



SELECTMEN'S MEETING
April 21, 2009

The Board of Selectmen held a Selectmen's Meeting on Tuesday, April 21, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. at the Thompson Fire Engine Company, 70 Chase Road in Thompson.

PRESENT: Lawrence K. Groh, Jr., First Selectman; Sarah F. White, Selectman; Kathleen A. Hiatt, Selectman; Charles Seney; James Sali; Lynn Landry; Al Landry; Ed Moore, Harrington Hospital; Tom Hijeck, Harrington Hospital; Rene Morin, Tax Collector; Elizabeth Vriga; Ada Temple; Mercedes Robbins; Delpha Very; Norma O'Leary; Lis Burton; Kathleen Herbert; Michael Martin, Finance Director; Bill Poirier; Joseph Lindley; Carolyn Werge; Robert Werge; Rachel Johnston; Donna Grant; Elaine Antonson; Don Antonson; Shawn Brissette; Kevin Walsh; Joseph Gaucher; George Elmes; Joseph Gibbons; Kathleen Murphy; John Rice; Ken Beausoleil; Leo Adams, Director of Public Works; Joseph Donovan; Roman Jamieson; Allen Jackson, USI; Sebrina Heroux, Assessor; Dushy Mahendron; Matt Sanderson – Thompson Villager; WINY Radio; Norwich Bulletin; other concerned citizens

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Miss White, to approve the minutes of the Selectmen's meeting of April 7, 2009 with corrections.

<i>Ms. Hiatt</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Miss White</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Miss White, to approve the minutes of the Special Selectmen's meeting of April 9, 2009 as presented.

<i>Ms. Hiatt</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Miss White</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Mr. Groh, to approve the minutes of the Special Selectmen's meeting of April 17, 2009 as presented.

<i>Ms. Hiatt</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Miss White</i>	<i>-No</i>

CORRESPONDENCE

None

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS

- Mr. Groh thanked the Thompson Fire Engine Company for hosting tonight's meeting.
- Mr. Groh commented that there is a meeting scheduled for April 22, 2009 at the Thompson Public Library at 7:30 p.m. to discuss the Tourtellotte Trust.
- Ms. Hiatt commented that the Board of Finance, at their last meeting, requested information/recommendation on street lights, Assessor/Tax Collector software and health insurance cost information.
- Ms. Hiatt commented on attending the Thompson Little League parade on Saturday.
- Ms. Hiatt commented that the month of April is clean-up month and that the French River Clean-up is this Saturday.
- Ms. Hiatt commented that she is going to make a motion to table items on tonight's agenda.

Motion made by Ms. Hiatt that we table items 5C, 5D, 5E, 6A, 6F, 6I, 6J and 6K.

Amended motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Mr. Groh, to leave 6A on this evening's agenda.

<i>Ms. Hiatt</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Miss White</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Miss White, that we table agenda items 6E & 6H this evening to the next meeting.

<i>Ms. Hiatt</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Miss White</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

- Ms. Antonson asked about the Bernier property on Tufts Hill Road.
- A concerned citizens commented on the need for an ordinance to address buildings that have burned down.
- Mrs. O'Leary gave an update on the April road-side clean-up.

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- Mr. Donohoe asked the Board to endorse a letter to the Planning & Zoning Commission regarding the new water tower being proposed by Connecticut Water.

Motion made by Miss White to endorse a letter that presents the features and the benefits of the new water tower on Riverside Drive that would go to the Planning & Zoning Commission in time for their meeting of 27 April. Motion retracted.

Motion made by Miss White, seconded by Ms. Hiatt, to place on the agenda as item 8A "Discussion of a Letter of Recommendation to Planning and Zoning Regarding New Water Tower".

<i>Miss White</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Ms. Hiatt</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

- Mr. Sali commented that the burned out building on Riverside Drive is an eyesore and may become a safety issue.

OLD BUSINESS

HUBBARD/HARRINGTON HOSPITAL UPDATE - DISCUSSION

Mr. Ed Moore, President & CEO of Harrington Hospital and Mr. Tom Hijeck of Harrington Healthcare at Hubbard gave an update on services at Hubbard Hospital. A question and answer session followed.

STREET LIGHT DISCUSSION – DISCUSSION/ACTION

The Board discussed the \$25,000.00 reduction made by the Board of Finance at their budget workshop for streetlights. A lengthy discussion followed. The Board will discuss this item at a Special Selectmen's meeting on April 27, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Ms. Hiatt, to table this until April 27th at 6:00 p.m.

<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Ms. Hiatt</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Miss White</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

ORDINANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS – DISCUSSION/ACTION

Tabled under previous motion.

CODE OF ETHICS – DISCUSSION/ACTION

Tabled under previous motion.

AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR POLICY – DISCUSSION/ACTION

Tabled under previous motion.

NEW BUSINESS

***LEASE OF BASEBALL FIELD FROM CONNECTICUT REAL ESTATE HOLDINGS, LLC.
– DISCUSSION/ACTION***

Mr. Groh presented a lease agreement between the Town of Thompson and Connecticut Real Estate Holdings, LLC. for the baseball field located on the Belding Mill property. This field would be maintained by Thompson Little League and only be used for practice. A brief discussion followed.

Motion made by Miss White, seconded by Mr. Groh, that we approve the lease for the three-month lease of the old ballfield behind the Belding Mill site.

<i>Miss White</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Ms. Hiatt</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

SOCIAL SERVICES BUILDING PROJECT – DISCUSSION/ACTION

Addition of Position on Committee – TEEG Board of Directors

Ms. Hiatt read correspondence regarding the creation of a new position on the Social Services Building Committee and the appointment of Delpha Very to said position. A lengthy discussion followed.

Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Mr. Groh, that we add another position to the Social Services Building Committee entitled “The TEEG Board of Directors’ Position”.

<i>Ms. Hiatt</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Miss White</i>	<i>-No</i>

Appointment to Committee – Delpha Very

The Board discussed appointing Delpha Very to the TEEG Board of Director’s position on the Social Services Building Committee. A lengthy discussion followed.

Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Mr. Groh, to appoint Delpha Very to the Social Services Building Committee’s TEEG Board of Directors’ position.

<i>Ms. Hiatt</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
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Mr. Groh -Yes
Miss White -No

Resolution of Municipal Legislative Body

Mr. Groh presented the revised Resolution of Municipal Legislative Body for the Social Services Building project.

Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Mr. Groh, that we sign the Resolution of the Municipal Legislative Body as presented.

Ms. Hiatt -Yes
Mr. Groh -Yes
Miss White -No

Current Status of Project

The Board discussed the current status of the Social Services Building project. Mr. Rice gave an update on the project. A lengthy discussion followed. Social Services Building Committee Charge will be added to the agenda for the Special Selectmen's meeting on April 27, 2009.

Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Mr. Groh, that we ask Town Attorney to look at 8-24, Title 7, to see if there is anything that we should be doing that we are not doing.

Ms. Hiatt -Yes
Mr. Groh -Yes
Miss White -Yes

AWARD BID FOR ADA PROJECT - ACTION

The Board reviewed the written recommendation from the Director of Planning & Development to award the bid to the lowest bidder, Scope Construction Company. A brief discussion followed. This item will be added to the agenda for the Special Selectmen's meeting on April 27, 2009.

SELF-INSURANCE FOR DENTAL – ALLEN JACKSON, USI - DISCUSSION

Allen Jackson, from USI, presented information to the Board in regard to self-funding the Town's dental insurance. A brief discussion followed.

Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Miss White, to go to self-insured for dental.

Mr. Groh -Yes
Miss White -Yes
Ms. Hiatt -Yes

RESOLUTION OF MUNICIPAL LEGISLATIVE BODY – MIXING IN MATH PILOT - ACTION

Tabled under previous motion.

RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE PRESENTATION - DISCUSSION

Tabled under previous motion.

SOFTWARE UPGRADE FOR ASSESSOR/TAX COLLECTOR'S OFFICE - DISCUSSION

The Board discussed the options for upgrading the software in the Assessor's and Tax Collector's offices. A lengthy discussion followed. This item will be added to the agenda for the Special Selectmen's meeting on April 27, 2009.

STATUS AND PROSPECTS OF LOCAL PROBATE COURTS - DISCUSSION

Tabled under previous motion.

MAINTENANCE OF ROADS IN REGARD TO FLOODING AND BEAVER DAMAGE - DISCUSSION

Tabled under previous motion.

PROCESS FOR ADVERTISING FOR BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Tabled under previous motion.

BID PROCESS - DISCUSSION

Tabled under previous motion.

TAX REFUND

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

-Krystle S Lackey -\$23.88

Mr. Groh -Yes

Ms. Hiatt -Yes

Miss White -Yes

OTHER BUSINESS

DISCUSSION OF A LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION TO PLANNING AND ZONING REGARDING NEW WATER TOWER

Mr. Donohoe presented a request to the Board to forward a letter of recommendation to the Planning & Zoning Commission supporting the proposed water tower on Riverside Drive. A brief discussion followed.

Motion made by Miss White, seconded by Mr. Groh, that the Board prepare a letter that endorses the construction of the new water storage tank behind the existing tank off Riverside Drive.

<i>Miss White</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Ms. Hiatt</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

ADJOURN

Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Mr. Groh, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 11:00 p.m.

<i>Ms. Hiatt</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Miss White</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

Recorded and transcribed by:
Tonya Levesque