



Town of South Thomaston, Maine
125 Spruce Head Road
P.O. Box 147
South Thomaston, ME 04858-0147

Tel: 207-596-6584
Fax: 207-596-7529
E-mail: terri@souththomaston.me
Website:

Selectboard:
Jeff Northgraves
Walter Reitz
John Spear

Selectboard Minutes
Date: February 8, 2022, 5:00 PM
Zoom Meeting

Please Note Time Change
Items Are Often Taken Out of Order to Accommodate Schedules

Rev 0

Selectboard Present: Jeff Northgraves, John Spear, Walter Reitz
Others Present: Terri-Lynn Baines, Pennie Alley, Fire Chief Bryan Calderwood, Maureen Spencer, EMA Director Betty Thomas, Deputy Fire Chief David Elwell, Lynne Canavan, Sondra Wallace, Beverly St. Clair, Cliff Dacso, Sally Merchant, Theo Pratt, Catherine Bendheim, Simon Thorne, Linda Garat, Linda Palmer, Sarah Davis, Anne Just, Ambulance Director Amy Drinkwater

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

I. Call to Order

Spear called the meeting to order at 5:06 pm

II. Adjustments to Agenda

Two donations to the library
Email from Barry Baudanza
Town tax maps
Transfer Station

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 January 18, 2022

Motion passed 3-0.

V. Old Business

a. Update Regarding Temporary Relocation of Library to Gilford Butler School

The Town received a construction permit from the Fire Marshall. It has been forwarded to Dan Dates, the Town's CEO so he can issue a town permit.

Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion to waive the fee for the town permit.

Motion passed 3-0.

Alley would like to start some programs that don't require the use of broadband as soon as possible with permission from the Selectboard. Broadband service lines need to be moved from the little red schoolhouse to the Gilford Butler School. Estimated time is approximately 6 weeks. The ADA compliant renovations needed will be done by that time. Alley requested the insurance coverage begin so the building may be used.

b. Update Midcoast Internet Development Corporation /Axiom Study

Reitz gave a brief overview of the Axiom study. The Selectboard briefly discussed the study and public owned utilities.

The Board tabled this to the next meeting for further discussion

c. Discussion on Transfer Station Increase in Assessment and Fiscal Year

The Town will have a shortfall off \$13,432.44 in the current budget for transfer station payments due to the 2022 assessment increase.

The transfer station board is looking into changing the budget year from a calendar year to a fiscal year.

Reitz is going to bring up both issues at the February Transfer Station Board meeting. Reitz will propose towns pay the previous monthly rate to August to avoid shortfalls.

Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to table this until the next meeting.

Motion passes 3-0.

d. Consider Changes to the Personnel Policy – EPL and Health Insurance

Discussion on Spear's proposed changes.

Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion to enact the amendment with the changes discussed.

Motion passed 3-0.

e. Discussion of Funds Available for New Fire Trucks

Table to next meeting.

f. Consider EMA Director Thomas' Stipend Increase Request

Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to enter executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A) a Personnel Matter.

Motion passed 3-0.

Board entered executive session at 7:19

Board exited executive session at 7:29

VI. New Business

a. Discuss with the Conservation Commission the Possible Opportunity to Acquire (by gift) Two Small, Centrally Located Waterfront Lots. M14-L22 M14-L24

Wallace briefly summarized the proposal to possibly acquire the waterfront lots from Wayne Brown.

The next step is to have Mr. Brown put his conditions/requirements in writing. Then the offer would have to go before Town Meeting.

b. Consider Cooperative Agreement with Maine DOT- Intersection of Waterman Beach Road With Route 73 a.k.a. Spruce Head Road

Spear discussed this with Brian Reeves. Nothing is committed at this time. This is in the development stage.

c. Discussion of Consolidated Communication's Plans for Fiber Roll-Out in South Thomaston

Reitz introduced Sarah Davis, Senior Director of Government Affairs and Simon Thorne both from Consolidated Communications.

Davis presented a power point of the fiber plan Consolidated Communications plans on bringing to South Thomaston.

Fiber construction could start in April 2022. Estimated completion date is September 2022

Davis presented the four tiers of service and the map of coverage for South Thomaston.

There was a short discussion of coverage areas and houses that are not covered.

A discussion followed concerning the rate structure and programs that help lower costs.

Route 131 will not be covered in the Rockland build, but will be covered when Thomaston is added.

Consider Extending Line of Credit at Machias Savings Bank

Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion to extend the Town's line of credit with Machias to June 1, 2022.

Motion passed 3-0.

d. Consider Small Community Grant Program

Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion to authorize Baines to sign the Small Community Grant for 59 Westbrook Street.

Motion passed 3-0.

e. Consider Planned Maintenance Agreement With PDQ- Request of Fire Chief

The preventative maintenance agreement would cost \$1000 a year. A technician from PDQ would come to the Municipal Building and inspect the garage doors to see if they are working properly. The Board strongly supported this. There was a discussion on starting this year or handling it as a budget request for 2022-2023.

Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to table until the next meeting.

Motion passed 3-0.

f. Department Heads Monthly Reports

Drinkwater explained the EMS Junior Program to the Selectboard. She would like to begin an EMS Junior Program in South Thomaston. There was a discussion on the benefits of the Town having such a program.

Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion endorse and support the EMS Junior Program.

Motion passed 3-0.

The Board had no questions or comments on the monthly department head reports.

g. Accept Donations to the Fire Department and Ambulance Service from Ruth Rinklin and Alan Hall

Northgraves moved and Reitz second a motion to accept the donation of \$750 to the Fire Department and \$750 to the Ambulance Service from Ruth Rinklin and Alan Hall.

Motion passed 3-0.

Donation to Library- Marcia Whitten

Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to accept a \$300 donation to the library from Marcia Whitten.

Motion passed 3-0.

Donation to Library -Masons

Reitz moved and Northgraves seconded a motion accept a \$3000 donation to the library from the Knox Lodge of the South Thomaston Free Masons.

Motion passed 3-0.

h. April 6th Meeting Conflict With the Budget Committee

VII. Correspondence

Notice of Intent to File -Knox County Commission/Knox County Regional Airport Barry Baudanza email. Northgraves spoke with Baudanza concerning the boats coming loose in the river. The issue has been taken care of, but should we have a harbor master? There was a brief discussion on whether the Town should have a Harbor Master.

VIII. Warrants Review and Approval

The Board approved the warrants.

IX. Transfer Station Meeting Friday February 11, 2022

The Tri Towns will hold a meeting with the Transfer Station Board. Possible discussion items, renovation project, fiscal year change and budget.

X. Review Items for Next Agenda

Fire Trucks, PDQ, Library update, Broadband, EMA stipend

XI. Schedule Future Meetings

March 9 and 10 the Board will meet with Department Heads to review budgets.

XII. Adjourn

Northgraves moved and Reitz seconded a motion to adjourn at 7:30.

Motion passed 3-0.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81349573655?pwd=NkhQOWljQmJXdG1mVIN0WVk3a3dUdz09>

Meeting ID: 813 4957 3655

Passcode: 006276

Selectboard Approved 2-22-22