



Town of Thetford

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**Selectboard Regular Meeting Minutes
Thetford Town Offices
Wednesday October 12, 2016 at 4:00 pm.**

Selectboard: John Bacon, Stuart Rogers James Dixon, Jessica Eaton (4:30pm)

Guest Sperry Wilson, our account manager from the Richards Group (Health Insurance Brokers).

Attendees: Tracy Borst (Town Clerk), Bill Huff, Wayne Parks, Officer Stuart Rogers, Police Chief Michel Evans (4:20), Jill Graff (Treasurer), Becky Buchanan (Assistant Treasurer), Jane Chambers, Alexis Jetter, Sue Farrell, and Lisa Cudhea.

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by Stuart Roger, Chair.

Discussion with Sperry Wilson the Health Insurance Update.

Sperry reviewed the process and the options available for the Town to offer its employees. Tracy Borst inquired of the use of 50% for deductible reimbursement – this was used as the “norm”, and Officer Stuart Rogers requested more clarification of the swap from HRA to HSA. The current Medical plan, through MVP, is facing a 15% increase for the same plan in 2017. The group discussed the plan’s offerings. The process would include the Selectboard deciding how much to cover of the cost for employees. Then the employees would choose a plan and sign up in November for the January 1 start date.

Bill Huff asked to present his findings for an option for coverage. He suggested giving employees a choice of plans, (doesn’t cost to allow the choice), and switch to a HSA with \$100 per month per covered person(s) – this would give a fixed amount towards the premium and gradually move to an 85/15 split with employees.

Stuart Rogers, Chair, asked about annual Health Connect Increases. Sperry replied MVP current plan is 15% but that plan is also closing out. With Green Mountain Care (Health Connect) Blue Cross is increasing 7% and MVP is increasing 3.7%. The board regulated their increases; both companies had asked for higher rate increases.

Sperry will send her spreadsheet of coverage options to Jill Graff, Treasurer, to disperse to the Selectboard, and others requesting it. This would allow the board to change figures and see the effects on the coverage.

Respectfully submitted: Tracy Borst, Town Clerk

Public Comment 5:18 p.m.

Comments were made about the seating arrangement of the Selectboard members at the meeting, which made it easier to hear the Selectboard conversation.

Alexis Jetter asked the Selectboard if they had received an email she sent which included information on grants, guidelines from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, and an appraisal of the house on Treasure Island from an agent at Martha Diebold Real Estate in Hanover NH, as well as other communications from state park agencies. Alexis Jetter read aloud a letter included in that email from Friends of Treasure Island concerning the plans to close the residence for the winter.

Lisa Cudhea requested a half hour on the Selectboard agenda on November 7th to discuss Treasure Island. Stuart Rogers said it will be on the November 7th agenda at 7:30 p.m.

Alexis Jetter asked about the Selectboard vacancy. Stuart Rogers said it will be discussed later in the meeting.

Lisa Cudhea expressed concern about discussion that takes place about Treasure Island after the specified agenda time.

Stuart Rogers clarified that the Selectboard is not discussing removal of the house on Treasure Island.

Correspondence 5:41 p.m.

James Dixon said the Lake Fairlee Dam is getting inspected at 9:30 on Friday morning.

The Selectboard received an annual Act 250 questionnaire for The Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains. The Selectboard accepted the questionnaire and the Stuart Rogers will submit it.

Minutes & Warrants 5:49 p.m.

LFD 10.1 \$52,223.05 Hebert Excavation

#31.3 \$10,920.00

CT-\$ weekly fees for F&W licenses sold. \$48.40

General Ledger Period 9 \$3,281.95

#21.4 \$16183.40

#38.1 \$535,758.29

#39.1 \$660,869.27

#39.2 \$11,806.24

Request from the Board of Listers to adjust the 2016 Grand List under *Lister Error and Omissions*: Parcel 642-202-11379, current use reduction should be \$521,100 instead of \$538,350.

