



**TOWN of THOMPSON**  
**Board of Selectmen**

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TOWN OF THOMPSON, CT.  
2018 SEP 20 P 4: 29  
*Renee Weber*  
TOWN CLERK

THOMPSON SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
Tuesday, September 18, 2018 7:00 p.m.  
West Thompson Independent Fire Company  
248 West Thompson Road, Thompson  
**MINUTES**

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I. Attendance:

First Selectman Ken Beausoleil, Selectmen Amy St Onge and Steve Herbert.  
Steve Benoit (Director, Emergency Management), Winston Averill (Transfer Station Information), Kim Austin, Melinda Smith (Superintendent of Schools), John Rice (Building Committee), Rich Benoit (DPW)  
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 K. Beausoleil to approve the minutes of August 22, 2018 Special Meeting failed for lack of a second.** S. Herbert – at the last meeting, asked for more time to listen to the tape of the -0/22 meeting to clarify some points. Upon doing so, both he and K. Beausoleil found the recorder to be malfunctioning and the recording garbled. Since the recording cannot be clarified, I cannot second the motion to approve. A. St Onge – concurred. K. Beausoleil – the recorder has now been replaced.

B. **Motion K. Beausoleil seconded by A. St Onge to approve the minutes of the September 4, 2018 Meeting carried unanimously.** K. Beausoleil noted that no action was taken on the Fire Study until the paperwork is completed for the possible change

III. Correspondence

- A. Northeast Family Credit Union Open House, 10/10 at 7:30 PM
- B. Thames Valley Council for Community Action, Inc: Thank you to Thompson for the fiscal year 18-19 donation as \$10,000.
- C. Prescription Card Report: Statistics are reported
- D. Community Fire Company Inc. – September Fund Raising Boot Drive: the request arrived too late for BOS approval; K. Beausoleil signed off on it because of time pressure. In the future, request must be timely or run the risk of being rejected.
- E. Building Committee Email – Solar Project: At their 09/12 meeting they discontinued the solar project at the Thompson Public School Complex

IV. Selectmen's Comments:

A. St Onge - none. S. Herbert – none.

K. Beausoleil – the audit by Shapiro started on Monday

- roof replacement has started; it may come in under projections
- the thunderstorm on 09/06 knocked out service at the Highway Garage, It has been restored although there are still some non-functioning equipment
- materials transfer from Attorney St Onge to the new Attorney Slater is going smoothly
- in the matter of CDU vs the Town, we are working on mediation. The sewer project to clean out exit pits along the ramp is part of the mediation.
- upon inspection of the oil spill at the school, nothing unusual was found
- the positions of town planner and recreation director are not filled; a person has been retained for a 90-day period.
- Monday was the town meeting/referendum will be September 25 from 12-8 for \$341,000, requested from the BOF per the recommendation of Tighe and Bond (not part of the oil spill). The tanks are rated for 30 years: 70% of the cost will be reimbursed to the town through the school construction program
- handouts were distributed itemizing the Transfer Station fee schedule.
- today the school complex experienced flooding during the downpour; school was released

Inspection points to a culvert problem.

- the Building Committee ceased exploration of school land alternative energy.
- Community Children's Champion Recognition- NE Early Childhood Council; has an awards event on Oct 18; a member of the BOS is invited to attend.

V. Citizens' Comments: Linda Jarmolovicz, 7 Denis Drive: Reviewed the situation on her residential street, in the vicinity of Nichols College, which she had been brought up at the last BOS meeting; 2 more parties have taken place since then. K. Beausoleil – getting an ordinance through takes time but can be done. The ZEO will be encouraged to examine the situation, as the Zoning Regulations appear to not allow the number of unrelated individuals who are living there. The question can go on the list for the new town attorney regarding whether town regulations or ordinances supersede statute. K. Beausoleil-The recommendation is to continue to call the State Police. They alone can issue tickets for any of the violations which have been listed as taking place. S. Herbert – a resident has the right to enjoy their property in peace and quiet. We will look into the disturbance further. Our First Selectman should review options with the State police about the matter.

Kim Austin, Quaddick Town Farm Road – last month I brought up the erosion problem which was a safety concern on Stevens Road. Thank you to the highway department for so fully addressing this matter.

