



**TOWN of**  
**THOMPSON**

**Board of Selectmen**

**Minutes: Regular Meeting**  
**Tuesday, February 2, 2016**  
**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  
Shaina Smith  
Steve Herbert

Staff Present: Tina Fox, Recording Secretary

Also Present: Members of the Public

- I. Approval of Minutes
  - A. **Shaina Smith moved and Steve Herbert seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the January 19, 2016 regular meeting with the following correction:**
    1. Page 3, Section V(B): "Most contamination was found nearest to the river..." rather than "...dearest to the river..."  
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 January 28, 2016 special meeting with the following addition:**
    1. Page 2, Section IV: "The Board discussed availability, and will be scheduling budget workshop sessions throughout February."  
Ken Beausoleil- Yes                      Steve Herbert- Yes                      Shaina Smith- Yes  
**The motion carried unanimously.**
- II. Correspondence
  - A. K. Beausoleil presented the following correspondence:
    1. Summons to civil court, with the Town of Thompson and State of Connecticut listed as defendants, and the United Public Services employee union listed as a plaintiff.
    2. Correspondence from CT Water.
    3. Crime statistics from the State police for 2014 and 2015.
    4. Notification from the applicant of an Inland/Wetlands public hearing on February 3<sup>rd</sup>.
    5. Letter of resignation from the TWPCA from Shawn Brissette, received in the Town Clerk's office on November 19<sup>th</sup>.
    6. Letter from Attorney Ken Slater requesting that the River Junction Estates, LLC driveway permit be denied.
    7. Correspondence from Paul Baer requesting that the River Junction Estates, LLC driveway permit be denied.

8. Letter addressed to the Inland/Wetlands Commission on January 6<sup>th</sup> from Town Attorney St. Onge, which was read aloud.
9. BOS budget schedule: Monday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 11 am; Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 11 am; Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at Noon; Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 9 am; Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm; and Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at 9 am.

- 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. The Assessor's position will be discussed during the budget process.
  2. The article for the Villager has been submitted, and will be uploaded to the website.
  3. A chair-person for the Fire Advisory Committee may be appointed at the next BOS meeting.
  4. There are still numerous issues with the website to be taken care of.
  5. The TWPCA bid will be discussed tonight.
  6. Town Hall function analysis will start the week of February 5<sup>th</sup>.
- B. S. Smith presented the following Selectman's Comments:
  1. The first article for the Villager has been sent in.
  2. Working on an article for the Transfer Station to let everyone know about the Town's initiative to get people excited about recycling as a cost saving measure.
  3. Working with Lynn Landry to figure out if signs can be donated.
  4. Left a message with the Chief State Attorney's office, asking for information about the correspondence that S. Smith filed last year.
- C. S. Herbert presented the following Selectmen's Comments:
  1. S. Herbert asked about the damaged telephone pole situation. K. Beausoleil stated that Eversource is working on the problem, and residents can report damaged poles or lights that are out directly to Eversource.

### IV. Citizens' Comments (Limit 3 Minutes)

- A. Kevin Walsh, Blain Rd., stated that he saw an RFP in the Villager on January 22<sup>nd</sup> for an environmental study at 929 Riverside Dr., and asked if the property is owned by Andrew Scott, the same person who owns the property that another environmental study is being done on. He stated that there is a lot of money being dumped into property owned by a citizen, and that \$400,000 comes from taxpayers and could be used on roads. He stated that WINY posted a list of Towns that received road funding from the State, and asked why Thompson was not on the list. K. Walsh asked if the driveway application by River Junction Estates is still active and on file in the Selectmen's Office, and asked if the Board is going to address the application. He asked that the Board provide an explanation of the delay. He stated that Town ordinances provide enough information to deny the application, and that Attorney St. Onge stated in his letter that Starr Road is not a road beyond .15 of a mile. S. Smith stated that the WINY report did not list all Towns, and that Thompson received \$253,163.28. K. Beausoleil stated that he will find out where the driveway permit is and report at the next meeting.

