



TOWN of THOMPSON

Board of Selectmen

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2018 SEP 11 A 10:33

Linda Paradise
TOWN CLERK, ASST

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

Tuesday, September 4, 2018 7:00 p.m.

Thompson Town Hall, Seney Room

MINUTES

Attendance:

First Selectman Ken Beausoleil, Selectmen Amy St Onge and Steve Herbert
Steve Benoit (Director, Emergency Management)
Kim Austin, Denise Coffey (Courant Community newspaper), Members of the public
Staff: Recording Secretary Dotti Durst

First Selectman Ken Beausoleil called the meeting to order at 7 PM.
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

II. Approval of Minutes:

- A. **Motion S. Herbert seconded by A. St Onge by to approve the minutes of the August 21, 2018 BOS Meeting carried unanimously.**
- B. Minutes of the August 29, 2018 Special BOS Meeting: S. Herbert – would like to listen to the tape recording before voting on the approval of the Minutes. No action taken.

III. Correspondence

- A. State of CT DEEP – Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant: awards went to the 4 stations that applied, with \$2,310 for Community and \$2,500 each for East, Thompson Hill and West. They are matching grants, for equipment needs related to forestry matters.
- B. State of CT – July 2018 Monthly Police Services

IV. Selectmen's Comments:

- A. St Onge - None
- S. Herbert – Thanks are extended to Lynn and Al Landry for the fantastic outdoor plantings at the town hall, from the BOS but for the entire town.
- K. Beausoleil – The town hall back parking lot situation is under review with Connecticut Water. It appears a mutually beneficial exchange of access easements could be worked out.
 - Roof replacement on the Town Hall is beginning.
 - A new Transfer Station Fees brochure is going out and the website is updated
 - Thank you to Selectman A. St Onge for attending the teachers' Comeback event; excellent job.
 - Thompson Middle School Open House is coming up. It is enjoyable to be there and help serve the pasta and seeing people.
 - The same day the Teachers were welcomed back in the morning, a tour was conducted in the afternoon; repairs, re-painting and replacements all looked outstanding. There is new furniture in the Media Center, obtained from a UCONN surplus location. All the upgrades were done for very little and the school year is off to a positive start.
 - The Building Committee asked for the details of the Solar developer's proposal; it has gone to Tighe and Bond for review.
 - Public Works has completed the project on Leclair Road with minimal disruption to the resident and at a very low cost.
 - Roadside mowing is behind schedule; a John Deere lost its hydraulics

- Langer Pond is undergoing its mandatory 7th-year re-inspection
- The fiscal year audit by Bloom and Shapiro begins on Sept 7 and will take about two weeks.
- The BOS meeting in two weeks will be held at the West Thompson Fire Station

V. Citizens' Comments: Linda Jarmolovicz, 7 Denis Drive – at the last Planning and Zoning meeting, she asked why they are revising their regulations when it appears that the state regulations supersede local regulations. Her home, near Nichols College, has become a location for rental units by college students, who for the last two school years, and beginning again this year, have disrupted the neighborhood. No actions have yet been effective in curtailing the noise and parking issues, or any of the other problems. She requests that the BOS look into an Ordinance. S. Herbert - local regulations can be more strict than state regulations and stand up to a challenge. K. Beausoleil – will ask the Zoning Enforcement Officer what is being done. The consensus of the Selectmen is that the situation does constitute a safety issue; the BOS can install NO PARKING signs and the State Trooper will enforce them.

VI. Fire Study Recommendations – Possible Committee Chair: Last month, in discussion at the BOS meeting about the implementation of the Fire Study recommendations, the necessity of re-establishing the Fire Advisory Committee was reviewed. Kim Austin offered to consider serving as chair. After meeting with K. Beausoleil and gathering materials for a close review of the scope of the position, she has agreed to take on the position. S. Herbert and A. St Onge thanked Ms. Austin for being willing to take this major challenge. It was noted that Mr. Bellevance will assist as well. The customary paperwork will be completed and submitted; this maintains consistency in the process of bringing individuals aboard in roles such as this.

VII. Recreation Director Hire – the process is underway with applicants; because of the timeframe for the transition, we need to keep the process moving.

VIII. Town Attorney update - Halloran and Sage participated in the transfer of the pertinent files; Bill St Onge will remain available to handle questions. S. Herbert – On the topic of changing the number of voting places, he understands that the state establishes the voting districts and the town determines the polling places. K. Beausoleil – the current voting configuration was voted upon at a town meeting, and if changes are warranted, the question will go to the voters. There are several questions the BOS will work through with the attorney, this being one. Perhaps a meeting can be scheduled in about 30 days.

