



**Town of South Thomaston, Maine**  
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**Selectboard:**  
Jeff Northgraves  
Walter Reitz  
John Spear

Selectboard Minutes  
Date: July 15, 2021, 8:00 AM  
Place: Municipal Building

REV:0

**Selectboard Present:** Jeff Northgraves, John Spear, Walter Reitz

**Others Present:** Terri-Lynn Baines, Pennie Alley, Town Attorney Kristin Collins, John Hansen, Cliff Dacso, Anne Just, Theo Pratt, Sondra Wallace, Matt Seigel, Catherine Bendheim, Maureen Spencer, Lynn Canavan, Erv Curtis

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

**I. Call to Order**

Spear called the meeting to order at 8:00 am

**II. Adjustments to Agenda**

Spear had one adjustment to the agenda. After appointments add, Personnel matter executive session.

**III. Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda**

There was no public comment

**IV. Discussion with Town Attorney Re; Midcoast Internet Development Corporation**

Spear gave a little background information on the primary purpose of the meeting.

Matt Siegel is present at the meeting as a representative from the Midcoast Internet Development Corporation.

Town Attorney Collins reviewed a couple of her concerns. One concern is the Executive Committee. Collins feels the committee should be a representation of the towns that make up the Midcoast Internet Development Corporation. A concern about the bylaws is, she feels missing from the bylaws are contribution and revenue formulas.

There was a discussion on how the Midcoast Internet Development Corporation might dovetail with the new State organization charged with basically doing the same thing.

The Board briefly discussed the use of ARPA funds.

Siegel explained the original plan of the Midcoast Internet Development Corporation was to start with the unserved and underserved. Then Otelco announced they had raised venture capital and plan on coming into the area. The Midcoast Internet Development Corporation has pivoted to now building up internet service in Rockport, Camden and Thomaston first. Siegel gave a report on the business model of the Midcoast Internet Development Corporation.

Collins walked through comments she made on the Interlocal Agreement. There was a discussion on revenue bonds, seed money and original commitment of money.

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There was a discussion on by laws compared to the Interlocal agreement and a few of the conflicts.

The role of the Treasurer was discussed. Followed by a discussion on the Board of Directors.

There was a discussion on which Towns have joined or intend to join.

There was a discussion on withdrawal and termination and how revenue would get distributed.

Town Attorney Collins will join the Board in an executive session at 5:00 pm on July 20<sup>th</sup>.

*Northgraves moved and Spear seconded a motion to appoint Reitz as representative to replace Jan Gaudio on the Local Internet Corporation.*

***Motion passed 2-0.***

**V. Discussion with John Hansen re: Fire Marshal Permit for Temporary Relocation of Library to Gilford Butler School**

Hansen is willing to facilitate initial contact with the Fire Marshall for the change of use permit.

Hansen explained the process to obtain a letter or permit to use the school typically involves the Fire Marshall going through the building and “bending” some of the rules on a case to case basis.

The way to move ahead is to submit an application online for the change of use, showing drawings and existing conditions and stating the Town wants to change the use of the building to a municipal library. Once this is done it would get us in line to move forward. Any work would have to be approved by the Fire Marshall. Meetings with the Fire Marshal would be held via Zoom. It could be weeks or months before we have a response.

There was a discussion on ADA compliant bathrooms and also a discussion on issues of egress with using the bottom level. This led to a discussion on the permit process and whether to include the bottom floor in the permit request.

Hansen will fill out the application and include the drawings and report from several years ago. He thought it would take him between one and two weeks to put the application together.

John Hansen submitted his resignation from the Appeals Board as an alternate.

**VI. Discussion Regarding Planning Board Administration**

There was a discussion on the Planning Board bylaws and notice to abutters or interested parties when applications are filed and what level of project would trigger a notice or a public hearing.

There was a discussion regarding consistency on hearings and public hearings.

There was further discussion on notifying abutters, when and who does it and what triggers notifying the abutters.

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There was also a discussion on using the word hearing/Public Hearing in the bylaws and the differences in a hearing or public hearing.

**VII. Approve Conservation Commission Membership in Maine Association of Conservation Commissions**

The Board received a request from Theo Pratt for \$100 for the town to become a member of the Maine Association of Conservation Commissions.

*Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion to approve the \$100 for the Town to become a member of the Maine Association of Conservation Commissions.*

There was a brief discussion on where to charge the membership.

**Motion passed 3-0.**

**VIII. Appointments**

*Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to appoint Amy Drinkwater as Ambulance Director until after town meeting in 2022 for term of one year.*

**Motion Passed 3-0**

*Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to appoint Terry Brackett as Alternate CEO until after town meeting in 2022 for term of one year.*

**Motion Passed 3-0**

*Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to appoint Terry Brackett as Alternate LPI until after town meeting in 2022 for term of one year.*

**Motion Passed 3-0**

*Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to appoint Corey Fortin as CEO until after town meeting in 2022 for term of one year.*

**Motion Passed 3-0**

*Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to appoint Corey Fortin as LPI until after town meeting in 2022 for term of one year.*

**Motion Passed 3-0**

*Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to appoint Teisha Hufnagel as an Election Clerk until April 31, 2022.*

**Motion Passed 3-0**

*Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to appoint Eileen Skarka as an Appeals Board Member until after town meeting in 2024 for term of three years.*

**Motion Passed 3-0**

**IX. *Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion to enter Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(E)***

**Motion passed 3-0.**

Board entered executive session at 9:58

Board exited executive session at 10:05

*Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion to hire Chet Grierson as a maintenance technician at a rate of \$25 an hour.*

**Motion passed 3-0.**

**X. Adjourn**

*Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion to adjourn at 10:06.*

**Motion passed 3-0.**

**Selectboard Approved 8/24/2021**