



*TOWN of*  
**THOMPSON**  
*BOARD OF FINANCE*

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2018 MAR 22 P 5:55

*Linda Paradise*  
TOWN CLERK ASST

**Minutes: Regular Meeting**  
**Thursday, March 15, 2018**  
**Thompson Library/Community Center**  
**7:00 PM**

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Chairman Aaron McGarry called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

I. Roll call

- Members Present: Aaron McGarry, Larry Groh Jr., Jim Bellavance, Rhonda Rooney, Susanne Witkowski and Rob Mann.
- Members Absent: None
- Staff Present: Orla McKiernan-Rafferty, Diane Minarik, Recording Secretary
- Also Present: Members of the Public

II. Executive Session: Update on Court Cases with Atty. Bill St. Onge:

7:05pm - **Larry Groh, Jr. moved and Rob Mann seconded the motion to go into Executive Session with Atty. St. Onge and 1st Selectman K. Beausoleil. The motion carried unanimously.**

8:24pm - The Board of Finance returned from Executive Session. No action was taken.

III. Approve Minutes:

A. February 15, 2018 Regular Meeting

**Larry Groh, Jr. moved and Rhonda Rooney seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2018 meeting as written.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

B. February 28, 2018 Special Meeting – School Walkthrough

**Rob Mann moved and Jim Bellavance seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2018 meeting as written.**

Rhonda Rooney - abstained

**The motion carried.**

C. March 1, 2018 Special Meeting – Budget Presentation

**Rob Mann moved and Aaron McGarry seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2018 meeting as written.**

Rhonda Rooney - abstained

**The motion carried.**

IV. Correspondence

- A. BOF monthly budget report
- B. Library Services Presentation and FY19 Budget

V. Citizen's Comments:

- o Joe Lindley, Hill Rd, expressed concern on agenda item [XI],[A] that since no funding or plan in place yet for the Underground Storage Tank Replacement Project, which states the tanks have to be shut-off by 7/1/18, that it could wind up

costing the Town over \$20 K more if they need to rent 2 temporary tanks, which isn't reimbursable by the state.

VI. Kenneth Beausoleil: Selectmen's Update

- o K. Beausoleil stated he will keep it brief. The 3 northeast snow storms in the last 2 weeks haven't been kind to the budget and he hopes there isn't another storm next Tuesday but they have to keep the public safe.

VII. Melinda Smith: Education Update

- o M. Smith handed out her Update Report to the Board and apologized for it not being emailed out. She stated the report includes a copy of the revised 17-18 school year calendar, enrollment report and some educational updates. Call her with any questions.

VIII. Orla McKiernan-Rafferty: Financial Report

- o O. McKiernan-Rafferty asked the Board, which they agreed, because of the time, that she doesn't go through the financial statements that were emailed to them. They can contact her with any questions.
- o The auditors are scheduled to present their report to the Board at their 4/5/18 meeting. She will hand out the audit report next Thursday.

IX. Board of Trustees of the Tourtellotte Fund Update

- o Joseph Lindley stated the Trust numbers are in the budget.
- o The window prototype has been approved, they hope to start installation of Phase 1 in May and be completed by the start of the next school year.

X. New Business:

- o Larry Groh Jr. believes the 3 items listed below should have been under agenda item [IV] Correspondence.
  - o The Fire Study Report (emailed to the Board on 3/8/18)
  - o Email to BOF & BOS from Rene J. Morin dated 3/14/18: Windham & Tolland Counties current Mil Rates.
  - o Email from O. McKiernan-Rafferty asking the Board if they received her 3/1/18 email with the PDF attachment of the BOS budget proposal for the presentation that night, because a couple emails were returned to her.

XI. Old Business:

A. Building Committee Request for Funds: \$232,000 K for "Fuel Oil Spill Project" and the "Underground Storage Tank Replacement Project".

- o A summary of the funds currently needed was handed out to the Board. J. Rice explained the funds listed below for the **Underground Storage Tank Replacement Project**: the Town will be reimbursed for part of this project.
  - \$5,100.00 for T&B contract revision increase for ground mounted solar.
  - \$2,650.00 for 2 sets of Tightness Testing required by DEEP to extend the use of the 2 underground fuel tanks until 7/1/18. The 1<sup>st</sup> set of testing passed.
  - \$2,000.00 to T&B for Gary Robert's response to DEEP's Notice of Violation on the 2 underground fuel tanks. His response got DEEP to grant continued use of these 2 tanks until 7/1/18 with 2 conditions, Tightness Testing and Engineering Plans to remove the tanks.
  - \$20,000.00 minimum for rental and installation of 2 temporary fuel tanks (\$1,000 per tank per month) from June 2018-July 2019. The Building

Committee doesn't think the new tanks will be installed in time for the start of the new school year because funds need to be approved before contract can be awarded to T&B for engineering plans on replacing the 2 tanks, then the engineering plans need to be drawn up, then they need to go to DEEP for approval and then the tanks need to be ordered before construction can start on removal of old tanks, cleaning and installation of the new tanks. The sooner the new tanks are on line the less amount spent on rental tanks.

