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DRAFT

**THOMASTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 2010**

Roll Call:

Meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.

First Selectman Mone, Selectman Scheppard and Selectman Barrett, Sr. were present. Deborah Bournival, Administrative Assistant, was in attendance to take the minutes.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2010 regular meeting as presented. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Barrett, Sr. to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2010 special meeting as presented. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scheppard. With all in favor, motion carries.

Selectman Scheppard made a correction to the minutes of the March 29, 2010 special meeting. Under **"2010-2011 Budget Discussions"**, in the first paragraph, it should read as follows:

"At the last meeting of the Board of Finance, it was presented to the Board of Selectmen that additional reductions need to be made in order to get to **a 3% tax increase**", not at 3% taxation.

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to approve the minutes of the March 29, 2010 special meeting as amended. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Barrett, Sr. to move to Item #6 on the agenda – New Business/Clock Tower Restoration Committee-clock face quotes and update. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scheppard. With all in favor, motion carries.

David Shypinka, Chairman of the Clock Tower Restoration Committee, was in attendance at tonight's meeting to update the Board on the restoration efforts of the committee and to discuss the three quotes for the clock face repair. The quotes are as follows:

Kronenberger & Sons Restoration	\$10,750.00
Valley Restoration	\$ 8,209.00
(also provided another proposal for \$17,251.00 – additional work)	
Henry Osowiecki & Sons	\$ 6,980.00

According to Dave, all quotes are based on the same scope of restoration work to be performed on the clock tower south face and adjacent sheathing. Plymouth Glass will be donating the glass and the person to install it as well. Dave expressed to the Board that the committee recommends Henry Osowiecki based on the fact that there is approximately \$7,400 left in the restoration account.

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to accept the proposal from Henry Osowiecki & Sons and authorize the Clock Tower Restoration Committee to contract with them to do the restoration work, with an amount not to exceed \$6,980. Discussion ensued. Motion was not seconded. Motion fails.

The Board felt that Valley Restoration's quote included more work to be performed than the quote presented by Henry Osowiecki. Therefore, the Board asked Dave to bring back to the committee to have all companies re-quote on the exact same work.

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to go back to Item #3 on the agenda – Tax Refunds. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

Tax Refunds:

A motion was made by Selectman Barrett, Sr. to approve the tax refund submitted by the Tax Collector in the amount of \$298.02 to Gary Baker, bill moved to Waterbury. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scheppard. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Barrett, Sr. to approve the tax refund submitted by the Tax Collector in the amount of \$84.97 to Gary Baker, bill moved to Waterbury. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scheppard. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Barrett, Sr. to approve the tax refund submitted by the Tax Collector in the amount of \$425.47 to Gary Baker, bill moved to Waterbury. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scheppard. With all in favor, motion carries.

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A motion was made by Selectman Barrett, Sr. to approve the tax refund submitted by the Tax Collector in the amount of \$151.55 to Gary Baker, bill moved to Waterbury. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scheppard. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Barrett, Sr. to approve the tax refund submitted by the Tax Collector in the amount of \$150.56 to Gary Baker, bill moved to Waterbury. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scheppard. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Barrett, Sr. to approve the tax refund submitted by the Tax Collector in the amount of \$159.50 to Gary Baker, bill moved to Waterbury. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scheppard. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Barrett, Sr. to approve the tax refund submitted by the Tax Collector in the amount of \$173.24 to Gary Baker, bill moved to Waterbury. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scheppard. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Barrett, Sr. to approve the tax refund submitted by the Tax Collector in the amount of \$42.31 to Susan Berg and James Abbott, overpayment of taxes due to adjustment by Assessor. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scheppard. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Barrett, Sr. to approve the tax refund submitted by the Tax Collector in the amount of \$24.00 to Joanne VanSickle, overpayment of real estate taxes. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scheppard. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Barrett, Sr. to approve the tax refund submitted by the Tax Collector in the amount of \$59.21 to Nissan Infiniti, assessed value was reduced by the Assessor, reducing the total tax due. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scheppard. With all in favor, motion carries.

Board/Commission Appointments:

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to appoint Sal Santa Maria of 115 Carter Road to the Economic Development Commission as a regular member for a term period March 6, 2010 to March 6, 2014. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to appoint Kay Kalat of 141 High Street to the Housing Authority as a regular member for a term period March 31, 2010 to March 31, 2015. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

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A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to appoint Robert Carr of 43 Pine Hill Road to the Inland Wetlands Watercourse Commission as an alternate member for a term period January 20, 2010 to January 20, 2013. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to appoint Roger Perreault of 35 Karen Drive to the Pension Committee as a permanent member. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to appoint Matthew Kamens to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an alternate member for a term period April 1, 2010 to April 1, 2015. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

Old Business/Opera House – set up criteria to serve as benchmarks:

The current loan balance, as of today's date, is \$185,291.69. The Strategic Planning Committee has a proposal that will go before the Opera House Commission and then onto the Board of Selectmen. By the end of the fiscal year, the Committee will present a plan to pay off the loan and a plan going forward. The Committee will be meeting with Landmark and the Palace Theatre this week, in addition to continued discussions with the Warner Theatre and another company to possibly run the operations of the Opera House.

