



TOWN of
THOMPSON *Board of Selectmen*

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TOWN OF THOMPSON, CT.
2018 MAR 22 P 4: 10
Linda Paradise
TOWN CLERK ASST

MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

Tuesday, March 20, 2018

Thompson Town Hall, Seney Room

First Selectman Ken Beausoleil called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

Present: First Selectman Ken Beausoleil and Selectman Steve Herbert

Absent: Selectman Amy St Onge (out of town)

Staff: Recording Secretary Dotti Durst

Representatives of other Boards/Commissions: Steve Benoit, Emergency Management

Members of the public, Representative of WINY Radio

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

I. Approval of Minutes

Motion by S. Herbert, seconded by K. Beausoleil to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 6, 2018 as presented carried unanimously.

II. K. Beausoleil noted that the following correspondence has been received:

- A. CT Siting Council: T Mobile will add capacity for additional carriers at the fire station at 720 Quinebaug Road.
- B. After the agenda went out: A resident sent a letter of commendation and thanks regarding the support provided by Steve Benoit, head of Emergency Management, during the storm-related power outage. His efforts to keep the family informed were especially appreciated. The Selectmen thanked Steve Benoit for his diligence.

III. Selectmen's Comments: S. Herbert-none

K. Beausoleil:

- * Ballard Road, an unpaved road, has been made passable after an extended period. DEEP became involved. The flow through the cross-culvert has been re-opened so the water level could stabilize; it passes under RT 12 and the Airline Trail.
- * The town has opened a facebook page this past week, with information related to town business
- * A town truck went out of service in the last storm, causing significant mechanical damage. Repairs are estimated to be about \$12,500. The current budget request is for another truck. S. Herbert noted that the budget for repairs was already strained.
- * K. Beausoleil will be out of state for the first week of April for a family matter; the Board materials will all be prepared.
- * There will be no Board of Finance meeting next Thursday, because of Easter week but will be meeting this week to move the budget process forward.

IV. Citizens' Comments:

*Al Landry, 33 Randall Road- cited a public safety concern with the placement of snow at the corner of Quaddick Road. He noted that snow should be stockpiled on the opposite side from that currently used, as the mounded snow blocks the line of sight for drivers pulling out onto the state road, creating a safety hazard.

V. Open RFP Bids for Town Attorney: four packages were received

*Updike, Kelley and Spellacy (Storrs and Hartford), received 03/20/2018 at 12:29 PM

Notes an hourly rate of \$195 for General Land Use and Labor matters

*Murtha Cullina (Hartford), received 03/19/2108 at 8:30 AM

Notes an A and a B price schedule, along with "Blended"

*St Onge and Brouillard (Putnam), received 03/20/2018 at 9:49 AM

Notes \$165 per hour

*Halloran and Sage (Hartford), received 03/19/2018 at 2:10 PM

Notes \$185 (Partners), \$145 (Associates) and \$90 (Paralegal)

K. Beausoleil: the packages are detailed and extensive; they will be examined closely so all the details are known.

VI. The BAR (Brownfield Area-wide Revitalization) Grant application for \$200,000 to address the River Mill Enhancement Project is part of the Economic Development master plan. It requires a 10% cash match, or \$20,000.

Motion S. Herbert, seconded by K. Beausoleil to move forward with the proposal for the BAR Grant as written carried unanimously.

Note: there is a typo in the area for the Town Clerk's seal.

VII. Little League for Opening Day Parade, 11 Am on April 21 (April 28 back up date): Robbie L'Heureaux, Little League President, asks for assistance with opening day road closings, and sends an invitation to throw out the first pitch.

Motion s. Herbert, seconded by K. Beausoleil to support the Little League event April 22 as proposed carried unanimously.

VIII. Sweeper Purchase: K. Beausoleil noted the street sweeper is approved in the budget, under a lease-purchase agreement. The piece needed is an Elgin Pelican style, which matches the current equipment. He looked at the findings of National Joint Power Alliance, which researches equipment needs and does the vetting. There is only one dealer in the northeastern part of the US that handles the equipment, C N Wood Co Inc, which serves all the New England states.

