

LEGAL NOTICE  
NOTICE OF TOWN MEETING  
TOWN OF THOMPSON  
October 28, 2015

The Electors and Citizens qualified to vote in Town Meetings of the Town of Thompson, Connecticut, are hereby notified and warned that a Town Meeting of said Town will be held at the Library/Community Center, 934 Riverside Drive, North Grosvenordale, Connecticut, on Wednesday, October 28, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the evening for the following purposes.

1. To choose a moderator for said meeting;
2. To determine the wishes of those present and eligible to vote at Town Meeting of the Town of Thompson upon the following proposed resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen are hereby authorized to grant an easement to The Connecticut Water Company for a water line as is more particularly set forth in a draft easement on file in the Office of the Board of Selectmen available for inspection during normal business hours.

3. To determine the wishes of those present and eligible to vote at Town Meeting of the Town of Thompson upon the following proposed resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen are hereby authorized to accept a tract of 1.29 acres of land more or less located at 0 Quaddick Town Farm Road, Assessor's Map 156, Block 6, Lot 1B, a/k/a the "Cold Spring" Parcel owned by Joseph Duhamel, et al.

4. To determine the wishes of those present and eligible to vote at Town Meeting of the Town of Thompson upon the following proposed resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen are hereby authorized to accept a 3.05 acre tract of land located at 0 New Road, Assessor's Map 154, Block 3, Lot 2A owned by River Junction Estates, LLC

5. To determine the wishes of those present and eligible to vote at Town Meeting of the Town of Thompson upon the following proposed resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen are hereby authorized to accept 24.5 acres of an approximately 40.05 acre parcel of land located at 0 East Thompson Road, Assessor's Map 154, Block 5, Lot 10 owned by River Junction Estates, LLC.

6. To determine the wishes of those present and eligible to vote at Town Meeting of the Town of Thompson upon the following proposed resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen are hereby authorized to execute easements placing conservation restrictions on the following town owned properties:

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| A. | Former Quaiel property at Quaddick Lake   |
| B. | Former Furno property at New Road         |
| C. | Former Richardson property off New Road   |
| D. | Former Rice property at Ridgewood Avenue  |
| E. | Former Beauchesne property at Wagher Road |

Copies of all of the proposed easements including both the description of the land subject to the easement and the language of the easement are on file in the Office of the Board of Selectmen and subject to review during normal business hours.

7. To determine the wishes of those present and eligible to vote at Town Meeting of the Town of Thompson on a proposed Ethics Ordinance, which would adopt a code of ethics and create an ethics commission. A copy of the proposed ordinance is on file in the office of the Board of Selectman and available for review during normal business hours.

8. To determine the wishes of those present and eligible to vote at Town Meeting of the Town of Thompson to amend and restate the ordinances creating and defining the duties of the Conservation Commission and Inland/Wetlands Commission and replacing all existing ordinances with proposed Ordinance 10-011a, Conservation Commission, and proposed Ordinance 10-011b, Inland/Wetlands Commission, copies of both proposed ordinances are on file in the office of the Board of Selectman and available for review during normal business hours.

9. To determine the wishes of those present and eligible to vote at Town Meeting of the Town of Thompson upon a proposed Blight Control Ordinance, a copy of the proposed blight control ordinance is on file in the office of the Board of Selectman and available for review during normal business hours.

10. To determine the wishes of those present and eligible to vote at Town Meeting of the Town of Thompson to amend the existing ordinance establishing an Economic Development Commission to decrease the authorized number of members from seven members to five members.

11. To determine the wishes of those present and eligible to vote at Town Meeting of the Town of Thompson to amend the ordinance creating the Planning and Zoning Commission to decrease the number of authorized regular members. The number of regular members shall be decreased from ten members to nine members with three alternate members and further to provide that at each bi-annual election three full members and one alternate member shall be elected.

12. To determine the wishes of those present and eligible to vote at Town Meeting of the Town of Thompson upon an amendment to the existing ordinance 10-012 dated June 18, 2007, establishing elected constables for the Town of Thompson, said ordinance shall be amended as follows: the maximum number of constables to be appointed shall be increased from seven to twelve and providing that the appointment of all constables shall be for an initial six (6) year term.

Dated at Thompson, Connecticut, this 20th day of October, 2015.

Paul A. Lenky  
Kerstin E. Forrester  
Shaina N. Smith  
IT'S BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ATTEST:  
Jeffrey C. Barske,  
Town Clerk



## Town of Thompson, Connecticut Ethics Code

Connecticut General Statutes Title 7, Chapter 98, Section 7-148 Scope of Municipal Powers grants the Town of Thompson the authority to develop an ethics code.

### **Section I. Purpose.**

Public office is a public trust. The trust of the public in their elected and appointed officials is essential for government to function effectively. Public policy developed and administered by government officials and employees affects every citizen of the Town of Thompson, and it must be based on honesty, integrity, and fairness in deliberations and decisions. This process must be free from favoritism, threats, undue influence, and all forms of impropriety, including the appearance of any of these so that the confidence of the public is maintained at all times. By enacting this policy and program, the Town of Thompson seeks to avoid any loss of trust, to maintain and increase the confidence of its citizens in the integrity and fairness of their government, and to stop ethical misconduct before it becomes criminal misconduct, without discouraging participation in Town government by the talented and committed persons on whose service the Town relies. Nothing in this Code is to prevent a person from seeking any elective office.

### **Section II. Applicability.**

(A) This Code shall apply to all Town of Thompson officials, Town employees, and Board of Education employees whether elected or appointed, paid or unpaid, full-time or part-time.

(B) This Code shall not be applicable to the Board of Education, the Planning & Zoning Commission, Justices of the Peace, or if it conflicts in whole or in part with any labor agreement, employment contract, or Connecticut General Statutes.

### **Section III. Definitions.**

As used in this Code, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

**advisory opinion:** A written response of the Ethics Commission to a request of a public official or public employee asking whether their own present or potential action would violate any provision of this Code.

**agency, (Town):** A board, agency, commission, committee, department, or other entity of the Town except the Board of Education and Planning & Zoning Commission.

**business:** Any entity through which activity, for profit or not for profit, is conducted including but not limited to a corporation, partnership, proprietorship, firm, enterprise, franchise, association, organization, bodies politic and corporate, or self-employed person.

**complainant:** A person, agency, or business that signed a complaint under penalties of false statement alleging a violation of this Code.

**confidential information:** Information transmitted orally, in writing, or electronically, which is obtained by reason of the public position or office held, concerning the property, business, or affairs of the Town not generally available to the public at the time of transmission.

**cronyism:** The appointment of friends and associates to positions of authority without proper regard to their qualification.

**day, working:** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, excluding days on which the Town offices are closed for holidays, special observances, inclement weather conditions, or emergencies.