- o Discussion, questions and answers ensued between the Board and J. Rice.
- o Regarding the **Fuel Oil Spill Project:** during the pre-trial the Judge asked where we were in the remediation of the property and how much more money is needed moving forward. The trial/mediation is postponed till late fall 2018 – early spring 2019 for time to gather all information needed to determine the future liability of the Town. As soon the information is available the attorneys can schedule this out. The Town is hoping to be reimbursed for most of the money spent on this project.
  - \$ 3,300.00 for 4 Carbtrol Filters, no more filters on hand and almost time to change them out. They are used in filtering the groundwater from the area of the spill for testing the amount of oil still left in the ground per DEEP.
  - \$ 10,000.00 for Groundwater Testing for 1 year. DEEP mandates when, where and duration of testing and right now we are required to test quarterly. We need 4 consecutive quarters of clean results, we currently have 2.
  - \$ 69,500.00 for Supplemental Subsurface Investigation (drilling test borings in the floor of the Middle School when no children are in the building and should take a few weeks) is required by DEEP to figure out how much more oil if any is still under the school which will satisfy them and also tell us how much more testing and money will be required moving forward for the litigation process.
  - \$ 1,530.00 for disposal of 7 Carbtrol Filters. These used filters need to be sent out to be tested for oil quantity.
  - \$ 181.50 for unpaid invoices from Atty. St. Onge
  - \$ 10,000.00 for St. Onge for trial\*
  - \$ 4,899.25 for unpaid invoices from C.M.E.
  - \$ 5,000.00 for C.M.E. for trial\*
  - \$ 11,606.50 for unpaid invoices from Shipman & Goodwin
  - \$ 65,000.00 for Shipman & Goodwin for trial\*
  - \$ 21,232.75 for Contingency
- o If oil is found under the school C.M.E. will contact the proper company to remove it and it will cost approximately \$400,000.00 more.
- o B. Witkowski stated there was concern with air quality so a few weeks ago they did do some drilling and the air quality was fine. DEEP still wants testing done to confirm no more oil left under school.
- o If mediation is accepted there will be no trial and the estimated legal costs above (for trial\*) will only be approximately \$15K - \$20K. If mediation isn't accepted it goes to trial which will cost an additional \$15K - \$20K to legal costs listed above.

- o The Board discussed the different ways available to approve funding and since they all agree these are 2 completely separate projects, they decided on the funding as stated in the motions below.

**Larry Groh, Jr. moved and Susanne Witkowski seconded the motion to draw funds from Fund Balance/Surplus for:**

**\$ 5,100.00 for Contract Revision (Ground Mounted Solar),**

**\$ 2,000.00 for T&B - Gary Robert response,**

**\$ 2,650.00 for Tightness Testing,**

**\$10,000.00 for Rental of Temporary Fuel Tanks and Installation, from June 2018 until that time the \$10 K is exhausted,**

**not to exceed \$19,750.00 for the Underground Storage Tank Replacement Project.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**Rob Mann moved and Jim Bellavance seconded the motion to draw funds from Fund Balance/Surplus for:**

**\$ 3,300.00 for Carbtrol Filters**

**\$ 1,530.00 for disposal of 7 Carbon Filters**

**\$ 5,000.00 for Groundwater Testing**

**\$ 181.50 for unpaid invoices from Atty. St. Onge**

**\$ 4,899.25 for unpaid invoices from C.M.E.**

**not to exceed \$14,910.75 for the Fuel Oil Spill Project.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**Rhonda Rooney moved and Jim Bellavance seconded the motion to appropriate funds not to exceed \$110,000.00 for the purpose of:**

**\$ 28,893.50 for Contingency**

**\$ 11,606.50 for unpaid invoices from Shipman & Goodwin**

**\$ 69,500.00 for Supplemental Subsurface Investigation**

**for the Fuel Oil Spill Remediation Project.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

XII. Budget Workshop: None

XIII. Board of Finance Member's Comments: None

XIV. Adjourn:

**Larry Groh Jr. moved and Susanne Witkowski seconded the motion to adjourn.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

Chairman Aaron McGarry adjourned the meeting at 10:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Diane Minarik*

Diane Minarik  
Recording Secretary