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**DRAFT**

**THOMASTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, JUNE 15, 2010**

**Roll Call:**

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

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

**Approval of Minutes:**

Selectman Scheppard made note that both the regular minutes of June 1, 2010 and the special minutes of June 7, 2010 had one too many words in the last sentence of paragraph #1 under Roll Call. The word "in" needed to be removed.

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2010 regular meeting as amended. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to approve the minutes of the June 7, 2010 special meeting as amended. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

**Board/Commission Appointments:**

The Board of Selectmen received notification from the Democratic Town Committee that they recommend the reappointment of Wayne Kamens to the Ambulance Commission for another three-year term.

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A motion was made by Selectman Barrett, Sr. to reappoint Wayne Kamens to the Ambulance Commission as recommended for a term from July 30, 2010 to July 30, 2013. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scheppard. 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 \$8.74 to Michelle Azzara, for overpayment of motor vehicle taxes. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scheppard. With all in favor, motion carries.

**A motion was made by Selectman Barrett, Sr. to move to item #6 on the agenda – New Business/Recommendation of Pension Committee to Hire Fiduciary Investment Advisors. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scheppard. With all in favor, motion carries.**

Kristen Mossiman-O’Sullivan, Steve Turner and Paul Pronovost from the Pension Committee and Christopher Rowlin and Micheal Goss from Fiduciary Investment Advisors of Windsor, CT were in attendance at this meeting.

This company comes highly recommended to the Pension Committee. They are a fee-only independent registered investment advisory firm that has no other business lines, consulting is their only business, they do not have a broker/dealer affiliation and 100% of their revenue is derived from fees their clients pay for their advice. They are 100% employee owned, made up of a 30-person staff. They service many municipalities across the state. There will be no cost to the town, all fees will be paid out of the pension assets.

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to accept the recommendation of the Pension Committee and empower First Selectman Mone to enter into a legal agreement with Fiduciary Investment Advisors of Windsor, CT. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

**New Business/Information and Update on Tax Sales:**

Peggy Duffy, Tax Collector, was in attendance to discuss tax sales. She handed out an informational packet (power point presentation) from CCM on “What is a Tax Sale”.

If a person fails to pay any tax, the tax collector, per state statutes, has the right to make personal demand (written demand) for such taxes. The demand is a delinquent notice informing the person that as of a given date, the records indicate that they owe past due taxes. The payment is hereby demanded for these taxes. If payment is not received by the date prescribed in the demand notice, the tax collector can proceed with collection enforcement measures per state

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statute. The tax collector reserves the right to enforce collection of taxes by use of any of the various methods prescribed in the statutes, including the sale the property. The tax collector currently has 22 properties for possible sale to recoup the unpaid taxes.

**Review and Approval of Neighborhood Assistance Act Applications through the Department of Revenue Services:**

First Selectman Mone and Deborah Bournival, his administrative assistant, gave a brief overview of the Neighborhood Assistance Act program and how it could benefit the town.

The Neighborhood Assistance Act is a tax credit program run by the Department of Revenue Services and is designed to provide funding for municipal and tax exempt organizations by providing a corporation tax credit for CT-based businesses that make cash contributions to these entities. Businesses can receive a credit of 60% of their approved contribution to certain programs (100% in the case of certain energy conservation programs) within their current fiscal tax year. The minimum contribution on which a tax credit can be granted is \$250 and the maximum is \$150,000.

There are currently five (5) program applications to be submitted to the Department of Revenue Services. These applications must first be approved by the municipality and then by the Department of Revenue Services. Once approved, a listing of all eligible programs from the various municipalities in the state will be compiled and placed on the Department of Revenue Services website for interested organizations to review. Following is the list of applications for approval:

- Clock Tower Restoration Committee, asking for \$15,000 for Phase III of the restoration project, which is not just for appearances, but also for safety concerns from falling debris. The restoration will repair the historical, visual point of downtown Thomaston and for the enjoyment of all who pass through town.
- Fine Arts Connection of Thomaston, asking for \$2,668.00 for summer concert series and equipment.
- Town of Thomaston, Town Hall Maintenance Issues, asking for \$1,125.00 for park benches upgrade throughout town and;
- Town of Thomaston, Town Hall Maintenance Issues, asking for \$2,000.00 for security cameras for levels 2 & 3 and;

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- Town of Thomaston, Town Hall Maintenance Issues, asking for \$15,000.00 for a heat pump upgrade.
- Town of Thomaston, Volunteer Fire Department Building, asking for \$27,000.00 for a new LED sign to service the fire department and the community as a whole.
- Town of Thomaston, Minibus, asking for \$47,000.00 for a new minibus to service the elderly and disabled population of the town.

Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to approve all applications presented and send along to the Department of Revenue Services for their approval. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

**FOI Commission Hearing Results (EDC):**

First Selectman Mone read a letter from Atty. DiPentima re: the hearing results of the FOI Commission on the Paul Yoos vs. EDC matter. It states:

After a full hearing of the Freedom of Information Commission on June 9, 2010, the Commission unanimously adopted the recommendations of the hearing officer and dismissed the complaints, subject to certain agreed upon conditions.

The conditions are that the Economic Development Commission must have at least 10 copies of the agendas at the meeting and that all commissioners must not carry on conversations after the meeting has adjourned.

**A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to add the Board of Fire Commissioners letter to the agenda under New Business. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.**

We received a letter from the Board of Fire Commissioners expressing their concerns as to the lack of fire personnel available during the daytime to respond to emergency calls. They are requesting that the town policy be amended to allow all non-essential town employees to respond to daytime calls on the first alarm and not the second.

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to amend the town policy to allow non-essential employees to respond to daytime calls on the first alarm. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

**Old Business/Small Cities Application (executive session):**

**A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to go into executive session at 7:50 p.m. inviting in Peter Testa of L. Wagner & Associates and Jeff Dunn. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.**

**A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to come out of executive session at 8:08 p.m. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.**

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard that the Town of Thomaston will continue to allow deferment of payment and interest on the South Main Street property, to be reviewed again in six months. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

**New Business/Results of BOS Inquiry into Possible Inappropriate Actions- EDC (executive session):**

**A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to go into executive session at 8:10 p.m. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.**

**A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to come out of executive session at 8:31 p.m. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.**

The Board of Selectmen recently asked town counsel to research the participation and actions taken by certain EDC members during their tenure on said commission. Per counsel's letter dated June 11, 2010, no inappropriate or illegal actions were committed by the commission members. Therefore, this Board moves to agree with said counsel opinion.

**Public Comment:**

Mrs. Yoos had questions as to the outcome of the inquiry into the actions of the EDC. Discussion ensued.

**A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.**