Minutes: Regular Meeting

Tuesday, December 5, 2017

Merrill Seney Room, Town Hall

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present: Ken Beausoleil

Amy St. Onge

Steve Herbert

Staff Present: Diane Minarik, Recording Secretary

Also Present: Members of the Public

1. Approval of Minutes:
   1. Steve Herbert moved and Amy St. Onge seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the November 8, 2017 regular meeting as written.

Ken Beausoleil- Yes Amy St. Onge- Yes Steve Herbert-Abstain

The motion carried.

* 1. Amy St. Onge moved and Steve Herbert seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the December 01, 2017 special meeting as written.

Ken Beausoleil- Yes Amy St. Onge- Yes Steve Herbert- Yes

The motion carried unanimously.

1. Correspondence:
   1. Business After Hours – Tommy Toy Fun – Tuesday 12/12/17 5pm-7pm in Putnam.
   2. Riverdale Power & Electric is moving along with project.
2. Selectmen’s Comments:
   1. Steve Herbert moved and Ken Beausoleil seconded the motion to add agenda items:

* 9.A. Discussion on Busing questions and
* 9.B. The Building Committees funding request re: oil spill and remediation.

Ken Beausoleil- Yes Amy St. Onge- Yes Steve Herbert- Yes

The motion carried unanimously.

* 1. Ken Beausoleil stated
* the Town received a “Celebrate CT Award” for the Branding project on 11/30/17. Thompson has won this twice in two years.
* Tomorrow is the EDC Seminar at the Thompson Library 6:30-8:30.
* Road work paving has ended for the season, crews are grading dirt roads and removing tree as needed for winter.
* Starr Rd litigations starts 12/14/17 in Putnam Court.
* FYI: The case against Leo Adams has been continued again to 12/21/17.
* Two other towns are also looking for a Town Attorney.
  1. Steve Herbert spoke to other towns regarding the search for a new Town Attorney and asked if the proposed agenda could be available on Thursdays or Fridays before the Tuesday meetings so they all could add to it if needed and Amy St. Onge agreed.
  2. Ken Beausoleil stated the state has now put the responsibilities of Bingo, Games, Bazaars and raffles totally in the hands of the towns to manage, collect fees and administer the whole program.

1. Citizens’ Comments:
2. Christine Campbell had several questions on the possible out sourcing of buses. Ken Beausoleil stated they have no answer at this time it’s still under review.
3. Robert Mann stated there are very deep drains in the middle of Pompeo Rd which are dangerous especially on motorcycles and should be fixed.
4. Tom Angelo, 640 Fayban Rd, stated there were incorrect posts regarding last night’s meeting and they shoud be corrected or taken down and asked that only true facts be posted.
5. Appointments: Jared Lockwood, Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate

Ken Beausoleil moved and Amy St. Onge seconded the motion to appoint Jared Lockwood to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an Alternate to fill the unexpired term of Tom Poplawski, term to end 11/16/21.

Ken Beausoleil- Yes Amy St. Onge- Yes Steve Herbert- Yes

The motion carried unanimously.

Alvan Hill, Planning & Zoning Commission Alternate

Tyra Penn-Gesek, Planning & Zoning Commission Alternate

Steve Herbert moved and Amy St. Onge seconded the motion to appoint Tyra Penn-Gesek and Alvan Hill to the Planning & Zoning Commission as Alternates to fill the unexpired terms of Michael Krogul and Charlene Langlois respectively, terms to end 11/21/23 and 11/16/21 respectively.

Ken Beausoleil- Yes Amy St. Onge- Yes Steve Herbert- Yes

The motion carried unanimously.

1. Social Media Policy:

Renee Waldron, Town Clerk, stated that the Branding Committee and fellow staff believe the Town needs a Facebook Page to help get important Town information out. 5 Town employees have met a few times and are submitting policy’s for this page. 3 local towns already have Facebook pages. Amy St. Onge asked for a Selectmen’s page. The Selectmen will review these policies, send any questions or concerns to Renee and it will be put on the Agenda for the next Selectmen’s meeting on 12/19/18.

1. School Choice Week Proclamation:

Steve Herbert thinks they should run this by the school for their thoughts. Amy St. Onge agrees with Steve.

1. Certificates of Appreciation to retiring Board, Commission, Committee members:

Ken Beausoleil read a Certificate of Appreciation which were given to:

* Michael Lajeunesse, Library Board of Trustees, served 12 years
* Christopher Eichner, Board of Education, served 10 years
* David Babbit, Zoning Board of Appeals, served 6 years
* Raymond Faucher Jr., Board of Finance, served 12 years
* Peter Nedzweckas, Planning and Zoning Commission, served 12 years
* Greg Lee, Planning and Zoning Commission, served 10 years

1. Other Business:
   1. Discussion on School Buses and RFP:

* Currently the buses are stored at the Town Garage and a repair bay is reserved for minor bus work since 1975. IF the Town decides to privatize the buses all 3 Selectmen feel the buses should continue being housed at our Town Garage and we could rent the garage bay for minor work on buses to save money for the town but petitions would need to be installed for control and security of Town Garage or the bus company could set up an office trailer and/or portable garage on site. Electrical meters would be installed for the office trailer and for buses to be plugged in during the winter. Board of Ed is looking for all information for cost analysis, they are only in the negotiation stage and there are no decisions yet.
  1. The Building Committees funding request re: oil spill and remediation.
* The court case is continued again. John Rice from Building Committee stated there is only $10,363 left in account and over $17K in bills. Shipman & Goodwin’s estimate of legal fees is $45K – 60k. CME estimates another $100K in testing if state requires it. The filters in use last 3-5 months and cost $5K each. Waiting on state to let us know how much testing will be required. Hopefully there will be more answers for next BOS meeting on 12/19/17.

1. Citizens Comments: A lengthy conversation ensued on the Bus RFP’s.

XI. Tax Refunds: None

XII. Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Minarik

Recording Secretary