



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

Selectboard Minutes
Date: July 16, 2024, 6:00 PM at the Municipal Building

Items Are Often Taken Out of Order to Accommodate Schedules

Rev 0

South Thomaston Selectboard present: John Spear (Chair), Jeff Northgraves, Sue Snow

Others Present: Moira Paddock, Pennie Alley, Sally Merchant, Barbara Reitz, Sandy Weisman, Catherine Lerme, Sondra Wallace, John Koffel, Lynn Tootill, Virginia Slawson, Maureen Spencer, David Elwell, Cliff Dacso, Noah Carlson

VIA Zoom: Terri Baines, Amy Drinkwater, Kevin Gordon, Paul DiMaggio, Rhonda Nordstrom, Laurie McReel, Julian Speare, Peter Just, Julia

- I. **Call to Order**
 - a. Spear called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
 - a. Northgraves led the pledge of allegiance
- III. **Adjustments to Agenda**
 - a. **New Hire- Julian Speare**
 - b. **Appoint Noah Carlson Captain of the Ambulance Service**
 - c. **Appoint Toby Choyt Part Time Temporary Laborer**
 - d. **Consider Approving Fire Departments Request for Permission to Apply for the Fire House Subs Foundation Grant and The Leary Fire Fighters Grant**
 - e. **Cliff Dacso's Correspondence**
 - f. **Allow The Fire Chief to Donate Jaws of Life to Midcoast School of Technology**
- IV. **Review and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes (June 18th & June 27th)**
 - A. Northgraves made a motion to approve the June 18 minutes and Snow seconded.
 - B. Spear made a correction to New Business 7H. Under Article 27 in Spears motion changing "to the existing Auxiliary members" to "the existing Facility members"
 - C. Add an "a" to "made a motion"
 - D. To add "if they intend to remain on the committee"
 - a. Northgraves made a motion to approve the June 27 minutes as amended and Snow seconded.

Motion Passed 3-0

- V. **Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda**
- VI. **Old Business**

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- a. Update on Court Action Regarding Maine Coast Seafood**
 - a. Moholland spoke on the Maine Coast Seafood Update on behalf of Terri Baines, the CEO. The Town attorney was told by Wig that he will be getting an attorney and communication will then go through them instead. She has not received a complaint and is not sure when they will file one.
 - b. There was discussion from the public about the tank that sits on the property and the hose connected to the tank is now in the water. Spear stated that DEP and our state legislature should get involved. Baines tried to get in contact with someone about the tank but was given the run around.
 - b. Update Regarding Contact with Fire Marshal's Office Concerning Continued Occupancy of GBC**
 - a. There was confusion about who would contact the Fire Marshal and so Spear stated that he would send a letter out to the Fire Marshal.
 - c. Report from Auxiliary Chair Concerning The Conversation with Representative Pingree and Senator King's Office Regarding CDS Funds**
 - a. Spear stated that the 1.2 million from Senator King's Office was not granted for our project. He tried calling their office with no luck for more answers. He will be contacting Representative Pingree's office to see what to do with the rest of the money.
 - b. The Auxiliary will be holding a meeting with Kevin Bunker. They appointed Terri Baines as a member and will be following up with Representative Pingree's Office regarding the grant. They will lay dormant until the Facilities Committee gets up and running.
 - d. Review of Draft Repurposed Mission Statement For The Library and Community Center Facilities Committee**
 - a. Speaking on the several emails that were sent to the Selectboard. Spear stated that the Auxiliary cannot change what they have already done in the Mission statement.

VII. New Business

- a. Consider New Hire – Julian Speare Requested by Ambulance Director Amy Drinkwater**
 - a. Amy Drinkwater presented information about Julian Speare. Julian told the board that he currently lives in Topsham and is an EMT just waiting to get tested out for his advanced. He is looking for an EMT position.
 - b. Spear motioned to approve Julian Speare as an EMT for the South Thomaston Ambulance and Northgraves seconded.

Motion passed 3-0
- b. Appoint Noah Carlson Captain of the Ambulance Service**
 - a. There was a vacancy for the captain's position since Ryan Colson went to assistant director. Noah was nominated because he is dedicated and works hard.

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- b. Northgraves motioned to move Noah Carlson to the Captains position on the Ambulance Service and Snow seconded.

Motion Passed 3-0

c. Appoint Toby Choyt Part Time Temporary Laborer

- a. Spear discussed that he put a help wanted flyer up and was able to hire Toby Choyt for the duration of the summer while he's here to help him as the Part Time Laborer.
- b. Northgraves made a motion to appoint Toby Choyt as Temporary Laborer for the Interim Road Commissioner. Snow seconded the motion.

Motion Passed 2-0-1 as Spear Abstained

d. Consider Approving Fire Departments Request for Permission to Apply for the Fire House Subs Foundation Grant and The Leary Fire Fighters Grant

- a. Cliff Dacso discussed with the board that the Leary Grant was going to be for a Fire Eductor for around \$5,000, and the Fire House Subs Foundation Grant has denied them twice, but he would like to keep trying and resubmit his last grant to explore blankets that put out fires that will be roughly \$11,000.
- b. Northgraves motioned to approve the request to apply for the Fire House Subs and Leary Fire Fighters Grant. Snow seconded.

Motion passed 3-0

e. Fire Chief to Donate Jaws of Life to Midcoast School of Technology

- a. The Fire Chief asked if he could get permission to donate all the Jaws of Life equipment to the Midcoast School of Technology for the fire program. He stated that it would go for around \$2,000-\$4,000 however the old jaws of life came with the utility truck, so he didn't see the need to sell it.
- b. Northgraves made a motion to allow the Fire Chief to donate the old jaws of life to the Midcoast School of Technology. Snow seconded.

