



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

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

Selectmen:
Jeffrey Northgraves
John Spear
Sue Snow

Selectboard Minutes
Date: February 20, 2025, 4:00 PM

Rev0

Present: Jeff Northgraves, Sue Snow
Also Present: Sondra Wallace, Terri Baines
Via Zoom: John Spear

I. Call to Order

Spear called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Snow led the pledge of allegiance.

III. Approve Prior Meeting Minutes

Snow moved and Northgraves seconded a motion to table until the next meeting.

Motion passed 3-0.

IV. Adjustments to Agenda

Generator at the Municipal Building.

Move Conservation Commission Budget up so it is the first budget reviewed.

V. New Business

1. Generator at the Municipal Building

CMD Power Systems can come tomorrow to fix the generator. They are hopeful the magpack will fix the issues we have been having with the generator. The cost for CMD Power Systems to travel here, install the part plus the cost of the part is \$670. After a brief discussion, the Selectboard approved the repair.

2. Budget Discussion with Department Heads

a. General Public Safety

The Selectboard discussed the Knox County Dispatch situation/issues. The Selectboard will monitor the situation over the next year. If any changes are made at Knox County Dispatch it will affect next year's budget.

The Animal Control Boarding fee was added to the budget. This cost is the same as last year.

Proposed General Public Safety Budget \$72,137.



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b. CEO/LPI

Baines presented the budget

The LPI wages portion of the budget increased. In the first six months of the 24-25 budget Terry Brackett, the town's LPI, averaged 18 hours per month. Brackett feels the increase in hours is due to many septic systems being replaced and more people applying for internal plumbing permits.

Under supplies Baines added (2) 2 pack file organizers for blueprints and maps.

The proposed CEO/LPI budget is \$65,616.

c. Town Roads

Road Commissioner Spear presented the Town Roads budget.

In the 24-25 Budget some driveway culverts will be replaced. More berm/ditching will be done. Mowing the sides of the road is done twice a year on major roads.

In the budget under striping is the safety lines on Waterman Beach and some on Island Road, also re-doing a portion of the center line on Island Road.

Money is included for limbing on Westbrook Street and paving Grierson Road. Grierson has already been prepped for paving.

There was a brief discussion on adding to the Paving Reserve over the next two years.

The proposed Town Roads Budget is \$436,004.

d. Solid Waste

Spear presented the Solid Waste Budget.

There was a discussion on dealing with the brush that is brought out to the Demo Debris facility. The options are to burn the brush, put it in the container, have a separate container for brush or have it shredded. Jimmy Kalloch tried shredding the existing pile. Some of the old stuff was hard to shred. Kalloch took away what he shredded. At this time, this seems like a good option. Money would need to be budgeted to have the pile shredded.



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The Town is looking into composting grass etc.

The Selectboard added \$50,000 for disposal fees and \$10,000 for shredding the pile.

Spear and Baines will do some more work on the numbers.

There was a brief discussion on the fuel surcharge and supplies.

The proposed Solid Waste Budget is \$366,506.

e. Building & Grounds

The Selectboard reviewed the budget.

\$1,500 was added for pumping the septic at the little red school house. This will involve digging up the pavement and re-paving after the septic is pumped.

The amount for mowing was adjusted to the correct number.

There was a discussion that there may be the need for a new generator.

The proposed Building and Grounds budget is \$70,425.

Building Reserve –

After a discussion on the age of our buildings and the age of the generator at the municipal building, it was proposed to put \$30,000 into the Building Reserve.

f. Town Landing

There was a discussion on working on the floats and the actual numbers in the spreadsheet for money already spent.

The proposed Town Landing Budget is \$5,231.

The Selectboard proposed adding no money to the Town Landing Reserve.



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g. Administration

The Selectboard reviewed the Administration Budget. It was suggested to add a notetaker for Selectboard meetings. \$2,000 was added for this.

The proposed Administration Budget is \$270,967.

h. Conservation Commission

Sondra Wallace presented the Conservation Commission budget.

A new expense is testing water samples.

There is an increase in educational program line.

The road clean up supplies line was renamed Conservation Commission Activity Supplies. The line has increased for water testing supplies.

The Selectboard and Wallace discussed testing the water from the culvert at the town landing.

Wallace explained the \$700 in the budget for water testing would not cover all the water testing they would do, but it was a start. The Selectboard increased the water testing line to \$1,600.

The proposed Conservation Commission Budget is \$2,370.

Forest Preserve Reserve

It was proposed to eliminate the Fire Chief's proposal for the Fire Truck Repair Reserve of \$3,171 and instead to put \$3,000 in the Forest Preserve Reserve.

The Board and Wallace discussed what the Forest Reserve monies would be used for? The money in the reserve could be used for surveying, a Forester and future preparation of the land for recreational purposes. Also, legal fees to combine all properties into one and getting the easement approved and recorded and title insurance. There will need to be an environmental hazard assessment and an appraisal. The appraisal will determine if we get the whole grant.

The Selectboard proposed \$10,000 as a place holder in the Forest Preserve Reserve. This can be revisited and changed if needed.



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Fire SCBA Reserve was amended to \$5,000.
\$3,171 was removed from the Fire Truck Repair Reserve.

i. Capital

There was no budget to review.

3. Schedule future meetings

There are two regular meetings scheduled in March. March 10th and March 25th.

The Selectboard will meet on March 13th to review all budgets.

VI. Adjourn

Without objection, the Selectboard adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85872607022?pwd=rVuPgUHjYKU9j4MuKImpPU5NygAlqBu.>

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Meeting ID: 858 7260 7022

Passcode: 444504

Schedule next meeting at March 13th. @4

Selectboard approved March 18, 2025