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Town of Thetford • PO Box 126 • Thetford Center, VT 05075 • (802) 785-2922

**Selectboard Regular Meeting Minutes  
Thetford Town Offices  
Monday, December 3, 2018 7:00 PM  
(Times listed below are approximate)**

**Stuart Rogers called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.**

Stuart Rogers adjusted the agenda to add an update of Sayer's Bridge, signage for Sayer's Bridge and a Recreation Scholarship request to be discussed in an Executive Session.

Selectboard Members present: Richard Krzal, Stuart Rogers, Li Shen, Douglas Stone

Selectboard Members absent: Cathee Clement

Others present: Tracy Borst (Town Clerk/Town Treasurer), Martie Betts (Selectboard Assistant)

Community Members Present: Chad Martin, Kim LeFevre, Nicky Corrao, Jessica Eaton, Nancy Schindler, Barbara DeFelice

**Public Comment 7:04 PM**

No public comment

**Minutes & Warrants w/Correspondence 7:05 PM**

#55.1 \$31,977.78

#36.3F \$158,712.30

#41.2 \$11,129.44

Review of Timesheets for Payroll #25

**Motion** by Stuart Rogers to accept the warrants as presented. Seconded by Douglas Stone.  
**VOTE unanimous (4-0-0)**

**Motion** by Stuart Rogers to accept the Selectboard Meeting Minutes of November 26, 2018, as edited. Seconded by Li Shen. **VOTE unanimous (4-0-0)**

## **Thetford Center Green Use Discussion 7:31 PM**

Stuart Rogers said the question of what was allowable use of the Thetford Center Green by motorized vehicles had been asked. Historically, the VAST snowmobile trail cuts across the field to the corner of Route 113 and Tucker Hill Road, and also to the store for access to fuel. The Selectboard had received several emails expressing concern about snowmobiles off the trail.

Kim LeFevre was at the meeting and expressed concerns about other motorized vehicles being used on the green, including vehicle parking.

There was discussion about the liability of the Town in case of an accident or injury.

The Selectboard reviewed the Warranty Deed which restricted the use of the green to “be used for a village green or common. The property shall be kept open and shall be improved, to the extent possible, with amenities suitable for a village green or common, such as shade trees, flowers, benches and walking paths.

There was discussion about potential damage to the new septic system at the back of the green.

Tracy Borst noted that the VAST trail is available for snowmobile riders, and those riders are required to be registered and insured. This might not be the case for a person who is riding on town lands. There was discussion about requirements of VAST and the relationship with landowners.

The Selectboard recognized that two issues were being discussed; the use of snowmobiles and the use of other motorized vehicles. The Selectboard will readdress the motorized vehicles in the spring.

**Motion** by Li Shen to restrict winter motorized vehicle use of the Thetford Center Green to the established VAST trails only, which shall be visibly marked by VAST. Seconded by Douglas Stone. **VOTE unanimous (4-0-0)**

## **Renewal of Line of Credit - July 1, 2017 Storm Damage 8:38 PM**

Tracy Borst reviewed what was needed for extending FEMA and Federal Highway lines of credit.

**Motion** by Stuart Rogers to approve the Grant Anticipation Line of Credit Note with Community Bank in the amounts of \$2,607,494.00 FEMA and \$2,190,861.00 Federal Highway. Seconded by Douglas Stone. **VOTE unanimous (4-0-0)**

Tracy Borst noted that the Selectboard had truck financing approved last week but the town auditor suggested there might be a better rate available. Tracy Borst did some research and Mascoma Bank offered the best rate at 2.9%.

**Motion** by Stuart Rogers to approve financing with Mascoma Bank versus the previously approved agreement with Daimler Mercedes Benz Financial Services for the new DPW truck, in order to receive the better rate of 2.9%. Seconded by Douglas Stone. **VOTE unanimous (4-0-0)**

**Motion** by Douglas Stone to allow the Selectboard Chair to sign financial paperwork with Mascoma Bank for the DPW truck, if time restraints become an issue. Seconded by Li Shen. **VOTE unanimous (4-0-0)**

### **2019 Budget Discussions 9:06 PM**

There was discussion about whether or not the library, Upper Valley Ambulance and Thetford Volunteer Fire Department needed to submit a petition for appropriations. The American Legion was also discussed.

The Selectboard agreed that these organizations could be written as separate warned articles, so they do not need a petition, although they have the right to petition.

The first budget item discussed was the new minimum wage notice. The minimum wage will not be indexed by rate of inflation but by consumer price index, which is a 2.7% increase, (\$10.50 to \$10.78 per hour). The Town has previously allowed for a straight 2% COLA.

**Motion** by Douglas Stone to set COLA at 2.5%. Seconded by Li Shen. **VOTE (3-1-0)**

There was discussion about town employee holiday benefits. The policy will be reviewed by the beginning of 2019.

The Selectboard reviewed the DPW Capital Equipment budget and the Police Department Capital Equipment budget.

### **Old Business**

#### **- Upcoming Agendas - Meeting Schedule?**

Next week the Selectboard will review the Town Manager Search Committee letters of interest and form the committee.

The Selectboard will hold extra meetings for budget discussions only on December 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 to 9:00.

### **Other Business**

#### **- Town Garage Building Issues & Costs**

**Motion** by Li Shen for the Selectboard Chair to sign the agreement with the Overhead Door Company for repairs to the town garage doors. Seconded by Douglas Stone. **VOTE unanimous (4-0-0)**

**- New DPW Truck Delivery?**

No specific date for delivery of the new DPW truck. One DPW truck will be going into the shop for radiator repair.

**- Holiday Luncheon - Wed. Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>**

The Selectboard agreed to have the Holiday Luncheon catered by Fresco Deli.

**Sayer's Bridge complete.**

The Selectboard agree to post the height sign at 11'9".

**Executive Session**

Li Shen **moved** to find that premature, general public discussion of this subject would clearly place the state, municipality, other public body or person involved to suffer a substantial disadvantage. Seconded by Douglas Stone. **VOTE** unanimous (4-0-0)

**Motion** made by Stuart Rogers at 11:00 PM to discuss Recreation Department matters in an Executive Session per *Discussion of Matters as per IV.S.A., subsection 31,3 paragraphs A1 & 3*. Seconded by Douglas Stone. **VOTE** unanimous (4-0-0)

**Motion** by Stuart Rogers to exit Executive Session at 11:05 PM. Seconded by Douglas Stone. **VOTE** unanimous (4-0-0)

**Motion** by Stuart Rogers to approve application for Recreation scholarship. Seconded by Douglas Stone. **VOTE** unanimous (4-0-0)

**Motion** by Stuart Rogers to adjourn the Regular Selectboard Meeting at 11:06 PM. Seconded by Douglas Stone. **VOTE** unanimous (4-0-0)

The Regular Selectboard Meeting adjourned at 11:06 PM.