



Town of South Thomaston, Maine
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Selectboard:
Jan Gaudio
Walter Reitz
Cheryl Waterman

SELECTBOARD MINUTES

Date: October 16, 2018 Time: 6:00 PM Place: Municipal Building Rev. 0

Present: Selectboard Members: Jan Gaudio, Walter Reitz and Cheryl Waterman
Others: Town Administrator Terri Baines, Sally Merchant, Donald Merchant, Skip Connell, Jake Miller, Tony McKim, Pennie Alley, Ann Smith, Karen Rizzo, Jeff Northgraves, Brittany Willis, Rick Whitten, Ruth Rinklin, Alan Hall, Moira Paddock, John Hansen, Leslie Spear, Irving Curtis, Christine Curtis, Rich Norman, Sue Winters, Rolf Winters, Paul Duda, Ambulance Director Amy Dyer, Hannah Flachbart, Catherine Bendheim, Rhonda Nordstrom, Bob Nordstrom, Elsa McGary, Gregory Jones, Emmy Van Stolk, Elam Lantz.

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

I. Call to Order Public Hearing

Reitz called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

II. Public Hearing

A. Accept a quit claim deed from RSU #13 for the Gilford Butler Property

Reitz read from the letter written to the town residents from the Selectboard and posted on the web.

Implications of a vote to accept the property:

If the Town accepts the RSU 13 offer, it has control over any future disposal, sale, reuse and/or renovation of the building. A vote to accept does not entail confirmation or acceptance of any of the many possible options for the future use or sale of the property. Such will be decided by the Town in the future.

Implications of a vote to reject the offer:

If the Town rejects the RSU13 offer, then RSU13 will sell the property. The proceeds of such a sale will belong to South Thomaston. However, those proceeds may only be used to apply to the Town's Educational Assessment from RSU13. In addition, the Town will have no say in who the next owner will be. That will be a transaction between RSU13 and any possible buyer.

Questions included If RSU #13 sold the property would the proceeds split between all towns of RSU #13 or would the money come to South Thomaston only. One resident

felt the public hearing was not advertised enough and felt with such an important decision facing the Town more people should be notified. There was a brief discussion on budgeting paying for utilities etc. Reitz clarified the Special Town Meeting on October 30th was not to decide what to do with Gilford Butler only to decide to accept or not accept the property. Consensus seems to be the Town should accept the property.

B. Adoption of 2018-2019 General Assistance Ordinance Appendices A – D

Waterman briefly explained the GA Maximums are set by the State every year and adopted by the Selectboard.

III. Adjourn Public Hearing

Reitz adjourned the Public Hearing at 6:22 pm.

Waterman moved and Gaudio seconded a motion to amend Appendices A-D to the General Assistance Ordinance in accordance with the amounts depicted on the 2018-2019 GA Maximums schedule as prepared by the Maine Municipal Association in September 2018. Appendices will be effective October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2019.

Motion passed 3-0.

Gaudio moved and Waterman seconded a motion to recommend the Town accept a quit claim deed from RSU #13 for the Gilford Butler property.

Motion passed 3-0.

IV. Call to Order Selectboard Meeting

Reitz called the Selectboard meeting to order at 6:23 pm.

V. Adjustments to the Agenda

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

VI. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

There was no public comment.

VII. Business Items

A. Ambulance Director Amy Drinkwater

Dyer recommended a new hire, Hannah Flachbart. Hannah is an EMT student and will be a driver.

Gaudio moved and Waterman seconded a motion to accept Dyer's recommendation of Hannah Flachbart as a new hire.

Motion passed 3-0.

Dyer reviewed her report with the Board.

Waterman reminded the Board and Dyer the Town will need a new contract for the Ambulance Service starting January 1, 2019.

B. EMA Director Betty Thomas

The Board approved the Thank-you letter written by Thomas.

C. Atwoods/Sea Maz Odor Complaint

Ms. Willis read a statement concerning odor complaint. Her statement is attached to the minutes.

Reitz explained the letter he sent was directed at the stench at Atwood's, not the noise.

Reitz took comments from residents of Spruce Head Island. There was a discussion on the difference between well kept bait and bait that has gone bad and soured. It is believed that soured bait caused the stench this summer. Some residents did not feel the soured bait was caused by just the heat. The smell was also detected in September when it was cold and rainy. Willis stated the bait is kept in refrigerators or freezers.

There was also a brief discussion on buildings behind Atwood's that can be seen from Rockledge. Water has been seen being discharged from one of the buildings.

D. Bank Proposals

McGary spoke to the Board first. The Town currently does business with Machias Savings. McGary recently changed interest rates the Town received to 1.5% to match the rate the First was offering. She spoke of Machias' superior service and the good relationship that Machias currently has with the Town of South Thomaston.

