TOWN of
THOMPSON
Board of Selectmen

SELECTMEN'S SPECIAL MEETING
Tuesday, March 24, 2020
Via ZOOM
(With each Board of Selectmen member and participants
at a remote location via video conference)
MINUTES

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Roll Call: First Selectman Amy St Onge, Selectmen Susanne Witkowski and Ken Beausoleil.
Logged in: Janet Blanchette, Charlene Langlois, Steve Benoit, Tyra Penn-Gesek, several others
Recording Secretary Dotti Durst

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by First Selectman A. St Onge. The on-line
meeting site, Zoom, has been utilized because of public health concerns. A. St Onge noted that
all members of the Board of Selectmen are present.

I. New Hire: Assessor Secretary-Clerk: recommendation received from Hiring Committee.
Motion K. Beausoleil seconded by S. Witkowski to follow the hiring committee
recommendation for a Secretary/Clerk for the Assessor carried unanimously.

II. Discussion and Possible Action on Affordable Housing Grant Resolution: First Selectman
A. St Onge read the Resolution into the record. Included are requirements, per
Connecticut General Statutes, that Thompson develop an Affordable Housing Plan and
that the Town include it when they undertake the review of the Plan of Conservation and
Development. The resolution designates the Town Planner to move forward with the
grant application as well as to sign and administer it. T. Penn-Gesek, present at the
meeting through Zoom, offered some procedural information.
Motion S. Witkowski seconded by K. Beausoleil to adopt the Affordable Housing
Grant Resolution as presented carried unanimously. K. Beausoleil suggests the
possibility of using electronic signatures in order to move any town business forward, as
the current climate may preclude in-person signatures. A. St Onge will look into it.

III. Riverside Drive Sidewalk Design Project – Seven (7) bids came in from the RFP (noting the
date each was received): Janet Blanchette, via Zoom, briefly clarified the process.

March 19, 2020-
AI Engineers
Middletown, CT 06457

March 20, 2020-
Freeman Companies
Glastonbury, CT 06033

March 20, 2020-
Lenard Engineering Inc.
Glastonbury, CT 06033

March 19, 2020-
Wengell, McDonnell and Costello
(WMC)
Newington, CT 06111

March 18, 2020-
Milone and Macbroom
Cheshire, CT 06410
The bids will be reviewed by the Committee (Janet Blanchette, Richard Benoit and Town Planner Tyra Penn-Gesek) to confirm compliance with the bid specifications.

IV. Discussion and Possible Action on Electricity Contract: Town Finance Director Orla McKiernan-Raftery prepared a comparison chart of six (6) potential electricity suppliers for the town. Her recommendation is Constellation, the current provider, at $.07500. K. Beausoleil reviewed the data and concurs, but reminds the Board that Fort Hill Farms is building an energy-generating biodigester; one aspect of that technology is to provide some of the Town’s electricity needs (300 kw hours); it seems prudent to enter into a one-year contract. S. Witkowski agrees, given so much volatility in the energy market. **Motion S. Witkowski seconded by A. St Onge to enter into a one-year contract with Constellation at their proposed price carried unanimously.**

V. **Motion S. Witkowski seconded by K. Beausoleil to adjourn carried unanimously.** First Selectman A. St Onge adjourned the meeting at 7:16 PM.

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.*