



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

Tel: 207-596-6584
E-mail: Hannah@souththomaston.me
Website: <https://souththomaston.me>

Selectmen:
Jeffrey Northgraves
John Spear
Sue Snow

Selectboard Minutes
Date: January 14, 2025, 6:00 PM at the Municipal Building

Rev 0

Present: Jeffrey Northgraves, Sue Snow
Also Present: Pennie Alley, Moira Paddock, Cliff Dacso, John Burchett, Angelo Loungo, John Mcrea, Val Kratzman, Carol Kratzman, Angela Monroe, Robert Monroe, Hannah Moholland, Jill Neagle
Zoom: John Spear (Chair), Terri Baines, Paul DiMaggio, Betsy Lunt, Sondra Wallace, Ervin Curtis, John Koffel

- I. **Call to Order**
 - a. Spear called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
 - a. Northgraves led the pledge of allegiance
- III. **Public Hearing**
 - a. ***Discuss Proposed Changes to the Demo Debris Facility Operations Manual Including Instituting User Fees (See Website for Summary)***
 - i. *Spear explained the proposed changes in the operating manual which was sent out prior to the meeting. It will become effective March 1, 2025.*
 - ii. *The public had questions about the half rate pricing for brush disposal and the possibility of eliminating the ability of dumping brush or grass for a year in the can and put it on the ground instead. There were questions on the contractors in good standing as the price for a years worth of dumping was far too low and what the difference was between how much contractors were dumping and how much the residents were dumping. There was the thought of this being a double taxation on the residents, however, that is not the case its either everyone pay a fee or people who use it the most pay an additional fee.*
 - iii. *Spear closed the public hearing at 6:56 PM.*
- IV. **Approve Prior Meeting Minutes (December 9th, 11th, 18th)**
 - a. **Spear Motioned to table to minutes of December 18th to the next meeting**
Motion passed 3-0
 - b. **Spear made a motion to approve the December 11 minutes and Snow seconded**
Motion Passed 3-0
 - c. **Spear made a motion to approve the December 9 minutes and Snow seconded**



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Motion Passed 3-0

V. Adjustments to Agenda

- a. Strike out Update on Forest Preserve
- b. Strike out Consider new Hire for Jacky Porter for the Ambulance Service
- c. Consider new Hire John Burchett for the Ambulance Service and Fire Department

VI. Old Business

- a. **Update on Next Steps for Forest Preserve**
- b. **Consider MOU with St. George Regarding Climate Action Plan Grant**
 - i. Spear made a motion authorize the Town Administrator to sign the Action Plan Grant with St. George and Northgraves seconded.

Motioned passed 3-0

- c. **Update on Solar Rebate**
 - i. Moholland explained that the IRS sent a letter
- d. **Consider Assessors Agent Contract**
 - i. **Spear made a motion to approve the proposed two-year term Assessors contract and Snow seconded.**
 - ii. **Authorize the acting chair to sign the contract**

Motion passed 3-0

- e. **Review Maine Revenue Sales Analysis**
 - i. The sale prices are way above the property prices. Spear brought up the possibility of doing another factoring for next tax year.
- f. **Possible Executive Session with Town Attorney on Maine Coast Seafood 1 M.R.S.A (6)(E))**
 - i. **Spear made a motion to authorize the Town Attorney to negotiate a stipulated judgment order between the Town of South Thomaston and the Spruce Head Lobster Company**

Motion Passed 3-0

VII. New Business

- a. **Email of December 17, 2024, of Moira Paddock Regarding Concerns with the LCCFC Procedures**
 - i. Paddock explained that in a previous meeting there was supposed to be a sign on the basement door to indicate that nobody is allowed to be down there. The board reiterated that there should be a sign there. Paddock also explained that the Library and Community Center Facilities Committee was having meetings outside of the scheduled meeting as well as not having agendas nor packets available to the public.



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b. Consider Grant Application for Fire Department

- i. Dacso spoke about the grant for getting the Fire Department an extractor for washing PPE. The grant is allowing to give \$5,000 and there will be some leftover which will be taken out of the Fire Department budget.
- ii. Spear motioned to approve for the fire department to submit the fire protection services grant of \$5,000 for an extraction machine and Snow seconded.

Motion Passed 3-0

c. Consider Ambulance Write-Offs Concerning Unpaid Bills

- i. There were three payments that were written off for the total of \$1,197.78.
- ii. **Spear made a motion to write off three accounts in the total of \$1,197.78 and Snow seconded**

Motion Passed 3-0

d. Discuss Part- Time Town Office Position

- i. This was discussed in executive session

e. Discuss Budget Development Timeline and Possible Articles for Annual Town Meeting

- i. The date for Town Meeting will be set as soon the school budget meeting is known. The board decided to tentatively have Department Head Budget Meetings on February 18th and the 20th. As well as the Budget Committee Meetings April 14th, 15th, 16th, and 17th as a back up

f. Update on 2022 Tax Lien Foreclosures

- i. There are six properties that the Town has acquired. Spear suggested writing to the former owners that if they want their property to pay the taxes that are owed

g. Consider New Hire Jacky Porter for the Ambulance Service Requested by David Elwell Ambulance Director

- i. This was taken out of the agenda as an Adjustment

h. Consider New Hire Angelo Luongo for the Fire Department Requested by David Elwell Fire Chief

- i. Luongo worked in many fire departments throughout his life, he was unable to work on one for some time, but since moving here recently he would like to be accepted onto the South Thomaston Fire Department
- ii. **Spear moved to accept the Fire Chiefs request and approve new hire Angelo Luongo and Northgraves seconded.**

Motion Passed 3-0



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i. Consider New Hire John Burchett for the Fire Department and Ambulance Service

i. He lives in Cushing but previously lived in South Thomaston. He would like to be on the Fire Department and Ambulance Service as a driver.

ii. **Spear motioned to hire John Burchett to the Fire Department and Ambulance Service and Snow seconded**

Motion Passed 3-0

j. Personnel Matter Possible Executive Session 1 M.R.S.A (6)(A))

i. **Spear motioned to go into executive session and Snow seconded**

Motion Passed 3-0

VIII. Monthly Reports

IX. Appointments

a. EMA Director

i. **Spear motioned to appoint Chris Gamage to EMA Director effective immediately and Snow seconded**

Motion Passed 3-0

b. EMA Assistant Director

i. **Spear motioned to appoint Cheyenne Grierson as EMA Assistant Director and Snow seconded**

Motion Passed 3-0

c. Library and Community Center Facilities Committee

i. **Spear motioned to appoint Terri-Lynn Baines to the Library and Community Center Facilities Committee and Snow seconded**

Motion Passed 3-0

d. Conservation Commission

i. **Spear motioned to appoint Rachel Snow with a term ending 2027 and Snow seconded**

Motion Passed

e. Budget Committee

i. **Spear motioned to appoint Rachel Snow with a term ending 2028 and Snow seconded**

Motion Passed 3-0

f. Other, if applicable

X. Donations



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- a. **Spear motioned to accept the \$30,000 donation from Delaware Valley Corporation to the Library and Community Center Facilities Committee and Snow seconded**

Motion Passed 3-0

- XI. **Warrants Review and Approval**
- XII. **Schedule Future Meetings**
 - a. **February 11 at 6:00PM**
- XIII. **Adjourn**
 - a. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88641762239?pwd=izy6YJKujlaAepGVsrJKEhyoSqCWSe.1>

Meeting ID: 886 4176 2239
Passcode: 279962