



# TOWN of THOMPSON

## Board of Selectmen

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2018 OCT -4 P 12:40

*Linda Paradise*

TOWN CLERK ASST

THOMPSON SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
Tuesday, October 2, 2018 7:00 p.m.  
Town Hall - Seney Room  
**MINUTES**

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### I. Attendance:

First Selectman Ken Beausoleil, Selectmen Amy St Onge and Steve Herbert.  
Steve Benoit (Director, Emergency Management); Rich Benoit (Director, DPW);  
John Sharpe, (Chief, Community Fire Company)  
Members of the public, WINY  
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

**Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Herbert to approve the minutes of September 18, 2018 carried unanimously with the following modifications: III. CORRESPONDENCE- ...discontinued the solar project *at this time*.... and V. SELECTMEN'S COMMENS, p. 2 .... A person has been retained for a 90-day period *to serve as interim Recreation Director*.**

### III. Correspondence

- A. **Motion K. Beausoleil seconded by S. Herbert to add an agenda item under XVI. OTHER BUSINESS: BUDGET TRANSFER REQUEST- FY 2018, as submitted by Finance Director Orla McKiernan-Raftery, carried unanimously.**
- B. DWSP Monthly Services Summary was received
- C. CT State Library Document Preservation Grant: the \$4,500 grant goes to the Town Clerk for the preservation of town records
- D. (Additional item): The NE CT Chamber of Commerce is hosting a CT 29<sup>th</sup> District Senatorial Debate on October 23 at QVCC; rsvp is requested

### IV. Selectmen's Comments:

- A. St Onge - We should be finding some sort of solution to the problem in Linda Jarmolowicz's neighborhood. K. Beausoleil - it is being examined
- S. Herbert - none
- K. Beausoleil

- the 10/16 BOS meeting is the last off-site of the year, at the Thompson Hill Fire Station
- the roof on the salt shed at the DPW has recently had emergency repairs for leaks
- there is no change in the status of the Municipal Employee Retirement litigation
- Trinity Sewer mediation is underway; the exit pits on the ramp are closed
- at the schools, review of the CME and DEEP findings is underway
- the town hall roof replacement project is 95% complete
- Saturday, October 6 is Community Day, noon - 4; awards will be presented at noon

- the newly revised website is projected to go live in November; migration of content from the current department pages will begin soon
- follow-up to the schools' security matter posed at the last meeting: 5 of the 6 constables expressed interest in getting more information; insurance is in place for any liability issue
- Denis Drive situation update- the town attorney looked at the Ordinances and Statutes; the town does have jurisdiction over the disruptions. The ZEO will be asked to handle enforcement
- referendum results were favorable for the oil tank replacement, as required by DEEP. The RFP for construction will ensue

V. Citizen's Comments: Al Landry, 33 Randall Road – advocates as usual that the BOS meetings away from the town hall be curtailed in 2019; attendance at the other sites is low. Those interested in attending a BOS meeting should consistently know where to go. Two other members of the public supported Mr. Landry's recommendation.

VI. 2019 BOS meeting schedule: K. Beausoleil distributed a draft of possible BOS 2019 meeting dates. The document will be reviewed by the Selectmen and decisions made in adequate time for submittal to the town. K. Beausoleil -We have heard the comments from the public on the meeting locations. A. St Onge – the one location which is of historical importance is the meeting at the old town hall, now the home of the Thompson Historical Society. The other off-premises locations could be dropped. S. Herbert – the date of November 5 appears to be Election Day for regional and state offices; probably it should be changed to Wednesday, 11/6. The meeting on July 2 may be less than ideal. K. Beausoleil – one way to handle July 2 is to keep the option but cancel if there is no pressing business. The modifications will be made in the Selectman's office and a new draft circulated to the BOS members for further review.

VII. Request for road closure (Bates Road) - Thompson Congregational Church: Fall Festival.  
**Motion A. St Onge seconded by S. Herbert to approve the request for the Bates Road closure on October 27 from 2-8 PM carried unanimously.**

VIII. Request from Girl Scouts to hold a Cookie Sale at the Transfer Station- ((11/03 & 11/10)  
**Motion S. Herbert seconded by A. St Onge to approve the request for the two Saturdays from 9 – 12 noon each day carried unanimously.**

IX. Conservation Easement Agreement/recommended by the P & Z Commission – The property is in the Shields subdivision/Fabyan Road. The Conservation Commission asks that the section of the parcel along the Quinebaug River (some identified wetlands and some within the flood zone) be placed in permanent protection by utilizing a Conservation Easement.  
**Motion K. Beausoleil seconded by S. Herbert to approve the Conservation Easement as presented carried unanimously.**

X. Connecticut Water Easement – the space behind the town hall is not currently readily accessible by the town or by CT Water. The town attorney has reviewed the proposed easements, which are equally, mutually beneficial. Both parties provide insurance.  
**Motion S. Herbert seconded by A. St Onge to implement mutual easements with CT Water or its successor on the parcel behind the town hall carried unanimously.**

XI. DPW Storage Container Request: R. Benoit – to prevent corrosion of town items situated down-slope from the salt storage area, our small-equipment storage need can be addressed with the acquisition of two used but tight Land/Sea containers which are available. Two vendors have provided quotes; this pair however offers a favorable price of both units for \$5,800, delivered, in part because of a municipal discount.

