



TOWN OF THOMPSON

SELECTMEN'S MEETING-Minutes

Tuesday, June 1, 2021

Via ZOOM Online Meeting Portal

- I. The call to order by First Selectman Amy St Onge was at 7:00 PM via Zoom
Roll call: First Selectman Amy St Onge, Selectmen Susanne Witkowski and Ken Beausoleil.
Town Attorney Ken Slater until 8:01 PM, David Smith (KWP Associates), Bill Birch (Schools Facility Manager), Members of Boards/Commissions and of the public, Recording Secretary Dotti Durst
- II. Approval of Minutes
 - A. **Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to approve the minutes of the 05-18-2021 BOS Meeting carried unanimously.**
 - B. **Motion A. St Onge seconded by K. Beausoleil to approve the minutes of the 05-21-2021 BOS Special Meeting carried unanimously.**
- III. Correspondence
 - A. DESPP - Police Services Report April 2021
 - B. Thompson Public Library - Wage Increase: after discussion of the correspondence
Motion S. Witkowski seconded by K. Beausoleil to add Library proposed wage increase as an Agenda item under X. Other carried unanimously.
- IV. Selectmen Comments:
K. Beausoleil- it is nice to be getting back to normal. At the Memorial Day parade, an important day was appropriately celebrated. It was those sacrifices that made our country what it is today.
S. Witkowski- the parade organizers did a great job; one highlight was the imaginative poppies. Thank you to all who served, and those who serve today, so we can all be free.
A. St Onge- so many people were along the parade route and at the cemeteries; one honored Joe Lindley. The Fire Departments and Scouts deserve thanks. It was special being outside with no masks, and a memorable family time! * Quaddick Road work begins this week, during which there will be some closures. * An email from Bill Birch, Schools Facility Manager, requests discussion of the capital project which provides for floors and/or locker rooms upgrades.
Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to add an Agenda item to X. Other to review the bid process for the town-funded schools capital project carried unanimously.
- V. Citizens' Comments: none
- VI. Executive Session – Marianapolis Sewer Litigation
Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to go into Executive Session at 7:08 PM to discuss the Marianapolis Sewer Litigation, with the three selectman and the Town Attorney in attendance, carried unanimously.

Executive session ended at 8:01 PM; no action was taken. The Regular Monthly meeting resumed. The First selectman thanked the meeting participants for their patience; usually an Executive Session is scheduled as the final item of business to prevent attendees from waiting.
- VII. Appointments:
Motion K. Beausoleil seconded by S. Witkowski to appoint Daniel Bennett as an Economic Development Commission Alternate through December 31, 2021 carried unanimously.
- VIII. Department of Public Works May 17 memo - Owen Adam Rd Culvert: it identifies this roadway over Long Branch Brook as having failed and as impassable. Due to liability to the town, the Director recommends that it be condemned and removed in the interest of public safety; the road

itself is no longer used by motorized vehicles. A. St Onge noted that there is no documentation of town ownership. Engineer D. Smith reviewed the history of the only access to a parcel where gravel mining has taken place over the years; the owners want to renew the Permit. S. Witkowski proposed a site walk and further research to determine if this is a town road with town responsibility for the accessway to the parcel in question; the BOS agreed.

- IX. Home Rule Resolution - Discussion and Possible Action: Killingly issued a Resolution citing the necessity for local control of Zoning regulations and decisions, following a House of Representatives vote to bring more control to state authorities. K. Beausoleil confirmed that the Resolution was reviewed by the town attorney. He advocated a more succinct letter to the Legislators, and the Governor. S. Witkowski noted the summary section in the Killingly Resolution meets that goal. A. St Onge will draft a statement and send it to the BOS for input.
- X. Other Business:
- A. Library wages- the Library Board of Trustees approved staff wage increases, retroactive to January. However, the building is town-owned: increases for custodial staff needs BOS authorization. A. St Onge- the other town employees who did not receive a wage increase would be negatively impacted. K. Beausoleil- the BOS needs to be fair to all town staff. This matter needs further review. Perhaps someone could attend the next BOS meeting. No action was taken.
- B. Schools Capital Project- For the town to fund a schools capital project is a new approach. A. St Onge read the Bid policy aloud, which provides for a BOS decision even if the bid amount is over \$10,000 should circumstances require. Since the Schools projects must be completed before students return in September, B. Birch recommends a well-rated vendor from the State Vendor List which can begin soon; materials costs are increasing and will impact the project if it cannot be started very soon. K. Beausoleil requested the bid be scanned and sent to the BOS members and the Finance Director, as the funds will need to come from Capital After discussion:
Motion S. Witkowski seconded by A. St Onge to waive the bid process for the Schools Capital Expense flooring project due to time constraints, and for the Schools Facility Manager to select a vendor from the State approved contractors list, carried unanimously.
- XI. Citizens' Comments: none
- Tax Refunds: **Motion A. St Onge seconded by K. Beausoleil to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$268.83 carried unanimously:**
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|----------------------------------|-----------------|--|-----------------|
| Genest-Belanger, Sheri L. | \$123.45 | Streich, Eric Allen & Erica Lee | \$145.38 |
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- XII. Adjourn: **Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to adjourn at 8:58 PM carried unanimously.**

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

To see the Zoom recording of the meeting, click on this link or copy/paste into your search bar:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/m3bMMguRk2pXC_UtK-vE2Au9-CtIdYqmpu4scSpNN2FiJdo6C3m_aYBMC2zaUIY.QimTv4J4JKoHqbZR **Passcode: 5P*=5M4V**

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.