Shawn Brissette, Fairway Drive- it seems to be time to take another look at a resident state trooper; now we've had a serious situation with a home invasion involving a knife. There is potential office space in two buildings which would be ideally suited to a police presence. He calls upon the Selectmen to get actual costs and to calculate the tax consequences for further discussion.

VI. Transfer Station Consultant – Winston Averill: he and K. Beausoleil met about the Southbridge Landfill, which is closing at the end of the year. W. Averill reviewed the options available to Thompson. The landfill situation: there is a massive quantity of waste yet facilities in our region are closing. There are a few options nearby that have the capacity for the disposal Thompson needs, which puts them at the advantage. Because costs/rates are increasing, it will be to the town's advantage to lock in rates now. WilliWaste and Wheelabrator in Millbury were compared in detail, as were the differences in disposing of bulky waste compared to Municipal Solid Waste (MSW). R. Benoit, DPW – noted the labor time/cost and

transportation cost to WiliWaste when compared to Wheelabrator. K. Beausoleil- recyclables are still good going to Auburn although the value of some of the commodities (glass and newspaper) is decreasing.

**Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Herbert to lock in a five-year contract with Wheelabrator in Millbury for MSW, as specified in the proposal, carried unanimously.**

VII. Melinda Smith, Superintendent of Schools

A. Evening Security: M. Smith was authorized by the BOE to approach the BOS about school security. After 3 PM, the school doors are no longer kept locked. A serious security threat exists as there are many activities in the afternoon and evening hours but no security personnel to monitor doors and those who enter/exit. Several possible solutions were discussed, including utilizing constables, finding private school security firms, a School Resource Officer, and utilizing a night watchman who would at least be on-premises and could dial 911 if something seemed amiss. Private firms train their staff in interacting with youth. Coverage is needed from 3-9PM; several events could be taking place at one time. There are no funds in the BOE budget, and the School Safety team is seeking solutions, and turns to the BOS who are responsible for public safety. K. Beausoleil will speak with the risk assessment manager at HDC to see what solutions are available. M. Smith will get further information from nearby towns which use private firms or SROs. K. Austin – are there cameras and are they recording? M. Smith – yes. K. Beausoleil- gather the information and create a draft plan by October. We'll bring the situation to the BOF; let's work together to move ahead fairly quickly.

B. Athletic Track Restoration: The running track is in serious dis-repair. Estimates are \$828,000 to remove the eroded layers and re-build. Possible sources of funding were reviewed, including STEEP grants, USDA loans/bonding, and other possibilities. The sport is very popular and yet students can only utilize a small length of the track, for timing purposes. If members of the public use it for walking, it poses a safety concern. Information will be collected by M. Smith and K. Beausoleil in order to move ahead to find a solution.

**VIII. Motion S. Herbert seconded by A. St Onge to appoint Kim Austin the chair of the Fire Study Committee carried unanimously.** The paperwork will be completed and the notifications made.

IX. Sustainable CT – Resolution: K. Beausoleil reviewed Thompson becoming a participant in Sustainable Connecticut. K. Beausoleil is the elected individual who will supervise the process. A volunteer is willing to collect the data and prepare the paperwork. Town staff time will be minimal. The town is already doing many of the activities which generate points.

**Motion K. Beausoleil seconded by A. St Onge to support the Resolution as written for participation in the Sustainable Connecticut Municipal Certification Program by the Town of Thompson carried unanimously.**

X. Other business: none

XI. Citizens' Comments: Al Landry, 33 Randall Road – the legislature changed the description of the responsibilities of constables and now it is time to re-instate some of them. The Selectmen should approach NECCOG for support, then all the COGs (regional Councils of Government) in Connecticut. K. Beausoleil – in addition, through CCM (CT Council of Municipalities) there can be an effort to allow towns which share a border to also share a local police force, creating a regional impact.

XII. Tax Refunds:

Motion K. Beausoleil seconded by S. Herbert to approve tax refunds totaling \$1,007.57 carried unanimously.

Brule, Jason M.	\$13.71
DeLaura, Fran J. or Lawless Jeannette J.	\$10.63
JP Morgan Chase Bank NA	\$31.36
Nissan Infiniti LT	\$30.19
Ryan, Hugh M. and Judith A.	\$47.21
USB Leasing LT	\$311.14
Vault Financial	\$563.33

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

K. Beausoleil adjourned the meeting at 8:55 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.*