



Town of Thomaston

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DRAFT

THOMASTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2016

Roll Call:

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

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

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Selectman Perreault to approve the meeting minutes of the April 5, 2016 regular meeting as presented. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

First Selectman Mone indicated that both the Ambulance and Vintech contracts be discussed in executive session as it needs to be negotiated first. Therefore, we amend the agenda under "New Business" to reflect executive session.

New Business/Ambulance/Vintech Contracts (executive session):

A motion was made by Selectman Perreault to go into executive session at 7:03 p. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

Out of executive session at 7:21 p.

A motion was made by Selectman Perreault to approve the Ambulance contract as presented. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Perreault to approve the Vintech contract with the Thomaston Volunteer Ambulance Corps as presented, pending town attorney approval. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

New Business/Fair Housing Month – Resolution Approval:

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

Whereas, all persons are afforded a right to full and equal housing opportunities in the neighborhood of their choice; and

Whereas, federal fair housing laws require that all individuals, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, be given equal access to all housing-related opportunities, including rental and home ownership opportunities, and be allowed to make free choices regarding housing location; and

Whereas, Connecticut fair housing laws require that all individuals, regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, learning disability, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation or gender identity or expression, be given equal access to all housing-related opportunities, including rental and home ownership 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 to insure equal opportunity for all persons to rent, purchase, obtain financing and enjoy all other housing-related services of their choice on a non-discriminatory basis as provided by state and federal law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

That the Chief Executive Officer 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 practices in the Town of Thomaston and for advising such person of the right to file a complaint with the State of Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) or the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) or to seek assistance from the CT Fair Housing Center, legal services or other fair housing organizations to protect his/her right to equal housing opportunities.

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

New Business/Conflict of Interest Policy – Review/Approval:

A motion was made by Selectman Perreault to approve the Conflict of Interest Policy as presented. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

New Business/Disciplinary Action Policy – Review/Approval:

Discussion ensued. Under “Procedure/Suspension” item #2, the following wording should be changed:

“2. Supervision has the authority to suspend an employee under their supervision, ***and shall*** confer with the First Selectman and Human Resources before taking action”; and

Under same paragraph under “A”, change “consults” to “consult” adding “shall” just before.

Also, under “Discharge”:

“4. Serious and/or repeated cases of employee misconduct will result in discharge. ***Supervisor shall consult*** with the First Selectman and Human Resources”.

A motion was made by Selectman Perreault to approve the Disciplinary Action Policy as amended above. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

New Business/Dress Code Policy – Review/Approval:

A motion was made by Selectman Perreault to approve the Dress Code Policy as presented. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

New Business/EEO Policy – Review/Approval:

A motion was made by Selectman Perreault to approve the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Policy as presented. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

Old Business/LED Street Lighting Discussion:

First Selectman Mone recently had discussions with Aaron Alibrio of Johnson Controls about performing the audit and installing LED street lights at no cost to the Town to make up for the shortfall in the geothermal system. The Town would only need to purchase the lights from Eversource. The other option would be for Johnson Controls to continue to look at solar arrays on the WPCA property to save money. Board suggests Johnson Controls look at both projects. They have a one-month timeframe. Any savings we realize will go into fund for capital improvements.

Old Business/Kenea Park Fund Policy Discussion:

There must be \$25,000 left in the trust according to our town attorney. At the last Board of Selectmen meeting, it was suggested by the Beautification Committee members to adopt a policy that would protect the funds (\$25,000+) in the Kenea Park Fund for future beautification/infrastructure projects. Some questions were who are we protecting with this policy, will there be a limit of drawdown from the account, etc. If there is more than a 50/50 match, no one will want to use the funds. First Selectman Mone will discuss grant options with the Committee.

Board/Commission Appointments/Reappointments:

A motion was made by Selectman Perreault to appoint Neil Johnson to the Greenway Committee. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

Tax Refunds – none.

Communications:

May 5th – Governor’s Council on Climate Change Stakeholder Engagement Event.

Public Comment – none.

A motion was made by Selectman Perreault to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 p.m. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.