



TOWN of THOMPSON

Board of Selectmen

**Minutes: Regular Meeting
Tuesday, April 4, 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
Shaina Smith
Steve Herbert

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

- I. Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Approval of Minutes
 - A. **Shaina Smith moved and Steve Herbert seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the March 16, 2017 special meeting as written.**
Ken Beausoleil- Yes Shaina Smith- Yes Steve Hebert- Yes
The motion carried unanimously.
 - B. **Steve Herbert moved and Shaina Smith seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the March 21, 2017 regular meeting as written.**
Ken Beausoleil- Yes Shaina Smith- Yes Steve Hebert- Yes
The motion carried unanimously.
 - C. **Steve Herbert moved and Shaina Smith seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the March 29, 2017 special meeting as written.**
Ken Beausoleil- Yes Shaina Smith- Yes Steve Hebert- Yes
The motion carried unanimously.
- III. Correspondence
 - A. CT Department of Housing notification of a review on April 11th of the Small Cities grant for the Gladys Green Phase 4 project.
 - B. Thank you from Hoween Flexer of NECCOG for helping to collect veteran information for the transportation survey.
 - C. Copy of volunteer fire fighter tax abatements from the Tax Collector totaling \$33,388.82.
 - D. Notification from Megan Baker, high school principal, of a walk-through at the school on April 7th.
 - E. Letter of resignation from the Recreation Commission from Al Lafleur to be effective April 15th.
 - F. Letter of resignation from the Recreation Commission from Kathy Thomas to be effective April 15th.
 - G. Notification of a law enforcement open house in Windsor for law enforcement personnel.

H. **Ken Beausoleil moved and Shaina Smith seconded the motion to add "Selectmen's Comments" to the agenda as item 3(a).**

Ken Beausoleil- Yes Shaina Smith- Yes Steve Hebert- Yes

The motion carried unanimously.

I. **Ken Beausoleil moved and Steve Herbert seconded the motion to add "Request from TEEG" to the agenda under Other Business.**

Ken Beausoleil- Yes Shaina Smith- Yes Steve Hebert- Yes

The motion carried unanimously.

Selectmen's Comments

A. K. Beausoleil presented the following Selectmen's Comments:

1. Attended CCM today. Various officials discussed having the same problems Thompson is facing with the State budget. The recommendation is to encourage residents to contact State officials/legislature.
2. Building Official position will be covered by the Woodstock Building Official 7:00 AM – 11:00 AM Monday-Thursday on an interim basis.
3. Received a memo of understanding from the school regarding combining worker's compensation insurance with the Town. Could not open the file because of the format it was sent in.
 - a. Linda Jarmolowicz, BOE member, stated that the intent of the BOE is to combine with the Town.
4. The BOE rejected the bus RFP and will go out for another RFP with different scenarios.
5. Attended the EDC Branding/Identity meeting the previous night. The next meeting will be April 17th at 6:30 PM at the Library.
 - a. S. Herbert stated that zoning discussion seemed to an important discussion point and it would be helpful if PZC members were in attendance at the meeting.

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

1. The road list is not on the agenda. Discussion of paving costs came up at the BOF meeting.
 - a. K. Beausoleil stated that he and the Finance Director are working on putting that together.
2. Reached out to Neal Breen about working on bussing costs. It does seem to be less urgent than before, but he is willing to work on the analysis still.

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

1. Asked if the BOE is aware of discussion the BOS has had about the bussing situation. She stated that she found out about the BOE going out for another RFP by citizens, and would like to have been notified by the BOE.

IV. Citizens' Comments

- A. Steve Benoit, Emergency Management Director, stated that he understands there was a question about what authority the Town has to use the buses in an emergency. Usually when there is a state of emergency, the First Selectmen will contact the school and 5 buses will be used. All the drivers are volunteers. They always ask the school out of a courtesy and there has never been an issue. S. Smith stated that when a question came up, the response was that the school has never seen an emergency response plan. S. Benoit stated that a plan has been sent to the school previously, and there was never a question previously about using the buses.

