



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

Selectboard Minutes
Date: August 24, 2021, 5:30 PM
Place: Municipal Building

REV:1

Selectboard Present: Jeff Northgraves, Walter Reitz, John Spear
Others Present: Terri-Lynn Baines, Dorothy Meriwether, Betty Thomas, Pennie Alley, Catherine Bendheim, Cliff Dacso, Theo Pratt, Brad Choyt, Sondra Wallace

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

- I. **Call to Order**
Spear Called the meeting to order at 5:48.
- II. **Discussion of Personnel Matter (Executive Session)**
Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion to table.
Motion passed 3-0.
- III. **Adjustments to Agenda**
Paul Stilphen, MDOT- Use of Grierson Road as Detour
Committee Access to MMA
Andrew Stancioff resignation from Conservation Commission
Porta-Potti/Trash receptacle at the Town Landing
Response to letter sent to Jasko concerning Pleasant Beach
Knox County APRA funds r
Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda
There was no public comment.
- IV. **Review and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes**
Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion to approve the minutes of July 15, 2021 and August 4th and 10, 2021.
Motion passed 3-0.
- V. **Department Heads**
There was no business under Department Heads.
- VI. **Old Business**
 - a. **Jasko letter**
Jackson Feener will remove rocks that were placed in the right of way. Once the survey pins are reset this will be revisited.
 - b. **Paul Stilphen,Foreman MDOT - Grierson Road Detour**
Stilphen requested to use Grierson Road as a detour for 3 days (September 13th to the 16th). Route 73 will be closed at Dennison Road to replace culverts. Route 73 will hopefully be open at night.
Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion to allow MDOT to use Grierson Road as a detour.
Motion passed 3-0.

c. Porta potty/Trash at Town Landing

Cleanwoods, the company that supplies the town's porta potties, called and reported people have been using the porta potties as trash receptacles instead of using one of the two trash receptacles that are at the Town Landing. Cleanwoods requested the Town put a trash receptacle next to the porta potty. They removed the trash this time, but if they have to do it again, there will be a \$25 charge. The Board discussed options. Baines will post a notice on the website and list serve. Northgraves will put up a sign at the landing.

d. Update EMS Regionalization - Ambulance Service Director Drinkwater

Drinkwater reported no meeting has been set up, hopefully in the next month or so. Reitz asked for clarification that the scope of this would include fire, ambulance and EMS. Drinkwater replied it would.

There was a discussion on towns applying for County ARP funds to facilitate regionalization. Reitz suggested a sit down with selectboards from Thomaston, St. George, Owls Head and Thomaston.

e. ARP Grant from the County-

Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to authorize Drinkwater to apply for a Lucas CPR Device from the ARP Grant from Knox County.

Motion passed 3-0.

Premium pay for ambulance workers.

There was a discussion on including all Town Employees in the premium pay application during the period of time 3/15/2020 to 6/30/2021.

Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to authorize Baines/Drinkwater to apply for premium pay for all town employees.

Motion passed 3-0.

f. Update on Health care workers vaccine mandate

Drinkwater attended an 8 hour meeting yesterday on this topic. All health care providers are mandated to be vaccinated by October 1st. All EMS workers in South Thomaston have been vaccinated.

g. Discuss Temporary Relocation of Library to Gilford Butler School Update – Jeff Northgraves

John Hansen, Northgraves and Pennie Alley met with the State Fire Marshal via zoom.

The objective of the meeting was to find what modifications would need to be done to Gilford Butler School to allow the library to move in temporarily.

ADA compliant ramp on front door. If funds were available a side ramp would be nice. 1 bathroom needs to be wheelchair accessible.

Hansen is preparing a permit with drawings. Alley will make floor plans showing where furniture will go.

There was a discussion on the sprinkler alarm system and if the Town needs to apply for a permit from the Town CEO. Northgraves will submit permit application to CEO.

There was a discussion on what the Town would do with the little red school house. Betty Thomas noted that it is still the emergency warming shelter.

Northgraves will contact the Historical Society to initiate discussion regarding their interest in the building.

The Fire Marshall office has indicated that the basement in Gilford Butler can be used for storage and maintenance but can't be opened to the public.

h. Execute Town Meeting Warrant (Referendum) for Local Option Vote for the Sale of Beer, Wine, and Spirits on Sundays

Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to execute the Warrant.

Motion passed 3-0.

i. Discuss Skate Board Park Maintenance – Walter Reitz

Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion to table.

Motion passed 3-0.

j. Discuss Audio in Community Room

Geoff Parker is behind in putting together estimates, but still has the community room on his list.

k. Discuss Use of Local ARP Funds

The Knox Clinic requested some South Thomaston ARP Funds. Dacso spoke on behalf of the Knox Clinic. The Clinic is requesting \$5000.

There was a discussion on how the ARP funds will be awarded.

Suggested uses included:

Daycares

Hours for premium pay

Ventilation system

Broadband.

EMS regionalization

Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion the Board authorize

Northgraves to send a letter to the county supporting the use of ARP funds for Fire and EMS regionalization.

Motion passed 3-0.

VII. New Business

a. Consideration of Adopting MRSA Title 30-A Sec. 2528 - Municipal Referenda

Election of municipal officials by referendum vote. Referendum questions can be added at the poll. A special town meeting would need to be held 90 days before the annual town meeting in order to make the change.

The Board discussed when to hold a special town meeting. After a discussion it was decided to wait until the 2022 annual town meeting to vote on this.

Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion to include on next year's annual town meeting warrant.

Motion passed 3-0.

b. Consideration of Appointment to RSU 13 School Board of Directors to Fill Remainder of Lane Sturtevant's Term.

Brad Choyt is interested in filling the remainder of Lane Sturtevant's term on the RSU #13 School Board. Choyt gave a little background on his experience and why he is interested in the position.

Discussion on the time commitment of the appointment.

Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion to appoint Brad Choyt to the RSU#13 School Board of Directors to fill the remainder of Lane Sturtevant's term.

Motion passed 3-0.

c. Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded, with regret, to accept Andrew Stancioff's resignation from the Conservation Commission.

Motion passed 3-0.

d. Remote Meeting Policy

MMA Legal recommended that the zoom link be added to the meeting notice/agenda if any member of the body was joining the meeting remotely

There was a brief discussion on zoom bombing and zoom's improvements,

whether video was necessary when zooming and if the new remote meeting policy needed to be updated.

e .Committee Access to MMA

Discussion on chair/vice chair of committees accessing MMA for legal advice.
Board would encourage such consultations,
Discussion access to town attorney should come from or at least through the
Board.
Spear will email MMA.

f. Consideration of requiring masks to be worn in Municipal Buildings

The Board had a discussion on requiring masks, when to wear masks and vaccinations. Spear will write up guidance for issuance. It was decided to wear masks at future Selectboard meetings.

g. Accept Donations to Fire Department and Ambulance

Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to accept a \$250 donation to the fire department and a \$250 donation to the ambulance service from Vance and Sari Bunker and thank them for their generosity.

Motion passed 3-0.

h. Accept Donation to Conservation Commission

Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to accept a \$100 donation from John and Leslie Spear to the conservation commission and thanked them for their generosity.

Motion passed 3-0.

Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to accept a \$100 donation to the conservation commission from the ad hoc conservation commission group.

Motion passed 3-0.

VIII. Correspondence

Discussion on ceo/lpi

IX. Warrants Review and Approval

X. Schedule Future Meetings

Meetings are scheduled through October, no additional meetings were scheduled.

XI. Adjourn

Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to adjourn at 8:18

Motion passed 3-0.

Selectboard Approved September 7, 2021