



SELECTMEN'S MEETING May 15, 2012

The Board of Selectmen held a Selectmen's Meeting on Tuesday, May 15, 2012, at 7:30 p.m. at the West Thompson Independent Fire Department. Mr. Groh thanked the West Thompson Independent Fire Department for hosting this evening's meeting and welcomed the citizens in attendance.

PRESENT: Lawrence K. Groh, Jr., First Selectman; Kenneth Beausoleil, Selectman; Kerstin Forrester, Selectman;— WINY Radio; Joseph Gaucher; Ross Eddy; Kevin Walsh; Sally White; Norma O'Leary; Celeste Fifield; Dale Fifield; Paul Joyal; Parmi Leo; Steve Benoit; Thomas Poplawski; Matthew Bernier; Al Landry; other concerned citizens

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Mrs. Forrester, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to accept the minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting of May 1, 2012.

<i>Mrs. Forrester</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Groh presented correspondence from the Department of Emergency Services concerning pistol permit fees.

Mr. Groh presented correspondence from a citizen expressing appreciation for the Thompson Transfer Station and the efforts of employees Elmer Preston and Joshua Butts to promote recycling.

Mr. Groh presented the monthly update on crime statistics from Troop D. Mrs. Forrester asked for clarification of the codes used in the report. Mr. Groh will provide this information.

Mr. Groh presented transcripts of two hearings held by the CT Siting Council regarding the Interstate Reliability Project. Copies are available at the Selectman's Office for public inspection.

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS

Mr. Groh thanked the West Thompson Independent Fire Department for hosting this evening's meeting.

Mr. Groh thanked Mrs. O’Leary for her efforts in organizing the town-wide roadside and river clean-up, especially for her efforts on Market Street.

Mr. Groh noted that there would be information later in this meeting regarding the Annual Town Meeting.

Mrs. Forrester presented information from Windham County Sheet Metal on heating and air conditioning units for the Probate Court. The type of units used in the Social Services Building are not appropriate for the Town Hall.

Mr. Beausoleil asked that motorists be aware of roadside safety as new fiberoptic cables are being installed in several parts of Thompson. The State Police are providing security.

CITIZENS’ COMMENTS

Miss White offered to be on any committee investigating the use of the town-owned building at 65 Main Street, which is being vacated by TEEG. Mr. Groh stated that a committee will be formed, perhaps with members of the Tourtellotte Trust Committee.

BID OPENING – WEST THOMPSON FIRE DEPARTMENT ROOF

Five bids were received. Mr. Groh stated that he would be removing one bid from the group, that of Choice Builders, LLC, of which he is 50% owner. He had submitted the bid to insure competition for the bidding process, as only one bid was received by the original deadline. Three other bids have since been received, and Mr. Groh is withdrawing the bid made by Choice Builders, LLC.

Mr. Groh stated he was glad to have four bids for consideration. Mr. Groh opened the bids and distributed them to the Board. The bids are as follows:

1. Shoreline Restoration, LLC of East Haven, CT: Base Bid \$88,500.00 Alternate #1 deduct \$4,250.00, contract time not stated.
2. WJ Mountford Co., South Windsor, CT: Base Bid \$174,000.00, Alternate #1 deduct \$3,500.00, contract time 90 days.
3. JD & D Construction, Inc., Webster, MA: Base Bid \$120,900.00, Alternate #1, deduct \$7,500.00, contract time 60 days.
4. Ultimate Construction, LLC, West Hartford, CT: Base Bid \$146,670.00, Alternate #1 deduct \$139,600.00, contract time 90 days.

Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil to forward the bids to the West Thompson Independent Fire Department Roof Committee for their review, inspection and recommendation.

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

Discussion on Motion: Miss White asked if the contracts allowed subcontracting. Mr. Groh stated that there is specific language to allow subcontracting.

LEASE FOR THOMPSON ECUMENICAL EMPOWERMENT GROUP

Mr. Groh stated that TEEG currently leases the town-owned building at 65 Main Street and is moving to the new town-owned Social Services Building at 15 Thatcher Road. This lease was drafted by the Town Attorney, reviewed by Mr. Groh, and it changes some of the conditions of the lease in place for 65 Main Street. The changes include that the new lease has a 25 year term, with a maximum of five five-year renewals, updates the liability coverage, and clarifies the responsibility regarding repairs and maintenance, with provisions for review and modification. Mr. Groh read portions of the lease into the record, which provided clarification for citizens.

Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mrs. Forrester, to add the Lease for Thompson Ecumenical Empowerment Group to the agenda of the Annual Town Meeting to be held on May 21, 2012.

<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Forrester</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

APPROVAL OF NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Mr. Groh read the Notice of the Annual Town Meeting into the record.

Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mrs. Forrester, to approve the Notice of Town Meeting to be held on Monday, May 21, 2012 at 8 p.m. at the Tourtellotte Memorial High School Auditorium.

<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Forrester</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

Discussion on Motion: This meeting will take place on Monday, May 21, 2012, at 8 p.m. at the Tourtellotte Memorial High School Auditorium. The proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2012/2013 will automatically be adjourned to referendum on Wednesday, May 30, 2012, from Noon to 8 p.m. at the regular polling places.

There was a discussion of the wording of the referendum, with “yes” signifying passing the budget as proposed.

There was a discussion of handling state funds received after the budget is in place. Mr. Groh will contact Town Attorney with any questions, should this occur.

Mr. Gaucher asked for clarification on the budget process, and Mr. Groh explained that if either the Town or School budget fails, both are available for modification by the Board of Finance.

Mrs. Forrester suggested consolidating polling places in the future to save expenses. Mrs. O’Leary suggested that information be gathered. Mr. Landry stated that Town Ordinances would need to be altered.

An agenda item for the next meeting will address the issues of reviving the Ordinance Committee and creating a Voting Place Committee.

COMMUNITY FARMS PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Mr. Eddy, Chair of the Agriculture Commission, presented information on the Community Farms Preservation Program. The State of Connecticut is creating a program to purchase the development rights for farms that produce food crops for human or animal consumption and are less than thirty acres. This would place a permanent easement on any such property. Funds would be available from the Open Space Funds for the portion of local funding. Thompson has met the criteria and needs Board of Selectmen endorsement before the May 31, 2012 deadline. Mr. Beausoleil stated that if Thompson entered into the program, we could apply for funding if any suitable property became available. The process would allow for checks and balances. Mrs. Landry spoke in favor of the Program, citing the statewide commitment to local food security. Mr. Landry spoke as a Planning and Zoning Commission member in support of this program, as a way to control growth.

Motion made by Mrs. Forrester, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to approve Thompson's participation in the Community Farms Preservation Program, pending review by Town Attorney.

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

Discussion on Motion: The signatures of the Agriculture Commission Chair, the First Selectman and the Town Treasurer will be obtained after approval by the Town Attorney.

CHANGE OF NAME OF BELDING-CORTICELLI PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE

This committee has met and asked to have a name change to reflect their mission.

Motion made by Mrs. Forrester, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to change the name of the Belding-Corticelli Park Advisory Committee to Belding-Corticelli Improvement Advisory Committee.

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

APPOINTMENTS TO BELDING-CORTICELLI IMPROVEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mr. Groh presented correspondence from Mr. Ryan Lajoie who is resigning from this committee, and who has suggested that JoAnn Hall be appointed.

Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mr. Groh, to appoint JoAnn Hall to the Belding-Corticelli Improvement Advisory Committee.

Mr. Beausoleil -Yes
Mr. Groh -Yes

Mrs. Forrester -Yes

Mr. Groh presented correspondence from Mr. Rene J. Morin expressing his interest in serving on this committee. Mr. Beausoleil noted that Mr. Morin owns property that abuts this site.

Mrs. Forrester questioned the appointment of Kevin Kennedy to this committee, as he is not a town resident. Mr. Groh stated that Town Counsel has provided the legal opinion that a non-town resident may serve on advisory committees.

Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mrs. Forrester, that Kevin Kennedy serve as an advisor to the Belding-Corticelli Improvement Advisory Committee, and not as a voting member.

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

Motion made by Mrs. Forrester, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to appoint Rene J. Morin as a regular member of the Belding-Corticelli Improvement Advisory Committee.

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

Discussion on Motion: This appointment will be signed at a later time.

APPOINTMENTS FOR SPECIAL FIRE POLICE

Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to appoint the following individuals as Special Fire Police: Jean C. Lafontaine, term to expire November 19, 2013, Francis Duquette, term to expire November 19, 2013, and Eric Boucher, term to expire November 19, 2013.

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

TAX REFUNDS

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURN

Mr. Groh thanked the West Thompson Independent Fire Department for hosting this meeting.

Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:32 p.m.

<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Forrester</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

Recorded and transcribed by:
Lynn Landry