



TOWN OF THOMPSON

Board of Selectmen

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

Via ZOOM Online Meeting Portal

Tuesday, August 18, 2020

Minutes

First Selectman Amy St Onge called the meeting to order at 7 PM with all Selectmen present.

Roll Call: First Selectman Amy St Onge, Selectman Ken Beausoleil and Susanne Witkowski
Members of Boards and town officials. Dotti Durst, Recording Secretary

I. Approval of Minutes:

Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to approve the minutes of the BOS 8-4-2020 meeting and the 8-12-2020 Special Meeting carried unanimously

II. Correspondence: none

III. Selectmen's Comments:

K. Beausoleil- following the storm, a significant power outage was experienced town-wide. Acknowledging that this was a severe storm, the problems with service and especially communication with Eversource are not new and prevent the town from handling matters. Steve Benoit, Emergency Management Services, was asked by A. St Onge to comment. He noted the on-going failure to receive timely and accurate communication with Eversource. He commented about the extraordinary cooperation of the fire departments, the town hall staff and the DPW to address the severe outages. A. St Onge thanked him for his work and commended his consistent efforts, detailing many of his activities, all on an unpaid basis. S. Witkowski- praised the DPW for immediately beginning clearing roads doing tree work. A. St Onge- at a Special Meeting last week the Animal Control officer was selected. She will assess all aspects of the operation and is calling for volunteers.

Motion S. Witkowski seconded by K. Beausoleil to add an agenda item: under IX. Other Business: Consider the appointment or hire of an Animal Control Officer carried unanimously.

*The DPW sent an extensive report of work underway, including major resurfacing of two roads, tree issues still resulting from last year's infestation, bridge work and roadside and Trails upkeep/mowing. In addition, they begin to think about preparing for winter.

IV. Citizen Comments: The process for participation was reviewed. No comments came in.

V. Community Fire – Request for Semi-annual Boot Drive at Transfer Station, 8-1 on 08-22,
Motion K. Beausoleil seconded by S. Witkowski to authorize the Fire Department Boot Drive as specified carried unanimously.

VI. Discussion Transfer Station Fees:

A. St Onge reviewed the projected income, noting that there will be a shortfall, while Transfer Station costs themselves keep increasing. She reviewed several options; and compared fees with other nearby towns. K. Beausoleil asked when the Transfer

Committee meets? Answer: next week. After discussion, the consensus was to work with the Transfer Station Committee to review the fee schedule. Rene Morin needs to have the fees schedule by September 1 in order to send out the permit renewals on time.

- VII. Open Bids for Auditor: none were received by the deadline-the posting is being kept active
- VIII. 1395 Riverside Drive – Discussion and Possible Action: A. St Onge proposed that the parcel be put out to bid, providing the town attorney’s draft of the notice; it seems like an opportune time. K. Beausoleil stands on exploring options first and involving a broad number of interested Board and Commissions. S. Witkowski spoke with the adjacent mill owners, who indicated they have no interest in owning the parcel. The climate could be right to make a positive move with the parcel.
Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to put 1305 Riverside Drive out to bid, as detailed in the Attorney’s memo, carried.
Aye: A. St Onge Aye: S. Witkowski. Nay: K. Beausoleil.
- IX. Other Business:
Motion S. Witkowski seconded by K. Beausoleil to hire Janice Smith as the Animal Control Officer for the town of Thompson carried unanimously.
- X. Citizens’ Comments: Steve Herbert, 122 Wilsonville Road- when selecting the town’s auditor, consider more than just the proposed cost; there are multiple important factors .
- XI. Tax Refunds:
Motion A. St Onge seconded by K. Beausoleil to approve tax refunds totaling \$1,223.21 carried unanimously.
Carlson, David J. Jr. \$1,144.97 Johnson, Donald H \$43.06 Theresa M. Poirier \$35.18
- XII. Executive Session – Personnel Matter:
Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter carried unanimously. First Selectman A. St Onge opened the Executive Session at 7:34 PM. All Selectmen were present: K. Beausoleil, Susanne Witkowski, and A. St Onge. Executive session ended at 7:46 PM
- XIII. Adjournment by First Selectman A. St Onge was at 7:46 PM.

To hear the meeting on Zoom; click on the link or copy/paste it to your Search bar

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/ztBpP7zZ019Jfp3zt0aGAZ4oL6jdT6a8hnUY-KYEy7VXzDmE2hj4BKhsIjMncrk> Password: F9%fj3ua

Respectfully submitted by Dorothy Durst, Recording Secretary *Dorothy Durst*

These minutes have not yet been approved by the Board of Selectmen. Please refer to next month’s meeting minutes for approval of and/or amendments to these minutes.