



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

Selectboard Minutes
Date: September 7, 2021, 6:00 PM
Place: Municipal Building

REV:0

Selectboard Present: Jeff Northgraves, Walter Reitz, John Spear

Others Present: Terri-Lynn Baines, Ambulance Director Amy Drinkwater, Brian Reeves MDOT, Geoff Parker, Gus and Missy Robbins, Pennie Alley, Tony Mauney, Kevin Houghton, Catherine Bendheim, Chief Calderwood, Theo Pratt, Maureen Spencer, Ryan Colsen

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

II. Adjustments to Agenda

Lobster Trap Program-Fishing for Energy Grant

Donation to Conservation Commission

Correspondence Diane Post

Transfer Station renovation update

Suggestion about 9-month budget and actuals

III. 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 accept the minutes of August 24th
rev 1.

Motion passed 3-0.

V. Department Heads

July Reports

Assessor

August Reports

Ambulance

EMA

Fire Department

Ambulance Director Drinkwater reported she has two new hires, Ryan Colsen and Gabby Baughman. Colsen is an EMT. Colsen attended the meeting via Zoom and introduced himself. Baughman is taking an EMT course and was unable to attend the meeting she will attend the Sept 28th meeting.

Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to support Drinkwater's recommendation to hire Ryan Colsen as an EMT.

Motion passed 3-0.

VI. Old Business

a. Update EMS Regionalization - Ambulance Service Director Drinkwater

Drinkwater has a meeting tomorrow with some of the Chiefs to discuss this. There was a brief discussion on Towns involved in the meeting. Northgraves included in the cover letter for the Knox County Grant a request to look at regionalization of Fire and EMS using ARP Funds.

b. Update Regarding Implementation of Mask Guidance in Town Buildings

Spear asked Baines if there have been any issues. There have not. There was a discussion on the implementation of wearing masks and vaccinations.

c. Consider Approving Temporary Relocation of Library to Gilford Butler School

Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion to authorize the Library to move into Gilford Butler on a temporary basis pending Fire Marshal and CEO permits.

Motion passed 3-0.

The Board approved the plan Hansen and Alley will submit to the Fire Marshal. The Board discussed adding a ramp and an ADA bathroom to the application even though they are not required.

Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion to request Hansen includes a ramp and a handicap bathroom in the application.

Motion passed 3-0.

To further prevent water leaking into the basement, Hansen recommends cutting the hot top and make a v. Alley has someone that is willing to do this, just needs to rent a saw.

Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion to approve renting a saw.

Motion passed 3-0.

Northgraves will submit an application to the CEO for change of use.

d. Consider Approving Allocation of \$5000 of Local ARP Funds for the Knox County Clinic

Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to approve an allocation of \$5000 of local ARP funds for the Knox County Clinic.

Discussion on ARP funds for Public Health.

Motion passed 3-0.

e. Discuss Use of ARP Funds Including Process to Transfer Funds to Sub-Recipients

A letter was sent to the two daycares in Town, Little Learners and Sunshine Cove. The letter informed the daycare owners if they felt their daycare center was negatively impacted from the pandemic from a financial perspective and they would like to be considered as a possible recipient of some amount of ARP funds, they should contact John Spear.

No reply from Knox County on grant applications submitted.

f. Update Skateboard Park Maintenance

Reitz has a walk-through tomorrow and will report back to the Board.

g. Update Audio Improvements in Community Room

Geoff Parker is working on an estimate to improve technology in the community room.

There was a discussion on what the Board felt is important: hearing, seeing, knowing who is talking and general quality.

A better camera to enable the board to be six feet apart.

Remote camera possibly. A camera that shows who's speaking in audience.

Parker hopes to have paperwork done before the next meeting.

h. Update Painting/Repairs to the Little Red School House

From the RFP sent out there was only one quote for \$10000 just to paint the schoolhouse. Alley said there is difficulty getting cedar shakes.

There was a discussion on keeping in the spirit of the building, shakes vs vinyl.

The Board discussed how to get the repairs/painting done.

Spear will talk to John Hansen, maybe get something lined up for next spring.

Northgraves is meeting with the Historical society Chair and Vice-Chair The Historical Society is interested in leasing the Little Red School House once the Library moves out. The Board discussed the Historical Society Current Lease and the possibility of altering it to include the Little Red School House.

VII. New Business

a. Discussion on Road Shoulder Improvement and Sidewalks – Request of Beverly St. Clair – Brian Reeves Maine DOT will join by zoom

Brian Reeves is the Region Engineer of Region 2 of MDOT.