**declaratory finding:** A written response of the Ethics Commission to a violation (probable cause) of this Code.

**elector:** A person who is a resident of the Town and registered to vote in the Town.

**employee, (public) :** A person receiving a salary, wages, or compensation from the Town for services rendered either full-time or part-time, permanent or temporary, and all employees of the Board of Education.

**evidence (clear and convincing):** Sufficient evidence to support an allegation of violation of this Code of Ethics, when such evidence is considered fairly and impartially, induces a reasonable belief that the allegations are true, and that the probability of this Code of being violated is substantially greater than the probability of its not being violated.

**family, immediate:** The spouse (or fiancé/fiancée), children, stepchildren, parents, stepparents, parents-in-law, siblings, stepsiblings, siblings-in-law, grandparents, and grandchildren of a person, and also their respective spouses.

**financial interest:** Any pecuniary interest related to an individual, immediate family member, or other person residing in his/her household, or other person with whom he/she has a special relationship, or business with which associated, including income received or given, securities and property possessed, leases and contracts, and creditors.

**gift:** Anything of economic value, including entertainment, food, beverage, travel, and lodging given or paid to a public official or public employee to the extent that consideration of equal or greater value is not received.

**influence, use of:** Solicitation of business, directly or indirectly from another official or employee with respect to tenure, compensation, or duties. .

**interest, conflict of:** A personal or financial interest that is in conflict with a public official's or employee's proper discharge of their duties or employment in the public interest and of their responsibilities as prescribed by law.

**nepotism:** Patronage bestowed in consideration of family relationship rather than merit.

**official, (public):** A person holding elective, candidate for, or appointive Town office including members and alternate members of Town agencies that exercise legislative/quasi-judicial functions, or financial authority in the service of the Town.

**patronism:** The distribution of jobs or favors on a political basis to those who have supported one's political campaign.

**person:** An individual or individuals.

**probable cause:** A state of facts and circumstances within one's knowledge and of which one has reasonably trustworthy information beyond a mere suspicion.

**recusal:** Removing oneself from participation in an official action to avoid the appearance of potential or actual conflict of interest; not discussing the matter with colleagues, publicly or privately; for a public meeting, the official shall step down and may join the audience.

**respondent:** Any person, or persons, accused of violating this Ethics Code.

**Town:** The Town of Thompson, a political entity in the State of Connecticut, including all special districts contained therein.

**Section IV. Ethics Policy.**

Code requirements:

**(A) Budget Line Items.** It shall be a violation of this Code for any Town officer or employee to intentionally misrepresent any matter concerning budget line items.

**(B) Conflict of Interest.** *(This Subsection supersedes and replaces Town Ordinance No. 10-009.)* A public official, employee, or business with which they are associated

1. shall have no financial interest in conflict with that official's or employee's proper discharge of their duties or employment, with a monetary value of one-hundred (100) dollars or more, or that generates a financial gain or loss of one-hundred (100) dollars or more in a calendar year;
2. shall have no personal beneficial interest, either directly or indirectly, in any contract or purchase order of any supplies, materials, equipment, or contractual services furnished to or used by any Town agency;
3. shall not accept or receive, directly or indirectly, from any person or business to which any Town contract or purchase order may be awarded, by rebate, gifts, or otherwise, any money or anything of value whatsoever, or any promise, obligation, or contract for future reward or compensation;
4. shall not practice nepotism, cronyism, or patronism of immediate family, or other person residing in his/her household, or other person with whom he/she has a special relationship in the interview, discussion, or debate regarding their hire, appointment, employment, promotion, discharge, demotion, or supervision; and
5. shall file written disclosure of any personal or financial, potential or actual, conflict of interest setting forth in detail the nature and extent of said interest with their agency or supervisor as soon as they become aware of such interest, and shall abstain from presence or participation (recusal) in the deliberation (either formal or informal), decision-making, or voting (for a public meeting, the official shall step down and may join the audience) or explaining why, despite the potential conflict, such official or employee is able to otherwise participate fairly, and vote, in the public interest with respect to the matter. An advisory opinion under this Code may be obtained from the Ethics Commission regarding participation or presence in the deliberation, decision making, or voting providing otherwise.
6. Not included as a conflict of interest are benefits associated as a member of a profession, occupation, or group to no greater extent than to any other member of such profession, occupation, or group.

**(C) Former Officials or Employees.** A former Town official or employee

1. shall not assist any person or business, other than the Town, in any matter in which said person participated personally and substantially during their service within the Town; and
2. shall not assist any person or business within one (1) year after termination of their service, other than the Town, in any matter that was pending before the agency in which they were employed, or appear before the agency in which they were employed, or assist any other person or business to make such an appearance.

**(D) Future Employment.** A Town official or employee shall not solicit future employment with any person or business who has a substantial matter before the agency for which the official serves or by



whom the employee is employed. A matter is "substantial" if it involves a financial value of one-thousand (1,000) dollars or more or involves a question of significant public policy for the Town.

**(E) Gifts.** A Town official or employee, or member of their immediate families, or other person residing in his/her household, shall not solicit or accept any gift having a substantial value, whether in the form of service, loan, thing, promise, or any other form, from any person or business who to their knowledge is interested directly or indirectly in any manner whatsoever in business dealings with the Town.

**1. Gifts do not include:**

- a. campaign or political contributions, reported as required by law;
- b. services provided by persons volunteering their time without promise or obligation for future reward or compensation not available to the general public;
- c. loans made on terms not more favorable than loans made in the ordinary course of business;
- d. gifts received from immediate family, or other person residing in his/her household, or other person with whom he/she has a special relationship;
- e. goods or services that are provided to the Town and facilitate municipal action or services;
- f. certificates, plaques, or other ceremonial awards costing less than one-hundred (100) dollars;
- g. rebates or discounts on the price of anything of value made in the ordinary course of business without regard to that person's municipal status;
- h. printed or recorded informational material germane to municipal action or functions;
- i. items of nominal value, not to exceed twenty (20) dollars, containing or displaying promotional material;
- j. honorary degrees bestowed upon a public official or employee by a public or private university or college;
- k. meals provided at an event and/or registration or entrance fee to attend such an event, in which the public official or employee participates in their official capacity;
- l. meals and gifts/gratuities received as a part of personal business activity not involving any Town activity;
- m. meals provided in the home of a person who resides in the Town; and
- n. gifts in kind, from other than immediate family, or other person residing in his/her household, or other person with whom he/she has a special relationship, of nominal value not exceeding fifty (50) dollars tendered on gift-giving occasions generally recognized by the public, including Christmas, Chanukah, birthdays, the birth or adoption of a child, weddings, first communions, confirmations or Bar/Bat Mitzahs, provided the total value of such gifts from any one (1) person in any calendar year do not exceed one hundred (100) dollars nor shall the total value of such gifts exceed one-hundred (100) dollars for any one (1) event.

