



Town of South Thomaston, Maine
125 Spruce Head Road
P.O. Box 147
South Thomaston, ME 04858-0147

Tel: 207-596-6584
Fax: 207-596-7529
E-mail: sthomstn@midcoast.com
Website: south-thomaston.me.us

Selectboard:
Jan Gaudio
Walter Reitz
Cheryl Waterman

SELECTBOARD EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

Date: May 16, 2019 **Time:** 5:30 PM **Place:** Municipal Building

- I. At 5:30 PM Gaudio moved and Waterman seconded a motion to enter into executive session pursuant to MRSA Title 1, Chapter 13, Subchapter 1, Subsection 405 (6)(A)(1)**
- II. At 6:00 PM Gaudio moved and Waterman seconded a motion to enter into executive session pursuant to MRSA Title 1, Chapter 13, Subchapter 1, Subsection 405 (6)(E)**
- III. Upon exiting executive session, Gaudio moved and Waterman seconded a motion to contact Town counsel and direct them to work with Atwood's Lobster legal counsel on resolving ongoing issues through a consent agreement, or other appropriate binding agreements.**
Motion passed 3-0

SELECTBOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date: May 16, 2019 **Time:** 6:30 PM **Place:** Municipal Building **Rev.0**

Present: Selectboard Members: Jan Gaudio, Walter Reitz and Cheryl Waterman
Others: Town Administrator Owen Casas, Sandy and Cliff Retzlaff, Ambulance Director Drinkwater and David Elwell, Ryan and Camille Minikis, Rebecca Taylor and Gabriel Tomasulo, Moira Paddock, Wes Pratt, John Spear, Kate Greene and Vivian Newman.

Note: A listing as present does not denote attendance for the entire meeting.

I. Call to Order

Reitz called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

II. Adjustments to the Agenda

- Chair Reitz proposed allowing the Animal Control Officer to present recent developments related to the ongoing issues with animals trespassing at 42 Buttermilk Ln. There were no objections and ACO Demmons presented gamecam photos taken at 42 Buttermilk Ln clearly showing animal trespass. He also informed the board that a summons has been issued for the offending party, located at 50 Buttermilk Ln, to appear in court on June 10, 2019. No action was taken and the Board appreciated the update.

III. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

No public comment was offered

IV. New Business

A. Discussion with AMB Director Drinkwater on approval of reserve fund expenditures for “power stretcher” and ambulance bay floor sealing.

Prior to the discussion about expenditures, Director Drinkwater gave her monthly update which included notifying the Board that there will be an EMS appreciation gathering at the Community Room on May 22nd, 5:00PM. Director Drinkwater then explained the usefulness and cost (refurbished stretchers can be found for \$8-10k) of the power stretcher. There was also discussion about sealing of the ambulance bay floor. It was determined that the expenditure of these funds are not necessarily within the purview of the Board because of how Mr. Hopkins Will was written. It was also determined that the power stretcher expense fell well within the intent of the Will funds, but the floor sealing was not. Although not necessary, the Board took the item up for a vote to support the expense.

***Gaudio moved and Waterman seconded a motion to approve the Ambulance expense for “power stretcher”, not to exceed \$10,000.
Motion passed 3-0***

B. Discussion about and action on potential appointees:

- Cliff Retzlaff discussed with the Board his experience and desire to be appointed to the Budget Committee. Gaudio moved and Waterman seconded a motion to appoint Cliff Retzlaff to the Budget Committee for a three-year term ending 4/2022.

Motion passed 3-0

- Ryan Minikis discussed with the Board his experience and desire to be appointed to both the Planning Board and Budget Committee. Gaudio moved and Waterman seconded a motion to appoint Ryan Minikis as member of the Budget Committee and alternate member to Planning Board both for three-year terms ending 4/2022.

Motion passed 3-0

- Gabriel Tomasulo and Rebecca Taylor discussed with the Board their different experiences and why Gabriel would be a good member for the Planning Board. Gaudio moved and Waterman seconded a motion to appoint Gabriel Tomasulo to the Planning Board for a three-year term ending 4/2022.

Motion passed 3-0

- Chair Reitz discussed, with Rebecca Taylor and the group in general, the need for a School Board vacancy replacement. Rebecca was encouraged to contact the prior School Board member and explore potentially filling the vacancy.
- Gaudio moved and Waterman seconded a motion to appoint Rebecca Taylor as alternate member to the Owls Head, South Thomaston and Thomaston Solid Waste Board.

