



Town of South Thomaston, Maine
125 Spruce Head Road
P.O. Box 147
South Thomaston, ME 04858-0147

Tel: 207-596-6584
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Website: <https://souththomaston.me>

Selectmen:
Jeffrey Northgraves
John Spear
Sue Snow

Selectboard Minutes
Date: December 11, 2024, 6:45 PM at the Municipal Building
Following Special Town Meeting

Present: John Spear, Jeff Northgraves, Sue Snow
Also Present: Hannah Moholland, Pennie Alley
Zoom: Terri Baines, Ervin Curtis, Meg Rassmussen, Neil Cambridge,
Sondra Wallace

Rev 0

- I. **Call to Order**
 - a. Spear called the meeting to order at 6:45 PM
 - II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
 - a. Spear led the pledge of allegiance
 - III. **Public Hearing Regarding Georges River Shellfish Ordinance**
 - a. *Consider the Proposed Changes to the Georges River Shellfish Ordinance*
 - b. *Spear opened the Public Hearing at 6:47 PM. Snow discussed all of the proposed changes to the Georges River Shellfish Ordinance which was distributed on the website and at the meeting. Curtis asked about getting fines for trespassing and how it worked. Snow stated that people are not allowed to cross someone's land without consent, and it would be a complaint from the land owner in order to receive a fine. Spear closed the Public Hearing.*
 - IV. **Adjustments to Agenda**
 - a. **Consider Personnel Changes in the Ambulance Department Leadership**
 - b. **Consider Cola increase for Budget and Budget Letter**
 - c. **Discuss and Approve Health Insurance Buyouts**
 - d. **Discuss Kevin McCormick Contract**
 - e. **Acknowledge Sales Analysis for Maine Revenue Services**
 - V. **Review and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes (November 12, November 26)**
 - a. **Northgraves made a motion to approve the minutes from November 12 and November 26 as amended and Snow seconded.**
- Motion Passed 3-0**
- VI. **Public Comment for items not on the agenda**
 - VII. **Old Business**
 - a. **Discuss Demo Debris Facility Sticker Price Cost and Other Issues**
 - i. Spear made additional changes to the Demo Debris Facility Manual. To include the name of the property of the debris source, to increase the sticker from \$10 to \$20 and changes to the prices of loads that are brought in. There was discussion on trying to get in front of contractors from bringing in outside debris that is not from South Thomaston. The



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next step is to go to a public hearing in January to hear the public's opinion on the changes presented and to let contractors know as well. Northgraves brought up that this is under a operations manual and its more an ordinance and should change the name to Demo Debris Ordinance. Spear suggested an enabling ordinance to be able to change things easily. However, at this point in time to work with what the Town has now.

- b. **Update on Maine Coast Seafood**
 - i. Spear suggested this discussion to go into executive session
 - ii. **Northgraves to go into executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A §405 (6)(E) and Snow seconded**

Motion Passed 3-0

- c. **Update on Solar Rebate**
 - i. No update on the Solar Rebate
- d. **Possible Continued Review for Town Administration Probationary Period (Possible Executive Session 1 M.R.S.A §405 (6)(A))**
 - i. **Northgraves motioned to go into executive session in pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A (6)(E) and Snow seconded.**

Motion Passed 3-0

VIII. New Business

- a. **Waive Building Permit Fee for Fire Department Shed**
 - i. **Northgraves made a motion to waive the permitting fee of \$50.40 for the Fire Department Shed and Snow seconded.**

Motion Passed 3-0

- b. **Consider Personnel Changes in the Ambulance Department Leadership**
 - i. The Ambulance Director and Deputy Director came into executive session with the board and discussed changes within the leadership positions. The Director stated she would like to step down and to help the new Director as he gets accustomed to the role. **Jeff motioned to accept the EMS Director Drinkwater's resignation as the Director with our regrets and thanks and appoint Chief Elwell as the EMS Director with an annual salary of \$11,000, to promote the Assistant Director Colson to Deputy Director of an annual salary of \$5,000, and to assign Drinkwater to Assistant Director with an annual salary of \$4,159 effective January 1, 2025, and Snow seconded.**
 - ii. This does not affect the budget.

Motion Passed 3-0



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c. Accept the Resignation from Maureen Spencer from the Library and Community Center Facilities Committee

- i. Spear announced that Maureen Spencer had recently passed away but wanted to acknowledge her resignation from the committee and to thank her for her efforts. Spear mentioned to write her husband a letter.

d. Consider Disciplinary Action Against Gregory Ranquist Regarding Demo Debris Facility Rules

- i. Gregory Ranquist was informed about the Selectboard meeting and failure to appear is not an excuse to act. Runquist did not appear at the Selectboard meeting. Spear and Northgraves suggested taking away his privileges for a year.
- ii. **Northgraves made a motion to suspend Ranquists privilege to dump at the Stump Dump for one year and Snow seconded.**

Motion Passed 3-0

e. Discuss Kevin McCormick Contract

- i. The contract ends at the end of December and to table this to the next Selectboard meeting. **Northgraves made a motion to table this until the next Selectboard meeting and Snow seconded.**

Motion Passed 3-0

f. Consider MOU and Support of the Climate Action Plan Grant

- i. Cambridge and Rassmussen discussed the Climate Action Plan Grant and that this is through St. George and needs a letter of support for the plan to be submitted to the State. Northgraves mentioned the cost share table that was on the MOU, which would be a 10% local match. Rassmussen stated that there is no cost share and to revise the application. The MOU was not needed to take action until a later date, just the letter of support that was due December 17th.
- ii. **Northgraves made a motion to approve the letter of support and to take up the MOU at the next Selectboard meeting and Snow seconded.**

Motion Passed 3-0

g. Consider Cola Increase for Budget and Budget Letter

- i. Social Security is increasing 2.5% along with the Federal Government salary. **Northgraves made a motion to set the Cola at 2.5% and Snow seconded.**

Motion passed 3-0



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- ii. The budget letter offers the opportunity to come to the board and request a different cola.
- iii. **Northgraves made a motion to approve the budget letter with the changes and Snow seconded.**

Motion Passed 3-0

h. Discuss and Approve Health Insurance Buyout

- i. The board discussed the personnel policy regarding health insurance.
Northgraves motioned to approve to authorize payment to the health insurance stipend in accordance with the personnel policy and Snow seconded.

Motion Passed 3-0

IX. Monthly Reports

X. Appointments

a. EMA Director

- i. No applicants for EMA Director at this point

b. Other, if Any

XI. Donations

XII. Correspondence

a. Acknowledge Sales Analysis for Maine Revenue Services

- i. Spear wanted to acknowledge the Sales Analysis. The assessed values are under the actual sales values and looking at another factoring and to put this on the next agenda.

XIII. Warrants Review and Approval

XIV. Schedule Future Meetings

- a. The future meetings will be held on January 14th and January 28th

XV. Adjourn

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86768214249?pwd=AbhxhwxM5SHy6rbcRxhzrgoEwQJvRh.1>

Meeting ID: 867 6821 4249

Passcode: 709840