



TOWN of
THOMPSON

MINUTES

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ORDINANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2020 @ 8:00 AM

MERRILL SENEY COMMUNITY ROOM – TOWN HALL

PRESENT: Al Landry, Dick Trudeau, Celeste Guimont, JoAnn Hall

ALSO PRESENT: Amy St. Onge, First Selectman; Donna Hall, Recording Secretary

Al Landry, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:02 AM.

- 1) Accept Minutes of 9-10-2020 Ordinance Review Committee Special Meeting
A Motion was made by Dick Trudeau to accept the Minutes as presented, seconded by JoAnn Hall. All in favor, Motion carries.

- 2) New Business
 - a) Review Amended & Proposed #10-005 Budget Ordinance
Donna stated she has not received any input back from the Board of Finance or the Board of Education. The Board of Selectmen were planning to attend this morning's meeting but didn't post an Agenda in the time period required. First Selectman, Amy St. Onge was present. Mrs. St. Onge stated she would like to bring all the ordinances that were forwarded to the Board of Selectmen for action from the Ordinance Review Committee, to the next Board of Selectmen meeting 10-17-2020 to determine which ordinances would go forward to Town Meeting for vote. Mrs. St. Onge is hoping to schedule a Town Meeting for the end of November to hold a hybrid meeting at the school auditorium. Discussion ensued. Dick Trudeau asked if the ORC should wait another month to await input from the Board of Finance & the Board of Education. Celeste Guimont & JoAnn Hall feel the other committees were asked for their input & they did not give any, they've had ample time to respond. Mrs. St. Onge stated the Board of Finance meets next Thursday 10-15-2020. Dick stated maybe the committees haven't met yet to discuss & that's why we haven't received a response. Al Landry is worried if we go below the Board of Ed's MBR (minimum budget requirement), we can be fined by the State. Al's also concerned if the government budget keeps getting cut, services will be cut as well. Al feels there are pitfalls to this proposal. Mrs. St. Onge stated the government budget, in the Town's history, always gets cut more so then the Board of Ed budget. Celeste & JoAnn feel that the ORC just keep spinning their wheels & can't get anything accomplished. Dick feels we should wait until we receive feedback from the Board of Finance & the Board of Ed, Al agrees, as he's fearful of repercussions. Mrs. St. Onge offered to reach out to the Board of Finance & Board of Ed for an opinion prior to

the next ORC meeting on Thursday 11-12-2020. JoAnn stated they should submit their input prior to our next ORC meeting.

Mrs. St. Onge needs the final, revised ordinances for the Transfer Station, Driveway, Veteran's Tax Exemption, Blight, & Budget revisions to present to the Board of Selectmen. Donna will send the First Selectman all the final ordinance edits.

3) Old Business

a) Recreation Commission Ordinance #10-039 (awaiting info from Recreation Commission)

The committee would like Donna to reach out to Leslie to see what the status is.

b) Code of Ordinances book & History book – Status Update

Donna is still extremely busy in her office with new construction going full force. Donna will try her best to get the Code of Ordinance book amended with all the approved revisions & will reach out to Celeste, who will correlate the Table of Contents & they'll also try to have the History book completed if time warrants as well.

4) Citizen's Comments – None

5) Member's Comments

- Al was told there may be a Firemen's Tax Abatement change in the works. Donna will ask the Finance Director &/or Tax Collector if they're aware of any proposed revisions.
- Celeste asked if the First Selectman could let Donna know after the Board of Selectmen discuss the proposed Budget Ordinance revisions, whether they are going to vote in favor of the changes or not, so Donna can let the ORC members know their stance.
- The First Selectman will keep the ORC members updated.
- Dick feels the Board of Finance & Board of Education will have had ample time by next month to give feedback.
- Jo would like Donna to call ORC members to cancel a meeting if there's nothing valid on the agenda, or no new information has been received, so members aren't wasting their time.
- Al stated several local Towns are doing drive-by voting.
- Celeste asked the First Selectman to try to find new volunteers to recruit on the ORC membership,

6) Adjourn

A Motion was made by Dick Trudeau to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 AM, seconded by Celeste Guimont. All in favor, Motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted,



Donna M. Hall, Recording Secretary