Motion passed 3-0

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- Understanding that the newly appointed Budget Committee members would exceed the number allowed under the Budget Committee Policy, Waterman moved and Gaudio seconded a motion to increase the number of allowed Budget Committee members, not to exceed eight. ****Formal amending of the Budget Committee Policy to reflect increased membership was scheduled for next meeting****

Motion passed 3-0

C. Discussion with Library Director Alley on necessary improvements to Library Building

The Board discussed a range of Library related topics with Library Director Alley. This included discussing the stipulations and funding in the Hopkins Will (specific to the Library), what repairs to the “Little Red School House” would be needed and what process would be followed to accomplish the needed repairs. Areas of improvement included but are not limited to the “dog house” roof, painting, exterior shingles and exterior window and door trim. The Board directed the Administrator to work with Director Alley to assess the needed improvements and present related RFP results to the Board.

No official action taken

D. Update from Gilford Butler Committee

Gilford Butler Futures Committee Chair Spear gave update to the Board on Committee activity. This included a recap of monthly activities and a summary of the survey results. Chair Spear also related votes taken by the Committee, where they recommended that the GBS site be used as a space for a community center, library and playground. He also informed the Board that the Committee is planning to host, at Gilford Butler School, a community meeting on July 7th to display to the public the work and recommendations of the Committee. This community meeting is in addition to the regular public meeting the Committee holds.

No official action was taken

E. Appointment of School Board member for RSU 13/ or designee to sit on Scholarship Committee

The Board discussed that they do not yet have a suitable candidate to fill the School Board vacancy. Although the vacancy does not hinder the School Boards ability to function, it does leave South Thomaston underrepresented. The pressing issue is the need for a South Thomaston representative to sit on the Scholarship Committee, which would typically be the South Thomaston School Board member. To ensure the scholarship committee had the necessary members, the Board empowered Cheryl Waterman to sit on the committee in lieu of a S. Thomaston School Board member. ***There were no objections.***

F. Review and signing of RSU 13’s June 11th “Ballot Validation Referendum”

The RSU 13 warrant was read and signed by Select Board members.
Signatures given in official capacity

G. Board discussion on RSU 13 budget

The Board discussed the increases to the RSU's budget and how this might affect the taxpayers of the Town. Considering the impact of the schools budget to the assessment/ mil rate, it was a robust conversation.
No official action taken.

H. Approval and acceptance of donation from Sandra Williams for Village Cemetery

***Waterman moved and Gaudio seconded a motion to accept, with gratitude, a donation of \$ for the care of Village Cemetery.
Motion passed 3-0***

I. Other Business

Administrator Casas informed the Board that the Town Office well casing was not sufficiently above ground level and that some concerns about contaminating the water supply were raised. The water had been tested and all measurements came back in acceptable ranges for human consumption. Admin Casas related that he was working with Haskell Well company on adding a new section onto the existing casing to mitigate the concern.
No official action taken.

J. Old Business- There was no old business

V. Review Correspondence

**A. Gilford Butler meeting minutes were reviewed
No action was taken.**

B. Information about water quality monitoring in close proximity to and along Weskeag River
Wes Pratt was on hand to explain the correspondence given to the Board about water quality testing along Weskeag River. There was a good discussion about their work and how a relationship between the testing group and the Town might be structured. Creating a Conservation Commission or Water Quality Committee under the Town were considered as options to be explored further in the future.
No action was taken.

VI. Reports and Administration

A. Ambulance – April Report
The Board reviewed Ambulance

B. Assessor's Agent – April Report

There was no Assessor's report.

C. Code Enforcement Officer – April Report

The Board reviewed the CEO's report.

D. EMA- April Report

The Board reviewed the EMA Report.

E. Fire Department – April Report

The Board reviewed the Fire Department report.

F. Licensed Plumbing Inspector – April Report

The Board reviewed the LPI report.

G. Treasurer – April Report

The Board reviewed the Treasurer's report.

H. Town Administrator's April Report

There was no Town Administrators Report.

I. Authorize Treasurer's Warrants

The Board Authorized the Treasurer's Warrants.

J. Review Check Reconciliations for April 2018

The Board reviewed the March Check Reconciliations.

K. Approve Minutes of April 11, 2019

Meeting minutes were amended to strike the clever remarks of the Administrator under his Treasurers and Administrators Reports.

Gaudio moved and Waterman seconded to approve the April 11th meeting minutes as amended.

Motion passed 3-0.

L. Schedule Future Meeting(s)

The Board set their next regularly scheduled meeting for June 13 and July 9.

Adjournment

Gaudio moved and Waterman seconded a motion to adjourn at 10:05 pm.

Motion passed 3-0.