**2.** If a prohibited gift is offered, the employee or official shall refuse it, return it, pay the donor the full value of the gift, or donate it to a nonprofit organization, provided the employee or official does not take the corresponding tax deduction or credit. Alternatively, the gift may be deemed to be a gift to the Town, provided it is disposed of (sold, auctioned, raffled, etc.) for the benefit of the entire Town, or remains in the Town's possession permanently.

**(F) Influence, Use of.**

**1.** An officer or employee shall not attempt to influence any other officer, employee or Town agency concerning the handling of any matter or transaction of any business in which such officer or

employee, or their immediate family, or other person residing in his/her household, or other person with whom he/she has a special relationship, has an interest, or from which he/she would be likely to gain or lose any material benefit that is not shared in common with the general public.

2. This subsection does not prohibit an officer or employee from communicating with other officers, employees or agencies about a matter in which they have a financial or other legally protected interest, if such contact does not have as its goal the exertion of undue influence over the outcome and if the communication

a. is limited to communications with an officer, employee or Town agency responsible for the matter on behalf of the Town, and

b. is reasonable and necessary in terms of the customary conduct of the matter and is limited to lawful means and terms available to members of the public generally in similar circumstances.

**(G) Hiring Practices.**

1. A Town agency shall not practice nepotism, cronyism, or patronism in the hiring process of Town employment or appointment of immediate family, or other person residing in the household of any member of that agency, or other person with whom the agency member has a special relationship.

2. A public employee with the authority to hire other public employees shall not hire to Town employment immediate family or other person residing in his/her household, or other person with whom the agency member has a special relationship, to the agency within which they are employed, nor shall they hire immediate family or other person residing in the household of their supervisor, or other person with whom the supervisor has a special relationship.

3. Exempted from the requirements of Subsections 1 and 2 above, are the hiring or employment of persons under twenty-one (21) years of age that are temporary or seasonal in nature.

4. A Town official or employee shall not discriminate in hiring against or in favor of any person based upon race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, sexual orientation, or physical disability.

**(H) Multiple Agency Positions.**

1. Any agency official who is hearing a presentation, submission, or proposal from a second agency shall abstain from participation (recusal) or presence in the deliberation (either formal or informal), decision-making, or voting (for a public meeting, the official shall step down and may join the audience) or explaining why, despite the potential conflict, such official is able to otherwise participate fairly, and vote, in the public interest with respect to the matter if the second agency includes

- a. him/herself,
- b. an immediate family member,
- c. another person residing in his/her household, or
- d. a person in a special relationship with the official.

2. An advisory opinion under this Code may be obtained from the Ethics Commission regarding participation in decision-making or voting providing otherwise.

**(I) Removal of Original Records.** No Town officer or former officer, employee or former employee, may take for personal or other non-Town use any original records, files, or documents belonging to the Town. With appropriate authorization, officers and employees may take copies of non-confidential documents to the extent such documents would be available to the public.

**(J) Social Media.**

1. No public official or former official, employee or former employee, shall maintain any social media accounts including, but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, GooglePlus, Instagram, Printinterest, which purport to relate to the Town or to any Town agency. Officials or employees with personal social media accounts shall ensure that they are strictly personal in nature, shall be named appropriately so as not to be confused with any official Town account, and in no way relate to any official Town activity.

2. The public release (oral, written, or electronic) of confidential information regarding Town matters by an official or agency member or using offensive, disparaging, disruptive, insulting, obscene, racist, confusing, deceptive, or discriminatory language in a public release is prohibited.

**(K) Town Assets, Use of.** No Town official or employee shall use or permit the use of Town funds, services, property, equipment, owned or leased vehicles, or materials for personal convenience or profit, except when such services are available to the public generally, or are provided in conformance with established Town policies.

**(L) Working Hours.** Public officials and employees shall not use working hours or official time other than in an honest effort to perform official duties, and shall not encourage or request a subordinate to use official time to perform unauthorized activities.

**(M) Ethical Conduct.** Public officials and employees shall

1. base personal decisions on Town matters on all available facts in each situation; to vote honest conviction in every case, unswayed by partisan bias of any kind; thereafter, to abide by and uphold the final decision of the agency;

2. resist every temptation and outside pressure to use elected or employed position to benefit either self or any other individual or agency apart from the total interest of the Town;

3. refrain from engaging in or participating in any activity that is incompatible with the proper discharge of official duties in the public interest, or would tend to impair independent judgement or action in the performance of official duties;

4. devote time, thought, and study to the duties and responsibilities of a Town official so that effective and creditable service is rendered;

5. welcome and encourage active cooperation by citizens, organizations, and the media of communication in the Town with respect to establishing policy on current Town operation and proposed future developments; and

6. abide by all Town, State, and Federal requirements regarding occupational health and safety.

**(N) Complicity.** A public official or employee knowingly aiding, abetting, or assisting another public official or employee in the violation of this Code shall itself be a violation.

**(O) Other Violations.** Violations of this Ethics Code are not limited to the specific examples listed herein, and shall include other circumstances and actions that contravene the purpose and intent of this Code.

**Section V. Disclosure of Financial Interests.**

**(A)** Elected public officials, their spouse and dependent children residing in the household, shall disclose all financial interests with the Ethics Commission after election and each year thereafter. Whenever a reportable interest is held by another (e.g., a trustee) for the benefit of a reportable individual, the filer shall disclose both the holder and the beneficiary by either relationship or name.



(B) The statement of financial interests, without specifying dollar amounts, shall include the following information for the preceding calendar year:

1. the names of all businesses with which associated;
2. all sources of income, including the name of each employer, with a description of each source, in excess of one thousand (1,000) dollars;
3. the name of securities in excess of five thousand (5,000) dollars at fair market value owned by such individual, spouse or dependent children or held in the name of a corporation, partnership or trust for the benefit of such individual, spouse or dependent children;
4. the existence of any known blind trust and the names of the trustees;
5. all real property and its location, whether owned by such individual, spouse or dependent children or held in the name of a corporation, partnership or trust for the benefit of such individual, spouse or dependent children;
6. any leases or contracts with the municipality held or entered into by the individual or a business with which he/she was associated; and
7. the names and addresses of creditors to whom the individual, the individual's spouse or dependent children, individually, owed debts of more than ten thousand (10,000) dollars. The disclosure of creditors shall not be a matter of public information.

(C) The statement of financial interests may be used in response to a complaint but shall remain confidential.

#### **Section VI. Ethics Commission.**

An Ethics Commission shall be established by the Board of Selectmen to render advisory opinions and declaratory findings with respect to the applicability of this Code to specific persons or situations.

(A) The Ethics Commission shall consist of five (5) members and two (2) alternate members selected by open solicitation for the positions, interviewing consistent with the process in hiring Town employees, and individually appointed by unanimous vote of the Board of Selectmen in public session.

(B) No more than two (2) of the five (5) members shall be of the same political party; the alternates shall not be of the same political party; none shall be a member of any other Town agency. The alternates may attend all Ethics Commission meetings and hearings without vote until seated. Members and alternates shall be electors of the Town.

