

Board of Selectmen

Minutes: Regular Meeting Tuesday, August 1, 2017 Merrill Seney Room, Town Hall

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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 July 18, 2017 regular meeting with the following corrections:
 - Page 3, Section V(D): The Board requested the Committee follow up with the Town Planner in regards to discrepancies.
 - 2. Page 3, Section VI(A): "...Thompson Historical Society (THS)..." rather than "...Thompson Historical Society..."

Ken Beausoleil- Yes

Shaina Smith- Yes

Steve Herbert-Yes

The motion carried unanimously.

II. Correspondence

- A. 12th Annual Mayor's Ball being held at the Aquaturf in Meriden.
- B. Thompson Library/Community Center visitation numbers for July 2016-June 2017.
- C. Brooklyn Rotary Club conducting 12th annual amber alert registration and looking for sponsors for Brooklyn Fair.
- D. From Rene Morin, letter from Office of Policy and Management in response to a request for a penalty waiver; the request was granted.
- E. The Town received a letter as an abutter to the school for their ZBA application to replace a score board on the girls' softball field.
- F. WPCA minutes from June 20th.
- G. Chamber of Commerce holding business after hours at 499 Wolf Den Rd. in Brooklyn.
- H. Letter from Last Green Valley stating that they are against the proposed demolition of the mill in Thompson.
- I. The EDC regular meeting on October 18th will involve a CERC workshop from 6:30 PM 8:30 PM.
- J. EDC Chairman sent a memo dated July 24th stating that at the July 19th EDC meeting, the Commission discussed the SHR solar project with Noel Lafayette and voted unanimously to see the project move forward.

III. Selectmen's Comments

- A. K. Beausoleil presented the following Selectmen's Comments:
 - The contract to share a Building Official with Woodstock has been completed.
 - 2. Roadwork will be done on Wagher Rd., Denis Dr., and Labby Rd. within the coming month.
 - 3. In October 2015, the Town agreed to take on property on Quaddick Town Farm Rd. known as the Rizell property. The deed has been completed but PZC had not accepted the deed with its condition as a public water source, so an application will be sent to PZC for their next meeting.
 - 4. The Ellen Larned building deed language is being prepared by the Town Attorney.
 - 5. Will be going out again to advertise for a new ZEO as the position is currently being filled on a temporary basis.
 - 6. The language is being finalized for the easements regarding the parking lot being owned by CT Water.
 - 7. Former IWC member Peter Ricard passed away this past week.
 - 8. Allegations have been made regarding misconduct by a Town employee. All questions should be directed to Troop D. The Town is working with the labor attorney on the matter.
 - 9. S. Smith asked when the monthly report comes in from Troop D. K. Beausoleil answered that it would probably be received within the next few weeks.

IV. Citizens' Comments

- Linda Jarmolowicz, 7 Denis Dr., stated that at the February 16th BOF meeting, Ken Beausoleil stated that any correspondence from Noel Lafayette had to go through the Town Attorney. On May 23rd, Ken Beausoleil presented information to the BOF regarding Noel Lafayette's proposed solar project. A BOF member mentioned that they thought all correspondence had to be handled through the attorney. Another member stated that C-TEC solar also provided information, and Ken Beausoleil stated that he would forward that information to the BOF. On July 19th, Noel Lafayette made a presentation to EDC, and made comments that Ken Beausoleil recommended that he attend an EDC meeting to give a presentation. EDC recommended letting the BOF, BOE, BOS and the Superintendent know that they are in favor of the project moving forward. Noel Lafayette made a comment that the BOE is not in favor because they were upset that the project was being led by the BOS. In October 2013, Noel Lafayette presented to the BOE, and his numbers were so off that he said the school would end up saving a number that was higher than their current electric bill. L. Jarmolowicz stated that she was shocked Noel Lafayette was presenting to the EDC after the attorney said all correspondence should come through him.
- B. John Rice asked if the Woodstock Building Official is permanent or a temporary replacement. K. Beausoleil stated that the contract is for one year.
- C. Susan Esons, 356 Ravenelle Rd., regarding the fracking ban, stated that State bill 6329 passed the Hose with a minor amendment but never got raised by the Senate. DEEP is mandated to create regulations to manage fracking waste by July 2018. It is critical now for the Town to pass an ordinance if they want to keep fracking waste out of Thompson. Thompson has recently been in the news twice for unbecoming stories. She stated that she knows both are court matters, but she hopes the Town will hold these people accountable because this does not help the Town and the branding efforts.

V. Building Committee Request

- A. J. Rice stated that the discrepancy that was found at the previous meeting has been accounted for. Some of the numbers for Tighe & Bond's proposal were accidentally included in two separate places. He stated that there were items included in Tighe & Bond's proposal that were not in the CME proposal. CME did not specify in detail what they would be doing for various items. The Committee believed that there is less of a chance of significant extra charges after the fact with Tighe & Bond's proposal.
- B. S. Smith asked if the extras in Tighe & Bond's proposal were requirements. Bill Birch stated that they are required for State reimbursement.
- C. There was some further discussion regarding the bids.
- D. Shaina Smith moved and Steve Herbert seconded the motion to authorize the First Selectman to present before the Board of Finance the engineering assessment services, awarding the bid to Tighe & Bond for the bid amount of \$166,200.

