



**TOWN OF THOMPSON**  
**Board of Selectmen- Minutes**  
**Tuesday, December 6, 2022**  
**Merrill Seney Room- Town Hall**  
**and via ZOOM Online Meeting Portal**

- I. 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 Susanne Witkowski and Ken Beausoleil  
Members of Boards, Commissions, Fire Departments and the public, Recording Secretary Dotti Durst
- II. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- III. Approval of Minutes:  
**Motion A. St Onge seconded by K. Beausoleil to approve the minutes of the 11-15-2022 BOS Meeting carried unanimously.**
- IV. Correspondence  
A. The DESPP Police Services Report for October 2022 was read aloud.  
  
After the agenda was posted: \* resident Bill Warner sent a memo questioning something in the ZBA minutes; the misunderstanding has now been addressed.  
\* Putnam EMS meets in Thompson on December 20, reviewing October and November data
- V. Selectmen Comments:
  - S. Witkowski noted it to be a positive that the water level at Quaddick is reduced.
  - A. St Onge: The Holiday lights contest for Thompson residences, sponsored by the Recreation Department, is underway; register on-line. Judging is Christmas week. \*The Salt Storage and Public Safety Complex project is moving ahead. J&D Engineers (Thompson) have been sub-contracted to work on surveying and site analysis. The RFP for the Library Building roof project will be posted (grant funded). \* Beta Group will use LiDAR to create a priority plan for Thompson roads management and a repair schedule. Nearby towns already utilize this firm and provide positive feedback. A public hearing will be scheduled for May to review the findings.
- VI. Citizen Comments:
  - Valerie Clark, 105 Alm Road, noted inconsistencies in how here street number has appeared in previous BOS minutes, and verified that 105 is correct.
  - Dick Trudeau, 192 Wagher Road asked about the cost of the road work A St Onge: \$28K, from the line item for paving; the work includes software for continuing the planning for future work.
  - Bill Warner, Lowell Davis Road, believes that several properties in Thompson do not have the correct zone identification, resulting in higher than appropriate taxes. He calls upon the BOS to ask for modifications by the Assessor of affected property records. A. St Onge asked about CT General Statutes as they apply to the matter as well as the timeline to which the Assessor must adhere. First noting the high quality of work done by the Assessor and the unlikeliness of error, she will follow up on the request by resident Warner for confirmation that all statutory and other protocols are followed.
- VII. Discussion - School Security: Following the meetings of the ad hoc committee tasked with examining the situation regarding School Security, and with weighing various options that Thompson might adopt, a discussion with the BOS and members of the public who are in attendance has been scheduled for tonight's BOS meeting. It was resident Nadine Williams-Edwards, who is in attendance, who brought the subject to the forefront, following incidents at schools in various parts of the country. What neighboring town have done regarding School Security was reviewed as well as detailed comparisons regarding having armed school security staff and as compared with adding a Resident State Trooper. Note was made that an armed security person must be a former state or local police officer, who then has the authority to make an arrest.

## Board Discussion of School Security:

- K. Beausoleil noted that surrounding towns are not identical to Thompson, which is a multi-building, public K-12 school system (Woodstock Academy is quasi-private, Brooklyn and other towns are K-8 systems, Putnam already has a police force). Other options should be considered such as security screening by regular school security personnel at each school entry point, rather like at airports.
- S. Witkowski noted the benefits of a Resident Trooper, who could cover activities in any/all parts of town as needed, develop town-wide rapport which facilitates co-operation and knowledge of particular areas to watch, such as for frequent speed violators or trucks using incorrect roads.
- S. Witkowski asked that the BOE, BOS and BOF all have full information, presented in the same manner, in order that a meaningful discussion can take place at a Tri-Board meeting.
- A. St Onge confirmed that the BOE will meet next Monday and discuss this question.

## VIII. Other Business: none

## IX. Citizen Comments: Nadine Williams-Edwards, 131 Spicer Road, thanked the BOS for the actions taken so far in creating the ad hoc committee, and for community involvement in the conversations. She added that school shootings are increasing nation-wide.

## X. Tax Refunds:

**Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to approve the tax refunds as presented, for a total of \$319.65 carried unanimously.**

White, Brian \$25.67

Honda Lease Trust \$293.98

## XI. Adjourn:

**Motion A. St Onge seconded by K. Beausoleil to adjourn at 7:49 PM carried unanimously.**

The ZOOM video/audio recording of the meeting:

**[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/XHjQSzo\\_FcrOiGH0yuup86b7JQH4IrtTd4C4Terl\\_guDThn2urYWJY958rIQ4s.ILWk30Zbsq0s4ubo](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/XHjQSzo_FcrOiGH0yuup86b7JQH4IrtTd4C4Terl_guDThn2urYWJY958rIQ4s.ILWk30Zbsq0s4ubo) Passcode: gWWb.nd1**

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.*