- B. Don Pimental, 40 Starr Rd., stated that the driveway permit is in the Building Office. He explained that in 2004, Bob Messier stated at a Wetlands hear that Starr Rd. was not to be used as a road, and 30 days later the same was said at a PZC meeting. He stated that Fran Morano and Ron Tillen were on the Commission back then, and that something is wrong when a lady who has been there for four years knows more about the Commission than they do. He said he should not have to go to Town Hall and dig up stuff from 13 years ago. D. Pimental mentioned the Forno property, the Town receiving \$10,000, and asked why the Town didn't protect the 50ft buffer. He stated he pays for his own Attorney plus the Town Attorney. He stated that a title search indicates the Town doesn't own the property. He mentioned logs being harvested and hauled off of Rawson's property. He stated that according to Town records, Rawson is not the owner of those lots but he acts like he is the owner. He asked that the Board investigates these issues. He stated that it is wasting taxpayer money to have hearing after hearing.
- C. Jim Pimental, 30 Starr Rd., stated that he had to give his son an acre of land to make a driveway because it was impossible for him to "get up there." He asked how "the other guy" can get past him, and added that he had to move his pin down about 300 ft.
- D. Mike Krogul, Walker Drive, asked if the BOS has had contact with the BOE about the buses, and stated that he noticed there is no request for a new bus this year. He stated that it appears the BOE is trying to deplete the buses so that they can use that as an excuse that the buses aren't worth anything. He asked that the BOS request new buses.
- E. Rob Mann, 15 Meadow Drive, stated that Thompson and the State have regulations and rules. He stated that the continuation of the Wetlands public hearing was done wrong because they are supposed to set the next date at the hearing, and because they didn't, they should have put an article in the paper for the February 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- F. Don Pimental, 40 Starr Rd., stated that the Town hired Dr. Jolin to over see the buses because it is part of his job. He stated that he does not know why Dr. Jolin wants to privatize the bus system but that is clearly being done by design because they are not requesting a new bus. He stated that he wants to know the pros and cons of privatization. He said "who is the superintendent to tell us what we're gonna do with buses and bus drivers?" He stated that if the Town privatizes and saves 2 million dollars, they're just going to spend the 2 million dollars on something else. He stated that the private company would not hire all of our drivers, and he doesn't think the superintendent and the school committee should make that decision. He stated that he heard in the Town Clerk's office that the bus system is going to be privatized in 2017. He stated: "He works for us, and if he doesn't want to, there's the door. I don't need him. I could care less about the guy." K. Beausoleil suggested that anyone with concerns attend BOE meetings. D. Pimental mentioned that the BOE took it upon themselves to take the trees down on the hill and it's never been cleaned up. He stated that the BOE said it was done after a Homeland Security suggestion, and that they gave the wood away. He added that he was disappointed at the last Wetlands hearing that the BOS sat there and didn't voice their opinions.
- G. Wayne O'Brien, 108 Fabyan Rd., stated that the BOE didn't include it in the contract for the company to have to clean up the trees. He was told that the school was going to have someone clean up the mess, but that it hasn't been done, and the Town needs to get a chipper and chip it.

- H. Steve Benoit, Emergency Management, stated that Homeland Security suggested that the school improve visibility, which is now great. He added that he wants to know where buses would be parked if the system was privatized, and how far the drivers would have to go to get the buses, because ultimately it is about the kid's safety.
- I. Kevin Walsh, Blain Rd., asked that the Board show the citizens that they care. He stated that they are not hearing anything from the Board about Starr Rd., and if the lawsuits are going to come, they are going to come either way. He stated that he is looking for some response and some leadership.
- V. Award Bid for and/or Discuss TWPCA Phosphorus Removal System Upgrade
- A. K. Beausoleil stated that the total bid was for \$553,666.
- B. **Shaina Smith moved and Steve Herbert seconded the motion to award the contract at \$553,666 for the TWPCA Phosphorous Removal System to Delray Contracting, Inc.**
1. Stan Krusel explained that Tighe & Bond originally estimated the project at \$506,000, and \$800,000 was approved at referendum. Tighe & Bond lowered their engineering costs so that the whole project would come in under \$800,000  
Ken Beausoleil- Yes          Steve Herbert- Yes          Shaina Smith- Yes  
**The motion carried unanimously.**
- VI. Request from Girl Scout Troop 55559 to Sell Cookies at the Transfer Station
- A. K. Beausoleil read a letter from the Girl Scout troop aloud, requesting to sell cookies at the Thompson Transfer Station from 9 am – 1 pm on March 5<sup>th</sup>, March 12<sup>th</sup>, March 19<sup>th</sup>, and March 26<sup>th</sup>.
- B. **Steve Herbert moved and Shaina Smith seconded the motion to allow the Girl Scouts to continue with their cookie sales at the Transfer Station.**  
Ken Beausoleil- Yes          Steve Herbert- Yes          Shaina Smith- Yes  
**The motion carried unanimously.**
- VII. NECCOG Revaluation Program Discussion and/or Approval
- A. K. Beausoleil stated that the Town previously partnered with NECCOG to do the revaluation, and this vote would be to continue with that program. He stated that it amounts to about \$60,000 of savings and would be budgeted for accordingly over the next five years. He stated that he verified with the Town Attorney that a vote from the BOS is all that is needed to approve the continuation of the program.
- B. **Ken Beausoleil moved and Shaina Smith seconded the motion to enter into a contract with NECCOG to continue with the regional revaluation contract.**  
Ken Beausoleil- Yes          Steve Herbert- Yes          Shaina Smith- Yes  
**The motion carried unanimously.**
- VIII. Executive Assistant Discussion
- A. K. Beausoleil stated that the hiring committee selected a candidate for the Executive Assistant position, and it has been accepted
- B. **Ken Beausoleil moved and Steve Herbert seconded the motion to hire Marie Mongeau as the Executive Assistant effective February 2, 2016.**  
Ken Beausoleil- Yes          Steve Herbert- Yes          Shaina Smith- Yes  
**The motion carried unanimously.**