(C) Terms of office shall be four (4) years. In order to preserve continuity on the Commission, the first terms of the seven (7) members shall be staggered so that the alternates serve a term of one (1) year, two (2) members for two (2) years, two (2) members for three (3) years, and one (1) member for four (4) years. Upon the expiration of the original terms, all reappointed or new members shall then serve for four (4) years. Any vacancy in the Ethics Commission's membership may be filled by the alternate of the same political party and then by the Board of Selectmen for the unexpired portion of the vacancy or the alternate's term. There are no term limits.

(D) Such Ethics Commission shall elect annually a chairperson and a secretary and shall establish its own rules and procedures.

(E) Members shall serve without compensation except for authorized expenses in conjunction with their duties,

(F) To facilitate public access, the Ethics Commission shall keep a record with the Town Clerk of all reports, advisory opinions, and declaratory findings done by the Ethics Commission.

#### **Section VII. Complaints and Investigations.**

An ethics question, whether true or not true, probable or not probable, may be detrimental to the reputation of the person charged, especially an official or candidate for office. Discussions of the Ethics Commission of perceived Code violations shall be held in executive session and held in confidence.

(A) Any Town official or employee that has, or feels they have a real, pecuniary, or personal beneficial interest in any matter coming before any Town agency shall make the same known to such body and such interest shall be disclosed on the records of such body.

(B) A complaint may be made to the Ethics Commission by any person. It shall be made in writing, and shall state the name and address of the complainant, the identity of the official or employee and, if applicable, the immediate family or other person residing in his/her household, or other person with whom he/she has a special relationship, or business involved in the complaint, the conduct that a reasonable person would believe that allegedly violates this Code, and a summary of the relevant facts. It shall be clearly labeled "Ethics Commission", sealed and given or mailed to the Town Clerk who will mark it with date and time for forwarding, with seal intact, to the Ethics Commission chairman. Once submitted to the Ethics Commission, it cannot be withdrawn by the complainant. Baseless complaints may be dismissed by the Ethics Commission publicly.

(C) The Ethics Commission by majority vote may initiate the complaint when public opinion in the form of multiple radio, press, or anonymous complaints speculate that this Code has been violated.

(D) The Ethics Commission shall investigate any alleged violation of this Code.

1. No later than ten (10) working days after the receipt of such complaint, the Ethics Commission shall provide notice of such complaint to any respondent against whom such complaint is filed.

2. The Ethics Commission shall conduct a confidential investigation, of both oral and written evidence considered fairly and impartially, prior to any finding. The Commission shall have the power to investigate alleged violations and may for the purpose of investigating any violation hold a hearing, administer oaths, examine witnesses, receive oral and documentary evidence, have the power to subpoena witnesses to compel attendance, and to require the production for examination of any books, papers, or electronic media deemed relevant in any matter under investigation or in question.

3. If the Ethics Commission believes that the complaint alleges sufficient acts to constitute a violation, then within thirty (30) working days after so determining, the Ethics Commission shall fix a date for the commencement of a hearing on the allegation contained therein. The hearing date shall be no more than sixty (60) working days after the filing of the complaint. At the hearing, the respondent may appear and be represented by legal counsel and examine and cross-examine witnesses.

4. If finding probable cause, by a majority vote, with respect to the applicability of this Code to specific situations, the Ethics Commission shall notify the complainant and respondent with a declaratory finding and make public its finding no later than five (5) working days after the determination of the hearing. Reasons for a minority vote shall be included with the declaratory finding.

5. A probable cause finding from the Ethics Commission may include reprimand, public censure, termination or suspension of employment for not more than ninety (90) working days without pay, removal or suspension from appointive office, and/or a recommendation of a fine (each day of violation

shall constitute a separate offense and shall be punishable as such) as listed in the Town Ordinance Fee and Fine Schedule, except that no action may be recommended that would violate provisions of State or Federal law. Where there has been a violation of this Code, the Town may void any purchase or contract that the Ethics Commission has found to be influenced by that violation. In the case of union employees, any recommended action does not constitute a unilateral change in conditions of employment. An Ethics Commission finding shall not limit the authority of the Board of Selectmen.

6. Upon receipt of a probable cause finding from the Ethics Commission, enforcement, revision, or reversal of the finding shall be the responsibility of the Thompson Board of Selectman. Their action must be completed within thirty (30) working days.

7. If there is no finding of probable cause, the complaint and its investigation shall remain confidential.

(E) The Ethics Commission shall, on or before January 15<sup>th</sup>, report the type and quantity of complaints and their resolution for the preceding calendar year to the Board of Selectmen.

(F) No complaint may be made under this Code for violations alleged to have occurred prior to enactment of this Code. No complaint may be made under this Code if two years have passed between the time of the alleged violation and the filing of the complaint.

(G) No person shall take or threaten to take official action against a person in retaliation for such person's good faith ethics complaint, or disclosure of information to the Ethics Commission under the provisions of this Code. A complainant's identification shall be held in confidence.

(H) An official, employee, or candidate for Town office or employment may request a confidential advisory opinion concerning the requirements of this Code as applied, or would apply, to him or her. Advisory opinions are binding on the Ethics Commission until amended or revoked and must be deemed to be final decisions for the purpose of appeal. Any person who requests an advisory opinion and relies on it in good faith may assert their actions as an absolute defense to any alleged Code violation.

#### **Section VIII. Ethics Training and Publication.**

(A) The Ethics Commission shall develop and deliver, or contract with other entities to develop and deliver, training programs for all officers and employees of the Town, whether elected or appointed, paid or unpaid, concerning the requirements of ethical behavior as encompassed in this Ethics Code. Such training shall be required promptly following the initial appointment, election, or hiring of any officer or employee of the Town and mandatory follow-up training shall take place every four (4) years.

(B) The Ethics Commission shall create and maintain a publication of this Ethics Code, to be distributed to all officers and employees during training. A copy of this publication shall be kept at the office of the Town Clerk and made available to the general public by posting on the Town's Internet web site ([www.thompsonct.org](http://www.thompsonct.org)).

(C) The Ethics Commission shall be responsible for maintaining records that all officers and employees have received such training, they agree to comply with the Thompson Ethics Code, and that their personal affairs do not constitute a conflict of personal or financial interest.

#### **Section IX. Miscellaneous.**

(A) The Town Clerk shall cause a copy of this Ethics Code to be distributed to every public official and public employee within thirty (30) working days after enactment of this Code. Each public official and

public employee shall be furnished a copy before entering upon the duties of their office or employment. A signed receipt for all copies shall be returned to the Town Clerk and retained on file. An official's re-election or an employee's promotion shall require a new copy of this Code and a new signed receipt.

**(B)** If any provision of this Code is for any reason held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions. To this end, the provisions of this Code are not severable.

**(C)** This Code shall be reviewed every five (5) years beginning in 2020, or as necessary to comply with Connecticut General Statutes, and if deemed necessary, the Board of Selectmen may appoint an advisory committee to update this Code at that time.

