



Town of Thomaston
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DRAFT

**THOMASTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2010**

Roll Call:

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 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 April 7, 2010 special meeting as presented. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

First Selectman Mone made a correction to the minutes of the April 20, 2010 regular meeting. On page 6 under **"Public Comment"**, item #3 should read as follows:

"3. That the Opera House loan balance to the Town shall be reduced by \$30,000 by December 31, 2010...", not December 1, 2010.

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to approve the minutes of the April 6, 2010 regular meeting as amended. 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 \$24.00 to Karen & Leopold Cote, taxpayer paid lien fee before lien was applied. 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 \$574.10 to John Baker & Letitia Galpin-Baker, attorney overpaid account – confirmed homeowner SB refunded. 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 \$34.95 to Claire Makl, Assessor bill – already paid. 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 \$45.20 to Jose & Kathleen Chipelo, Assessor deleted bill – already paid. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scheppard. With all in favor, motion carries.

Board/Commission Appointments:

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to appoint Robert Flanagan of 11 Ada Drive as an Inland Wetlands hearing officer. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to appoint Ken Hopkins, as Maintenance Coordinator, to the Town Hall Complex Building Committee to replace Scott Simpson. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

Old Business/Rescind Call for Town Meeting – TVAC Energy Audit:

At the April 20, 2010 Board of Selectmen meeting, a motion was made to call for a town meeting on May 20, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Lena Morton Art Gallery authorizing the First Selectman to enter into an energy audit implementation program at the Thomaston Volunteer Ambulance Corps building. However, prior to making that motion, it was assumed that the Board of Finance had already approved this. This not being the case, the following motion is made to correct the error:

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to rescind the call made by the Board of Selectmen for a town meeting on May 12, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Lena Morton Art Gallery of the Town Hall. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

Old Business/Update on Track Committee Activities:

The Committee is planning a triathlon for July 24, 2010 at Nystrom's Park as a major fundraiser for the track effort.

New Business/Third Amendment to the Volunteer Fire Dept./TVAC:

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard that:

WHEREAS, Town of Thomaston (“Employer”) maintains the Town of Thomaston Volunteer Fire Department and Volunteer Ambulance Corps Length of Service Awards Program (“Plan”); and

WHEREAS, the Employer has reserved the right to amend the Plan pursuant to Section 8.1 therein; and

WHEREAS, the Employer has determined that the Plan should be amended, effective July 1, 2010, to freeze all benefit accruals under the Plan as of said July 1, 2010, except to the extent a Participant’s benefit accrual has already been frozen by the terms of the Second Amendment to the Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that, pursuant to the power reserved to the Employer under Section 8.1 of the Plan and delegated to the undersigned officer by resolution of the Board of Selectman of the Employer, the Employer hereby amends the Plan in the following particulars:

1. Effective July 1, 2010, Section 1.1 is amended to read as follows:

1.1 Accrued Benefit. “Accrued Benefit” means the benefit that the Participant would be entitled to at his Normal Retirement Date, based on his Years of Credited Service to date. However, a Participant’s Accrued Benefit shall not be less than his Accrued Benefit determined as of June 30, 2010 based upon the Plan provisions in effect as of June 30, 2010, nor shall a Participant’s Accrued Benefit ever be based on Years of Credited Service commencing on or after July 1, 2010.

2. Effective July 1, 2010, Section 1.31 is amended by adding the following subsection (e):

(e) No Years of Credited Service that the Volunteer completes after June 30, 2010, shall be credited under the Plan except that said years shall continue to be credited for purposes of Section 1.32 as Years of Vesting Service.

3. Effective July 1, 2010, Section 2.1 is amended by adding the following new last sentence:

No Volunteer shall enter the Plan as a Participant on or after July 1, 2009, and no further Accrued Benefit will accrue for any Volunteer under the Plan for any purpose after June 30, 2010.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Employer has caused this Third Amendment to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned duly authorized officer on the date set forth below.

