

- I. The call to order by First Selectman Amy St Onge was at 7:00 PM, with all 3 Selectmen present Roll Call: First Selectman Amy St Onge, Selectmen Ken Beausoleil and Susanne Witkowski. Thompson Congregational Church representative Bruce Hall and Guests Lyn Smith and Bill Champagne. Town Departments, Members of Boards & Commissions. Members of the public in person and via Zoom, 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 01-02-2024 BOS Regular Meeting with adjustments carried unanimously:
    \*\*Agenda item # VII: ...the vehicle currently in use is a 1986 -1996 ...
    \*\* Agenda item # VIII (Appointments/ZBA Alternate) K. Beausoleil abstained, noting that normally the BOS fills a vacancy based on the recommendation of the political party of the now-absent member.
- IV. Correspondence
  - A. Chamber of Commerce Information: included an annual report and call to the annual meeting, as well as the upcoming Business After Hours
  - B. A memo from TEEG Board of Directors thanking the Town for on-going support from all the residents of Thompson
- V. Selectmens' Comments:

-S. Witkowski offered a Happy 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Registrar of Voters Eileen Witkowski - K. Beausoleil noted the DPW is out tonight and tomorrow taking care of the roads as another storm approaches. They are very much appreciated.

- A. St Onge noted the 2024-25 budget workshops will begin February 7 @ 6 PM with the BOF participating. The BOE has begun their process, with meetings available via Zoom.
- Salt Storge and EMS plans: erroneous information is being circulated. \*\*\$1.3M in ARPA funds are set aside for the project. \*\*The quote that came in is far higher than anticipated.
\*\* The ambulance aspect is on hold. \*\* Other bids will now be sought. \*\* The Salt Storage facility upgrade is imperative to protect the water supply. K. Beausoleil asked Brian Santos (Building Committee) for the schematics and plans, even if notcomplete.

- VI. Citizens' Comments: Valerie Clark, Alm Road, asked to publicly compliment DPW Director Joe Tkacik for adeptness in making decisions and his negotiating skills.
- VII. Thompson Public Schools Track RFP Award: per their January 10, 2024 memo, the unanimous recommendation of the Building Committee is Mountain View Landscape and Lawncare for their bid in the amount of \$1,484,250 for the school track replacement project. K. Beausoleil noted that the bonding has to be in place, and that typically that firm handles setting up the paperwork. Motion K. Beausoleil seconded by A St Onge to accept the recommendation of the Building Committee as presented to award the bid to Mountain View Landscape and Lawncare in the amount of \$1,484,250 for the reconstruction of the Thompson School Track carried unanimously.

- VIII. Thompson Congregational Church Tax Credit Programs: Bruce Hall with Lyn Smith (Architect) and Bill Champagne (consultant) presented the information regarding a State Tax Credit program available to 501©3 non-profits, permitting corporate or public utility donations to the church restoration project with a subsequent tax benefit to the donor. (Municipalities may also participate in the program for structures owned by that town.) The State requires that the Town hold a public informational hearing previous to June, 2024, and that the paperwork be submitted prior to July 1 each year. The governing body of the community must approve the initiative. K. Beausoleil asked that the application forms be prepared and that any liability to the town be detailed at the next BOS meeting.
  - IX. Girl Scout Troop Request for Cookie Booth Fundraiser at Transfer Station on March 16, 23, 30, April 6, 13, 20, 2024, 8 AM 2:30 PM. Jessica Bolte is present.
     Motion A St Onge seconded K. Beausoleil by to approve the Girls Scout request for the annual Cookie Sale fundraiser as detailed carried unanimously.
  - X. Natchaug Epic Bicycle Tour Use of Roads March 24, 2024 (no road closures). The fourth year in Thompson; Liability insurance coverage is provided.
    Motion S. Witkowski seconded by K. Beausoleil to approve the use of roads as specified for the March 24, 2024 Natchaug Epic Bicycle Tour carried unanimously.
  - XI. Other Business: None
- XII. Citizens' Comments: Jessica Bolte, Riverside Drive, thanked the BOS for approval of the Girl Scout cookie fundraiser. There are now 32 scouts in town. A. St Onge added that Jessica is an unsung hero in Thompson , thanking her for all she does.
  -Shawn Brissette, Lowell Davis Road, suggests research regarding possible liability to the town for the Congregational Church rebuilding Tax Incentive program. He referenced a situation in the past in that unexpectedly incurred costs to the town.
- XIII. Tax Refunds: Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to approve tax refunds in the mount of \$2,976.65 carried unanimously.

Santerre, Scott A.	\$254.64	Toyota Lease Trust	80.72
Toyota Lease Trust	\$303.63	Toyota Lease Trust	\$481.00
Toyota Lease Trust	\$417.07	Toyota Lease Trust	\$695.24
Toyota Lease Trust	\$744.35		

XIV. Adjourn:

## Motion K. Beausoleil seconded by S. Witkowski to adjourn at 7:40 PM carried unanimously.

To view the meeting, click or copy/paste to your search bar:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/-2h7lsVC2LveFl6YKLDJlwrTMs808GVZmaV5\_ORBiVNwfYsa\_4CMb8wG3hUiAH2Q.Jl6enCD2AJ SYaSz7 Passcode: 6nV#Z20S

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.