



Town of South Thomaston, Maine
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Selectboard:
John Spear
Jeff Northgraves
Sue Snow

Selectboard Minutes
Date: February 14, 2023, 6:00 PM at the Municipal Building
Items Are Often Taken Out of Order to Accommodate Schedules

Rev 0

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

South Thomaston Selectboard Present: John Spear (via zoom), Jeff Northgraves, Sue Snow
Others Present: Terri-Lynn Baines, Pennie Alley, Noah Carlson, Rebecca Doyle, Maureen Spencer, Ryan Colson, Thomas Moore
Via zoom: Fire Chief Elwell, Ambulance Director Drinkwater, Walter Reitz, Sondra Wallace

I. Call to Order

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

II. Adjustments to Agenda

Under New Business:

Rate adjustment for Ambulance Service

Discussion on LD 101

Possible Executive Session- Land for Maine's Future Program

Voting Status in Library/Community Center Nominating Group

III. Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda

There were no public comments.

IV. Review and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes (January 24, 2023)

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to approve the minutes of January 24, 2023.

Motion passed 3-0.

V. Old Business

a. Discuss with Ambulance Director Drinkwater Draft of Ambulance Standard Operating Procedures

Spear will update and edit the version of the SOP in the packet received for this meeting. The Selectboard and Ambulance Director Drinkwater review the edited SOP at the next regular meeting, which is scheduled for February 28, 2023.

b. Update on Second Tranche of ARPA Funds

Baines updated the spreadsheet tracking ARPA fund purchases/earmarks.

Air purifiers were purchased for the Town Office. One is in the office and one is in the basement.

Alley and EMA Director Thomas plan to move the AED that is at the Little Red School House Library to the Gilford Butler Center. The cost of one AED was removed from the spreadsheet.

Additional earmarked funds are for the Automatic Lift, \$7,000 and the tennis courts (amount to be determined).

There was a brief discussion on maintaining and training for the AED. It was also decided to keep the cost of two AED's under earmarked funds.

c. Discuss Town Office Phone System

After a brief discussion, it was decided neither the Selectboard nor Baines felt they had enough knowledge of VOIP systems. Baines will reach out to Walter Reitz to see if he would assist the Selectboard in understanding what system would be best for the Municipal Building.

VI. New Business

a. Consider New Hires Recommended by Ambulance Director Drinkwater

Ambulance Director Drinkwater presented three candidates for hire. Noah Carlson, Rebecca Doyle and Thomas Moore.

Noah Carlson is a driver for St George. He lives in Tenants Harbor. Carlson has passed the hands on EMT test and is in the process of taking the written exam. He will be an EMT soon. Carlson has been on the St. George Fire and Ambulance Service for two years.

Spear Moved and Snow seconded a motion to approve the hiring of Noah Carlson as an ambulance driver.

Motion passed 3-0

Thomas Moore is currently a Lieutenant on the South Thomaston Fire Department. He is taking the EMT class and would like to be hired as a driver until he passes the EMT class. Moore lives in Port Clyde.

Snow moved and Spear seconded a motion to hire Thomas Moore to be a driver for the South Thomaston Ambulance Department.

Motion passed 3-0.

Rebecca Doyle is taking the EMT classes at the Mid-Coast School of Technology. She would like to be hired as a driver until she is licensed as an EMT. Rebecca owns land in South Thomaston, but currently resides in Cushing.

Snow moved and Spear seconded a motion to hire Rebecca Doyle as an ambulance driver for the South Thomaston Ambulance.

Motion passed 3-0.

b. Discuss Ambulance Service Billing Waiver Procedures

There was a discussion on the Town's current policy and if it should be modified or gotten rid of. The policy doesn't really work. People can easily request a hardship waiver, but only a

couple have ever requested the waiver. Also discussed was what could be changed to make it work.

Drinkwater will touch base with Comstar, the Town's billing company and see what other towns have for a collection policy.

