



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

Selectboard Minutes  
Date: August 10, 2021, 6:00 PM  
Place: Municipal Building

REV:0

**Selectboard Present:** Jeff Northgraves, Walter Reitz, John Spear  
**Others Present:** Terri-Lynn Baines, Pennie Alley, Clifford Dacso, Anne Just, Sandy Weisman, Marc Long, Denise Rzeznitciewicz, Catherine Bendheim, David Elwell, Chief Calderwood.

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

**I. Call to Order**

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

**II. Adjustments to Agenda**

Tennis update/ Accept a tennis court donation.

Maine Municipal Association Election for the Executive Committee Members, added under New Business.

Accept Lane Sturtevant's resignation from the RSU #13 Board.

Discussion on draft letter from Town Attorney Collins to MDIC.

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

There was no public comment.

**IV. Review and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes**

Spear asked to table the July 15 minutes.

*Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion to table the minutes of July 15.*

**Motion passed 3-0.**

*Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion to accept the minutes of July 20<sup>th</sup> and July 28<sup>th</sup>.*

**Motion passed 3-0.**

**V. Department Heads**

**July Reports**

Spear commented on the thoroughness of the CEO/LPI's report and asked Baines to pass that on to him.

**VI. Old Business**

**a. Technology Committee Mission Statement - Request of Cliff Dacso**

Spear read the charge. "The Ad Hoc Technology Committee is charged with discovering and evaluating communications and other technologies that could be of benefit to the Town and reporting these to the Select Board in a timely fashion."

*Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to accept the charge.*

**Motion passes 3-0.**

**b. Draft Letter from Town Attorney Collins to MIDC**

The board discussed the draft letter to MIDC commenting on MIDC bylaws received from Attorney Collins for the Board's review and comments.

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The Board had a few changes and Anne Just from the technology committee suggested a couple of changes.

**c. Midcoast Internet Development Corporation Axiom Study**

*Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to join the Axiom Feasibility Study and in accordance with the town meeting vote use ARPA funds to fund the study.*

**Motion passed 3-0.**

**d. Update on Fire Truck and Boat – Fire Dept. Chief Calderwood**

The boat is back in service.

The Fire truck is back from Cushing Diesel. It will go back in service tomorrow. The mechanics at Cushing Diesel found parts across the State of Maine to get it back in service.

The Chief said although the truck is back in service, it still needs to be replaced.

The Truck Committee is moving forward with discussions and research for a new truck. The Chief feels an engine and the utility truck both need to be replaced.

There was a discussion on the town going from three engines and a utility truck to two engines and a utility truck.

Spear recognized the Chief for writing and receiving the \$58,000 grant for the exhaust system.

The Board needs to accept the grant and appoint someone to administer the grant.

*Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion to accept the grant from FEMA and the Fire Chief and Town Administrator be authorized to execute necessary documents.*

**Motion passed 3-0.**

**e. Library/Community Center Facilities Committee**

Spear read the Nominations/Volunteer Solicitations draft letter for the Library Community Center Facility Committee provided by Northgraves.

The Board changed the date to appoint the committee to September 28<sup>th</sup> and to accept applications until September 16<sup>th</sup>.

Other suggested changes:

Add this will be a long-term commitment.

Add wording from Article 10 from the Town meeting warrant.

There was a discussion on the number of members on the committee and the chair being the chair for both sub-committees.

The public had questions about the vetting process.

*Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to approve the solicitation letter with the amendments.*

**Motion passed 3-0.**

**f. Approve Revised Budget Committee Policy**

The Budget Committee Policy was amended to 7 members instead of the current 9 members.

*Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to approve the Budget Committee Policy.*

**Motion passed 3-0.**

**g. Personnel Policy, Update Holidays**

The state holiday of Juneteenth was added to the Town of South Thomaston Personnel Policy.

*Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to accept the changes to the Personnel Policy.*

**Motion passed 3-0.**

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**h. Skateboard Park Maintenance**

Reitz researched the improvements Camden made to their skateboard park. Reitz has arranged for Wyatt McConnell to come look at the Town's skatepark and give an evaluation of the repairs needed.