Motion Passed 3-0

f. Appoint Wes Pratt as Community Resilience Committee Member Pending Response of Interest

- a. Snow motioned to table the appointment of Wes Pratt to the Community Resilience Committee until we receive a letter of interest next Selectboard meeting. Northgraves seconded.

Motion Passed 3-0

g. Accept Resignations of Jan Gaudio, Moira Paddock and Kate Clark from the LCCFC

- a. Snow motioned to accept the resignation from Jan Gaudio, Moira Paddock, and Kate Clark and Northgraves seconded.

Spear added his appreciation and thanks for all their hard work thus far.

Motion Passed 3-0

h. Consider Appointments to LLCFC

- a. There were 5 vacant seats as the board had 9 seats with 4 members staying. There was a discussion from the Public who are worried about having nonresidents on the Committee. Spear stated that the people who are out of town are knowledgeable about what's going on and that the Facilities Committee is an ADHOC committee, and they are allowed to join as it's not in the statute.
- b. They suggested asking the people who were interested in the committee to answer if they were for the new hybrid repurposed facilities committee, and they all agreed
- c. There was discussion on having an Alternate as well and it was discouraged as it would change the dynamic of the conversation. It was said the committee could come back and possibly switch into two subgroups, one for planning/designing and one for grants/fundraising.
- d. Northgraves made the motion to accept the following onto the committee: John Koffel, Kevin Bunker, Pennie Alley, Lynn Tootill, and Maureen Spencer. Snow seconded.

Motion Passed 3-0

- e. Spear entertained a motion for the Town Clerk to authorize and call a meeting within seven days and prepare and post the initial agenda.
- f. Northgraves so moved and Snow seconded.

Motion Passed 3-0

i. Consider Renominating John Spear as Selectboard Representative to LCCA Board

- a. Snow made a motion to nominate John Spear as the Selectboard Representative to the LCCA Board and Northgraves seconded.

Motion Passed 2-0-1 as Spear Abstained

j. Request of Pennie Alley on Behalf of The Community Resilience Committee to Use Solar Rebate Money for The Use of Ground Cover and Fence Installation At The Gilford Butler Center.

- a. Using some of the rebate money for crushed rock, a fence to be installed, and a weed barrier. There is roughly \$14,000 in rebate money from the Solar Panels. Spear stated that it's a good use for the rebate money only when we know we are for certain going to receive it.
- b. Northgraves made a motion for Pennie Alley to pay any of the cost associated with the project to be purchased with the rebate money but to not exceed the amount of the rebate. As well as the

understanding that this will happen after we know we are going to get the rebate. Snow seconded.

Motion Passed 3-0

k. Sign Certificate Settlement between Former and Current Tax Collectors

- a. Northgraves motioned that the board sign the Certificate of Settlement with the former Tax Collector and the Recommitment of the taxes to the current Tax Collector. Snow seconded.

Motion Passed 3-0

l. Sign Recommitment of Taxes to Current Tax Collector

- a. Northgraves motioned that the board sign the Certificate of Settlement with the former Tax Collector and the Recommitment of the taxes to the current Tax Collector. Snow seconded.

Motion Passed 3-0

m. Vote on Legislative Policy Committee Member

- a. Snow made a motion to vote for Kerry Leichtman and Kara George for the Legislative Policy Committee Member. Northgraves seconded.

Motion Passed 3-0

n. Consider a Nominee for the Ethel N. Kelley Memorial Award

- a. Spear nominated Terri- Lynn Baines for the Ethel N. Kelley Memorial award and Northgraves seconded.
- b. Northgraves motioned a friendly amendment to authorize the chair to sign the nomination. Snow made a friendly second.

Motion Passed 3-0

o. Acknowledgment of Warrant From the RSU 13 Tax Assessment

- a. The Selectboard acknowledged the total amount of \$3,684,330.97 for the RSU #13 Tax Assessment

p. Discuss Revaluation Request for Proposals

- a. Spear asked if we could have a couple companies come sit down and talk to the board. Have a meeting with them within the next month or so.

VIII. Monthly Reports

- a. The Selectboard reviewed the monthly reports.

IX. Donations

a. \$500 From John and Leslie Spear to Assist with Payment for Architectural Services for Repurposed LCC Facilities Committee

- a. There was a discussion about the previous donations made and if we would need to contact them for permission to be used for the Repurposed mission. Spear stated that the money from Andrew was already used and part of the donation from Cliff had been used. Spear will look into it.
- b. Northgraves motioned to approve the donation from John and Leslie Spear for \$500. Snow seconded.

Motion Passed 2-0-1 as Spear abstained

- X. **Correspondence**
 - a. **Cliff Dacso's Correspondence about Speeding on Island Road**
 - a. There was a discussion from Spear to contact the Sheriff's Office again as they had done previously for more patrol but would be most effective if the citizens kept sending letters to the Sheriff Office themselves. Northgraves brought up to create a citizen's petition for more of a police presence and coverage and take it to a special town meeting.
 - b. The public spoke and brought up suggestions such as holding a pedestrian safety awareness meeting or having speed cameras that send tickets to people who are speeding.
- XI. **Warrants Review and Approval**
 - a. The Selectboard reviewed and approved the warrants.
- XII. **Review Items for Next Agenda**
 - a. No items for the next agenda.
- XIII. **Schedule Future Meetings**
 - a. A Selectboard Workshop was scheduled for August 8 at 4:00 PM.
 - b. A Selectboard Meeting was scheduled for August 13 at 6:00 PM.
 - c. A Selectboard Meeting was scheduled for August 27 at 6:00 PM.
- XIV. **Adjourn**
 - a. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Join Zoom Meeting