

**THOMASTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2009**

**Members Present:** Maura Martin, First Selectman; Selectmen Jeremiah Scully and Kenneth Hopkins

**Others Present:** Sue Smith, Finance Director; John Scheppard, Board of Finance; Jeff Dunn, Aaron Thibault, Becky Skinner, Matt Kamens, Betty Bazin, Opera House Commission; Jamie Wilson, Jim O'Neill, Fire Commission; Tony Durso; Diane LaBonte; Pat Santa Maria, Recording Secretary

Meeting was called to order at 7:33 pm.

**Approval of Minutes:**

**A motion was made by K. Hopkins and seconded by J. Scully to accept the June 23, 2009 minutes as amended to read (Pg. 2, 3<sup>rd</sup> sentence) considered instead of approved. With all in favor, motion carried.**

**Board/Commission Appointments:**

A letter was received from David Bernagel requesting reappointment to the Ambulance Commission

**A motion was made by J. Scully and seconded by K. Hopkins to reappoint Dave Bernagel for the Ambulance Commission. With all in favor, motion carried.**

**Tax Refunds:**

**A motion was made by J. Scully and seconded by K. Hopkins to refund \$6.68 to Brian Schlicher for excess payment as recommended by Sandra Bruscano, Tax Collector. With all in favor, motion carried.**

**A motion was made by J. Scully and seconded by K. Hopkins to refund \$89.83 to Lori Bouthillier for excess payment as recommended by Sandra Bruscano, Tax Collector. With all in favor, motion carried.**

**A motion was made by J. Scully and seconded by K. Hopkins to refund \$95.14 to Thelma Sodano for excess payment as recommended by Sandra Bruscano, Tax Collector. With all in favor, motion carried.**

**A motion was made by J. Scully and seconded by K. Hopkins to refund \$90.14 to Raffaello Lapio or Lena Lapio for excess payment as recommended by Sandra Bruscano, Tax Collector. With all in favor, motion carried.**

**A motion was made by J. Scully and seconded by K. Hopkins to refund \$67.54 to Raffaello Lapio or Lena Lapio for excess payment as recommended by Sandra Bruscano, Tax Collector. With all in favor, motion carried.**

**A motion was made by J. Scully and seconded by K. Hopkins to refund \$93.03 to DCFS Trust for excess payment as recommended by Sandra Bruscano, Tax Collector. With all in favor, motion carried.**

**A motion was made by J. Scully and seconded by K. Hopkins to refund \$3.31 to Raymond Foshay for excess payment as recommended by Sandra Bruscano, Tax Collector. With all in favor, motion carried.**

**Review/action on financial reports regarding Thomaston Opera House operations:**

Discussions ensued with the Opera House Commission and J. Scheppard regarding the \$109,999.00 the Opera House owes the Town and the running of their operation as a Town organization.

**A motion was made by J. Scully and seconded by K. Hopkins in accordance with the power vested in the Board of Selectmen by Town Ordinance to veto any plan to conduct Opera House productions as a Town run organization after June 30, 2010. With all in favor, motion carried.**

**A motion was made by J. Scully and seconded by K. Hopkins in accordance with the power vested in the Board of Selectmen by Town Ordinance to veto any use or any contract of the use of the Opera House that does not receive prior review and approval of the Board of Selectman. With all in favor, motion carried.**

**A motion was made by J. Scully and seconded by K. Hopkins in accordance with the power vested in the Board of Selectmen by Town Ordinance to veto any plan to hire additional contract or staff personnel that does not receive the prior review and approval of the Board of Selectmen. With all in favor, motion carried.**

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The Board recessed at 9:30 pm.

The Board reconvened at 9:35 pm.

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**Review of proposed changes to the Volunteer Service Awards Program:**

J. Scully recused himself from this review at 9:35 pm.

Discussions ensued with J. Wilson, J. O'Neill, and J. Scheppard regarding service awards active and non-active volunteers receive from the Town.

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J. Scully was reseated at 10:00 pm.

**A motion was made by J. Scully and seconded by K. Hopkins to move to Public Comment next on the agenda. With all in favor, motion carried.**

**Public Comment:**

T. Durso, Old Northfield Rd., asked if the \$171,000.00 that the Town received from the Federal Stimulus to pave Old Northfield Rd. will come off of the Town's \$10,000,000.00 loan for road work? M. Martin told him that in theory, the Town will have less to pay in year 2. S. Smith explained that the \$10,000,000.00 is only in place, we don't have to spend it all.

**Review of Elected Officials' Benefits:**

The Board reviewed the benefits the Tax Collector currently receives.

**A motion was made by K. Hopkins and seconded by J. Scully to approve the "Policy Statement Regarding Wages and Benefits for the Tax Collector" (See Attachment #1). With all in favor, motion carried.**

M. Martin recused herself from this review at 10:25 pm.

J. Scully and K. Hopkins reviewed benefits the First Selectman's currently receives.

**A motion was made by J. Scully and seconded by J. Scully to approve the “Grandfather Clause Regarding Wages and Benefits for the First Selectman” (See Attachment #2). Will all in favor, motion carried.**

**A motion was made by J. Scully and seconded by K. Hopkins to approve the “Policy Statement Regarding Wages and Benefits for the First Selectman” (See Attachment #3). With all in favor, motion carried.**

**A motion was made by J. Scully and seconded by K. Hopkins that effective upon the adoption of the “Policy Statement Regarding Wages and Benefits for the First Selectman” adopted by the Board of Selectmen on July 21, 2009, the current First Selectman, Maura Martin, will be offered the option of keeping her current benefits as detailed in a grandfather policy name “Town of Thomaston Grandfather Clause Regarding Wages and Benefits for the First Selectman” adopted by the Board of Selectmen on July 21, 2009.**

J. Scully rescinded his motion.

**A motion was made by J. Scully and seconded by K. Hopkins that effective upon the swearing in for the election of November 10, 2009 upon the adoption of the “Policy Statement Regarding Wages and Benefits for the First Selectman” adopted by the Board of Selectmen on July 21, 2009, the current First Selectman, Maura Martin, will be offered the option of keeping her current benefits as detailed in a grandfather policy name “Town of Thomaston Grandfather Clause Regarding Wages and Benefits for the First Selectman” adopted by the Board of Selectmen on July 21, 2009 (See Attachment #4). Will all in favor, motion carried.**

**Old Business:**

M. Martin discussed a change order received from S & S Asphalt Paving for \$47,201.83 for prevailing wages for the year 1 road from last fall, noting the contractor is still the lowest bidder.

**A motion was made by J. Scully and seconded by K. Hopkins to approve the change order from S & S Asphalt Paving in the amount of \$47,201.83 to cover the costs of wage adjustments.**

**A motion was made by J. Scully and seconded by K. Hopkins to withdraw his motion, With all in favor, motion carried.**

**A motion was made by J. Scully and seconded by K. Hopkins to approve the change order submitted by S & S Asphalt Paving in the amount of \$47,201.83 to cover the costs of wages adjustments to account for prevailing wage standard. With all in favor, motion carried.**

**A motion was made J. Scully and seconded by K. Hopkins to approve the unit pricing adjustments as submitted by S&S Asphalt Paving in order to reflect compliance with State prevailing wage standards and the understanding that they are still the lowest bidder. With all in favor, motion carried.**

**New Business:**

None at this time.

**A motion was made by K. Hopkins and seconded by J. Scully to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 pm. With all in favor, motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Santa Maria, Recording Secretary