



TOWN OF THOMPSON Board of Selectmen

SPECIAL SELECTMEN'S MEETING
Tuesday, April 14, 2020 via Zoom
MINUTES

First Selectman Amy St Onge called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

Roll Call: First Selectman Amy St Onge, Selectmen Susanne Witkowski and Ken Beausoleil, all present via Zoom

Others: Steve Benoit (Emergency Management Director), John Rice (Building Committee Chair); Members of the public; Recording Secretary Dotti Durst

I. **Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to approve the listed Minutes as indicated carried unanimously.**

- A. BOS Special Meeting 2-24-2020: Question by K. Beausoleil: Tabled
- B. BOS Special Meeting 2-25-2020: Approved C. BOS Special Meeting 2-26-2020: Approved
- D. BOS Meeting 3-03-2020: (note: K. Beausoleil was out of town) # 17, - sentence is modified to read "****Capital Improvement Plan- decrease Road Repair by \$100,000; add \$50,000 to each Bridge Repair and Salt Shed. (to address environmental concerns).*** Approved with modification
- E. BOS Meeting 3-17-2020: Approved F. BOS Special Meeting 3-24-2020: Approved
- G. BOS Special Meeting 3-31-2020: Approved H. BOS Meeting 4-07-2020 Cancelled: n/a

II. Correspondence: emails expressing opinions about the budget process were received from Dick Trudeau and from Renee Alexander

III. Selectmen's Comments:

- K. Beausoleil- Thank You to the Highway Garage staff for outstanding work handling debris in the roads and downed trees following the big storm, and to Steve Benoit, Emergency Management, for keeping the information flowing between the Governor and the town. Thank You to the emergency responders, both Fire and EMS, who walk into unknown situations.
- S. Witkowski- Thank You. Many roads are closed and there is so much work for them to handle
- A. St Onge- today's Coronavirus update is 87 confirmed (lab-tested) cases in Windham County and 8 in Thompson
 - Steve Benoit confirmed an additional 175 power outages as well as the 300 already known.
 - with town staff help, WINY was informed about the several impassable Thompson roads
 - the Town Hall is open, utilizing rotating shifts and maintaining the recommended social distancing, in order to continue to serve the public
 - asked about the status of matters, Steve Benoit added that he is working with Eversource; he took photos of impassable roads and submitted them, resulting in the matter being addressed

IV. Citizen Comments: none

V. Review of two Possible Tax options - a state Tax Deferment Program and a Low Interest Rate Program, intended to alleviate pressure on taxpayers during this situation: A. St Onge noted that most Tax Collectors in the region, including Thompson's Rene Morin, favor the Deferment Program as more effective and simpler to implement, even though

this will result in about a \$20,000 loss of interest on the funds. This extends tax payments until September 30 without penalty of interest; it also applies to water and sewer bills.

Motion K. Beausoleil seconded by S. Witkowski to authorize the First Selectman to sign off on the Tax Deferral Program carried unanimously.

VI. Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Witkowski to accept with regret the resignations as listed carried unanimously.

Ray Faucher Jr. - Building Committee

John Dalton - Inland Wetlands Commission

Kimberly Austin - Fire Advisory Committee

Kimberly Prescott - Recreation Commission

Diana Couture - Assessor

Thomas Poplawski - Zoning Board/ Appeals

VII. Motion K. Beausoleil seconded by S. Witkowski to approve the listed appointments, for the specified terms of office, carried unanimously.

David Poplawski - Building Committee: through 11-15-2020

Matthew Bernier - Fire Advisory Committee: indefinite appointment

Constantino Galasso - Fire Advisory Committee: indefinite appointment

Ronald Fournier - Fire Advisory Committee: indefinite appointment

Justine Gendreau - Fire Advisory Committee: indefinite appointment

Kenneth Weiss - Zoning Board of Appeals: completion of a term, through 11-21-2023

VIII. Certificate of Appreciation to Major Heather Glinski, born and raised in Thompson, who has completed 23 years of honorable military service in the U. S. Air Force, and is retiring from military service. A. St Onge read into the record a memo, and the Certificate from the Selectmen: "On behalf of all Thompson residents, we express sincere appreciation and extend best wishes to you in your retirement. Thank you"

IX. Other Business: none

X. Citizens Comments: none

XI. Tax Refunds: none

XII. Motion S. Witkowski seconded by K. Beausoleil to adjourn carried unanimously.
First Selectman A. St Onge adjourned the meeting at 7:31 PM.

See/hear the meeting on Zoom. Click or copy and paste to your Search bar:

https://zoom.us/rec/share/5ZZ_NJ6o8WIIT4HV61yECoUgIrb3eaa81iVNq6YIzBwzGvwGihyhc0DCPvKJszlN Add the password if asked **z2=JJM&@**

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.