Spear gave a brief background explanation of St. Clair's request to discuss shoulders on Dublin Road.

Reeves said Dublin Road is due for LCP (light capital paving) in 2022. The shoulder work being done on Dublin Road was being done prior to the paving.

MDOT does have Cooperative agreements which are usually a 50/50 split. They also have a Municipal Partnership Initiative. This type of project is scheduled approximately 2 years out.

Village partnership Initiative is a new program for smaller municipalities and is still in the early stages.

A discussion on shoulder work, road, costs, and bushing followed.

Spear asked for an update on the culverts by Village Cemetery.

Other complaints were discussed, entrance to the library, blocked culvert, bad drop off on Buttermilk Lane.

Culvert cemetery blocked.

b. Discussion on Thorndike Cemetery- Request of Gus and Missy Robbins

Alley gave a background on mowing and maintaining the Thorndike Cemetery.

The Robbins own the property that contains the cemetery.

Alley would like to see them appointed as overseers of the Thorndike cemetery and receive compensation.

Discussion on contractors, insurance, and being employees of the town. The Board has already agreed to reimburse for gas and oil.

Discussion on employees and maintenance work.

Discussion on closing the cemetery dusk to dawn.

Discussion on cost and hours that the Robbins have taken care of the Thorndike Cemetery. Stipend vs hourly.

The board will review for the next meeting.

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- c. **Consider Appointment to the Conservation Commission Committee**
Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to appoint Elieen Skarka to the Conservation Commission Committee for term ending at the first Selectboard meeting following the annual town meeting in 2024.
Motion passed 3-0.
- d. **Consider Signing Letter of Support for the Town of Thomaston and the Knox County Clinic**
Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion to approve the letter and authorize the chair to sign.
Northgraves summarized the letter.
Motion passed 3-0.
- e. **Accept Resignation of Corey Fortin as CEO/LPI**
Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion to accept Fortin's resignation.
Motion passed 3-0.
- f. **Discuss CEO/LPI Recruitment Process**
Discussion on how to find a CEO/LPI.
Spear will put an ad on the MMA website.
Baines will place an ad in the Courier, on the website and on the listserv.
- g. **Accept Resignation of Anna Geneseo as Note Taker for the Planning Board**
Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion to accept with regret Geneseo's resignation.
Motion passed 3-0.
There was a discussion on hiring a new note taker, zoom, YouTube and remote meetings.
- h. **Remote Meeting Information on Agendas**
There was a discussion on putting zoom and YouTube information on the bottom of the agenda. A discussion followed on participation in the meeting and viewing the meeting through YouTube.
- i. **Lobster Traps -Fishing for Energy**
There was a discussion on whether this program should be continued. There is very little participation. D M & J needs the container that is rented for the purpose of collecting the gear. Baines reached out to the Grant administrators and has a phone conference with them on September 9th.
In the interim it was decided to take traps but also let D M & J remove the can. Thomaston Recycling is paying \$1 per trap. Traps can also be taken to the transfer station.
- j. **Transfer station renovation update.**
Reitz gave an update on the renovations. Permits are in place, but the project is short two to three hundred thousand dollars.
The original bid in 2016 was under budget. With delays and cost increases the project is now over budget. The Thomaston Planning Board has gone back to engineering company to see where costs may be reduced.
- k. **9 months into 18-month budget**
Reitz requested a detailed work up at the nine month point as this is halfway through the 18-month budget. He would like this to be shared with the budget committee.
- l. **Island Road Striping**
There was a request from a citizen to stripe Island Road.

There was also a discussion on striping Westbrook Street.

m. Donation to Conservation Commission

Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to accept the \$10.10 donation from the Oceanside cleanup held by the Conservation Commission.

Motion passed 3-0.

VIII. Correspondence

Dianne Post expressed her concerns against the Island Road Project.

The Board discussed the Midcoast Coalition Agenda

Denise Munger letter requesting Knox County ARP funds to be used for Broadband.

Reitz wrote a letter to Lane Sturtevant thanking for her for her service on the RSU #13 School Board.

IX. Warrants Review and Approval

The Board approved the Warrants.

X. Schedule Future Meetings

Scheduled through October

November 16th and November 30th.

XI. Adjourn

Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to adjourn at 8:32

Motion passed 3-0.

Zoom Meeting:<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86197011658?pwd=TUt2VlFXakl4SUI1UzBCZ3FjbUyd09>

Selectboard approved 9/28/2021