The selectmen discussed certain criteria as benchmarks to be considered to suspend operations at the Opera House and send to a town meeting the disposition of said future operations. The criteria are as follows:

1. That at the conclusion of each show, expenditures do not exceed revenues.
2. That the Opera House's loan balance to the Town shall at no time exceed the balance at the start of the fiscal year as of July 1, 2010.
3. That the Opera House loan balance to the Town shall be reduced by \$30,000 by December 1, 2010 and by an additional \$15,000 by March 31, 2011 and another additional \$15,000 by June 30, 2011, totaling a minimum of \$60,000 during the fiscal year.

NOTE: Goals for subsequent years reductions shall be established in conjunction with the Opera House budget proposals.

New Business/Memorandums of Agreement for White Collar and Police:

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard authorizing First Selectman Mone to sign the Memorandum of Agreements for the White Collar Union and the Police Union on behalf of the Town. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

New Business/Small Cities Program – Re-Adopt the Fair Housing Resolution, etc.:

A motion was made by Selectman Barrett, Sr. to readopt the Fair Housing Resolution that read as follows:

WHEREAS, All American citizens are afforded a right to full and equal housing opportunities in the neighborhood of their choice; and

WHEREAS, State and Federal Fair Housing laws require that all individuals, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, marital status, age, mental or physical disability, lawful source of income, sexual orientation, familial status, be given equal access to rental and homeownership opportunities, and be allowed to make free choices regarding housing location; and

WHEREAS, The Town of Thomaston is committed to upholding these laws, and realizes that these laws must be supplemented by an Affirmative Statement publicly endorsing the right of all people to full and equal housing opportunities in the neighborhood of their choice.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Thomaston hereby endorses a Fair Housing Policy Statement to ensure equal opportunity for all persons to rent, purchase and obtain financing for adequate housing of their choice on a non-discriminatory basis: and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the First Selectman of the Town of Thomaston or his/her designated representative is responsible for responding to and assisting any person who alleges to be the victim of an illegal discriminatory housing practice in the Town of Thomaston.

Motion was seconded by Selectman Scheppard. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Barrett, Sr. to readopt the Fair Housing Policy Statement to read as follows:

It is the policy of the Town of Thomaston to promote fair housing opportunities and to encourage racial and economic integration in all its programs and housing development activities.

Programs funded and administered by this Town of Thomaston must comply with the provisions of Section 46a-64c of the C.G.S., and with related state and federal laws and regulations that prohibit discriminatory housing practices.

The Town of Thomaston or any of sub recipient of the Town of Thomaston will carry out an affirmative marketing program to attract prospective buyers or tenants of all majority or minority groups, without consideration of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, creed, sexual orientation, marital status, lawful source of income, disability, age or because the individual has children in all

programs and housing development activities funded or administered by the Town of Thomaston.

The municipality's First Selectman is responsible for the enforcement and implementation of this policy. The First Selectman may be reached at (860) 283-4421 or at emone@thomastonct.org.

Complaints pertaining to discrimination in any program funded or administered by this Town of Thomaston, may be filed with the First Selectman. The municipality's Grievance Procedure will be utilized in these cases.

Complaints also may be filed with the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunity, Special Enforcement Unit, 21 Grand Street, Hartford, CT 06106, Telephone (860) 541-3403.

A copy of this policy statement will be given annually to all Town of Thomaston employees and they are expected to fully comply with it. In addition, a copy will be posted throughout the Town of Thomaston.

Motion was seconded by Selectman Scheppard. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Barrett, Sr. to readopt the Compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to read as follows:

The Town of Thomaston does not discriminate in the provision of services, the administration of its programs, or contractual agreements. The Town of Thomaston seeks to fully carry out its responsibilities under the Title VI Regulations.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination on the grounds of race, color or national origin in programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance. Title VI provides that no person shall on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any programs covered by the Regulations.

This policy is effectuated through the methods of administration outlined in the Town of Thomaston's Fair Housing Plan and is fully implemented to ensure compliance by the Town of Thomaston, as the recipient, and by sub-recipients. The cooperation of all Town of Thomaston personnel is required.

Motion was seconded by Selectman Scheppard. With all in favor, motion carries.

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New Business/Special Board of Selectmen Meeting following Public Hearing:

An agenda was posted for a special Board of Selectmen meeting that will immediately take place after the public hearing and the Board of Finance meeting on Wednesday, April 7 to set the dates of the annual budget meeting and the referendum. The Board decided that Wednesday, April 21 is good for the annual budget meeting and that Monday, May 3 is good for the referendum.

Public Comment:

Mr. & Mrs. Yoos and Robby Pizzarelli from the Town Times were in attendance at tonight's meeting.

Mr. Yoos reiterated the issues he has been having with the P&Z office, specifically, his attempt to gain information as to the classification of his property.

Mrs. Yoos shared with the Board information she obtained re: pay raises for the remaining Opera House personnel. Selectman Scheppard said he would approach their commission and let them know what the white collar union is currently doing.

Mrs. Yoos wanted to know if going out to bid on town insurance was a possibility and maybe giving our business to a local company. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to adjourn the meeting at 9:31 p.m. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.