Date adopted: xxxxxx

DRAFT - 8/14/15

Be it resolved that the Town of Thompson hereby rescinds Ordinance No. 10-011 entitled Conservation Commission & Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission and adopts in its place the following two ordinances:

Ordinance No. 10-011A  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

February 26, 1973	Volume 8, Page 303
May 20, 1974	Volume 8, Page 397
April 27, 2005	Volume 12 Page 94
July 27, 2005	Volume 12, Page 111
August 17, 2011	Volume 12, Page 504

**History:** On February 26, 1973 a five-member Conservation Commission was established by ordinance, pursuant to the terms of section 7-131a of the Connecticut General Statutes, (revision of 1958), as amended. On May 20, 1974 the establishing ordinance was amended to increase the membership of the Conservation Commission to 9 members and to designate it as the inland wetlands agency for the town of Thompson and authorize it to issue appropriate regulations to govern the use of inland wetlands. On April 27, 2005 the establishing ordinance was amended to establish a separate inland wetlands commission with members of the Conservation Commission initially continuing to serve as members of the Inland Wetlands Commission with the same terms as the existing Conservation Commission, and that it was not a condition for appointment or reappointment to either agency in the future that the individual is a member of the other agency. This amendment was effective June 1, 2005. On July 27, 2005 the establishing ordinance was again amended reducing the membership of the Conservation Commission from 9 members to 7 members. On August 17, 2011 the establishing ordinance and its amendments were codified into town Ordinance No. 10-011.

**Membership:** The Conservation Commission shall consist of seven (7) members to be appointed by the First Selectman for staggered terms of five (5) years. The First Selectman shall fill all vacancies in the membership of the Conservation Commission and may remove any member for cause.

**Powers and Duties:** The Conservation Commission shall have all powers and duties identified in section 7-131a of the Connecticut General Statutes as amended.

Ordinance No. 10-11B  
INLAND WETLAND COMMISSION

February 26, 1973	Volume 8, Page 303
May 20, 1974	Volume 8, Page 397
April 27, 2005	Volume 12 Page 94
July 27, 2005	Volume 12, Page 111
August 17, 2011	Volume 12, Page 504



**History:** On May 20, 1974 the establishing ordinance for the Conservation Commission was, among other things, amended to designate it as the inland wetlands agency for the town of Thompson and authorize it to issue appropriate regulations to govern the use of inland wetlands. On April 27, 2005 the establishing ordinance was amended to establish a separate Inland Wetlands Commission with members of the Conservation Commission initially continuing to serve as members of the Inland Wetlands Commission with the same terms as the existing Conservation Commission, and that it was not a condition for appointment or reappointment to either agency in the future that the individual is a member of the other agency. This amendment was effective June 1, 2005. On July 27, 2005 the establishing ordinance was again amended reducing the membership of the Inland Wetlands Commission from 9 members to 7 members. On August 17, 2011 the establishing ordinance and its amendments were codified into Town Ordinance No. 10-011.

**Membership and Appointment:** The Inland Wetlands Commission shall consist of seven (7) members who shall be electors of Thompson, residing in said town and who shall not be an employee of any town office, to be appointed by the Thompson Board of Selectmen for staggered terms of five (5) years beginning on March 15<sup>th</sup> wherein no more than 2 terms expire in the same calendar year.

The Thompson Board of Selectmen shall fill all vacancies in the membership of the Inland Wetlands Commission and may remove any member for just cause. The absence of an Inland Wetland Commission member for 4 consecutive meetings shall be one of the causes for removal from the Inland Wetland Commission.

**Powers and Duties:** The Inland Wetland Commission shall adopt regulations in conformity with the regulations adopted by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection for the protection of wetlands and watercourses and shall serve as the sole agent for the licensing of regulated activities pursuant to such regulations, giving due consideration to the standards set forth in sections 22a-36 through 22a-45 of the Connecticut General Statutes (the Act), and shall provide for the manner in which boundaries of inland wetland areas of Thompson shall be established and amended, changed or proposed in accordance with the Act as amended.

The Inland Wetlands Commission has the authority to:

1. Publish such regulations in accordance with the Act as are necessary to protect the inland wetland and watercourses or any of them individually or collectively;
2. Consult and retain various professionals for the purposes of rendering legal, financial, technical or other assistance and advice in furtherance of any of its purposes, specifically including but not limited to, soil scientists of the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service for the purpose of making onsite interpretations, evaluations and findings as to soil types and/or utilize the services of such other Town officials and employees as it may deem appropriate, in conformance with established budget processes;
3. Advise, consult and cooperate with agencies of the municipality, region, state, and federal government, other states and with persons and municipalities in the furtherance of the purposes of this ordinance; to this end, all applications for building permits, subdivision plans or other permits which involve or may involve regulated activities in an inland

wetland or watercourse made to any other Thompson board or commission shall be subject to review by the Inland Wetlands Commission;

4. Encourage, participate in or conduct studies, investigations, research and demonstrations, and collect and disseminate information relating to the purposes of this ordinance;
5. Inventory or index the inland wetlands and watercourses in such form, including pictorial representations and list of plant species, as the Inland Wetlands Commission deems best suited to effectuate the purposes of this ordinance; and
6. Develop comprehensive programs in furtherance of the purposes of this ordinance;
7. Exercise all incidental powers necessary to enforce regulations and to carry out the purposes of this ordinance.



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ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

TOWN OF THOMPSON  
BLIGHT CONTROL ORDINANCE

Sec. \_\_\_\_\_ - 1:     **Title:**

This Ordinance shall be known and may be cited as the "Blight Control Ordinance.

Sec. \_\_\_\_\_ - 2:     **Purpose and Declaration of Policy:**

This Ordinance is enacted pursuant to Chapter 98, as amended, of the Connecticut General Statutes and general police powers including those set forth in CGS §7-148(c)(7), as amended. This ordinance is meant to be enforced as a blight ordinance pursuant to CGS §148(c)(7)(H), as amended, and as a nuisance ordinance pursuant to CGS §7-148(c)(7)(E).

It is hereby found and declared that there exists in the Town of Thompson a number of blighted properties and that continued existence of blighted properties constitutes a continuing public nuisance and contributes to the decline of neighborhoods, and results in a deleterious effect upon properties, both residential and non-residential. Further it is found that the existence of blight adversely affects the economic well-being of the Town and is inimical to the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Town of Thompson.

Sec. \_\_\_\_\_ - 3:     **Definitions:**

As used in this Ordinance, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

**Agricultural** shall mean any premises or portion of a premises or parcel of land that is used for agricultural purposes as defined in the Connecticut General Statutes.