 Ken Beausoleil- Yes

 Shaina Smith- Yes

 Steve Herbert- Yes

The motion carried unanimously.

VI. Appointments

- A. Ken Beausoleil moved and Steve Herbert seconded the motion to appoint Anastasia Kapitulik to the Inland Wetlands Commission, term to end March 15, 2019.
 - S. Smith stated that there is an inconsistency on her application because she answered 'no' to whether or not she has ever served on a Board/Commission, but she has been a member of IWC in the past.

Ken Beausoleil- Yes Shaina Smith- Yes Steve Herbert- Yes

The motion carried unanimously.

- B. Ken Beausoleil moved and Steve Herbert seconded the motion to appoint Jason St. Onge as an alternate on the Zoning Board of Appeals to fill the unexpired term of Raymond Faucher, Sr., term to end November 19, 2019.
 - 1. S. Smith stated that he did not fill out question 11 on the application, and made a gentle reminder that whoever accepts the application in the office should make sure that all questions are filled out.

Ken Beausoleil- Yes Shaina Smith- Yes Steve Herbert- Yes

The motion carried unanimously.

- VII. RFP- Health Consultant-School and Town Recommendation
 - A. K. Beausoleil stated that the Finance Directors for the school and Town went out for RFP for a contract with a health consultant. He read from an email received from the Finance Director stating that all three bidders were qualified and after discussions, it was agreed to continue with the existing vendor, USI.
 - B. Shaina Smith moved and Ken Beausoleil seconded the motion to have the Town enter into another three year contract with USI as our consultant at a combined fee rate of \$35,000 for each year.
 - 1. S. Herbert stated that he wished the Board would have received more information regarding the decision as USI was not the least expensive bid.
 - 2. K. Beausoleil stated that he was part of the process and that all bidders were qualified and brought something different to the table.
 - 3. S. Herbert reiterated that if all bidders were qualified, then there should be a reason for not choosing the least expensive option.

Ken Beausoleil- Yes Shaina Smith- Yes Steve Herbert- Yes

The motion carried unanimously.

MUNICIPAL BUILDING

- VIII. Ordinances: Fracking, Constables, Emergency Management
 - A. The Board discussed the various ordinances and some changes were made.
 - B. K. Beausoleil stated that some information is going to be provided to the Board concerning a proposed ordinance to exempt horses from being taxed, which is being recommended by the Agriculture Committee.

IX. Hometown Bank Land Parcels

A. Hometown Bank has discovered three small parcels that they own in Thompson that they did not previously realize they own. They would like to give the property to the Town. PZC would have to give approval, then approval would be needed at Town meeting. He stated that one of the parcels does not generate a tax bill because it is so small, and the other two have small tax bills.

Ken Beausoleil moved and Steve Herbert seconded the motion to move agenda item 10 to 13(A).

Ken Beausoleil- Yes Shaina Smith- Yes Steve Herbert- Yes **The motion carried unanimously.**

- X. Executive Session: Performance of an Employee (Moved to 13(A)).
- XI. Other Business: None
- XII. Citizens' Comments
 - A. Al Landry, 33 Randall, stated that there are a ton of carpenter ants walking around the room. He also asked that when someone presents to the BOS, handouts be made available so that people in the audience can follow along.
 - B. John Rice stated that S. Herbert mentioned that when someone makes a recommendation to the BOS they should explain why they are not choosing the lowest bid. He stated that in the package the Building Committee submitted, they explained why they chose the more expensive bid.

XIII. Tax Refunds

A. Ken Beausoleil moved and Steve Herbert seconded the motion to approve the following tax refunds:

1. Charles and Robin Paquette \$373.24, \$384.90, and \$246.00 Ken Beausoleil- Yes Shaina Smith- Yes Steve Herbert- Yes **The motion carried unanimously.**

B. Ken Beausoleil moved and Steve Herbert seconded the motion to go into Executive Session with the Board of Selectmen at 8:36 PM.

Ken Beausoleil- Yes Shaina Smith- Yes Steve Herbert- Yes

The motion carried unanimously.

- C. The Board went into Executive Session at 8:36 PM.
- D. The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:37 PM. No action was taken.

XIV. Adjourn

- A. Steve Herbert moved and Shaina Smith seconded the motion to adjourn.

 Ken Beausoleil- Yes Shaina Smith- Yes Steve Herbert- Yes

 The motion carried unanimously.
- B. First Selectman Ken Beausoleil adjourned the meeting at 9:37 PM.

Tina Fox Recording Secretary