Motion by Stuart Rogers to approve the adjustment to the 2016 Grand List. Seconded by John Bacon.
VOTE unanimous (4-0-0)

Motion by Stuart Rogers to accept the warrants as presented. Seconded by John Bacon.
VOTE unanimous (4-0-0)

Motion by Stuart Rogers to accept the Selectboard regular meeting minutes of October 3rd, 2016.
Seconded by John Bacon. **VOTE unanimous (4-0-0)**

FairPoint Paperwork Signature 5:48 p.m.

Motion by Stuart Rogers to sign the FairPoint petition for utility pole and wire change- out locations.
Seconded by John Bacon. **VOTE unanimous (4-0-0)**

Stuart Rogers and Jessica Eaton had a discussion with Ehrhard Frost about the trees at the Recycling Center. The Town is required to plant trees for screening.

Robinson Hill Road Paving Bids 6:21 p.m.

Motion by Stuart Rogers to accept the bid from Blaktop for the Robinson Hill Road paving project.
Seconded by John Bacon. **VOTE unanimous (4-0-0)**

Motion by John Bacon for the Selectboard Chair to sign the Blaktop Bid for the Robinson Hill Road paving project. Seconded by James Dixon. **VOTE unanimous (4-0-0)**

Stuart Rogers noted that Pike Industries agreed to put the front apron on the parking area for the town garage, as Pike used that area for their loader trucks, which seriously impacted the quality, and caused damage. The Town paid for the material only.

Surplus Equipment Options (DPW) 6:16 p.m.

The Selectboard was in agreement that the front loader purchased from Vermont Surplus Equipment, should be returned, as more repair work was needed than discussed at purchase.

Upcoming Agendas*

Letters and worksheets will be going out to everyone for 2017 budget requests. There was discussion about how the Selectboard wanted to meet with department heads concerning their budget requests. There was discussion about meeting before the Selectboard regular meeting time, to avoid working late into the night on budget.

The Selectboard discussed having an open interview and public forum for interim Selectboard candidates. Stuart Rogers will contact the candidates and ask them to come in Monday, October 17th at 8:00 p.m.

There will be an October 24th meeting for the Trailhead Project at 9:00 AM.

There will be a community forum for Treasure Island on October 23rd at the Thetford Center Community building.

James Dixon will email the Recreation Director for more information on credit card payment acceptance on MyRec.

The Selectboard noted that positions needed for a Town committee or Board must be appointed by the Selectboard.

Old Business

- Lake Fairlee Dam Reconstruction Update

James Dixon said there is a small amount of leaking where the two sections of the Dam come together, but it is not a big issue, and there is a process to fix such leaks.

Stuart Rogers asked for consideration of reimbursement for printer ink for the Selectboard Chair and Selectboard Assistant. The Selectboard agreed.

Other Business

Stuart Rogers said there are 2 DPW employees out for an extended period, due to injuries. Chad Martin has asked for permission to hire a temporary employee. The Selectboard agreed, stating the temporary employee can work 40 hours a week and are employed at the discretion of the Selectboard.

Stuart Rogers said he met with David Goodrich on site at the Shooting Range gate going to Stump dump. David Goodrich said the Club would like to move the gate further up, so it allows town and log trucks to pull fully off the road. This would also allow people to easily access the pond without parking in the roadway. The Selectboard was in agreement with the suggested location of the gate.

Motion by Stuart Rogers to discuss personnel and legal updates in an *Executive Session per Discussion of Matters as per 1 V.S.A., subsection 313, paragraphs A 1 & 3*. Seconded by Jessica Eaton. **VOTE unanimous (4-0-0)**

Motion by Stuart Rogers to exit Executive Session at 7:50 p.m. Seconded by James Dixon. **VOTE unanimous (4-0-0)**

Motion by Stuart Rogers to hire a Temporary DPW employee, with an active CDL. Seconded by John Bacon. **VOTE unanimous (4-0-0)**

Motion by John Bacon to adjourn the regular Selectboard meeting at 7:50 p.m. Seconded by James Dixon. **VOTE unanimous (4-0-0)**

The Selectboard meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.