



TOWN of THOMPSON

Board of Selectmen

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2017 FEB 16 P 5:32

Linda Paradise
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Minutes: Special Meeting

Tuesday, February 14, 2017

Seney Room, Thompson Town Hall

Present: Ken Beausoleil, Steve Herbert

Absent: Shaina Smith

Also Present: Orla McKiernan-Raftery

Meeting called to order by K. Beausoleil at 6:30 p.m.

Budget Reviews

Account 2301 Emergency Management - Steve Benoit

Budget request remains the same as FY2017

Steve Benoit requested a separate account for Grant Reimbursement income for use by Emergency Management. Orla will review further.

Selectwoman Shaina Smith arrived at 6:35 p.m.

Account 4101 General Services

522747 Access Agency – Kathleen Krider
Requested \$500 – an increase from \$100 in FY2017
She supplied a list of services provided.

Account 5301 Recreation – Angela Newell and Robbie L’Heureux (Little League)

Angela gave an overview of programs and participation

522130	Travel reduced to \$300
522310	Advertising increased to \$2,250
524017	Halloween increased to \$1,300

Capital Requests

\$11,000 Recreation Truck - Discussed current vehicle conditions and concerns.
No action taken.

Recreation – Capital Requests (continued)

\$1,200 Playground surfacing material - discussed moving this money request to the Grounds Supplies Park line item 3203 under Leo Adams

Robbie L'Heureux, Little League explained Little League needs. He provided Google map of Little League Complex

\$1,000 for better lighting to deter vandalism

\$4,000 for new surveillance cameras and wiring - vandalism

\$1,000 update existing alarm system

Other items spread out over future budget years.

During the Recreation Department review, the West Thompson Fire Department expressed dissatisfaction with the time delay in getting to Fire Department presentation. They were informed that the Board of Selectmen (BOS) were running behind and would get to them as soon as possible.

The Recreation review was completed and BOS started the Fire Department review. It was learned that West Thompson Fire Department had decided to leave. The BOS agreed that West Thompson Fire Department leaving, and not being present for their review, was unprofessional as the BOS and the other Fire Departments were giving their time for an understanding of budgeted needs.

Account 2202 Fire Departments

All departments provided their budgets as requested - on the template supplied by the Finance Director.

522500 Grants Special Fire & Ambulance

Community Fire and Ambulance

Chief John Sharpe answered questions on several line items.

Community Fire Department showed savings account total of \$89,748. This number was a surprise to BOS. There were questions about this money.

Community Fire came to the BOS and Board of Finance (BOF) requesting, and receiving, \$48,600 through a Town Meeting vote. The money was approved by BOS and BOF based on information from Community Fire that they had no funds to replace expiring equipment. BOS feels that they were misled on the department's financial needs.

Fire Departments (continued)

East Thompson Fire

Chief Jeff Sheldon answered all questions on his budget request.

Quinebaug Fire

Chief Steve Bodreau answered all questions and explained capital projects the department is undertaking at this time.

Thompson Hill Fire

Chief Matt Grauer answered all questions on his budget request and explained capital projects the department is undertaking. Ken Beausoleil mentioned that a washer & dryer (to clean turnout gear) were just purchased by another department and could possibly be utilized.

Ken Beausoleil also stated that the BOS does not dictate how the Fire Departments spend their budget.

West Thompson Fire

No representative present as the President and Chief left prior to their review
BOS did not find any areas of concern in their budget numbers as presented.

Request Summary

Community Fire	\$127,000
Community Ambulance	\$ 50,000
East Thompson Fire	\$ 47,000
Thompson Hill Fire	\$ 47,000
West Thompson Fire	\$ 47,000
Quinebaug Fire	\$ 48,600

The requests were discussed; no action was taken on the amounts requested.

It was suggested that all Fire Departments attend BOF meetings in support and answer all questions as needed.

K. Beausoleil moved and S. Smith seconded the motion to adjourn.

K. Beausoleil – yes S. Smith – yes S. Herbert – yes

The motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.