- B. Rob Mann, 15 Meadow Dr., stated that the BOE does want to combine workers comp with the Town but they are worried about the Town working to keep their rate down because the school works hard to keep their rate down. A BOE member wanted Steve Benoit to update them with the emergency management plan. The bus RFP expired on the 31st, and they plan to go out for another RFP with other options. He is against bus outsourcing. It's an emotional decision for him, but also cost is an issue. It's supposed to be done as a Town, and if the RFP is being sent as a Town, it should include everything the Town needs the buses for. He hopes the BOE, BOF, and BOS takes everything into account.
 - C. Don Pimental, 40 Starr Rd., asked if anyone knows why there is a push to privatize, and asked if it is because someone is lazy. He thinks it is wrong to outsource. He stated that a lot of PZC members are uneducated and don't understand what is in front of them. Some individuals who have been on for 30-40 years make the vote and everyone else follows suit. Members are just thrown on because they need a body. He was willing to join IWC but got slack because he is appealing an IWC decision. He submitted paperwork to the BOS a month ago and never received a response. The Town won't be okay with a 4 mill increase. There are going to be six referendums this year. Excuses keep being made and the BOS is harboring people just like the previous administration did. Taxpayer money is being wasted every week. Someone needs to run the Town like a business.
 - D. Wayne O'Brien, 108 Fabyan Rd., stated that the BOE presented at a meeting that they pay \$2.47 per gallon for diesel fuel. He asked if they get their diesel from the Town tank and if they really pay \$2.47 per gallon. He asked about what happened to the money that was budgeted for the sweeper in the previous budget. He asked S. Herbert to check the numbers that the school gives for the bus analysis and make sure they are real numbers.
- V. Recreation Easter Egg Hunt – Request to Close Bates Ave.
- A. **Steve Herbert moved and Shaina Smith seconded the motion to close Bates Ave. from Noon to 3:00 PM on Saturday, April 8th with a rain date of Saturday, April 15th.**
 Ken Beausoleil- Yes Shaina Smith- Yes Steve Hebert- Yes
The motion carried unanimously.
- VI. West Thompson Fire Department – Request to Hold Boot Drive
- A. **Shaina Smith moved and Steve Herbert seconded the motion to allow the West Thompson Fire Department to hold its boot drive on April 22nd during the hours the Town Transfer Station is open.**
 Ken Beausoleil- Yes Shaina Smith- Yes Steve Hebert- Yes
The motion carried unanimously.
- VII. Boards, Commissions, and Committees Vacancies
- A. K. Beausoleil stated that there are various agencies with vacancies that need to be filled.

VIII. Executive Session

- A. Possible Land Acquisition, CBU Utility vs. Town of Thompson Update, UPSEU vs. Town of Thompson Update, SHR Solar Potential Lawsuit Update
1. **Ken Beausoleil moved and Steve Herbert seconded the motion to have the Board of Selectmen go into Executive Session at 7:45 PM.**
Ken Beausoleil- Yes Shaina Smith- Yes Steve Hebert- Yes
The motion carried unanimously.
 2. The Board went into Executive Session at 7:45 PM.
 3. The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:35 PM. No action was taken.

IX. Other Business

- A. TEEG Building
1. K. Beausoleil stated that the TEEG building has an issue with the HVAC system. He read a portion of the lease agreement with TEEG aloud, which states maintenance costing more than \$250 is the Town's responsibility. He received an estimate of \$2,420 to replace the unit that is having problems, or \$1,500 to repair it. There is no line item in the budget for maintenance at TEEG. The BOS would need BOF approval to move forward.
 2. S. Smith asked if TEEG does regular maintenance on the unit, because the unit is not old and should be taken care of.
 3. **Ken Beausoleil moved and Shaina Smith seconded the motion to authorize the First Selectmen to approach the Board of Finance to ask for the repair and/or maintenance of the energy recovery unit at the TEEG building up to \$2,700 if necessary.**
 - a. S. Herbert asked if the amount will be dependent upon K. Beausoleil's conversation with the person who produced the quote. K. Beausoleil answered that the unit is at the shop already, but he will be talking to the service tech to get a solid understanding of the repair.
 - b. S. Smith suggested that to ask the service tech for a report/summary of his findings.

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

X. Citizens' Comments

- A. Don Pimental, 40 Starr Rd., stated that they should have a model number on the unit that needs repaired, know what year it was put in, and what function was broken, the heating side or cooling side. The filters are supposed to be changed and the dust cleaned off. There should be maintenance every year on the unit. He also stated that air conditioning is not a need, it is a want.
- B. Rob Mann, 15 Meadow Dr., suggested that the BOS implement a preventative maintenance program with AC unit and other large items, like furnaces, at TEEG and any other Town owned building.

XI. Tax Refunds

- A. **Ken Beausoleil moved and Steve Herbert seconded the motion to approve the following tax refunds:**
1. Brenda M. Nowak \$137.18
Ken Beausoleil- Yes Shaina Smith- Yes Steve Hebert- Yes
The motion carried unanimously.

XII. 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 8:54 PM.

Tina Fox
Recording Secretary