**Blight, Blighted Premises** shall mean:

- (a) Any building or structure not being maintained as evidenced by two (2) or more of the following conditions:
  - a. A building or structure in a state of dilapidation or decay;
  - b. Missing, broken or boarded windows or doors;
  - c. Collapsing or deteriorating exterior walls, roofs, stairs, porches or chimneys;
  - d. Exterior walls which contain holes, breaks, loose or rotting materials or are covered by temporary materials;

- e. Deteriorating foundation walls that contain open cracks or breaks;
  - f. Overhang extensions, including but not limited to canopies, marquees, signs, awnings, porches, stairways, fire escapes, any of which show dilapidation or improper building materials or construction, and standpipes and exhaust ducts which contain rust or other delapidation;
  - g. Exterior evidence of vermin infestation;
  - h. Debris;
  - i. Evidence of graffiti or vandalism;
  - j. Remains of a structure that has been damaged by fire or other casualty and which is exposed to the elements and no longer serves the purpose for which it was constructed;
- (b) Premises occupied by a structure intended for human occupancy in which weeds or similar vegetation (excluding flowers, fruits and vegetables, and areas maintained in their original naturally wooded or field state) is allowed to reach and remains at a height of 36 inches or greater for a period of thirty days or longer;
  - (c) Dead, decayed, diseased or damaged trees constituting a hazard or danger to persons or property;
  - (d) Two (2) or more unregistered motor vehicles in the public view pursuant to CGS §14-150a, as amended;
  - (e) Residentially zoned property with any combination of five (5) or more pieces of mechanical equipment stored on the premises and in the public view (**final number to be decided**);
  - (f) Property that is attracting illegal activity as evidenced by the following:
    - a. Multiple felony or misdemeanor arrests on the premises;
    - b. Abandoned and/or vacant building or structure devoid of water, sewer, utility function or service, that has become an illegal residence;
  - (g) Property that is a fire hazard as determined by the Fire Marshal or documented via fire department records;
  - (h) The premises creates substantial and unreasonable interference with the use and enjoyment of surrounding premises as reported by neighborhood complaints, fire, public safety or health department reports;
  - (i) Property that has any of the following conditions:
    - a. Premises containing accumulated debris, not including compost piles or piles of grass and/or brush which are not visible from a public right-of-way and do not otherwise constitute a public health or safety hazard; or
    - b. Landscaping, including but not limited to, trees, shrubs, hedges, grass and plants, on any premises which physically hinder or interfere with the lawful use of abutting premises or block or interfere with the use of any public sidewalk and/or private street right-of-way or any road sign.

*Definition*

**Building Official** shall mean an individual who administers the State Building Code and enforces Building Ordinances for the Town of Thompson;



**Debris** shall mean material which is incapable of immediately performing the function for which it was designed including, but not limited to, abandoned, discarded or unused objects; junk comprised of equipment such as automobiles, boats and recreation vehicles which are unregistered and missing parts, not complete in appearance and in an obvious state of disrepair; parts of automobiles, furniture, appliances, cans, boxes, scrap metal, tires, batteries, containers and garbage which are in the public view. This definition shall not be applicable to premises that are a junkyard licensed by the State of Connecticut;

**Decay** shall mean a wasting or wearing away; a gradual decline in strength, soundness or quality; to become decomposed or rotten; **Decay** shall not include a contained compost pile;

**Deteriorating** shall mean to become or make something worse in quality, value or strength;

**Dilapidation** shall mean to become, or make something become, partially ruined or decayed, especially through neglect;

**Hearing Officer** shall mean an individual, or individuals, appointed by the First Selectman to conduct official hearings authorized by this Ordinance, who may or may not be a police officer or employee, or person who issues citations on behalf of the Town;

**Illegal activities** shall mean illegal conduct at the premises or property as documented in police department records;

**Illegal residences** shall mean human habitation of a dwelling unit that does not comply with State Building, State Fire, local Zoning or Housing Codes, or all other pertinent codes and Connecticut General Statutes;

**Legal occupancy** shall mean occupancy in accordance with State Building, State Fire, local Zoning or Housing Codes, or all other pertinent codes and Connecticut General Statutes;

**Natural field state** shall mean areas where grass, weeds and brush exist in their natural, unlandscaped state;

**Natural wooded state** shall mean areas where trees and brush exist in their natural, unlandscaped state;

**Neighborhood** shall mean an area of the Town comprised of all premises or parcels of land, any part of which is within a radius of 1,000 feet of any part of another parcel or lot within the Town;

**Owner** shall mean any person, firm, institution, partnership, corporation, foundation, entity or authority who or which holds title to real property or any mortgage or other secured or equitable interest in such property, as documented in the Town land records;

**Person** shall mean any man, woman, corporation or other legal entity capable of owning or leasing real property;

**Premises** shall mean a platted lot, or part thereof, or unplatted lot or parcel or plot of land, either occupied or unoccupied by any dwelling or nondwelling structure, and includes any such building, accessory structure thereon, or any part thereof. The term "premises," where the context requires, shall be deemed to include any buildings, dwellings, parcels or land or structures contained within the scope of this Ordinance;

**Public view** shall mean visible from any public right-of-way or neighboring property, at grade level;

**Structure** shall include, but not be limited to, any building, dwelling, fence, swimming pool, or similarly constructed object.

Section \_\_\_\_\_ - 4: **Prohibition Against Creating or Maintaining Blighted Premises**

No owner of real property within the Town of Thompson shall cause or allow blighted premises to be created, nor shall any owner allow the continued existence of blighted premises.

Section \_\_\_\_\_ - 5: **Minimum Standards**

- a. The provisions in this chapter shall not be construed to prevent the enforcement of other statutes, codes, ordinances or regulations which prescribe standards other than are provided for in this Ordinance;
- b. In any case where a provision of this chapter is found to be in conflict with a provision of any zoning, building, fire safety or health Ordinance, Regulation or other Code of the Town or State, the provision which establishes the higher standard for the promotion and protection of the health, safety and welfare and property values of the people shall prevail;

Section \_\_\_\_\_ - 6: **Exemptions**

The term "blighted property", "blighted premises" shall not include:

- a. That portion of any structure, building or parcel of land that can be shown by the owner, at the time of a complaint, to have been used for agricultural purposes during any period within the preceding five (5) years;
- b. Any building or structure for which a current building permit has been issued;

Section \_\_\_\_\_ - 7: **Designation and Authority of the Blight Enforcement Officer**

The First Selectman shall appoint the Blight Enforcement Officer. The First Selectman reserves the right to use any or all of the following officials to assist in determinations for any service as deemed necessary: the Zoning Enforcement Officer, Building Inspector, Fire Marshal, Town Attorney or such other person as designated by the First Selectman, acting within the scope of such official's authority. The Blight

Enforcement Officer shall have the authority to interpret and enforce the provisions of this section.

