discussion, modifications to the proposed budget included

***Capital Improvement Plan-** decrease Road Repair by \$100,000; add \$50,000 to each Bridge Repair and Salt Shed (result in better salt purchasing prices). Total request remains constant.

- Bull Hill (Soccer Fields) very important but delay until 21-22 fy to begin funding

- Reminder: Tourtellotte Trust is an in-and-out amount

***The Union Contracts** are not resolved and as a result, wages and fringe benefits have not been reviewed. **Insurances** are projected at a 7-8% increase for budgeting purposes, including Worker's Compensation and others

***The EDC** request was reduced to \$25,000 for Branding, in anticipation that they can allocate the funds among their various projects; the intern was moved to town payroll.

***The Fire Department** proposal is being forwarded as presented; the BOF should hear the full Department presentation. Similarly, the **Library** proposals are being sent as proposed.

***Snow Removal-** reduce to \$150K-there will be carry-forward from fy 19-20

***BOE budget proposal-** BOE has not voted upon yet so could not be included for the BOF

***Projected Revenue** increases were reviewed

Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to present a proposed General Government Budget of \$8,282,005, an 8.81% increase, to the BOF carried unanimously.

XVIII. Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to go into Executive Session at 8:31 PM to discuss the Windham North Property Lien carried unanimously.

Executive session ended at 9 PM. No action was taken.

XIX. First Selectman A. St Onge adjourned the meeting at 9:01 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.