



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

Selectboard Minutes
Date July 18, 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, Walter & Barbara Reitz, Sandy Weisman, Moira Paddock, Ambulance Director Amy Drinkwater, Deputy Ambulance Director/Fire Chief David Elwell, Maureen Spencer, Catherine Lerne, Merle Rockwell, Elizabeth Lunt

Via Zoom: Sondra Wallace

I. Call to Order

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

II. Election of Board Chair

Baines asked for Nominations.

Spear nominated Northgraves. There were no further nominations.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to elect Northgraves as Chair of the Selectboard.

Motion passed 2-0 Northgraves abstained.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Northgraves led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Adjustments to Agenda

Roadside Rescue and Diesel Services invoice, BC Electric invoice, Brief update on the shingling at the Little Red school house.

V. Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda

A member of the public commented that New Business c. should be dealt with in executive session or removed from the agenda.

There was a request to move New Business c., to earlier on the agenda.

VI. Review and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes (June 8th, June 29th and July 6th)

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to approve the draft minutes of June 8, June 29 and July 6.

Motion passed 3-0.

VII. Old Business

a. Update on Possible Land Purchases

Cline Properties

Map 008 Lots 003 and 002.

The Town has engaged Jim Strong for the purchase of the Cline property. Strong contacted Cline’s attorney. Spear took a copy of the survey of the properties to Strong.

Snow moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to allow Spear to sign the purchase and sale agreement once Strong gives the green light.

Motion passed 2-0 Spear abstained.

Smith Properties

Map 008 Lot 005, Map 013 Lot 006, Map 009 Lot 006.

Smith would like to close on his properties within 60 days. The Selectboard discussed trying to accommodate Smith’s timeline.

There was a discussion on the deed language/restrictions conveying Smith’s intention for the property to be forever wild.

There was a brief discussion on grants and matches that may be available.

Spear talked with Doug Beck, Outdoor Recreation Manager, Bureau of Parks and Lands, about unencumbering the land used for the original tennis court grant. If the land is unencumbered the Town would not be able to get a grant to repair the tennis courts. Beck has requested the Town consider sending a letter requesting to unencumber the property. There was a brief discussion on encumbrances and how much of the property is involved. Sending the letter buys time but does not commit to anything.

Don Protheroe has offered to use his tractor to remove water off the old woods road. He will also repair the first gate.

b. Consider Supplemental Tax Assessment

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to assess Richard Jansen a supplemental tax of \$1,785.21 for tax year 2020, \$2,738.87 for tax year 2021 and \$1,878.25 for tax year 2022.

The Town is allowed to go back and recapture the last three years of taxes.

The Selectboard discussed the letter received from Jim Strong who represents Mr. Jansen.

Motion passed 3-0.

VIII. New Business

a. Consider New Ambulance Hires

Ambulance Director Drinkwater would like to hire Todd Martin. Martin is an EMT and currently lives in Rockland.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to approve the Director’s request to hire Todd Martin.

Motion passed 3-0.

b. Annual Appointments

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to appoint Arthur Grierson as Addressing Officer to a one-year term.

Motion passed 3-0.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to appoint Amy Drinkwater as Ambulance Director for a one-year term.

Motion passed 3-0.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to appoint Pennie Alley as a Budget Committee Member to a three-year term.

Motion passed 3-0.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to appoint Terri-Lynn Baines as Town Clerk, Treasurer, Tax Collector, General Assistance Administrator, and Freedom of Access Act Administrator for a term of one year.

Motion passed 3-0.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to appoint Pennie Alley as Cemetery Overseer and Library Community Center Director for a one-year term.

Motion passed 3-0.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to appoint Terri Baines as CEO for a one-year term.

Motion passed 3-0.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to appoint Terry Brackett as Assistant CEO for a one-year term.

Motion passed 3-0.

Northgraves moved and Snow seconded a motion to appoint Leslie Spear as a Conservation Commission Member for a three-year term.

Motion passed 3-0.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to appoint Theo Pratt as an Associate Conservation Commission Member for a one-year term.

Motion passed 3-0.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to appoint Sally Merchant as an Associate Conservation Commission Member for a one-year term.

Motion passed 3-0.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to appoint Phil Verrill as Demo Debris Operator for a one-year term.

Motion passed 3-0.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to appoint Sandra Manahan, Pennie Alley, Michelle Ames, Heather Baines, Thomas Gray, Teisha Hufnagel, Leland Philbrick, Phil Verrill and Hannah Moholland as Election Clerks for a term of one year.

Motion passed 3-0.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to appoint Betty Thomas as EMA Director for a one-year term.

Motion passed 3-0.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to appoint Becky Butler as Assistant EMA Director for a one-year term.