Section \_\_\_\_\_ - 8: **Certification of List of Blighted Properties/Premises**

- a. Immediately following the enactment of this Ordinance, the First Selectman may request that all Town department heads report any property/premises they observe within the Town that appear to be blighted. Such reports shall be submitted within thirty (30) days of the First Selectman's request;
- b. The First Selectman shall instruct the Blight Enforcement Officer to use this information and any other available information to schedule inspections from public areas or public rights-of-way for the purpose of compiling a list of blighted premises within sixty (60) days. The Blight Enforcement Officer shall update this list by addition of premises that become blighted and removal of premises where the blight violation is abated. The Town may levy fines against blighted properties/premises as described in this Ordinance.
- c. Within sixty (60) days after completion, the First Selectman shall present said list to the Board of Selectmen;
- d. Any individual, civic organization or municipal agency affected by the action or inaction of an owner of premises subject to provisions of this Ordinance may file a written complaint regarding the cited violation(s) of this chapter with the Blight Enforcement Officer. Such complaint shall include the address of the property/premises and facts concerning the conditions of such property/premises, and must include complainant's signature and contact information. Based on the provisions set forth in this Ordinance, the Blight Enforcement Officer may add the subject property/premises to the blight list.

Section \_\_\_\_\_ - 9: **Enforcement**

- a. Upon compilation of said list, or any additions thereto, the Blight Enforcement Officer shall perform regular inspections from public areas or public rights-of-way for the purpose of documenting continuous blight. If said Officer determines that there exists a violation of this Ordinance, the Officer shall cause written notice of the violation to be given to the owner or owners of the blighted property/premises. Such notice shall be sent by certified mail – return receipt requested to the owner's last known address as listed in the Tax Collector's Office and to any other such address the Blight Enforcement Officer reasonably believes may be current. If applicable, such notice shall also be sent to any registrant as provided in CGS §7-148ii, as amended. IF such notice shall be returned as unclaimed, the Blight Enforcement Officer may have such notice served by a Judicial Marshal or may choose to serve notice by publication in a newspaper having a general circulation in the Town of Thompson.
- b. The Notice of Violation shall include the following information:

1. Location of the blighted property/premises;
  2. Exact nature of the violation, referencing the provision(s) of this Ordinance alleged to have been violated;
  3. Time allowed for corrective action (not to exceed sixty [60] days);
  4. Civil penalty for continued violation of this Ordinance;
  5. Name, business address and telephone number of the Blight Enforcement Officer.
- c. Prior to the expiration of time allowed for correction as set forth in the Notice of Violation, the owner may make written request to the Blight Enforcement Officer for an extension of the time allowed for corrective action. A written extension of up to an additional sixty (60) days may be granted by the Officer upon a determination that the owner has taken reasonable steps to remedy the condition. Said extension may also be granted if, under particular circumstances, granting additional time is warranted. The Blight Enforcement Officer may grant additional extensions, over and above the original extension time period, only after consultation with, and approval of, the First Selectman.

Section \_\_\_\_\_ - 10: **Initiation of Legal Proceedings**

In addition to the citation process described in Section \_\_\_\_\_ - 11 of this Ordinance, the Blight Enforcement Officer is authorized to initiate legal proceedings in the Superior Court for the immediate correction of the violation(s), collection of any penalties, and the recovery of all costs, including cost of remedial action(s) authorized by the court and reasonable attorney's fees incurred by the Town to enforce this Ordinance.

Section \_\_\_\_\_ - 11: **Citation; Fine; Hearing Procedure**

- a. If the owner fails to take corrective action within the time allowed (including any extension(s) that may be granted, so that the building, structure or parcel of land is still considered a blighted property/premises, the Blight Enforcement Officer shall, forthwith, issue a written citation alleging that the violation of this Ordinance exists and that the owner(s) have failed to take corrective action;
- b. The citation shall include the location of the blighted property/premise, the provisions of this Ordinance that have been violated and the civil penalty for such violation. Such citation shall be given to the owners in the same manner as set forth in subsection \_\_\_\_\_ - 9a, above.
- c. For each violation of this Ordinance which continues beyond the date set for corrective action by the Blight Enforcement Officer, including any extension(s) granted, a civil penalty (fine) of one hundred dollars (\$100) (*other amount?*), payable to the Town of Thompson, shall be imposed. Each day beyond the expiration of the time allowed for corrective action shall be considered a separate violation.

- d. Pursuant to CGS §7-148aa, as amended, any unpaid civil penalty imposed by the Town, pursuant to the provisions of this Ordinance, shall constitute a lien upon the blighted property/premises from the date of such fine. Each such lien may be continued, recorded and released in the manner provided by the Connecticut General Statutes for continuing, recording and releasing property liens. Each such lien shall take precedence over all other liens filed after July 1, 1997, and encumbrances except taxes, and may be enforced in the same manner as property tax liens.
- e. Any owner aggrieved by the issuance of a citation and/or the imposition of a civil penalty by the Blight Enforcement Officer, may within ten (10) days of the receipt of the citation, request a hearing before the Blight Hearing Officer in the manner set forth in CGS §7-152c.
  - 1. If the owner(s) issued a citation pursuant to this Ordinance wishes to admit liability for any alleged violation, he/she/they may, without requesting a hearing, pay the full amount of the penalties, costs or fees admitted to in person or by mail. Such payment shall be inadmissible in any proceeding, civil or criminal, to establish the conduct of such person(s), or other person(s), making the payment. Any person(s) who does/do not deliver or mail written demand for a hearing within ten (10) days of the date of the first citation provided for in this Section shall be deemed to have admitted liability, and the Blight Enforcement Officer shall certify such person(s)'s failure to respond to the Blight Hearing Officer. The Blight Hearing Officer shall thereupon enter and assess the penalties, costs and/or fees as provided by this Ordinance and shall follow the procedures set forth in CGS §7-152c(f).
  - 2. Any person(s) requesting a hearing shall be given written notice of the date, time and place for the hearing. Such hearing shall be held not less than fifteen (15), nor more than thirty (30), days from the date of the mailing of the notice. The Blight Hearing Officer shall grant, upon good cause shown, any reasonable request by any interested party for postponement or continuance. A certified copy of the initial notice of violation shall be filed and retained by the Town and shall be deemed evidence of the facts contained in the official hearing record.
  - 3. The procedures and conduct of such hearing, assessment of penalties, costs and/or fees and the entry of judgment in Superior Court upon such assessment shall be provided in CGS §7-152c.
  - 4. The presence of the Blight Enforcement Officer shall be required at the hearing, upon request of said owner(s). Owner(s) wishing to contest liability shall appear at the hearing and may present evidence on their behalf. A designated Town official, other than the Hearing Officer, may present supporting evidence on behalf of the Town. If such owner(s) fail(s) to appear, the Hearing Officer may enter an assessment by default upon a finding of proper notice and liability in



accordance with this Ordinance. The Hearing Officer shall conduct hearings in a fair and appropriate manner. The rules regarding admissibility of evidence shall not be strictly applied; however, all testimony shall be given under oath or affirmation.

