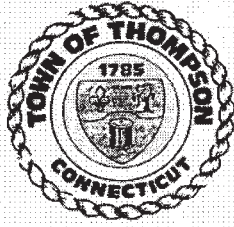


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SELECTMEN'S MEETING November 5, 2008

The Board of Selectmen held a Selectmen's Meeting on Wednesday, November 5, 2008, at 7:30 p.m. in the Merrill Seney Community Room.

PRESENT: Lawrence K. Groh, Jr., First Selectman; Sarah F. White, Selectman; Kathleen A. Hiatt, Selectman; Lynn Landry; Al Landry; Mercedes Robbins; Norma O'Leary; David Ostrowski; Karen Durlach; Michael Underhill; Burt Rhodes; Donna Grant, TEEG; Chuck Peasley, J.P. Maguire; Joseph Iamartino; Chenoa Pierce, Thompson Villager; other concerned citizens

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Miss White, seconded by Ms. Hiatt, that we accept the minutes of October 21st as prepared.

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

Motion made by Miss White, seconded by Ms. Hiatt, that we accept the minutes of the meeting of October 7th with the request that notations be made to the context of the comment and also to the specific sentence which opened with, "I think we need to not have..." and then with the follow on sentence so that we keep it in the context.

Motion and second withdrawn.

Motion made by Miss White, seconded by Ms. Hiatt, that that section of the minutes on page five regarding the proposed social services building with the sentence that opens with, "Miss White stated..." I would like to see the following in context put there, "I think with a number of committees in town I think in order to invite and open up town participation and increase voting I think when we have committees we need to open it up truly to the community to all areas of town and my next statement has nothing to do with personalities or integrity or anything else but I think that we need to not have people that are current staff of the Town on committees. I think they can rightfully serve as advisors but I think that we would have a more vibrant community and more participation and more people get out to vote if we had people from a cross section of the town."

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

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CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Groh

-Yes

Mr. Groh presented a response in regard to nutrition load of algae in West Thompson Lake.

- Mr. Groh presented correspondence in regard to the Windham County Conservation Consortium.
- Ms. Hiatt commented on forwarding correspondence in regard to the proposed social services building to the Director of Planning & Development.

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS

- Mr. Groh commented on the election and that the Special Fire Police directed traffic in front of the Town Hall.
- Miss White commented on two articles in the Worcester Telegram & Gazette regarding Charlton and Barre, Massachusetts and the upcoming budget cycle.
- Miss White commented on a property tax amnesty being initiated by Governor Rell.
- Ms. Hiatt requested posting any Town vacancies in the next Selectmen's Update.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

- Ms. Grant thanked the electors of Thompson for a successful food drive.
- Mr. Landry discussed concerns with streetlights.
- Mr. Groh introduced Chuck Peasley from J.P. Maguire & Associates.

Motion made by Miss White, seconded by Ms. Hiatt, that we ask Chuck to present a summary of his presentation and add it to the agenda.

Miss White -Yes

Ms. Hiatt -Yes

Mr. Groh -Yes

SOCIAL SERVICES BUILDING COMMITTEE VACANCIES – ACTION REQUIRED

Mr. Groh presented a list of six individuals interested in serving on the Social Services Building Committee. A lengthy discussion followed.

Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Ms. Hiatt, to table it until the next meeting.

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

REQUEST FOR FUEL ASSISTANCE FROM TEEG – DONNA GRANT – DISCUSSION/ACTION

Ms. Grant provided information to the Board in regard to a request for funds for a fuel assistance program. A lengthy discussion followed.

Motion made by Miss White, seconded by Mr. Groh, that the Board consider perhaps the suggested \$5,000.00 and put the question forward to the Board of Finance to consider.

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

REQUEST TO USE TOWN PROPERTY FOR HAYRIDE – THOMPSON TOGETHER AND THE BEYOND SCHOOL PROGRAM

Mr. Groh presented a request from Valerie Krogul from the Beyond School Program to use Town property for a hayride. A lengthy discussion followed.

Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Miss White, that we approve this request contingent on the group being able to provide to the town a certificate of insurance and that they provide satisfactory answers for Miss White's questions on horses.

Amended motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Miss White, that we approve this request contingent on the group being able to provide to the town a certificate of insurance and that they provide satisfactory answers for Miss White's questions on horses and that the Thompson Early Childhood Collaborative and Beyond School Program is responsible for cleaning up after the animals and the people.

Motion and second withdrawn.

Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Mr. Groh, that we approve the program for Thompson Early Childhood Collaborative and Beyond School Program to have a hayride as described providing that they provide to the Town a certificate of insurance and they provide for the cleaning up after the horses, and the people, at Riverside Park.

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

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RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS - DISCUSSION

Mr. Iamartino from the Renewable Energy Development Committee provided information to the Board in regard to their recommendations for hydropower at the Wilsonville site. A lengthy discussion followed.

Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Mr. Groh, that the First Selectman approach the current owner of the building in question to see if there is some way that we can do some just-in-time interventions, similar to a tarp on the roof, to stop any further degradation of the building until the Town can go forward in their direction on the hydroelectric power.

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

J.P. MAGUIRE PRESENTATION

Mr. Peasley presented information on the services offered by J.P. Maguire including emergency response. A brief discussion followed.

No action taken.

STATE POLICE CRIME STATISTICS - DISCUSSION

Ms. Hiatt presented three reports on statistics from the Connecticut State Police regarding crime in Thompson. Ms. Hiatt also informed the Board of apparatus available from the State Police to study traffic and speeding. A brief discussion followed.

No action taken.

RESIGNATION OF CONSTABLE – JOSEPH GARCEAU - DISCUSSION

The Board discussed the resignation of Joseph Garceau as constable and the resulting vacancy. Mr. Groh also informed the Board that there is already an existing vacancy.

No action taken.

CONVEYANCE TAX - DISCUSSION

Motion made by Miss White, seconded by Ms. Hiatt, to defer discussion on conveyance tax until the next Selectmen's Meeting.

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

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TAX REFUNDS

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

-Saab Leasing Company -\$156.87
-VW Credit Leasing LTD -\$95.16

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

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Hiatt reminded the audience that there is a Special Selectmen's meeting scheduled for November 10th.

Miss White asked that a date on the website for Board and Commission meetings be corrected.

ADJOURN

Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Ms. Hiatt, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:00 p.m.

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

Recorded and transcribed by:
Tonya Levesque