There was a brief discussion on sending the bills to collection and why waivers aren't requested even though the process to request a waiver is so simple.

c. Update on Power Load Grant/Purchase

Drinkwater gave an update on the Grant. She is not able to reapply for any other grants to help with the extra cost because this was a grant purchase. Drinkwater has been in touch with the Tabitha King Grant to see if there may be more money available.

d. Update on AFG Grant Application

Drinkwater and Elwell will apply to the AFG Grant for fire and ambulance equipment next year.

e. Proposed 2023 Rate Change

Drinkwater explained the formula she used to come up with the ambulance service rate changes. She has also discussed the rate allowances with Comstar. Drinkwater discussed with the Selectboard that Medicare rates are also increasing. She clarified the mileage rate is from the call to the hospital, not from the station to the call to the hospital.

Snow moved and Spear seconded a motion to approve the proposed rate changes for 2023 for the Ambulance Service effective March 1, 2023.

Motion passed 3-0.

f. Debrief February 8th Joint Meeting with Owls Head Selectboard

There was a recap of the meeting with the Owls Head Selectboard. The South Thomaston Selectboard would like to meet with them again in the near future. Spear will reach out to Gordon Page to schedule another meeting.

Owls Head is happy with the ambulance service they receive from Rockland so this doesn't appear to be an area the Towns could share services in. Both demo debris facilities were discussed. This may be a place to start. Neither Selectboard was in favor of collaborating on small purchases but maybe larger purchases such as fire department equipment or computers.

g. Consider Quit Claim Deeds for Tax Acquired Properties

Snow moved and Spear seconded a motion to execute the quit claim deed with Dominic and Margaret Cuccinello M 016-L009-001.

Motion passed 3-0.

Snow moved and Spear seconded a motion to execute the quit claim deed with Francis Walsh M 15 L 029-003.

h. Discussion on LD 101

The Selectboard discussed LD 101. They are all in opposition of LD 101.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion that the South Thomaston Selectboard stands in opposition to LD 101 and the Chair will contact our representatives.

Motion passed 3-0.

i. Consider Request from the OHSTT Solid Waste Corp Board to Execute a Trucking Contract in Excess of Three Years

The contract for trucking has been put out as an RFP for about 8 or 9 months. The third request finally got a valid proposal. A 3 year contract starting now, would expire in February 2026. As the transfer station is on a fiscal year, the Board would like to extend the contract from Feb to June to get on the fiscal year cycle.

There is a significant increase on the previous trucking contract.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to approve the extension.

Motion passed 3-0

j. Consider Nominations to the County Commission for Two Seats on the APAC

The District 1 seat is vacant. Katie Oldawaski Shaw is interested in the seat. She has been on the APAC before representing pilots.

Jan Gaudio currently represents South Thomaston on APAC and is still interested in the South Thomaston seat.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to recommend to the County Commission through the APAC to nominate Katie Oldawaski Shaw to the District 1 seat and Jan Gaudio to the seat representing the Town of South Thomaston.

Motion passed 3-0.

k. Voting status

As the Librarian, Alley wants clarification on her voting status on the Library Nominating Committee. The Select Board and Alley discussed subcommittees, what makes up a subcommittee and voting rights. Also discussed was committees making their own rules and processes, and the Librarian's voting status.

l. Monthly reports

The Selectboard had reviewed the monthly reports. There was no discussion on them.

m. Executive Session to discuss Land for Maine's Future Program

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to enter executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A § 405 (6)(C).

Motion passed 3-0

The Selectboard entered executive session at 7:25 pm.

The Selectboard exited executive session at 7:36 pm.

No action was taken.

VII. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

VIII. Warrants Review and Approval

The Selectboard reviewed and approved the warrants.

IX. Schedule Future Meetings

Meetings are scheduled for February 15th and 16th to meet with the Department Heads to review

their budgets.

February 28th is the next scheduled regular Selectboard meeting.

March 21st March regular Selectboard Meeting.

April 10-14th meetings with Budget Committee

XI. Adjourn

Spear moved and Snow second a motion to adjourn at 7:40 pm

Motion passed 3-0.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81891574708?pwd=eHRvZVVPUDE2Y0k4eWFqVFhPT1ZhZz09>

Meeting ID: 818 9157 4708

Passcode: 987488

Selectboard Approved March 9, 2023