



SELECTMEN'S MEETING
September 4, 2012

The Board of Selectmen held a Selectmen's Meeting on Tuesday, September 4, 2012, at 7:30 p.m. at the East Thompson Volunteer Fire Department. Mr. Groh thanked the East Thompson Volunteer Fire Department for hosting this meeting as a part of the "on the road" meetings designed to encourage citizens to attend Board meetings.

PRESENT: Lawrence K. Groh, Jr., First Selectman; Kenneth Beausoleil, Selectman; Kerstin Forrester, Selectman; A Reporter from WINY Radio; Kerensa Konesni – Villager Newspapers; Joseph Gaucher; Kevin Walsh; Steven Bodreau; Al Landry; Sally White; Ida Ransom; Steve Benoit, Emergency Management; Paul Baer; other concerned citizens

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mrs. Forrester, to accept the minutes of the Regular Selectmen's Meeting of August 7, 2012.

Mrs. Forrester -Yes
Mr. Groh -Yes
Mr. Beausoleil -Abstain, did not attend meeting.

Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mrs. Forrester, to approve the minutes of the Special Selectmen's Meeting of August 10, 2012.

Mr. Beausoleil -Yes
Mrs. Forrester -Yes
Mr. Groh -Yes

Discussion on Motion: Mr. Baer asked for the agenda items of that meeting. Mr. Groh replied that the meeting was called to approve the Notice of Town Meeting to be held on September 2, 2012.

Motion made by Mrs. Forrester, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to approve the minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting of August 21, 2012.

Mrs. Forrester -Yes
Mr. Beausoleil -Yes
Mr. Groh -Abstain, did not attend meeting.

Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mrs. Forrester, to approve the minutes of the Special Selectmen's Meeting of August 31, 2012, regarding the West Thompson Fire Department Roof Project.

Mr. Beausoleil -Yes
Mrs. Forrester -Yes
Mr. Groh -Yes

Discussion on Motion: Mrs. Forrester questioned the length of discussion in the minutes. Mr. Groh replied that the tape is available with the full discussion. Mr. Baer questioned why this Agenda was not posted on the web-site and a discussion of FOI requirements followed. Mr. Groh stated that this meeting was posted with the Town Clerk and that there was an oversight in not posting it to the website. Every effort will be made in the future to post agendas on the web-site.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS

Mr. Groh thanked the East Thompson Volunteer Fire Department for opening their facility for this meeting.

Mr. Groh hoped that everyone enjoyed a safe and happy Labor Day weekend.

Mr. Groh gave a report on the September 1, 2012 Town Meeting regarding establishing the Quaddick Reservoir Water Quality District. This meeting was postponed to July 13, 2013 so that more information on the definitions of voter eligibility and residency could be obtained.

Mr. Beausoleil stated that the public school driveways and parking lots were recently paved by the Department of Public Works.

Mr. Beausoleil also reported on his conversation with Mr. Adams, Director of Public Works, concerning tree trimming. It is the policy of the Town of Thompson that only trees on town property are trimmed and that the wood is taken for use at the Highway Garage with the exception of small wood being available to the abutting property owner.

Mr. Groh noted that CL&P has been trimming trees in the area and must receive permission from any property owner before trimming their trees. The property owner has the right to keep that wood.

Mrs. Forrester questioned the budgeting of the parking lot paving. Mr. Beausoleil stated that the quotes in the budget meetings included the access roads and parking lots.

Ms. Ransom stated that that the roads should be the Town's responsibility and the expense of paving the parking lots should come from the School budget. A discussion followed regarding school maintenance and expenses.

Mr. Groh stated that Mr. Adams was directed to coordinate with School Facilities Manager Mr. Birch on this project. He will investigate how the paving cost was estimated and determined.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Ms. Ransom stated her concerns with high speeds on Messier Road, as citizens utilize the Bull Hill Soccer Fields. There is one 25 mile per hour sign and one Children at Play sign near the intersection of Messier road and Ravenelle Road. She asked if a petition from Messier Road residents was needed to address this issue.

Mr. Groh will request a trooper from Troop D to patrol this area, coordinating with the schedule of soccer games, and install additional signs.