IX. Sustainable CT- Thompson should consider this voluntary grant program for the next year. The town already does several things to move toward greater sustainability; a list should be started now to gather data. Elected town staff or others could gather the information. Perhaps the new Planner, once situated, could take on overseeing the data collection.

X. Bingo - Bazaar - Raffle Permits: issuing these permits has moved to the towns, effective January 1. A. St Onge – St. Joseph School conducts a Bingo program to benefit their pre-school program, which is very important. Perhaps Thompson can waive the Bingo fee to support their good works. Killingly seems to have done so for a Danielson church. Fees are now retained locally rather than being sent to the State. The town voted to change an ordinance to achieve this. S. Herbert – another view of the fee schedule situation: leaving the fee schedule as is would keep the church costs stable but bring income to the town to keep property taxes a little lower. K. Beausoleil – Let's find out what the actual process would be and determine if an ordinance is needed in Thompson.

XI. Other Business: Since the agenda was prepared, material has arrived about Tipping Fees .
Motion K. Beausoleil seconded by A. St Onge to add an agenda item under Other

Business, Discussion of Transfer Station Tipping Fees, carried unanimously.

K. Beausoleil- Thompson is currently under contract with the Southbridge landfill which is closing at the first of next year. A new agreement for a waste disposal center is needed. Once the Southbridge facility closes, the crush will be on; Thompson might be well-off to be proactive and not wait. There are two viable locations: Wheelabrator's Auburn location, and WilliWaste. The current contract is for \$66 per ton; we use about 1,900 tons. The new contract offers: Wheelabrator at \$77 per ton escalating to \$86 per ton (five-year contract). WilliWaste is at \$75. This will result in about a \$20,000 increase. Two trips are made per week by town staff. Since Wheelabrator seems easier to get to, on RT 20, it may be the better choice. A. St Onge – this new document provided tonight from the Finance Director is dated August 21. It would have been nice when we were talking about the proposed fee increases at the Transfer Station if this information was also on the table. It could have been part of the discussion and in the minutes so people would know. It should have been brought up. K. Beausoleil – The letter came in and went directly to Winston for numbers and only came back from him today. S. Herbert – On August 21 at 2 PM we were discussing the proposed fee increases at the Transfer Station. At 3 PM, the conversation was about a tipping fee increase. The document we received tonight was not available that same day? A. St Onge – we did know the tipping fees would go up. I believe that a selectman should work together in the best interests of the town. K. Beausoleil – I was in total agreement with raising the transfer station fees. They should have been raised over the years since 2012. S. Herbert - the costs for staff time and mileage to each facility should be examined, and the annual increases for WilliWaste do not seem to be provided. K. Beausoleil – will ask for more detailed information.

Other business: S. Herbert – last year's audit did not go well. We need the Finance Director to come in to help us know what we missed last year, for both the school district and the town; even the auditors themselves had issues. Although we know her to be busy, let's ask her to come in and work with us. What are we doing to avoid the same issues this year. Maybe, for the audit, it is time for a fresh set of eyes for next year. K. Beausoleil – believes it was the Board of Finance that entered into the auditor's contract. He will determine the contract end date.

XII. Citizens' Comments: none

XIII. Tax Refunds:

Motion K. Beausoleil seconded by A. St Onge to approve tax refunds totaling \$430.54 carried unanimously.

Cyr, Daniel S.	\$22.62	Maryyanek, Rachel H.	\$131.98
Danielson, Edward A.	\$13.88	Murdock, Douglas W.	\$5.64
Dean, Robin L.	\$5.08	Plaza, Christine L.	\$34.35
Gilbert, Jeremy H.	\$6.30	Miller, Angela L or Jordan A.	\$30.00
Harkins, Denise M.	\$8.54	Miller, David K. or Marsha A.	\$9.60
Hebert, Treffley J., Jr.	\$7.80	Sabourin, Shanon A. or James A.	\$30.24
Jones, John C.	\$42.49	Trahan, Paul A. or Terri A.	\$22.00
Kane, Michael J.	\$53.14	Warren, Charles E. Jr. or Joan A.	\$6.88

XIV. Adjourn:

Motion S. Herbert seconded by A. St Onge to adjourn carried unanimously.

K. Beausoleil adjourned the meeting at 8:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Dorothy Durst, Recording Secretary *Dorothy Durst*

These minutes have not yet been approved by the Board of Selectmen. Please refer to next month's meeting minutes for approval of and/or amendments to these minutes.