



Town of South Thomaston, Maine
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Selectmen:
Jeffrey Northgraves
John Spear
Sue Snow

Selectboard Minutes
Date: March 18, 2024, 5:30 PM at the Municipal Building
Items Are Often Taken Out of Order to Accommodate Schedules

Rev 1

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

South Thomaston Selectboard Present: Jeff Northgraves, Sue Snow, via zoom: John Spear

Others Present: Terri-Lynn Baines, Hannah Moholland, Pennie Alley, Lynn Tootill, Sally Fowler, Moria Paddock, Sondra Wallace, Denise Rzeznikiewicz, Sandy Weisman, Rich and Anne Norman, Marcia Turner, Catherine Lerne, Walter Reitz

Via zoom: Barbara Reitz, Rhonda Nordstrom, Paul DiMaggio, Betsy Lunt, Ed Modell

- I. Call to Order**
Northgraves called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance**
Northgraves led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. Adjustments to Agenda**
Donation to the library.
Consider a new hire- Custodian.
- IV. Review and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes (March 12th)**
Minutes were not ready.
- V. Public Comment**
There was no public comment
- VI. Old Business**
 - a. Update on Revaluation Costs**
There was no update on the revaluation cost.

b. Review Town Meeting Warrant

The Selectboard reviewed the draft warrant. Spear has sent the ATV Ordinance article to Kristin Collins, Town Attorney. Collins will review and amend the language. She feels it will be easier to enforce as a trespass issue as opposed to a land use ordinance violation. Inland Fisheries and Wildlife can enforce trespassing, but cannot enforce a land use ordinance.

VII. New Business

a. Consider Request to Place an Article on the Town Meeting Warrant to Ask the Town to Preserve the Gilford Butler Building for Some Future Use To Be Determined

Lynn Tootill stated she was representing a group that was asking the Selectboard to consider preserving the Gilford Butler Building. Northgraves stated that was not a decision the Selectboard was empowered to make as the current plan regarding the property was approved by Town Meeting. In response to Northgraves inquiry Tootill stated that the group does not have a Town Meeting Warrant article to present to the Selectboard at this time.

There was a discussion of the options on how to get an article on the Town Meeting Warrant. The group can present an article to the Selectboard and the Selectboard could include it on the warrant. If the Selectboard chooses not to include it on the warrant, the group can present a petition to the Selectboard. The petition would have to include the article the group would like included in the warrant. It must be signed by 88 or more registered voters of the Town of South Thomaston. The article must be lawful. The Selectboard would then have to include the article in the Town Meeting Warrant. The Selectboard could also include a competing article on the warrant.

The Selectboard and Tootill discussed a timeline for receiving the petition. Northgraves asked if there were any more comments. There were not any more comments on the process of a petition.

Rich Norman expressed concern that there was a conflict of interest because one Selectboard member, Spear was on the Library and Community Center Auxiliary Board of Directors. It was pointed out that it is a requirement of the Auxiliaries' by-laws to have a Selectboard member on the Board. Spear stated there was no conflict of interest as he has no pecuniary interest resulting from his membership on the Selectboard and the Auxiliary Board. Spear also stated that this was the second time Norman had made this allegation and he requested that Norman refrain from repeating it again.

b. Discussion on Town Report Cover

Baines explained that one year she asked for cover suggestions from residents and if the Selectboard didn't have a cover in mind, she would put out a request for cover suggestions on the web and through the Town email.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to request photos for town report cover suggestions.

Motion passed 3-0.

c. Discussion on Budget & Budget Revenues

Baines pointed out that she has changed the Town Landing Reserve number in the budget the Board has because the Town Landing budget was increased, so that decreased the Town Landing Reserve.

Northgraves discussed the revenues and explained the reason why the State Revenue Sharing was so high last budget. It is significantly decreased this year. Ambulance Revenue is on track. Excise revenue is up.

d. Appoint Ballot Clerks for the June 11, 2024 Election

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to appoint Heather Baines, Sandy Manahan, Pennie Alley, Michelle Ames and Denise Rzeznikiewicz as Ballot Clerks for the June 11th election.

Motion passed 3-0.

VIII. Monthly Reports

IX. Donations

The Philanthropic Educational Organization Sisterhood made an annual donation. The group uses space at the community center weekly. This is their second annual \$200 donation. PEO is a non-profit group.

Spear moved and Snow seconded a motion to accept the \$200 donation from PEO.

Motion passed 3-0.

The PEO now has a building use form on file. There was a discussion on what Alley should do with the money she receives as payment for building use. There is an account for building fees. She will give the funds to the Town Administrator who will deposit them into the proper account.

X. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

XI. Warrants Review and Approval

There were no warrants to review/approve.

XII. Review Items for Next Agenda

XIII. Schedule Future Meetings

There is a public informational meeting scheduled March 28th with the Ordinance Review Committee and the Planning Board. The meeting will explain the proposed changes to the Ordinance.

April 4th @ 3:00—mowing bids

April 9th, 10th, 11th, 15th if needed @ 4:00 pm. Meetings with the budget committee.

April 23rd regular Selectboard meeting.

May 14th and 28th regular Selectboard meetings.

XIV. Adjourn

With no objection the Selectboard adjourned at 6:26 pm.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84392884234?pwd=a3RiM0FVQkdHMmNjZjVqNjRUcGVZUT09>

Meeting ID: 843 9288 4234

Passcode: 007746