



TOWN of
THOMPSON

Board of Selectmen

Minutes: Regular Meeting
Tuesday, December 01, 2015
Merrill Seney Room, Town Hall

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The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

First Selectman Ken Beausoleil called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Present: Ken Beausoleil
Steve Herbert
Shaina Smith

Staff Present: Tina Fox, Recording Secretary

Also Present: Members of the Public

Ken Beausoleil stated that there will be no action taken on agenda items number 5 and 7.

- I. Approval of Minutes
 - A. **Steve Herbert moved and Shaina Smith seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the November 17, 2015 regular meeting with the following corrections:**
 1. Page 1, Section III(1): S. Herbert believed he was the person to recommend having the Library HVAC on the next agenda.
 2. Page 5, Section VI(B): Remove "Library HVAC" from the wording of the motion.
 3. Page 2, Section III(3): S. Smith stated that has a message into the Killingly Videographer, not into Charter.
 4. Page 2, Section IV(A): Last sentence, change the word 'them' to 'the.'
 5. Page 3, Section IV(C): "...what was posted on social media..." rather than "...what was posed on social media..."

Ken Beausoleil- Yes Steve Herbert- Yes Shaina Smith- Yes

The motion carried unanimously.
 - B. **Shaina Smith moved and Steve Herbert seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the November 25, 2015 special meeting as written.**

Ken Beausoleil- Yes Steve Herbert- Yes Shaina Smith- Yes

The motion carried unanimously.
- II. Correspondence
 - A. K. Beausoleil presented the following correspondence:
 1. Notification that work is being done on the Quinebaug cell tower, 720 Quinebaug Rd.
 - B. S. Smith had no correspondence to present.
 - C. S. Herbert had no correspondence to present.

III. Selectmen's Comments

A. K. Beausoleil presented the following Selectman's Comments:

1. A job description was completed for the Executive Assistant Position, which has been gone out for hire with a closing date of December 14th, and was posted on the website.
2. CME Associates completed Phase 1 of the 630 Riverside Brownfield Assessment.
3. Fuel tank at the Highway Garage was being replaced. Contamination was found on September 11th, with a preliminary bill that was presented to the Board of Finance of \$117,926.58. K. Beausoleil is checking with insurance carriers to see what can be done about reducing the bill.
4. The Executive Assistant's last day is December 4th, and arrangements have been made to have Dottie Guillot help to cover the office, who has 20 years of experience doing this in the past. K. Beausoleil thanked Dianna Rebello for being very gracious and helping with the transition.
5. A FOI class will be scheduled after the first of the year.
6. The Town Attorney is drafting the necessary language for the easement on Becola Rd.
7. In reference to Kevin Walsh's question about ordinance reviews, the policy for ordinances has not changed.
8. In reference to Kevin Walsh's question about the ethics policy, the school has its own policy, and K. Beausoleil will speak with the Town Attorney about whether or not the Ethics Ordinance would supersede that policy.
9. The Ethics Committee will be taking a hiatus, to be addressed in the future.
10. The public hearing (Inland/Wetlands Commission) scheduled for December 2nd will not go forward, but the meeting will still be held to reschedule the hearing; it may be rescheduled for January 6th, depending on whether or not the Commission can make that date.
11. There is a Transfer Station Committee on December 3rd at 7:00 PM that was supposed to be a joint meeting with the BOS, but K. Beausoleil will not be able to attend. There will be a joint meeting planned for another date.
12. In regards to Paul Lenky's question of how Don Pimental ended up with a copy of the letter that Lee Post had, Don Pimental overheard a conversation when he walked into the Building Office and requested a copy of the letter from Lee Post.

B. S. Smith presented the following Selectman's Comments:

1. Got in touch with Adam from the Villager, who said he would be happy to accommodate a section to notify residents about decisions. He said that up to a 1,000 word count would be great, and including a picture would depend on space constraint for that week. S. Smith would like to have something submitted by the end of the month, to at least introduce the Board and get residents up to speed.
2. The Turkey Dip was fun, and S. Smith thanked everyone who participated, as well as EMS and Fire Departments.