Motion K. Beausoleil, seconded by S. Herbert to purchase an Elgin Pelican street sweeper that meets the town's specifications from C N Wood Co Inc, using a lease-purchase agreement with \$207,996 to be financed. Motion carried unanimously.

IX. Fire Study Report: K. Beausoleil noted the fire study is extensive, with many suggestions. Several aspects can immediately be implemented. One aspect of the plan calls for a FAC (Fire Advisory Committee); the Plan calls for a diverse group to be recruited, not only fire and EMS personnel, but also interested community members, thus ensuring objectivity. S. Herbert noted that it will require the type of chairman who will keep it moving; recruitment should begin right now. The Committee can examine what neighboring towns have done, to determine applicability to Thompson, such as Woodstock creating an umbrella

Fire Association made up of all the stations, working collectively, or Killingly which implemented a fire protection tax.

S. Herbert: an aspect not included in the report is a recommendation for the number of fire stations needed in Thompson. Data is available comparing Thompson to similar towns based on population but not on geography or square miles. K. Beausoleil: that data was not available in the Stations' records indicating response times, which is a factor in determining the appropriate number of stations. A supplemental document includes a blueprint for possible consolidation.

One Fire Chief proposes a meeting with all the other Chiefs. Mr. Gardner, author of the VFIS, is willing to meet in Thompson, answer questions about the VFIS and make suggestions. S. Herbert suggested that all local meetings, among fire chiefs and then with the Board of Selectmen take place first, then schedule Mr. Gardner, perhaps in the second half of April.

- X. Town Meeting/Referendum Dates: K. Beausoleil noted that per the Building Committee request, the Board of Finance authorized funds for Tighe and Bond and for the carbon filters to be handled from the Undesignated line. Other expenses were addressed. In total, they authorized \$110,000 from Undesignated. The balance will go into the budget as a new long-term line item. On Monday, April 9, the town meeting will be held, with a referendum on Monday, April 23 on the expenditure of the \$110,000. The language is being drawn up. If everything is ready, a Special BoS meeting will be called for Friday March 23 to approve the meeting dates.

The disposition of the bus fleet is being considered by town council; either the matter goes to the Board of Finance as part of the budget process or to a town meeting. S. Herbert noted that income from the disposition of the fleet (not including the vehicles the town has chosen to retain) comes to the town.

XI. Other Business:

Motion K. Beausoleil, seconded by S. Herbert to add an agenda item regarding the possible lease/purchase of a Mason-style small dump truck carried unanimously. Although the plan was to find a current model-year truck, a new model-year 2016 truck is available, which could result in a considerable savings. It is still under warranty, and has not been used. The plow and sander will be additions to the base truck cost.

Motion K. Beausoleil, seconded by S. Herbert to waive the bid policy to permit a bid to be sought on a 2016 truck carried unanimously.

XII. Citizens' Comments:

*Al Landry, 33 Randall Road- regarding the fire stations, the Woodstock fire departments, having consolidated into one Association, work together cooperatively, which is positive. He asked for data about the number of emergency calls, by fire department. Additionally, he observed that regarding the bids for the position of town attorney, it sounded as though the St Onge and Brouillard is the lowest; he advocates for giving consideration to the local firm. One reason is to reduce the expense of attorney travel time to Thompson.

XIII. Tax Refunds: none

XIV. Executive Session –

Motion by K. Beausoleil, seconded by S. Herbert to go into Executive Session at 8:05PM to Update the Status of Town Litigation in the following matters carried unanimously:

- A. Starr Road**
- B. Trinity Sewer**
- C. School Oil Spill**
- D. Highway Director**

Motion to close the Executive Session at 9:14 PM by K. Beausoleil, seconded by S. Herbert carried unanimously.

Regular meeting resumed at 9:14PM. No other matters were addressed.

XV. Motion by K. Beausoleil, seconded by S. Herbert to adjourn carried unanimously.
Adjournment was by K. Beausoleil at 9:15PM.

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.