



# **TOWN of THOMPSON**

## ***Board of Selectmen***

**Minutes: Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, January 3, 2017  
Merrill Seney Room, Town Hall**

p. 1 of 4

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

First Selectman Ken Beausoleil called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Present: Ken Beausoleil  
Steve Herbert  
Shaina Smith

Staff Present: Tina Fox, Recording Secretary  
Also Present: Members of the Public

- I. Approval of Minutes
  - A. **Steve Herbert moved and Ken Beausoleil seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the December 20, 2016 regular meeting as written.**  
Ken Beausoleil- Yes      Steve Herbert- Yes      Shaina Smith- Abstain  
**The motion carried.**  
S. Smith stated that she abstained because she was absent.
- II. Correspondence
  - A. Memo from Thompson Assessor Diana Couture stating that the supplemental motor vehicle list increased in assessment, increasing taxes to be collected by \$106,318 more than what was budgeted.
  - B. Letter from CCM discussing what they've done through the year.
  - C. Memo from Janet Blanchette, Chair of the Mill Sites Redevelopment Advisory Committee (attached).
  - D. Notification of maintenance being conducted at 347 Riverside Dr. on the Verizon Wireless cell phone tower.
  - E. Monthly report of prescription drug savings.
  - F. Notice from DEEP stating that Thompson failed to re-register the general permit for discharge of storm water.
  - G. Brochure from Mercury Group.
  - H. Brochure from ESCO regarding the LED street light conversion program.
  - I. Northeast Connecticut Chamber of Commerce annual gala being held on Friday, January 20, 2017.
- III. Selectmen's Comments
  - A. K. Beausoleil presented the following Selectmen's Comments:
    1. There was a fire on December 29<sup>th</sup> at the Thompson Hill Congregational Church. K. Beausoleil commended the fire departments for a job well done. The building is still standing. The cause was determined to be an electrical fire starting in the basement.

2. Education Cost Sharing was cut by \$46,288 and LoCIP was reduced from \$88,496 to zero.
3. S. Herbert asked if the increase in taxes to be collected in the Assessor's memo was a net number. There was discussion regarding this.
4. Three street lights in front of Town Hall were replaced with LED lights. Eversource can come through and replace them all if the Board chooses.
5. Noel Lafayette of SHR Energy suggested turning the proposed solar project over to the Town for costs incurred to date. The Town would buy him out and finish the project. He estimated between \$80,000-\$100,000 in expenses have been incurred.
6. Ray Dewey, former Ethics Committee Member, passed away and will be missed. S. Herbert expressed his condolences.
7. Effective January 8<sup>th</sup>, Registrar of Voters Ada Temple will be retiring. The current deputy Carolyn Werge will replace her.

B. S. Smith presented the following Selectmen's Comments:

1. S. Smith spoke to the inspector from the Chief State Attorney's office that day. The investigation she initiated is ongoing.

C. S. Herbert presented the following Selectmen's Comments:

1. Expressed concern regarding the MS4 storm sewer registration, as the deadline is approaching.
2. Suggested a workshop for representatives of the fire department to help them make their budget presentations more useful.

IV. Citizens' Comments

- A. Don Pimental, 40 Starr Rd., asked why a new recorder was purchased. K. Beausoleil explained that the other recorder saved files as MSV, which was difficult to convert and upload to the website. MP3, which the current recorder saves files as, is more user friendly. MP3 files are a little bit bigger but easier to use. D. Pimental stated that MP3 files are ten times bigger, but he supports the decision if people can get copies of recordings on disc. He stated his appreciation that S. Smith got in contact with the Chief State Attorney's office. He asked if a referendum is coming up to approve the roof at the Ellen Larned building. K. Beausoleil stated that the date is not yet set. D. Pimental asked if the actual price is known yet, and asked about the possible grant. K. Beausoleil stated that the grant would be a maximum of \$50,000. The Board of Finance (BOF) approved up to \$200,000. D. Pimental stated that the Thompson Hill Congregational Church had a fire in 1987 and the Board of Directors decided to cancel the fire insurance.

V. Other Business: None

VI. Road List: No update

VII. Budget Workshops

- A. The Board discussed their individual availability to begin scheduling budget workshops.
- B. S. Smith stated that she is still able to put together a template for the fire departments to use to present their budgets.

- VIII. Building Committee Recording Secretary
- A. K. Beausoleil stated that the BOF approved \$900 to hire a Recording Secretary through the rest of the fiscal year. The Building Committee proposed hiring Danielle Pederson.
  - B. John Rice explained that the Building Committee is going to be involved in a number of projects soon, and the Committee recommended D. Pederson because she handled a lot of paperwork related to replacing the fuel tank. The majority of correspondence goes to Dr. Jolin's office, where Danielle works. She is familiar with the paperwork already and has been through these types of projects before.
  - C. S. Smith stated that the scope of work being discussed does not seem typical of a recording secretary. She asked if there is already experienced personnel at the school to handle the paperwork involved in these projects. Referring to paperwork being submitted to the State, she asked if the Committee is getting approval prior to submission, as the Committee is an advisory entity. She stated that the Committee may not need to do as much as it is taking on, that the Committee is doing more than is necessary. Approval needs to come from elected officials and the correct people should be submitting the paperwork to the State.
  - D. J. Rice stated that the recording secretary wouldn't be submitting paperwork to the State, but rather creating it and keeping track of it.
  - E. There was discussion regarding who previously kept track of paperwork for the fuel tank project, and what the responsibilities of the recording secretary would be.
  - F. The Board agreed to look at the charge of the Building Committee.
  - G. **Shaina Smith moved and Steve Herbert seconded the motion to hire Danielle Pederson as Recording Secretary for the Building Committee based on the recommendation of Committee members.**  
Ken Beausoleil- Yes                      Steve Herbert- Yes                      Shaina Smith- Yes  
**The motion carried unanimously.**
- IX. Citizens' Comments
- A. Mike Krogul, Walker Dr., stated that the Building Committee has to make recommendations to the Board of Education or Board of Selectmen. They can't just hire people or make decisions on their own.

X. Tax Refunds

- A. **Ken Beausoleil moved and Steve Herbert seconded the motion to approve the following tax refunds:**
- |    |                 |   |
|----|-----------------|---|
| 1. | Cab East, LLC   | \$185.40, \$228.21, \$176.33, and \$69.96 |
| 2. | Nissan Infiniti | \$266.08                                  |
| 3. | Lori Addington  | \$31.16                                   |
| 4. | Pasang Sherpa   | \$48.14                                   |
- Ken Beausoleil- Yes                      Steve Herbert- Yes                      Shaina Smith- Yes
- The motion carried unanimously.**

XI. Adjourn

- A. **Steve Herbert moved and Ken Beausoleil seconded the motion to adjourn.**
- Ken Beausoleil- Yes                      Steve Herbert- Yes                      Shaina Smith- Yes
- The motion carried unanimously.**
- B. First Selectman Ken Beausoleil adjourned the meeting at 8:25 PM.

Tina Fox  
Recording Secretary