- IX. Appointments
- A. **Steve Herbert moved and Shaina Smith seconded the motion to appoint Mary Preston to Community Fire/Police, term to expire November 21, 2017.**  
Ken Beausoleil- Yes                      Steve Herbert- Yes                      Shaina Smith- Yes  
**The motion carried unanimously.**
- B. S. Herbert asked how much the Town pays in workers compensation per person on Fire/Police. K. Beausoleil answered that he does not know, and that it can be discussed during the budget process.
- X. Road Updates: None
- XI. Other Business
- A. S. Herbert stated that citizens were making legitimate comments about the Starr Rd./trail issue, and that they deserve an answer. He stated that he understands that there may be litigation involved, but at the end of the day, the Board has to make a decision one way or the other.
- XII. Citizens' Comments
- A. Kevin Walsh, Blain Rd., asked if NECCOG determines what company will do the evaluations. K. Beausoleil stated that previously the company they chose was Tyler, and now it is Visions. He added that the Assessor is very happy with Vision, and that the decision was discussed previous to the November election. K. Walsh asked if the problems with the Executive Assistant position (whether it was part time or full time, if it includes Human Resources, if it was even in the budget) were taken care of. K. Beausoleil stated that it is a full 40 hour per week position that handles some Human Resources duties.
- B. Rob Mann, 15 Meadow Drive, stated that Starr Rd. is .15 miles in length, and when the Board considers the driveway permit, they should keep in mind that the property does not touch a Town Road.
- C. Sharon Recore asked if there was going to be anything added to the budget to paint street lines. She stated that it is very difficult to see the faded lines, especially when it is dark and rainy. K. Beausoleil stated that it will be considered, and discussions related to street lines have already been started with NECCOG.
- D. Don Pimental, 40 Starr Rd., stated that if "the opponent" decides to take the Town of Thompson to court, he has to bring the Pimental's and the Livingstone's to court as well because they are abutters, and that he is willing to go the distance. He stated that the Town foreman was not going to approve the permit. He stated that on Paul Lenky's last day in office, Paul Lenky "shook Leo up a little bit and told him to get up there so Rawson could access his property." He stated that Leo Adams was going to hand in his resignation and tried to hand in his keys, but Paul Lenky wouldn't take them. He stated that a Town employee was shook up and that it should go to the State Attorney's office and be publicly known that it happened.
- E. Mike Krogul, Walker Drive, thanked the Board for serving the Town.

XIII. Tax Refunds

A. **Ken Beausoleil moved and Shaina Smith seconded the motion to approve the following tax refunds:**

1.	David B. and Dorothy M. Berry	\$589.14
2.	David B. and Dorothy M. Berry	\$445.26
3.	Kevin M. Drew	\$359.87
4.	Nicole E. Maryyanek	\$23.38
5.	Rebecca L. McGlynn	\$12.30
6.	Cynthia S. Trayner	\$197.51
7.	Wheels LT	\$152.15
8.	Raymond S. Williams	\$33.08

Ken Beausoleil- 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 8:25 PM.

Tina Fox  
Recording Secretary