Mr. Baer distributed a copy of an e-mail he had received from the President of the West Thompson Fire Department. Mr. Groh stated that this person is not a town employee and that the Fire Department is a separate entity from the Town. He thanked Mr. Baer for bringing this information to the Board's attention.

Mr. Landry expressed concern regarding the recent Town Meeting's voting definitions. Mr. Groh reviewed the process whereby State Statute requires a timeline of thirty days from receiving the petition to holding the Town Meeting. Mr. Groh has spoken with representatives from the State Legislature on clarifying the voting rights and definitions. Mrs. Forrester stated that the attorney for the Lake Association and the Lake Association did not prepare to address the voting issues. It was not the responsibility of the Town Attorney. A brief discussion followed concerning leased land, property on leased land and the assessment and taxation of each. Mr. Groh stated that the State of Connecticut will not be taxed for their property in the proposed tax district, according to the proposed Quaddick Reservoir Water Quality District petitioners.

Paul Baer asked if the Fire Emergency Plan was completed. Mr. Groh replied that the Fire Advisory Committee has approximately 20 days to complete that task.

Mr. Gaucher noted that CL&P is leaving debris in the roadways from their tree-trimming.

Mr. Walsh expressed concern of the e-mail Mr. Baer had submitted to the Board. Mr. Groh suggested he ask the sender and noted that e-mail addresses for town business are on the town e-mail list.

Mr. Benoit, Director of Emergency Management, announced that the Town had received a check from Department of Emergency Management/Homeland Security for \$1,200.00 for our participation in the recent emergency preparedness drill.

WEST THOMPSON FIRE DEPARTMENT ROOF PROJECT EXTENSION

Mr. Groh updated citizens on this project. There was a slight delay due to asbestos removal. All documentation regarding chain of custody has been filed. There was a delay with the engineer's approval of the truss specifications. The trusses have now been ordered and are expected to arrive soon.

Mr. Baer raised questions of the way this grant is being administered, the payroll and sub-contractor issues, contract language and how the Town Attorney reviewed the contract and the lack of documentation from the contractor with the CT Secretary of State. There was a discussion of liability insurance.

Mr. Beausoleil stated that the roof is open, the trusses are on order and that the Town Attorney is reviewing the contract language. All conditions of the contract will need to be met to disperse grant funds.

Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mr. Groh, to extend the contract for the West Thompson Fire Department Roof Project to October 6, 2012, contingent on the contractor's

proper filing of documents with the Secretary of State, and contingent on the Building Committee's approval at their meeting by September 8, 2012.

Mr. Beausoleil -Yes

Mr. Groh -Yes

Mrs. Forrester -Yes

Discussion on Motion: Mrs. Forrester asked when the signed and dated contract will be available. Mr. Groh replied that it would be available in one and one half weeks.

LETTER OF RECOGNITION FOR JUDITH RONDEAU

Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to table this agenda item until the next meeting.

Mr. Groh -Yes

Mr. Beausoleil -Yes

Mrs. Forrester -Yes

TAX REFUNDS

Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to refund the following overpayment as recommended by the Tax Collector, Rene Morin.

Timothy Kupstas	\$13.92
Alice Y. Langlois	\$23.02
Jeffrey M. Mayotte	\$11.43
Chester J. and Jennifer A. Oleksiak	\$11.97
Chester J. Oleksiak	\$10.27
Chester J. or Ruth E. Oleksiak	\$9.61
James P. Paue	\$6.15
Joy C. Sinni	\$16.45
Robert W. Werge, Jr. and Dolores R. Werge	\$19.09

Mr. Groh -Yes

Mr. Beausoleil -Yes

Mrs. Forrester -Yes

OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs. Forrester asked Mr. Groh about the childcare program discussed at the August 7, 2012 Selectmen's Meeting. Mr. Groh had spoken with Recreation Director Renee Waldron and no town or grant funds are used for this program Ms. Ransom, speaking as the Secretary of the Recreation Commission, added that this program is a fee based program.

ADJOURN

Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:31 p.m.

Mr. Groh -Yes
Mr. Beausoleil -Yes
Mrs. Forrester -Yes

Recorded and transcribed by:
Lynn Landry