C. S. Herbert had no Selectman's Comments.

IV. Citizens' Comments (Limit 3 Minutes)

- A. Don Pimental, 40 Starr Rd., read a letter from April 27, 2015 aloud. He stated that his as-built says "end of Town road" and that a copy of his Mylars says "end of Starr Rd." He stated that 15-029 Inland/Wetlands application is to do water bars on the old trail that everybody is trying to call a road. This was on the first application, 15-025, which was postponed. They went back on November 10th to set a new date, December 2nd, which was postponed again because lack of notification. During the November 10th meeting, Wetlands Enforcement Officer stated that the application is dropping the water bars. Seven days later, the last day of Paul Lenky's administration, Paul Lenky wrote a letter to give permission to do water bars; they took it off the public hearing and did a whole new application. D. Pimental stated that he brought road lists and "there is no .339." He brought paperwork from 2011 that says "I had to buy road frontage." D. Pimental stated that he asked Ms. Butts on Monday to have both applications together, and she said no. D. Pimental asked why, and she said she wouldn't recommend that to the Commission. D. Pimental's question to the BOS is "why it was taken off the first application and put on the second application." D. Pimental read a letter from Paul Lenky aloud. D. Pimental asked how you can prepare something as Starr Rd., when he has Mylars and road lists stating that Starr Rd. ends. He stated that he has 65 years of road records of .15 with no unimproved miles ever. He has minutes from 2014 where Mr. Rice says that the lots in question are not buildable, and minutes from 2006 that says use of Starr Rd. for gravel mining is prohibited. D. Pimental asked for clarity from the Board and if they can check into this. He presented minutes from 2002 with Al Landry asking what the difference between a dead end and a cul-de-sac road is. He stated that "we have cul-de-sac regulations" and that he has been told for 21 months that it only applies to new roads. He stated that he called Kevin Kennedy and was told cul-de-sac applies to existing roads and new roads. D. Pimental stated that page 2 of the 0 New Road subdivision says "this area shall not be construed as a buildable lot" so it was agreed upon in 2007 when they signed the Mylars; it also shows end of Town road. D. Pimental stated that five years later, it was finally deeded over to the Town of Thompson. He stated that he thinks he's given enough information where someone can get back to him. He stated that Ms. Butts seems to tell him that the bridge is a 'go' as far as she's concerned, and added that until the Town can prove that it's Town property, no one should be touching anything up there.
- B. Kevin Walsh, Blain Rd., stated that a year ago there was a public hearing, and the BOS was asked if it can determine if Starr Rd. exists beyond .15 miles, and the only thing the Board could come up with was a forgery. It was investigated and proved that the documents were altered. He stated it is apparent that there are employees who take it upon themselves to declare the qualified definition of what Starr Rd. is. He asked the Board to promptly question these people, and see if they have evidence more than a falsified report presented to the DOT, and have them present it to the Board.
- C. Don Pimental, 40 Starr Rd., stated that he got information from the Finance Department as to what the Town gets reimbursed for the road from the State. It shows the road is .15 miles in length and the amount is \$16,727. He stated that the records all the way to 2012 show the same amount, with the only change being that the new records do not indicate the length of the road.

- D. Ray Dewey, 168 Quinebaug, presented a section from the Board of Education regulations stating that a school committee is an agent of the State, not of the Town. He stated that it should be brought to the Town Attorney's attention, and that the Ethics Code specifically exempts the BOE for this reason.
- E. Christine Campbell, 861 Thompson Rd., asked if the First Selectman oversees all the departments in the Town. She asked if he is supposed to make sure that they do what they are supposed to. She asked what the First Selectman does if he finds them doing something inappropriate. She asked if anything is going to happen with the water bars on Starr Rd. K. Beausoleil answered that he is still gathering info and waiting to talk to Town Counsel. He added that he wants to make sure any decision is accurate. C. Campbell stated that she thinks Mr. Pimental presented a ton of evidence of what is the true fact, so she hopes something happens before the water bars. K. Beausoleil answered that they are proceeding cautiously.
- V. ABM Building Solutions- Kathy Stanley
A. No action/discussion.
- VI. Resolution Adopting the 2015 NECCOG Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan
A. K. Beausoleil read the resolution aloud, and stated that it helps get the Town aid from FEMA.
B. **Steve Herbert moved and Shaina Smith seconded the motion to approve the Resolution Adopting the 2015 NECCOG Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan as read.**
Ken Beausoleil- Yes Steve Herbert- Yes Shaina Smith- Yes
The motion carried unanimously.
- VII. Library HVAC Engineering Study Proposals
A. No action/discussion.
- VIII. FOI Pledge
A. S. Smith stated that it would be nice for the Board to sign the pledge to show a willingness to be open and transparent, and she read the pledge aloud.
B. S. Herbert stated that he can commit to signing the pledge, and K. Beausoleil agreed.
C. S. Smith suggested that the Board sign on an annual basis.
D. S. Herbert stated that this is the least the Board can do.
- IX. Appointments
A. **Shaina Smith moved and Steve Herbert seconded the motion to appoint Delpha Very to the Northeast District Department of Health.**
1. S. Herbert asked for clarification about this appointment. K. Beausoleil explained that there are normally two representatives that coordinate with the NDDH and bring back information. In the past, a person from the general public took on the position. When there was a vacancy, Larry Groh, Jr. stepped in, and then Paul Lenky carried it on. Delpha Very approached K. Beausoleil to be the representative. K. Beausoleil stated that she is very active and very dedicated.
2. S. Herbert stated that he is sure Delpha Very is well qualified, but that he would like to be advised of these appointments before the meeting, and in the future, advance notice would be helpful
Ken Beausoleil- Yes Steve Herbert- Yes Shaina Smith- Yes
The motion carried unanimously.

