



**TOWN OF THOMPSON**  
**Board of Selectmen - Minutes**  
Tuesday, December 20, 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 7:04 PM with all Selectmen present.  
Roll call: First Selectman Amy St Onge, Selectmen Susanne Witkowski, with Ken Beausoleil attending virtually  
HR Director Michelle Giammarinaro, Finance Director Bill Steglitz, Superintendent of Schools Melinda Smith,  
Putnam EMS spokesman Tammy Szpyrka. Members of Boards and Commissions, Fire Departments, and the public.  
Recording Secretary Dotti Durst  
\*\*It was noted that although the camera in the Zoom meeting was not operational, all other aspects of the technology  
were fine and the meeting was called to order.
- 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 12-6- 2022  
BOS Meeting carried with S. Witkowski abstaining, having been absent from the meeting.**
- IV. Correspondence – none  
\*\*After the agenda was posted: correspondence from Kristal Simon with concerns regarding the  
Emergency Medical Services at the East Thompson Fire Department.
- V. Selectmen Comment:  
- K. Beausoleil: Noting this is the last BOS meeting of the year, wishes everyone a happy holiday  
and has high hopes that everyone will keep safe. The flu, colds and Covid are threats and wind with  
heavy rain is expected on Friday, just as holiday traffic peaks. The Transfer Station will close early.  
-A. St Onge reiterated the weather advisory. \* DPW staff are very busy; since his hiring on 10/31,  
the Director has seen to the removal dead trees/limbs and is preparing for the storm. \* She  
suggested adding to the Agenda under # XIII (Other) a staff resignation and a new hire.\* Little  
Pond Road (a private road) pothole filling is underway (also known as Schoolhouse Road); the  
Little Pond Improvement Association is working collaboratively with the town to remind the  
DEEP and legislators that the state boat launch is accessed by this road and that it also provides  
access to Quaddick State Park and that they should maintain it.  
**Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to add to Agenda item #XIII (Other) the  
resignation of Gloria Harvey and the hiring of a DPW Maintainer carried unanimously.**
- VI. Citizen Comments:  
-Several members of the community who live along Little Pond Road and adjacent roads expressed  
concerns, reviewed the history of town maintenance for the roads and cited public safety concerns.  
– Valerie Clark, 105 Alm Road, thanked K. Beausoleil for his comments. She called for order and  
proper decorum to be maintained at Town Meetings.
- VII. Proclamation – Eagle Scout Katlin S. Larsson: A. St Onge stated her pride in Katlin’s achievement,  
calling upon her to indicate what is needed to attain this highest Scout status. Her response  
detailed 22 Merit Badges and other achievements, and many hours of community service. A. St  
Onge read aloud the Proclamation from the BOS.
- VIII. Emergency Management – Resolution CT Dept. of Energy & Homeland Security:  
**Motion A. St Onge seconded by K. Beausoleil that the Resolution be put forward to  
reimburse the town for Emergency Management Services carried unanimously.**
- IX. TMHS Project Graduation Request for “Fill the Paw” Fundraiser at Transfer Station:  
**Motion A. St Onge seconded by K. Beausoleil that the town permit the fundraiser at the  
Transfer Station on Saturday, December 31 as requested carried unanimously.**

- X. Appointment: **Motion S. Witkowski seconded by K. Beausoleil that the town appoint Dale Fifield to the Fire Protection Advisory Committee for an indefinite term carried unanimously.**
- XI. Putnam EMS Report by Tammy Szpyrka for the months of October and November:  
After detailing the calls, positive call-time responses and the provision of local mutual aid, specific events were identified which the EMS personnel staffed: Halloween, Community Day, various sports events, Speedway events, Turkey Trot, and a football game at Woodstock Academy. QV Dispatch will be the communications hub as of January 1 and will provide better access to data. S. Witkowski asked about staffing: Four EMRs are in the process of completing credentials. S. Witkowski asked for monthly updates of active EMS personnel counts, certifications and hours worked per week. K. Beausoleil asked the ambulance count: On 11/20 an ambulance itself became out of service on a call, another was dispatched. This resulted in a slow response time. It was confirmed that EMRs test in Putnam first then out of the area for the next level.
- XII. Legal Notice of Town Meeting & Referendum: Thompson Public Schools HVAC, Security and Track projects: the three projects were reviewed in detail, with Finance Director offering data regarding Bonding, possible reimbursements, and project costs. S. Witkowski noted it to be cost-efficient to bring all three matters to a single town meeting and referendum. It was previously voted that the Resolution be adopted for the Referendum. Now the BOF will determine if they support calling the town meeting and referendum, based on the Legal Notice, which provides three separate questions. **Motion A St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to adopt the three Resolutions and to move them forward to the BOF for consideration.** Motion withdrawn by A. St Onge and the second of the motion withdrawn by S. Witkowski. If the BOF approves moving forward, a Special BOS meeting will be held on 12/22 at 10:30 AM via Zoom. **Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski that the BOS send the Resolution regarding the three matters listed in the Legal Notice to the BOF for discussion and possible action (Schools HVAC, (\$13.2 Million), Schools Security (\$500K), Schools Track, (\$1,5 Million) carried unanimously.**
- XIII. Other Business: a. **Motion A. St Onge seconded by K. Beausoleil to accept the resignation of Gloria Harvey (Recording Secretary - Planning and Zoning Commission) with regret carried unanimously.** b. **Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to hire Dakota Froehlich as a DPW Maintainer carried unanimously.**
- XIV. Citizen Comments:  
- Valerie Clark, 105 Alm Road, questioned the Resolution on the agenda regarding Emergency Management, finding it to be ambiguous. K. Beausoleil clarified that this is an annual process required by the State, referring to grant funds and/or stipends  
- Sally White, E Thompson Road, urges caution regarding over-dependence on technology by the ambulance service and the schools, suggesting paper back-ups.
- XV. Tax Refunds: **Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to approve the tax refund for VCFS Auto Leasing Co. (\$678.22) carried unanimously.**
- XVI. Adjourn: **Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to adjourn at 8:44 PM carried unanimously.**

To hear and see the meeting, use the link to the Zoom recording

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/wdHaEvTpuWv9sCAaes1VI5qLBTXktBj1en6DgZmz6spDPWDHXJNO-K6cEttAh1tg.SetiNJmfx6PHRFva> Passcode: xcZ45C+y

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.*