**i. Local Option Vote for the Sale of Beer, Wine, and Spirits on Sundays**

*Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to ask Baines to draft a local option vote warrant for the November election.*

**VII. New Business**

**a. Update EMS Regionalization - Ambulance Service Director Drinkwater**

There has not been a meeting yet. Drinkwater will let us know as soon as a meeting is set up.

**b. Road Shoulder Improvements and Sidewalks - Request of Beverly St. Clair**

St. Clair asked to be on the agenda to discuss the shoulders on Dublin Road.

There was a discussion on prioritization of roads to fix, trimming trees on roads and sidewalks.

**c. American Rescue Plan Knox County Grant/Discussion re: Use of Local ARP Funds**

**Knox County Grant:**

**Possible uses of Local Funds and Knox County Grant:**

Knox Clinic. Cliff Dacso provided the Board with a brief overview of the Clinic.

Covid Incentive

Non-Profit Organizations

Revenue Loss

Premium Pay for employees

Health Improvements/Dental

Ventilation system for municipal building

Short term needs for shut-ins

Broadband

Island Road Project-Negative economic impact

Daycares

Reward citizens that worked at low paying jobs through the pandemic.

Leverage to assist with ambulance regionalization that is being discussed.

Discussion on Knox County ARPA Funds/Grant.

*Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to apply to the County for \$35,000 to make up for economic loss due to covid for the shortfall for the Island Road project.*

**Motion passed 3-0.**

**d. Pleasant Beach Road Right of Way Intrusion from Jasko Property**

Rocks have been placed in the right of way. The rocks will be in the way of the snowplow and need to be removed. Septic fill extensions intrude into the right of way. In the subsurface wastewater design the engineer recommended an easement. Pins from the land survey have been removed.

Spear will draft a letter to the owner as assistant Road Commissioner to ask the rocks to be removed.

An easement needs to be granted for the septic fill intrusion into the right of way. To grant the easement, the Town would need to vote to grant it at a town meeting.

**e. Gilford Butler CMP Account Changeover from RSU 13**

*Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion to indefinitely postpone.*

**f. Tax Due Dates**

2021 Real Estate taxes due dates are October 1, 2021, and April 1, 2022. Both of

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these dates are a Friday, and the Town Office is closed.

There was a discussion on options.

The Town Office will not be open on October 1<sup>st</sup> or April 1<sup>st</sup>. Payments postmarked October 1, 2021, or April 1, 2022, will be considered paid on the postmark date.

**g. Audio in Community Room**

Baines will get an update on when to expect estimates from Gusco Consulting and Geoff Parker.

In the meantime, Spear will get a cable/cord to hook the laptop into the TV.

**h. Tennis court update**

John and Leslie Spear filled the crack in one tennis court. Spear will put the net up tomorrow and the court will be open.

*Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to accept a \$100 donation for the courts from Rachael Snow.*

**Motion passed 3-0**

There was a discussion on the storage shed, chain basketball nets and the tennis nets.

Alley volunteered to purchase basketball nets and have them put up.

**I. MMA election**

*Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion to vote for the slate of nominees.*

**Motion passes 3-0.**

*Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion to authorize the Chair to sign the ballot.*

**Motion passed 3-0.**

**VIII. Correspondence**

The Board read the thank you card from Laine Hooper expressing her gratitude and honor for being selected as a recipient of the Arlene and Randall Hopkins Scholarship.

The Board Reviewed the letter concerning the workers comp dividend from Risk Management.

The Board received an email from Lane Sturtevant resigning from the RSU#13 school board as the South Thomaston representative.

**IX. Warrants Review and Approval**

The Board reviewed and approved the warrants.

**X. Schedule Future Meetings**

Meetings were scheduled for October 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.

A public hearing for GA appendices and the local option vote referendum question was scheduled for Sept 28<sup>th</sup>.

**XI. Adjourn**

*Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to adjourn at 8:00 pm.*

**Motion passed 3-0.**

**Selectboard Approved August 24, 2021**