- B. **Shaina Smith moved and Steve Herbert seconded the motion to appoint Kenneth Beausoleil to NECCOG.**
 - 1. K. Beausoleil explained that this is a position held by the First Selectman.
Ken Beausoleil- Yes Steve Herbert- Yes Shaina Smith- Yes
 - The motion carried unanimously.**
 - 1. S. Smith stated that residents have requested some sort of report about what transpires at the NECCOG meetings. K. Beausoleil stated that the report is one of his first orders of business.
- C. **Steve Herbert moved and Shaina Smith seconded the motion to appoint Kenneth Beausoleil to the Northeast Connecticut Transit District.**
 - Ken Beausoleil- Yes Steve Herbert- Yes Shaina Smith- Yes
 - The motion carried unanimously.**
- D. **Shaina Smith moved and Steve Herbert seconded the motion to appoint Dick Trudeau to the Charter Communications Advisory Council.**
 - 1. K. Beausoleil explained that Dick Trudeau has been the representative for at least ten years, and that he is a valuable asset.
Ken Beausoleil- Yes Steve Herbert- Yes Shaina Smith- Yes
 - The motion carried unanimously.**
- E. **Shaina Smith moved and Kenneth Beausoleil seconded the motion to appoint Steve Bourdo, Steve Herbert, Rob Tennant, Cynthia Antos, Deb Spinelli, and Renee Waldron to the hiring review committee for the Recreation Director position.**
 - Ken Beausoleil- Yes Steve Herbert- Yes Shaina Smith- Yes
 - The motion carried unanimously.**
- F. **Shaina Smith moved and Steve Herbert seconded the motion to appoint Kenneth Beausoleil, Shaina Smith, Steve Herbert, Brian Murphy, and Vincent McSweeney to the hiring review committee for the Executive Assistant position.**
 - Ken Beausoleil- Yes Steve Herbert- Yes Shaina Smith- Yes
 - The motion carried unanimously.**

- X. Road Updates
 - A. K. Beausoleil stated that Leo Adams is trying to finish up whatever items he can with winter pending and frost coming. He is hoping to get to grading of some dirt roads so that they can be plowed.
 - B. S. Smith asked where the Town stands with the new street signs.
 - C. K. Beausoleil stated that Leo Adams is replacing as many signs as his budget allows, and is trying to convert to red signs.

- XI. Other Business
 - A. S. Herbert asked if there was a reason that the Board is not addressing the Library HVAC. K. Beausoleil explained that he has questions he needs to address with Town Counsel, and that he hopes to move on that at the next meeting.

- XII. Citizens' Comments on Agenda (Limit 3 Minutes)
 - A. Christine Campbell, asked if citizens could attend the pending FOI class, and how the citizens will find out about it. K. Beausoleil answered that citizens could attend, and that it will be published in the Villager, on the website, and different social media.

- B. Don Pimental, 40 Starr Rd., read a legal notice aloud and stated that it does not mention the bridge. He stated that there's a construction bridge going in there, so the legal notice is very misleading to the public. He stated that this was the same application that they dropped the water bars from, and seven days later submitted a new application to add the water bars back. He read a memo aloud that was sent to Marla Butts. D. Pimental read from the February 23, 2004 minutes for a public hearing special permit with no mention of Starr Rd. He said there was a special permit way back in 2006 to do this gravel, and that everybody tells him there is no gravel back there. He asked the Board to really look into this and review the minutes. He said that his question is that the Fournio property and Richardson property are land-locked, but now with the conservation easement, it is accessible. He stated that on December 17, 2011, Greg Lee stood up and said there's going to be no parking lot on Starr Rd., and Brian Lynch agreed. D. Pimental stated that the Board needs to ask Marla Butts "why she didn't put the bridge in there." He said secret applications are getting thrown in, and he paid \$150 to receive all of this information. He said he would not have known about the other application if it wasn't in his package. He feels he is being deceived because it was removed from this application and added to another application. He has to bring his attorney and Wetlands Agent to two separate hearings. He stated that if Marla was doing her due diligence, she would inform him that another application was submitted. He stated that emails should be sent to everyone that another application was submitted. He said it is very important for the public to understand FOIA, because stuff like this keeps happening to us.
- C. Kevin Walsh, Blain Rd., stated that there are ordinances in regards to roads and driveways, and read the definition of a driveway aloud. He said a driveway is considered an access onto or an egress from an approved Town street. He stated that if there are any driveway permits attached to the applications coming in, and that driveway permit is for what many people in Town are claiming to be Starr Rd., which has yet to be proven, he would not consider than an acceptable application because it is not a Town street or Town road. He asked "how do you grant driveway permits for access to a street that doesn't exist?"

XIII. Tax Refunds

- A. **Shaina Smith moved and Steve Herbert seconded the motion to approve the following tax refunds:**

1.	Christopher W. Kelley	\$36.70
2.	Hyundai Lease Titling Tr.	\$208.70
3.	Peter T. Labby	\$67.71

Ken Beausoleil- Yes Steve Herbert- Yes Shaina Smith- Yes

The motion carried unanimously.

XIV. Adjourn

- A. **Shaina Smith moved and Steve Herbert seconded the motion to adjourn.**

Ken Beausoleil- Yes Steve Herbert- Yes Shaina Smith- Yes

The motion carried unanimously.

- B. First Selectman Ken Beausoleil adjourned the meeting at 8:09 PM.

Tina Fox
Recording Secretary