



**TOWN OF THOMPSON**  
**Board of Selectmen- Minutes**  
**Tuesday- August 16, 2022**  
**Merrill Seney Room, Town Hall**  
**and via ZOOM Online Meeting Portal**

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

The call to order by First Selectman Amy St Onge was at 7:00 PM with all Selectmen present.

Roll call: First Selectman Amy St Onge, Selectmen Ken Beausoleil, and Susanne Witkowski.

Members of Fire Departments, Boards and Commissions and the public, Recording Secretary Dotti Durst

II. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. Approval of Minutes:

**Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to approve the minutes of the 08-02-2022 BOS Meeting carried unanimously.**

IV. Correspondence:

- A. The DESPP Police Services Report for July 2022 was read aloud (typical monthly counts)
- B. Chamber of Commerce Business Showcase, 09/08, Windham Golf Course

V. Selectmen Comments:

- K. Beausoleil suggests that citizens use caution with bonfires and other activities in this high fire-hazard situation; the dam is low, and trees are dropping leaves. \* The sidewalk replacement project is moving forward nicely, on target, to be followed by culvert work then re-paving (A. St Onge added: a very efficient flow of work among the crew members is taking place). \* On-street parking stripes should be added soon near the Milltown Grill.
- S. Witkowski noted that the Primary elections went off smoothly with only a couple of hiccups, but the tabulator overheated in the fierce weather conditions
- A. St Onge noted progress on the sidewalk work. \* A culvert collapsed and had to be addressed. \* Eversource toured Thompson roads to determine which trees they will take down, and which the town will handle. Two on Church street were identified as needing immediate attention; they will coordinate with the town crew. \* The Putnam EMS Board meeting was all positive. It was noted that two more full-time EMS staff members are needed to complete both crews.

VI. Putnam EMS: Tammy Spzyrka, Administrator for the EMS Services program, reported on June and July activity, detailing scheduling and operations within Putnam and within Thompson; additionally, regional mutual aid calls were discussed. It was noted that weekends are the most challenging to keep fully staffed; two new promising full-time EMT candidates are being considered for hiring.

VII. Citizen Comments:

-Valerie Clark, Alm Rd \*the town meetings calendar is not always up to date; last night's PZC meeting is an example. \* Having volunteered to assist with the PA 490 mailing to property owners, she inquired when that work will take place.

VIII. Main Street Reconstruction Bids: None were received; the RFP deadline will be extended.

IX. Appointment:

**Motion S. Witkowski seconded by K. Beausoleil to appoint Patricia Cheever to the Conservation Commission carried unanimously.**

X. Certificate of Appreciation to Phil Thomas for 12 years on the Conservation Commission including his years as Chair, and years previous to that in service on the Redevelopment Commission.

**Motion A. St Onge seconded by K. Beausoleil to extend the town's gratitude to Phil Thomas for sharing knowledge, and dedicating time, effort, and energy to the town, carried unanimously.**

XI. Quaddick Lake/State Park: Discussion of the accident at the lake took place, with praise to the First Responders from the Thompson fire departments who handled the terrible situation. A. St Onge has asked for a full accident report from the State Police, when it can be released. S. Witkowski also praised the fire departments, for handling a fire under extreme conditions of heat and humidity recently.

Notes from the DEEP meeting with local legislators and state Boating Enforcement officials: Boating Rules Enforcement is the basic issue, with a shortage of state personnel to monitor the activity at the Park. An ad hoc committee will be created of local people familiar with the situation, to look at solutions. The group can consider an ordinance regulating uses on the lake, with a draft needing approval from the DEEP before coming to the BOS, then to the Ordinance Committee. It was confirmed that a ban on an out-of-state JetSki would not be legal; any ban would have to apply to all users of the lake. It was clarified that park Rangers are not authorized enforcement personnel; as is the case everywhere, state staff size is smaller than needed. Rangers, when present, do act as a deterrent to unwanted behavior. A possibility: a local “deputized” enforcement team, creating a local “Safety Patrol” such as has been done in other Connecticut towns with lakes within a state park. Further investigation of solutions will be pursued by the BOS. K. Beausoleil suggested asking CCM if they can provide links to other towns’ solutions to similar situations.

XII. Other Business: none

XIII. Citizen Comments:

-Steve Benoit, Poulin Dr, and Wayne O'Brien, 108 Fabyan Rd, commented about the possibility of closing the boat ramp at Quaddick State Park lake, noting possible impacts to local residents and fishermen.

-K. Beausoleil: a reprint by the Thompson Historical Society of the book *Echoes of Old Thompson*, currently out of print, is underway. Pre-orders are being accepted.

XIV. Tax Refunds:

**Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to accept the tax refunds as presented, for a total of \$1,227.57 carried unanimously.**

ACAR Leasing LTD	\$333.17	Dumphy, Kimbley A.	\$18.59
Benoit, Michael & Rebecca L.	\$4.91	Dumphy, Kimbley A.	\$74.59
Boyden, Daniel H.	\$286.78	Jourdan, Elizabeth & Virginia B.	\$19.09
Brown, Tyler J.	\$87.33	Murdock, Robert W.	\$21.84
Connor, Deborah A.	\$157.02	Stockhaus, Nicholas R.	\$121.72
Dumphy, Adam D.	\$87.62	Waldron, Renee L.	\$14.91

XV. Adjourn:

**Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to adjourn at 7:54 PM carried unanimously.**

\*\* The audio recording of the meeting is available in the Selectman’s office at the town hall.

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.*