5. The Hearing Officer shall announce a decision upon completion of the hearing. If it is determined that the owner(s) is/are not liable, the matter shall be dismissed and entered into the record, in writing, accordingly. If the owner(s) demonstrate(s) intent to rehabilitate or demolish the blighted property/premises by the submission of documentation such as construction plans, permits and the availability of funds to pay for such work, satisfactorily to address the allegations as cited, the Hearing Officer shall stay the matter and enter a determination, in writing, accordingly. Said stay shall expressly be conditioned upon the rehabilitation or demolition of the blighted property/premises within three (3) months. If the conditions of the stay have not been met within three (3) months, the Hearing Officer shall enter and assess the fines, penalties, costs or fees against such owner as provided by this Ordinance retroactive to the date of the hearing. If the Hearing Officer determines that the owner(s) is/are liable for the violation, the Hearing Officer shall forthwith enter and assess the fines, penalties, costs or fees against such owner as provided by this Ordinance.
6. If such assessment is not paid on the date of its entry, the Hearing Officer shall send by certified mail – return receipt requested a notice of the assessment to the owner found liable and shall file, not less than thirty (30) days nor more than twelve (12) months after such mailing, a certified copy of the notice and assessment with the Clerk of a Superior Court facility designated by the Chief Court Administrator together with the required entry fee. The certified copy of the notice of assessment shall constitute a record of assessment. Within such twelve (12) month period, assessments against the same owner(s) may be accrued and filed as one record of assessment. The Clerk shall enter judgment, in the amount of such record of assessment and court costs, against such owner(s) in favor of the municipality. Notwithstanding any provision of the General Statutes, the Hearing Officer's assessment, when so entered as a judgment, shall have the effect of a civil money judgment and a levy of execution on such judgment may issue without further notice to such owner(s).
7. Any owner(s) against whom an assessment has been entered pursuant to this Ordinance is entitled to judicial review by way of appeal. An appeal shall be instituted within thirty (30) days of the mailing of notice of such assessment by filing a petition to reopen assessment, together with an entry fee as required by the Superior Court at a Superior Court facility designated by the Chief Court Administrator, which shall entitle such

owner(s) to a hearing in accordance with the rules of the judges of the Superior Court.

8. Pursuant to CGS §7-148aa, any unpaid fine imposed by the Town, pursuant to the provisions of this Ordinance regulating blight and adopted pursuant to CGS §7-148(c)(7)(h)(xv) shall constitute a lien upon the real estate against which the fine was imposed from the date of such fine. Each such lien may be continued, recorded and released in the manner provided by the General Statutes for continuing, recording and releasing property tax liens. Each such lien shall take precedence over all other liens filed after July 1, 1997, and encumbrances except taxes, and may be enforced in the same manner as property tax liens.

Section \_\_\_\_\_ - 12: **Severability**

If a court having competent jurisdiction shall hold any provisions of this Ordinance invalid, such invalidity shall not affect any other provisions of this Ordinance that can be given effect without the invalid provisions, and for this purpose the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

Section \_\_\_\_\_ - 13: **Effective Date**

This Ordinance shall be effective thirty (30) days after its adoption.

Dated at Thompson, Connecticut this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.



ORDINANCE NO. 10-015

**ESTABLISHING AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

February 10, 1998

Vol. 11, Page 151

September 24, 1998

Vol. 11, Page 180

June 18, 2007

Vol. 12, Page 233

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Town Meeting of the Town of Thompson that the ordinance enacted October 24, 1960 creating a Municipal Development and Industrial Commission as amended by the Amendment adopted February 10, 1981, is hereby repealed in its entirety and the following is substituted therefore: The Town of Thompson hereby adopts and accepts the provisions of the Connecticut General Statutes Section 7-136 authorizing the creation of a Municipal Economic Development Commission to be known as the Thompson Economic Development Commission.

The members shall have all the power and duties as set forth in the Connecticut General Statutes for municipal economic development commissions and any vacancy in membership of the commission shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term by the chief executive authority as provided for in Section 7-136 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended.

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Town Meeting of the Town of Thompson that the ordinance establishing an Economic Development Commission dated February 10, 1998 be amended by increasing the authorized number of members from five (5) to seven (7) members and two (2) alternate members to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen, the two (2) year terms of the members shall be staggered every other year.





ORDINANCE NO. 10-038

**THE PLANNING AND THE ZONING COMMISSION**

April 19, 1967

December 3, 1973

Vol. 8, Page 2-3

Vol. 8, Page 364

March 18, 1980

Vol. 9, Page 173

The ordinance initially adopted by the Town of Thompson April 29, 1967 regarding the Planning Commission as amended regarding the Planning and Zoning Commission at Town Meeting December 3, 1973 and March 8, 1980 is hereby amended and restated as follows:

The Town of Thompson hereby amends its ordinance adopted December 3, 1973 creating a Zoning Commission and its ordinance adopted April 19, 1967 creating a Planning Commission, to combine the two commissions.

Section 1: The Town of Thompson hereby adopts the provisions of Chapter 124 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Section 2: The combined Planning and Zoning Commission shall consist of ten (10) members and three (3) alternate members. At each biennial election members and alternates shall be elected to the commission for terms of six (6) years to replace those whose terms are due to expire. Vacancies occurring on the Planning and Zoning Commission shall be filled from the alternate membership by majority vote of the remaining commission members. Vacancies occurring among the alternate members shall be filled by appointment by the Board of Selectmen for the unexpired portion of such alternate's term. Alternate replacement members shall be made on a party basis.

Section 3: The Planning and Zoning Commission is authorized to adopt by-laws and such other procedures as it may deem necessary for the efficient management of its business. A copy of any such by-laws shall be filed with the Town Clerk. Nothing in this amendment shall be construed to affect the validity of regulations previously adopted by the Planning Commission or by the Zoning Commission or in any way affect the Zoning Board of Appeals.



## THOMPSON CONSTABLES

June 18, 2007

Vol. 12 Page 232

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Town Meeting of the Town of Thompson, that the following ordinance is hereby adopted:

- A. Pursuant to the provision of Sections 9-185 and 9-200 of the Connecticut General Statutes, Constables shall be appointed by the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Thompson in the office of elected Constables of the town of Thompson shall cease upon the expiration of the term of the current elected Constables.
- B. The number of Constables, to a maximum of seven (7) to be appointed. Their qualifications, duties and terms of office shall be determined by the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Thompson from time to time. At least three (3) Constables shall be appointed from each political party which is a major political party as defined in paragraph b of Section 5 of Section 9-372 of the Connecticut General Statutes. No appointment of a constable shall be made for a term which will extend beyond the term of the Office of the Board of Selectmen appointing such Constable, but anyone serving as a Constable may be appointed for successive terms by succeeding Boards of Selectmen.
- C. The Board of Selectmen of the Town of Thompson shall have the right with or without cause to terminate the term of office of any Constable should they deem it in the best interest of the Town of Thompson.
- D. All appointed Constables shall be electors of the Town of Thompson and the term of any Constable no longer an elector shall cease.