Motion passed 3-0.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to appoint David Elwell as Fire Chief for a term of three years.

Motion passed 3-0.

Spear moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to appoint Sue Snow as Georges River Shellfish Board Member for a term of one year.

Motion passed 3-0.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to appoint Pennie Alley as Alternate Georges River Shellfish Board Member for a term of one year.

Motion passed 3-0.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to appoint Krista Tripp as a Georges River Shellfish Committee Member for a term of one year..

Motion passed 3-0.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to appoint Travis Fogg as a Georges River Shellfish Committee Member for a term of one year.

Motion passed 3-0.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to appoint Cliff Dacso as Local Health Officer for a term of one year.

Motion passed 3-0.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to appoint Phil Verrill as Registrar of Voters for a term of one year.

Motion passed 3-0.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to appoint Jeff Northgraves as a Board of Directors Member for the OHSTT Solid Waste Cooperative.

Motion passed 2-0. Northgraves abstained.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to appoint Travis Wilson to the Planning Board for a two year term.

Motion passed 3-0.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to appoint Gordon Connell as Citizen Representative to the Board of Directors of the OHSTT Solid Waste Cooperative.

Motion passed 3-0.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to appoint Peter Just to the Appeals Board for a term of three years.

Motion passed 3-0.

c. Discussion Concerning Meeting of 5/8/23 Regarding Nominations to Gilford Butler Auxiliary Board of Directors

There was a discussion on how to enter executive session properly. Also discussed was in executive session the only topic that may be discussed is the topic in the motion to enter into executive session. No notes are taken during executive session and all electronics must be off. No action is taken in executive session.

There was a lengthy discussion on the meeting of 5/8/23, the complaints that were received concerning it and how the complaints were handled.

There was a brief discussion on having the meetings on Zoom and Youtube.

There was a lengthy discussion on the April Library/Community Center Nominating Committee meeting and the confusion of who was and who was not allowed to attend an executive session.

Also discussed was Alley's status on the Nominating Committee.

d. Discussion Regarding Annual Report of Gilford Butler Auxiliary

Names for nomination are needed prior to August 10th. The Auxiliary is meeting on July 31st.

e. Discussion on Updating Land Use and Shoreland Ordinances

Some elements are not specifically spelled out.

Some language is not as specific in the Land Use Ordinance as it is in the Shoreland Ordinance.

Maybe add demotion permits and a site plan review.

Refer to the Ordinance Review Committee and Planning Board.

f. Accept Resignation of Gabe Tomasulo from the ST Library & Community Center Facility Committee

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to accept Gabe Tomasulo's resignation from the South Thomaston Library and Community Center Facility effective July 26th, with regret.

Motion passed 3-0.

g. Accept Resignation of Carla White from the Community Resilience Committee

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to accept Carla White's resignation from the Community Resilience Committee effective immediately, with regret.

Motion passed 3-0.

h. Monthly Reports

The Selectboard has reviewed the reports.

i. Roadside Rescue Invoice

Roadside Rescue and Diesel Services no longer has liability insurance. Liability Insurance expired about ten days before the invoice date. There was a discussion on paying the invoice.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to pay the invoice.

Motion passed 3-0.

Baines will discuss with Phil that he check monthly that vendors have the required insurance.
Motion passed 3-0.

j. BC Electric Invoice

Alley has spoken with Bob from BC Electric. The estimate he gave the Town did not include labor. The Selectboard discussed the estimate and the invoice.
Alley will reach out to Bob for more information.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to have the Chair work it out with Terri and Pennie and if he works it out to his satisfaction authorize to pay it.

Motion passed 3-0.

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

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

The Selectboard entered executive session at 8:01 pm.
The Selectboard exited executive session at 8:10 pm.

Snow moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to nominate John Spear as Uncompensated Interim Road Commissioner for a term of one year.

Motion passed 3-0.

IX. Consider Accepting Donation(s) - Fire Department and Library

No need to do anything to accept the money for the Fire Department. The money is from the sale of the Fire Department generator.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to accepted a \$250 donation from Beth Dickerson in memory of Kearney Neagle.

Motion passed 3-0.

X. Correspondence

MMA Election.
No action taken.

XII. Warrants Review and Approval

XIII. Schedule Future Meetings

Schedule Workshop to Review Draft Ambulance SOPs.
Discussion on available dates.
August 4th 4:00 pm.
Regular meeting August 15th.

XIV. Adjourn

Without objection the selectboard adjourned at 8:13 pm.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83896016189?pwd=MmhjTHphdDNDRU1xTjdvd0xuUnVpdz09>

Meeting ID: 838 9601 6189

Passcode: 334236

Selectboard approved August 15, 2023