**Motion S. Herbert seconded by A. St Onge to forward to the BOF the request by the DPW Director for 2 Storage Containers as described, for up to \$6,000, carried unanimously.**

XII. Transfer Station: S. Herbert –the Republican Town Committee is requesting that campaign activities be allowed within the fence on the days/times the Transfer Station is open, between October 6 and November 6 of this year. Additionally, when a referendum is scheduled, the Transfer Station should be utilized as a place to inform the public.

**Motion S. Herbert to so provide access to the Transfer Station by political parties was seconded by A. St Onge.** Discussion: It has been confirmed that this activity is not prohibited by the state. Any group that requests use should therefore be permitted, as are the Scouts and other groups. The Transfer Station staff will be responsible for designating safe locations for participants, which cannot interfere with operations, and direct parking of their vehicles.

R. Benoit – require that anything brought in also be taken out, as staff cannot be responsible for determining what has value and should be retained.. K. Beausoleil – if this is put in place, it must be equally open to any political party. **Motion carried unanimously.**

XIII. Town Planner Update: A. St Onge –inquired about the status of advertising the position. K. Beausoleil – all the professional sites, statewide and the CCM are being used; postings close on October 12. A. St Onge – CME made an approach about providing planning services.

S. Herbert – on October 12, after reviewing the applications received, if it is needed it may be smart to look at an employment agency for professional positions such as this, and arrange a meeting with CME to hold a conversation about the planning services they could provide.

XIV. Town Manager Position: A. St Onge – if CME or a comparable company is selected to handle Planning, a person educated in Town Management might be a strong companion, to implement the ideas put forward to guide Thompson’s future. S. Herbert – let’s leave the topic on the agenda, for more consideration. K. Beausoleil – the town attorney advises this would be a hired position since Thompson is not a Chartered town. R. Benoit – with large subdivisions going in, a Town Manager could be the individual who oversees and directs growth.

XV. Community Fire Station Floor/Safety Concern: A. St Onge – the Fire Study brought out the concern for the structural safety of the Community Fire Station. She asks Chief Sharpe if a study has been done to determine the safety of fire station personnel as well as the public. Chief Sharpe- nine years ago, there was a water main break in the 1938 original fire station, causing significant repairs. Now some chunks of the repair (concrete) are falling into the lower level, where offices and other rooms house staff. UCONN Engineering, 2 years ago, came out and recommended a complete structural engineering study for about \$12 – \$15,000. Those funds have not since been found. Complete modernizing of the facility would be in the \$3.5 - \$5,000,000 range. The station has its own building committee which has identified needs (example: there are bathrooms for the over-night crew but not a bunkroom). They need meeting space, offices, and classrooms. The rolling stock, 4 major pieces of equipment, about 150,000 pounds, park directly above the spaces which are utilized by staff. A. St Onge – have you considered using the facility exclusively for the ambulances as this is not an extreme weight, along with the response vehicle. The heavy fire apparatus could be housed at the other stations. K. Beausoleil – for peace of mind, the engineering work should be done. The Community Fire Department is an independent entity, not part of the town. The Department will have to take the lead in any action. The town can provide some types of support. He will ask the Building Official to take a look and create a preliminary observation report.

XVI. Other Business: The Finance Director has presented a BUDGET TRANSFER REQUEST- FY 2018, for a total of \$190,888 which she will ask that the BOF transfer. **Motion S. Herbert seconded by A. St Onge to endorse the Budget Transfer for fiscal 2018, as presented by the Finance Director for presentation to the BOF, carried unanimously.**

XVII. Citizen's Comments: Linda Jarmolowicz – inquired if the equipment storage at the DPW could be handled inside the town garage, and instead the town utilizes \$6,000 toward the structural needs at the Community Station. S. Herbert – the station is an independent entity, not part of the town. A. St Onge - we are imploring the Chief to move ahead with this. K. Beausoleil – the stations get support from the town when a specific equipment request comes in, with the need documented; the town however cannot dictate action to the fire departments.

Al Landry, 33 Randall Road – the Easement option in a subdivision approval is sometime the best option, as the fee-in-lieu as provided by Statute, is a tiny figure, not off-setting the additional costs to a town when a family with school-aged children moves into a new subdivision.

XVIII. Tax Refunds:  
**Motion K. Beausoleil seconded by A. St Onge to approve tax refunds totaling \$1,951.18 carried unanimously.**

Ballard-Ross, Pamela	\$42.68	O'Brien, Belinda A.	\$62.24
Barrette, Lisa J. & William A.	\$33.85	Percoski, Debora A.	\$7.24
Barrette, William A. & Lisa J.	\$29.41	Standrowicz, Nancy L. & Paul G.	\$38.99
Casey, David E. and Dorothy A.	\$8.80	Towle, Wesley S.	\$289.16
Darcy, Michael B.	\$196.47	Towle, Wesley S.	\$429.01
Gaucher, Daniel H.	\$5.00	Towle, Wesley S.	\$33.63
Hamel, Peter E.	\$93.71	Towle, Wesley S. and Rebecca L.	\$71.40
Kelley, Christopher W.	\$48.62	Waldron, Renee L.	\$14.71
Koszewski, Kenneth P.	\$69.93	Warren, Donald G.	\$118.49
Morello, Kay F.	\$102.96	Warren, Donald G.	\$10.85
Nedzweckas, Todd	\$231.99	Zabka, Justin L.	\$12.04

XIII. **Motion S. Herbert seconded by A. St Onge to adjourn carried unanimously.**  
 K. Beausoleil adjourned the meeting at 8:29 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.*