

Thomaston Board of Finance
Minutes of the Meeting of August 9,2011

Present: D. Colavecchio, chairman; K.M. O’Sullivan, G. Seabourne, S. Turner, F. Treglia, M. Galbraith
Also present: R. Tingle, manager, WPCA; WPCA members: T. Mueller, chairman; M. Madow,
J. Fainer; Paul Pronovost, director of public works.
Also: Members of the public, press

1. Call to Order

Chairman Colavecchio called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All rose to recite the pledge.

3. Minutes

i.) 7/12/11 Regular Meeting Minutes

On a motion by K. M. O’Sullivan, seconded by S. Turner the minutes of the meeting of the Regular Meeting of July 12, 2011 were accepted as presented. Vote: Unanimous

ii.) 7/20.11 Special Meeting/Pubic Hearing Minutes

On a motion by K. M. O’Sullivan, seconded by G. Seabourne, the minutes of the Public Hearing of July 20, 2011 were accepted as presented. Vote: Unanimous

iii.) 8/3/11 Special Meeting Minutes

On a motion by K. M. O’Sullivan, seconded by S. Turner, the minutes of the Special Meeting of August 3,2011 were accepted as presented. Vote: Unanimous

4. New Business

i.) WPCA Web discussion

D. Colavecchio noted that the town is now paving the roads, including High St, and needs to plan a course of action regarding the area on lower High St. known as the “Web” where a series of sewer pipes of various ages and materials converge.

T. Mueller responded that the WPCA plans to install manholes, clean the pipes, and video the area in the 2011-2012 fiscal year to assess what is there. The cost of installing new sewer line will not be known until the assessment is completed. He noted that if the Town wants to include the Web in the road project and bond it, the project can be done at any time.

K. M. O’Sullivan advocated that the Web should be taken up as a separate matter, noting that the Town is already over budget on the road project and the scope of the Web project is unknown.

G. Seabourne observed that the engineering needs to be conducted to determine what the cost will be.

T. Mueller suggested that the WPCA could bond the project apart from the Town. The WPCA will explore the possibility and report back to the Board of Finance.

On a motion by S. Turner, seconded by K. M. O’Sullivan, it was voted to move item 5. Old Business: Road Bond Update up on the agenda. Vote: Unanimous

5. Old Business: Road Bond Update

Paul Pronovost, Director of Public Works reported that, of the roads scheduled for completion in year two of the project, 11 have been completed with Valley View, Woodbridge Lane, Baum Drive, and Karen Drive yet to be completed.

4. New Business, cont'd

On a motion by S. Turner, seconded by K.M. O'Sullivan it was voted to move CRRA contract up on the agenda. Vote: Unanimous

iv.) CRRA contract

Selectman Mone reported that the Town had reviewed the 3 options offered by CRRA for the removal and disposal of the Town's trash. The selectmen chose Tier 3 at \$59.50 which requires a 15 years commitment. The contract would begin in November 2012. E. Mone reported that the decision was made for the following reasons: CRRA is owned by the participating towns who serve as the CRRA board. The Watertown transfer station is nearby. If a profit is made on the energy produced, the partner towns share in the profit. K. M. O'Sullivan expressed her concern regarding the length of the commitment. On a motion by S. Turner, seconded by F. Treglia it was voted to enter a Tier 3 contract with CRRA for 15 years at a cost of \$59.50 per ton subject to approval at a Town Meeting. Vote: 5-1-0 K.M. O'Sullivan opposed the motion.

ii.) Workers' Compensation Claim settlement

Selectman E. Mone reported that the Workers' Compensation claim had been settled for \$15,000 with the Town paying \$7500 and CIRMA, the Town's insurance company, paying an equal amount.

On a motion by K. M. O'Sullivan, seconded by S. Turner, it was voted to take \$7500 from the Contingency Line# 2-001-10-142-570-805 and transfer it to Legal Line # 2-001-10-110-520-303 for the purpose of paying the Town's share of the settlement. Vote: Unanimous

iii.) Town Telephone System

Selectman Mone reported that the installation of the new telephone system will begin on Monday August 15. The system will be installed in the schools first. The first payment for the system will be funded in part with a "good customer" rebate from CIRMA in the amount of \$14,405; an additional \$5,595 is needed for the first payment. On a motion by K. M. O'Sullivan, seconded by S. Turner it was voted to move \$5,595 from Contingency Line# 2-001-10-142-570-805 to Capital/ Non-recurring Line # 2-001-90-908-000-000. Vote: Unanimous

On a motion by K. M. O'Sullivan, seconded by S. Turner, it was voted to move \$14,405 from the General Fund to Capital and Non-Recurring Fund Line # 2-001-90-908-000-000. Vote: Unanimous.

6. Communications: none

7. Financial Director's Report

Financial Director Tracey Decker reported that three departments have overspent their budgets. They are: Pension Committee, Parks and Recreation, and Public Works. The amount of the overages was not reported.

8. Member Comment

Chairman Colavecchio, on behalf of the Board, extended condolences to Robby Pizzarolli on the passing of his father. Robby is a reporter for the Town Times.

D. Colavecchio announced that a discussion among the members regarding the future of the Town will be part of the regular September meeting.

9. Adjournment

On a motion by S. Turner, seconded by F. Treglia the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Marie Galbraith, Secretary
Thomaston Board of Finance