



Town of Thomaston
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THOMASTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2009

Roll Call:

Meeting was called to order at 7:47 p.m. by First Selectman Maura Martin.

Those present were 1st Selectman Martin, Selectman Jeremiah Scully, Selectman Kenneth Hopkins and Deborah Bournival, Administrative Assistant, to take the minutes.

A motion was made by Selectman Hopkins to move to Item #5 on the agenda. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scully. With all in favor, motion carries.

CL&P Presentation re: Upgrade of Transmission Lines:

In attendance at this meeting were Marcia Wellman, Municipal Relations from the CL&P Transmission Division and Jeff Martin, Project Manager for CL&P to speak on the Central Connecticut Reliability Project. Also in attendance were various residents of the Walnut Hill Road area in which the existing network runs through.

Mr. Martin explained that the ISO-NE (Independent System Operator for New England) has identified a number of system weaknesses throughout New England, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island. In Connecticut, the interstate transfer capacity is limited, affecting Connecticut reliability in the near-term and regional reliability over the longer term. The current preferred project scope is to construct approx. 36 miles of new 345-kV overhead transmission lines from Frost Bridge Substation in Watertown to North Bloomfield Substation in Bloomfield. The Thomaston portion is approx. 3 miles of 345-kV transmission lines, with an estimated 28 new structures, with typical heights of 90 ft. for wooden H-frame structures and 130 ft. for delta pole structures. The typical right-of-way width is currently 250 ft. This project is in the early stages of development, no construction will take place until some time in 2011 if approved. Discussions ensued.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Selectman Scully to approve the minutes of the August 4, 2009 regular meeting and the minutes of the August 20, 2009 special meeting. Motion was seconded by Selectman Hopkins. With all in favor, motion carries.

Board/Commission Appointments:

A motion was made by Selectman Scully to appoint Scott Potter of 139 Clay Street, Thomaston to the Board of Fire Commissioners filling the vacancy created by the resignation of Robert Lamothe. Motion was seconded by Selectman Hopkins. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Scully to reappoint Richard O'Connell of 454 Hickory Hill Road, Thomaston to the Ambulance Commission with his term ending July 30, 2012. Motion was seconded by Selectman Hopkins. With all in favor, motion carries.

Tax Refunds:

A motion was made by Selectman Hopkins to approve the tax refund submitted by the Tax Collector in the amount of \$34.56 to Toyota Motor Credit Corp., vehicle sold 8/09 per Assessor. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scully. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Hopkins to approve the tax refund submitted by the Tax Collector in the amount of \$72.72 to Nissan Infiniti, vehicle sold 7/08 per Assessor. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scully. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Hopkins to approve the tax refund submitted by the Tax Collector in the amount of \$20.55 to Danny Malanga, vehicle pro-rated by Assessor. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scully. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Hopkins to approve the tax refund submitted by the Tax Collector in the amount of \$231.13 to Sally Goddard, GMC Mortgage Company overpaid – refund to homeowner per GMC. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scully. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Hopkins to approve the tax refund submitted by the Tax Collector in the amount of \$46.71 to Edart Leasing Company LLC, vehicle pro-rated by Assessor – vehicle sold 11/08. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scully. With all in favor, motion carries.

**Regular Board of Selectmen Meeting
Tuesday, September 1, 2009
Page Three**

A motion was made by Selectman Hopkins to approve the tax refund submitted by the Tax Collector in the amount of \$1,832.24 to Key Equipment Finance, Inc., Assessor made correction – equipment billed under Ink Spot. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scully. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Hopkins to approve the tax refund submitted by the Tax Collector in the amount of \$13.66 to Raymond Goad, Assessor pro-rated 8/09. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scully. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Hopkins to approve the tax refund submitted by the Tax Collector in the amount of \$63.07 to Raymond Goad, Assessor pro-rated 7/09. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scully. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Hopkins to approve the tax refund submitted by the Tax Collector in the amount of \$228.58 to DCFS Trust, Assessor pro-rated. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scully. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Hopkins to approve the tax refund submitted by the Tax Collector in the amount of \$157.68 to Armand Defiore, Assessor added exemption. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scully. With all in favor, motion carries.

Review & Action on FY '08-'09 Ambulance Budget Overruns:

No action taken. The Board will take up again at the next regularly scheduled meeting in two weeks.

A motion was made by Selectman Hopkins to move to Item #10 on the agenda – Public Comment. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scully. With all in favor, motion carries.

Those in attendance voiced many concerns and had many questions as to the overall operations of the Opera House. Specifically, what were the costs associated with the Opera House and the breakout from the Town's budget. Discussions ensued.

Review & Possible Action Re: Collective Bargaining Agreement:

A motion was made by Selectman Scully to go into executive session at 9:55 p.m. Motion was seconded by Selectman Hopkins. With all in favor, motion carries.

The Board came out of executive session at 10:15 p.m.

Regular Board of Selectmen Meeting

Tuesday, September 1, 2009

Page Four

A motion was made by Selectman Scully authorizing First Selectman Martin to enter into the proposed agreement between the Town of Thomaston and the White Collar Union as presented. Motion was seconded by Selectman Hopkins. With all in favor, motion carries.

Old Business:

None at this time.

New Business:

A motion was made by Selectman Hopkins to approve the changes to the existing Section 125 Premium Only Plan as presented. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scully. With all in favor, motion carries.

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A motion was made by Selectman Hopkins to call for a special town meeting on Wednesday, September 16, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Lena Morton Art Gallery of the Town Hall to approve the purchase of two (2) new police cruisers at an amount not to exceed \$50,570.00, to be funded by the "Capital or Nonrecurring Fund Police Cruiser Reserve", in the amount of \$25,000.00, with the balance of \$25,570.00 to be appropriated from general fund surplus. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scully. With all in favor, motion carries.

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Currently, there is a request before the Board from Will Cummings, FACT's Art Department Co-Chairman, to construct and install a sign showing the entrance to the Lena Morton Art Gallery in front of the Main Street entrance to Town Hall. With Town Hall being a historic building, the sign must not conflict with historic specifications. It will match the current signs and have gold lettering with a black background and be constructed by CT SignCraft out of Naugatuck. FACT will pay for the sign. The Town Hall Building Committee has already given its approval for the sign, subject to any zoning and/or historic building regulations.

A motion was made by Selectman Scully to post a Lena Morton Art Gallery sign outside in front of the Main Street entrance of Town Hall as approved by the Thomaston Town Hall Building Committee, subject to any zoning and/or historic building regulations. Motion was seconded by Selectman Hopkins. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Hopkins to adjourn the meeting at 10:26 p.m. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scully. With all in favor, motion carries. Minutes respectfully submitted by Deborah Bournival, Administrative Assistant.