McKim, for the FIRST then spoke. The FIRST would like to have the town business. Currently they deal with over 100 municipalities.

Jake Miller said the FIRST is prepared to offer an interest rate of 1.65% with a three year commitment.

Gaudio moved and Waterman seconded a motion we take no action on our banking options.

Passed 3-0.

E. Update on Butler School Futures Committee

Pennie Alley discussed having a bulk mailing to get information out to the residents. Budgeting money to cover the costs of owning Gilford Butler in our 2019 budget was discussed.

Alley felt this was an important decision and should be voted on at the annual town meeting and not at a special town meeting.

Waterman suggested draining the water and not heating the building through the winter.

The next Gilford Butler School Futures Committee meeting is on the 23rd of October.

F. Abatements/Supplemental

Gaudio moved Waterman seconded a motion to approve the Assessors' Agent's recommendation of an abatement in the amount of \$1,048.88 to Carol Roberts 57 Spruce Head Road, Map 14 Lot 33-001.

Motion passed 3-0.

Gaudio moved Waterman seconded a motion to approve the Assessors' Agent's recommendation of an abatement in the amount of \$737.31 to Richard Rackliff, 10 Foster Beach Road, and Map 5 Lot 30-003.

Motion passed 3-0

Gaudio moved and Waterman seconded a motion to approve the Assessors' Agent's recommendation of an abatement in the amount of \$10.79 to Downeast Aeromarine, Account #48.

Motion passed 3-0.

Supplemental

David Water's house has been there for 10 years but never been assessed. Waterman would like to go back and also assess taxes for 2017. Gaudio suggested going back for two years.

Gaudio moved and Waterman seconded a motion to approve an amended supplemental tax bill for the periods of 2016, 2017 and 2018 in the amount of \$2876.81 to David Waters 789 Spruce Head Road, 117 Waterman Beach Road, M10 Lot 031.

Motion passed 3-0.

Gaudio moved and Waterman seconded motion to approve the Assessors' Agent's recommendation of a supplemental tax in the amount of \$ 3,135.91 to Bret Shepard, 56 Westbrook Street, M 014 L 020-040-1

Motion passed 3-0.

G. Addressing Officer Letter

Tabled. Gaudio will edit.

H. Appoint Health Officer

Discussion of appointments and Butler's summary of services

Waterman moved and Gaudio seconded a motion to appoint William Butler as Local Health Officer.

Motion passed 3-0.

I. Sign 2018 Municipal Valuation Return

The board signed the 2018 Municipal Valuation Return.

J. Other Business

Waterman moved and Gaudio seconded a motion to hold the Annual Town Meeting at the Ash Point Community School.

After a brief discussion the Motion passed 3-0.

K. Old Business

There was no old business discussed.

VIII. Review Correspondence

A. Steven Atkinson

No Action taken.

B. State of Maine – Proposed 2019 State Valuation

No Action taken

C. Dave Miramant

No Action taken.

D. MRC

These funds should be set aside in a fund along with the put option money to be carried over into next year. The funds will be used when the transfer station is updated.

IX. Reports and Administration

A. Ambulance –September Report

Dyer reviewed her report with the board earlier in the meeting.

B. Assessor's Agent – September Report

The Board reviewed the Assessor's September report.

C. Code Enforcement Officer – No September Report

D. EMA- September Report

The Board reviewed the EMA's September Report.

E. Fire Department – September Report

The Board reviewed the Fire Department's September Report.

F. Licensed Plumbing Inspector – August and September Reports

The Board reviewed the Licensed Plumbing Inspector's August and September Reports.

G. Treasurer – September Report

The Board reviewed the Treasurer's September Report.

H. Town Administrator's September Report

The Board reviewed the Town Administrator's September Report.

I. Authorize Treasurer's Warrants

The Board authorized the Treasurer's Warrants.

J. Review Check Reconciliations for September 2018

The Board reviewed the Check Reconciliations for September 2018.

K. Approve Minutes of September 26, 2018.

Waterman moved and Gaudio seconded a motion to approve the minutes of September 26, 2018.

Motion passed 3-0.

L. Schedule Future Meeting(s)

Meeting with the Budget Committee November 16th at 6:00 pm.

Selectboard Meetings: November 13th, December 11th, January 8th.

Department head meetings to be determined.

Meetings with the Budget Committee January 28, 29, 30, 31st at 6:00 pm.

Adjournment

Waterman moved and Gaudio seconded a motion to adjourn at 8:55 pm.

Motion passed 3-0.

Selectboard Approved 11/13/18