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

New Business/Resolution Adopting the Third Amendment:

A motion was made by Selectman Barrett, Sr. that:

By action of the Board of Selectman for the Town of Thomaston (“Employer”) taken on May 4, 2010, the following resolutions were duly adopted:

WHEREAS, the Employer maintains the Town of Thomaston Volunteer Fire Department and Volunteer Ambulance Corps Length of Service Awards Program (“Plan”); and

WHEREAS, the Employer has reserved the right to amend the Plan pursuant to Section 8.1 therein; and

WHEREAS, the Employer has determined that the Plan should be amended, effective July 1, 2010, to freeze all benefit accruals under the Plan as of said July 1, 2010, except to the extent a Participant’s benefit accrual has already been frozen as of an earlier date by the terms of the Second Amendment to the Plan; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Plan be, and it hereby is, amended by the Third Amendment substantially in the form attached hereto.

RESOLVED, that the appropriate officers of the Employer be, and they hereby are, authorized and empowered to take any action and execute any writing they deem necessary to carry out the purpose and intent of the foregoing resolutions.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolutions were duly adopted by the Employer on the date first set forth above and that such resolutions have not been modified or revoked and remain in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have signed this certificate as of the date first indicated above.

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

New Business/Highway Department – Drainage Bids:

Glen Clark from the Highway Department was in attendance at this meeting to discuss and get approval on the drainage bids for the 2010-2011 road improvements. A spreadsheet was handed out showing all eight contractors and their bids for all four items (see attached). Paul’s recommended G.H. Kelley & Son. Discussion ensued.

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A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to award the drainage work to G.H. Kelley & Son for the 2010-2011 budget year road improvements. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

New Business/Memorandum of Understanding – ICAC:

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard that Edmond Mone, the First Selectman, be and herewith is authorized to execute a Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of the Thomaston Police Department for the Town with the Connecticut Department of Public Safety for participation in the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to move to Old Business to take up the Clock Tower Restoration. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

In attendance at tonight's meeting from the Clock Tower Restoration Committee were Beth Jackson and David Shypinka, Chairman. They were here to give an explanation of the work that is required per the specs for Phase II and the three bid proposals that were received. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to award the contract to Henry Osowiecki for restoration of Phase II of the clock tower in the amount of \$6,980.00. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to reject the Valley Restoration bid for Phase II in the amount of \$17,251 due to the cost factor. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to reject the Kronenberger & Sons bid for Phase II in the amount of \$10,750 due to the cost factor. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

Public Comment:

In attendance were Mr. & Mrs. Yoos, Wayne Kamens, Joe Fainer and Robby Pizzarelli of the Town Times.

Mrs. Yoos said she noticed that our parking lot has been rather full on certain nights – can we accommodate this additional parking when numerous events are occurring at the same time? Other parking options in town were discussed.

Mr. Yoos stated that the Opera House needs to absorb the administrative costs/overhead into each show and asked if any other fundraisers are planned to counteract these costs? Joe Fainer agrees. Discussion ensued.

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Selectman Scheppard said the Opera House Commission is working on the RFP to contract out for operational services. All members of this commission are now on the same page and know it needs to go in this direction.

Wayne Kamens commented that most volunteers of the Opera House put in a lot more than 40 hours a week.

Some discussion of the budget took place. First Selectman Mone presented a letter from a resident asking that the Town leave certain streetlights on for safety reasons, while others agreed with shutting them off. Due to the failure of the budget to pass, the Board of Selectmen has been asked to come up with another \$174,000 in further reductions from the Town Hall side, with another \$174,000 coming from the Board of Education side for a total reduction of approximately \$348,000. Some suggestions were for White Collar employees to go from a 35 hours per week to 32 hours per week. We will also be looking to Public Works for additional concessions and the Library for additional cuts as well. We will consider taking money from GASB (apprx. \$80,000). To offset this, there may be \$25,000 in uncollected taxes and fines that the Tax Collector is working on.

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.