



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

Selectboard Minutes
Date May 23, 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, Jeff Northgraves, Sue Snow
Others Present: Terri-Lynn Baines, Pennie Alley, Ronnie Russell, Tina Hendricks, Maureen Spencer, Skip Connell, Brad Choyt, Kathy Florance, Carol Dumont, Krista Tripp, Dmytro Zaiets., Dan Hendricks
Via Zoom: Fire Chief David Elwell, Walter Reitz, Weskeag

I. Call to Order

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

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Pennie Alley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Adjustments to Agenda

Email correspondence Candice Smith.

Email correspondence Ed Modell.

Possible Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A §405(6)(E), Legal Matter

IV. Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda

Spear announced the basketball court has been paved and Island Road has been paved.

Maureen Spencer asked about the library nominating committee meeting video that was taken down from Youtube. It was taken down because it was an executive session. Spencer asked if it was still a private meeting if they didn't take a vote or follow proper procedure. Spencer recommended the Selectboard view the video.

V. Review and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes (May 3rd, 9th and 10th)

Northgraves moved and Snow seconded a motion to approve the meeting minutes of May 3rd, May 9th and May 10th.

Motion passed 3-0.

VI. Old Business

a. Consider Ambulance SOP

Northgraves moved and Snow seconded a motion to table to the June 6th meeting.

Motion passed 3-0.

b. Execute Certified Ration Form

Northgraves moved and Snow seconded a motion to execute the certification.

There was a brief discussion on Homestead Exemptions.

Motion passed 3-0.

The differences between Trio and Vision real estate packages were briefly discussed.

c. Discussion Regarding ARPA Funds

The Selectboard reviewed earmarked purchases and amounts.

There was a discussion on how to spend the remaining balance of the ARPA funds.

Northgraves moved and Snow seconded a motion that any balance in ARPA funds be used to offset paving costs.

Motion passed 3-0.

VII. New Business

a. Request From Krista Tripp to Use the Town Landing

The Selectboard received letters in support of and one against Krista and Demitri using the Town Landing for their oyster business Aphrodite Oysters.

Spear set the background for the people in attendance of the meeting. According to the Town Landing Ordinance a commercial business may not be conducted at the Town Landing without permission from the Selectboard.

Tripp spoke of using the town landing pier/ramp for her oyster business. She said they have not had any problems and the complaint was a surprise to her. Boats use it to fuel up, unload traps etc. so she does not see where the problem is. She has letters of support. She does have a float being built but it may or may not be in the water in the spring time so they may not have the float to work on and would like to be able to use the pier/ramp every spring, until the float can be put in the water each year. She is requesting they are allowed to use the space as long as they stay out of anyone's way. Tripp guarantees that they will stop using the area by June 1st every year. They would start using the area in April/May.

Skip Connell offered his support of Krista and Dmytro.

There were questions about exactly what they do on the pier. They are sorting through oysters. If they are not being able to use the pier, it would be difficult for them to sort the oysters. Wind in the spring makes it hard to work from a skiff.

How long they use the wharf during a day was discussed. Also discussed was allowing them to use the pier/ramp until June 8th this year and revisit every year, if it's a commercial enterprise, the difference between lobsterman, traps and this procedure/ the sorting of oysters.

Spear moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to allow Krista and Demitri to use the town landing in the manner they have been using it until June 8th.

There was a discussion on commercial uses.

Motion passed 3-0.

b. Consider Approval of a Catering Application from On the Rocks Bartending Services for a July 4th Event to be Held at the Saltwater Fields Event Center

The reasons for the permit being sent to the Selectboard for signing was discussed. Also discussed was last year's 4th of July event. Route 131 has always been a place to watch fireworks. There was a discussion on the number of people permitted in the facility and the number of people on the application. 200+ people on the application, 299 permitted. Tina

Hendricks spoke regarding the event. She will put up no parking signs, would not allow over 299 in the building, will have more parking attendants, stricter parking on the road by their driveway. She said it was a very popular event last year and the bar service was very careful about over serving. There was a brief conversation on the amount of cars that could be in the parking lot and how many people could attend. They will have 400 people max. Hendricks will put signs at the top of the driveway on Route 131 to keep cars away from the driveway so people can see out.

Northgraves moved and Snow seconded a motion to approve the permits with the changes made on the application.

Motion passed 3-0.

c. Consider South Thomaston Liquor Permitting Policy

The Selectboard reviewed the draft. The made one change, approving to approving/disapproving
Hendricks asked for clarification of the policy.

Northgraves moved and Snow seconded a motion to approve as amended.

Motion passed 3-0.

d. RSU #13 Representative Brad Choyt Report

Brad Choyt introduced himself. He has been appointed vice chair of the RS#13 Board. He gave a brief update on RSU #13 and how the district is overcoming issues as a result from the pandemic, both with students and academics. He also gave a quick review of the budget and the projected increase, which is 3.1%. The District Budget meeting is May 25th at 6:00 pm at Oceanside. The Budget Referendum is June 13th at the Municipal Building. The polls are open 8 am to 8 pm.

There was a brief discussion on Pre-K opportunities.

Brad answered questions from the residents attending the meeting.

e. Consider MDOT Construction Overlimit Permit Agreement

Northgraves moved and Snow seconded a motion to execute the agreement.

Motion passed 3-0.

f. Discussion Regarding 175th Birthday Celebration

The Historical Society will have a birthday cake on the lawn at the Little Red School House the second weekend in August. The Historical Society is proposing a jazz band on Saturday, if the Town would help pay for it. They are asking for \$200-\$300 to help with the band. Sunday of that weekend is Heritage Day. Heritage day is from 12 pm – 4pm. The Community Band will play at Heritage Days.

g. Monthly Reports

The Selectboard reviewed the monthly reports.

VIII. Consider Accepting Donation(s)

Snow moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to accept a donation from Sandra Williams for cemetery maintenance.

Motion passed 3-0.

IX. Consider Appointment(s)

X. Discuss Possible Land Acquisition (Possible Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A §405(6)(C))

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

The Selectboard entered executive session at 7:45 pm.

The Selectboard exited executive session at 7:53 pm.

XI. Discuss a Personnel Matter (Possible Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A §405(6)(A))

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

The Selectboard entered executive session at 7:53 pm.

The Selectboard exited executive session at 8:18 pm.

XII. Possible Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A §405(6)(E)

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

The Selectboard entered executive session at 7:42 pm.

The Selectboard exited executive session at 7:44 pm.

XIII. Correspondence

Email correspondence Candice Smith

Spear received an email from Candice Smith requesting two members be removed for cause from the Library Nominating Committee.

Email correspondence Ed Modell

Ed Modell's email concerned helping people clean up their "junky yards". Northgraves replied to his email, answering the questions Modell asked and encouraged him to come to the Selectboard to discuss his proposal.

There was a brief discussion on the violation notices that will be going out shortly.

Also discussed was if a property owner needed help cleaning up their yard the town could connect them with Ed Modell's group.

XIV. Warrants Review and Approval

The Selectboard approved the warrants.

XV. Schedule Future Meetings

July 18th.

XVI. Adjourn

Without objection the meeting is adjourned. 8:20 pm.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81469728087?pwd=bytFQUEzNzNvYk0yVmYxQkJTTHZSdz09>

Meeting ID: 814 6972 8087

Passcode: 631752

Approved June 6, 2023