



TOWN OF THOMPSON
Board of Selectmen- Minutes
Tuesday- May 2, 2023
Merrill Seney Room - Town Hall
and via ZOOM Online Meeting

- I. The call to order by Selectman Amy St Onge was at 7:00 pm, with all 3 Selectmen present
Roll Call: First Selectman Amy St Onge, Selectmen Susanne Witkowski and Ken Beausoleil.
Town Attorney for Land Use Matters: Richard Roberts, Tyra Penn-Gesek (Director, Planning and Development). Many members of the public in person and via Zoom, Members of Boards & Commissions.
Recording Secretary Dotti Durst.
- II. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited
- III. **Motion A. St Onge seconded by K. Beausoleil to approve the minutes of the 04-18-2023 BOS Regular Special Meeting carried unanimously.**
- IV. Correspondence
A. DESPP Report of Services February and March 2023; both were read aloud into the record
B. Conservation Commission Review of Hillside Townhouse and recommendations
**After the Agenda was posted: received May 2, 2023-resignation memo from ACO Janis Smith
Motion S. Witkowski seconded by K. Beausoleil to add an Agenda item under #IX (Other) to consider the resignation of ACO Janis Smith carried unanimously.
- V. Selectmen Comments:
- K. Beausoleil: the Makers' Fair on Saturday in Riverside Park is always a fun, amazing family event
- A. St Onge: Notice was received today of approval of the Library Roof Project utilizing Young Developers, LLC, Hamden CT, and the project will begin soon. *Roads are being swept prior to the chip/sealing process as well as State work on some roads; millings will come to u for re-use.
- VI. Citizens' Comments: none
- VII. Owen Adam Road – Request to Discontinue as Town Road.
Property owners who addressed the BOS: Allen Woodward (Requestor), John Kimball, Mrs. Anna Naum and son Tommy Naum, Scott Wigglesworth, Brenda Rudzinski (niece of Patricia Rudzinski)
- A February memo from property owner Allen Woodward was reviewed. Attorney Rich Roberts was present via Zoom, as well as many abutters on Owen Adam Road. * The history of the road before 1989 when the town *closed* but did not *discontinue* the road, as well as since, was reviewed. * Currently, ATV use is disturbing the peaceful use of the property and a goal to establish a forestry habitat area is in jeopardy, whereas usually members of the public who are walking on the paths create no disturbance. * For these 35 years, the town has not maintained the road; the ambiguity of the situation should be cleared up. *Attorney Rich Roberts clarified that a BOS review, followed by a referral under CGS 8-24 to the Planning and Zoning Commission for their consideration and input would be the process. The matter would come back to the BOS, from which they would decide if to schedule a Town Meeting at which a decision about *Discontinuing* Owen Adam Road as a Town Road would be reached by the voters. * Discussion brought forward by the abutters included the current situation with gates obstructing through-traffic, and the impacts of them on an owner who wanted to operate a gravel bank, as well as concerns about future legal access. Attorney Roberts stated if the decision was reached to discontinue the road, that all property owners would be granted a permanent Easement, allowing them to get from their parcel to the nearest (or most accessible) public road or highway; no property would be in a land-locked situation. The Road would be closed to public use and the obligation of the town to maintain the road removed (clarified). * A. St Onge added that the town reports .03 miles (158 feet) to the State as under town responsibility. * The possibility of utilizing the access to I-395 for possible development or subdivision was raised. K. Beausoleil stated that the Economic impacts of this proposal would need to be considered. The ATV issue is one of enforcement. He also referenced Rich Road as one that should be understood as well. * Town Planner Tyra Penn-Gesek

Page 2 of 2