



TOWN OF THOMPSON
Board of Selectmen- Minutes
Tuesday, March 7, 2023
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
Roll call: First Selectman Amy St Onge, Selectmen Ken Beausoleil, and Susanne Witkowski.
Boards/Commissions and Town staff members and the public. Recording Secretary Dotti Durst.
- II. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- III. Approval of Minutes
 - A. **Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to approve the minutes of the 02-21-2023 BOS Meeting, with the modifications that for Agenda item #7 the EMS Report speaker was ~~Tammy~~ Terry Szpyrka and that a report of hours worked was requested for the next day as well as in each report, carried unanimously**
 - B. **Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to approve the minutes of the BOS Special Meeting (Budget Reviews 02-27-2023) carried unanimously**
 - C. **Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to approve the minutes of the BOS Special Meeting (Budget Reviews 02-28-2023) with the note that two votes were not unanimous regarding Agenda Item # A and B (CCM or Union Wages) but rather carried 2-1.**
- IV. Correspondence:
-After the agenda was posted: Danielle Carlson, using the Citizen Contact email, expressed a need for Economic Development. The memo was read aloud.
- V. Selectmen Comments:
- K. Beausoleil observed that some Park lights are now on S. Witkowski stated that the Budget process among the BOS and departments went smoothly, and now goes to the BOF.
A. St Onge additionally praised the Finance Director; S. Witkowski: he brought the Schools and Town budgetary matters together effectively.
-A. St Onge reminded all that Daylight Savings Time is at hand...so Spring Forward!
* The town survey seeking residents' opinions is launched today, appearing on the Town and Schools website and facebook with paper copies available at the library and town hall. * Senior citizen needs are being addressed by the Recreation Director with a busy program schedule both for daytime activities and road trips. * One topic under discussion is the infrastructure needs that must be handled in order to attract new businesses. * A request needs to go to the BOF to handle an emergency expense: the lights at the ballfield, mounted on rotting beams, were physically drooping and for public safety reasons had to be taken down.
Motion K. Beausoleil seconded by A. St Onge to add an agenda item to Other, #XI, to consider the safety issue at the ballpark presented by the light fixtures carried unanimously.
- VI. Citizen Comments:
- Valerie Clark, Alm Road, thanked the members of the Transfer Station Committee
- Lynn Landry, Randall Road, added thanks to that comment
- VII. Transfer Station Fees: extended discussion took place, with members of the Transfer Committee who were present providing data and information.
- VIII. Northeast District Department of Health FY 2023-2024 Fees: The BOS reviewed the per-capita fee structure from the NDDH with a 50% proposed increase. Alternatives to the use of NDDH are being explored by several First Selectmen/Mayors in the area. The State mandates

for a health department were reviewed, as well as how many participating towns it would take to create a reasonable alternative. For the current year, notification of the increase was released to the participating towns by the NDDH after the official opt-out date. The BOS agreed that a meeting with the NDDH Board's Director should take place.

IX. Recreation Department Request:

Motion K. Beausoleil seconded by S. Witkowski approve closure of Bates Ave Saturday, April 1 (April 8 rain) for the Easter Egg Hunt on Thompson Common carried unanimously.

X. Re-appointments: K. Beausoleil noted that it might be helpful to the work of Boards and Commissions to determine if there should be a consistent re-appointment date.

Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski that the BOS re-appoint Susan Wheeler and David Clark to the Conservation Commission through March 15, 2028 carried unanimously.

Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski that the BOS re-appoint H. Charles Obert to the Inland-Wetlands Commission through March 15, 2028 carried unanimously.

XI. Other Business:

-Light fixtures at the Riverside Drive ballfield, mounted on horizontal beams, presented a safety hazard: they had become loose from the mountings (photos taken from a lift were reviewed); the town could be held responsible for negligence should a lamp actually fall. An emergency call was put in to handle the situation; the charge was \$9,699. Next step: K. Beausoleil advocated for energy-efficient fixtures/bulbs being considered, reducing future power usage/costs.

Motion S. Witkowski seconded by K. Beausoleil to send a request in the amount of \$9,699 to the BOF to handle an emergency lighting situation in Riverside Park which presented a public safety concern carried unanimously.

XII. Citizen Comments:

- Valerie Clark, Alm Road, brought up questions about the Transfer Station, fees, the possibility of changing how bags/stickers are issued, and other aspects

XIII. Tax Refunds:

Motion A. St Onge seconded by K. Beausoleil to approve the tax refunds as presented for a total of \$869.12 carried unanimously.

Marquette, Andrew \$495.57 Cab East LLC \$373.55

XIV. Adjourn:

Motion A. St Onge seconded by K. Beausoleil to adjourn at 8:02 PM carried unanimously.

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

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/p59gK0_6fELjOB8eAgLRpxojLnbbN3Z5XfMIAME6HqhFuj7-A7Qd7uFVZ7n2it8O.y_a7REptVxPF3vvl Passcode: ?n@Wf@i4

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.