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Town of Thetford

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## **Selectboard Regular Meeting Minutes Thetford Town Offices**

Monday, August 14, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

### **Stuart Rogers called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.**

Selectboard Members Present: James Dixon, Jessica Eaton, Stuart Rogers, Li Shen, Douglas Stone

Others Present: Jill Graff (Town Treasurer), Tracy Borst (Town Clerk), Martie Moses (Selectboard Assistant)

Community Members Present: Wayne Parks, Kevin O'Hara, Dean Whitlock, James Thaxton, Jason Crance, Bill Huff

### **Public Comment 7:04 p.m.**

No public comment.

### **Correspondence & Liaison Updates 7:04 p.m.**

Li Shen gave an Energy Committee update, reporting there are still questions about the use of volunteers and fundraising. There is an updated letter about the Solar Project. TEC will be holding a workshop about two alternative heating options at Thetford Academy.

Li Shen gave an update on the Thetford Elder Network. There was discussion about the Town allocating money to TEN. Li Shen said in addition to the senior walk, there will be tai chi classes that focus on balance. Li Shen gave an update on the activities of the Community Nurse. There was brief discussion about the cook for the Senior Luncheons.

The Selectboard received an invoice from Ehrhart Frost for work done at the Hughes forest and for general town management.

The Selectboard received a letter from The Dufresne Group.

The Selectboard received a VLCT flyer for the Town Fair to be held at Killington, on October 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **Minutes and Warrants 7:28 p.m.**

Review of payroll pay period ending 8/12.

**Motion** by Start Rogers to approve the corrected version of payroll, applying COLA. Seconded by James Dixon. **VOTE unanimous (5-0-0)**

**Motion** by James Dixon to approve the Regular Selectboard Meeting Minutes of July 31, 2017, as edited. Seconded by Douglas Stone. **VOTE unanimous (5-0-0)**

**Motion** by Stuart Rogers to approve the Special Selectboard Meeting Minutes of August 4, 2017, as edited. Seconded by Jessica Eaton. **VOTE (4-0-1)** James Dixon abstained.

### **Storm Damage Update & Rt. 132 Bidding Review 7:53 p.m.**

There was discussion about road work on Tucker Hill, Cream Street and New Boston Road.

**Motion** by James Dixon to have Stuart Rogers sign the recommended bid contract for Northwoods Excavating for storm damage repairs on Route 132, contingent on Stantec clarifications and omissions. Seconded by Douglas Stone. **VOTE unanimous (5-0-0)**

### **Discussion with Planning Commission re: Draft Town Plan 8:03 p.m.**

Stuart Rogers announced the first hearing for the Draft Town Plan will be on August 24<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 until 10:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. This hearing can be continued, if necessary.

There was discussion between members of the Planning Commission and the Selectboard on the process that was done to create the Draft Town Plan.

There was discussion about how the Town Plan and Zoning work together.

There was discussion about warning the hearing and ideas on how to take minutes of the hearing.

### **Setting of 2017 Tax Rate 8:51 p.m.**

**Motion** by Stuart Rogers to set the 2017 municipal tax rate at .7030. Seconded by James Dixon. **VOTE unanimous (5-0-0)**

Due date for taxes is October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017, at 8:00 p.m.

### **Personnel Policy Discussion - Elected Official Addendum B 9:45 p.m.**

The Selectboard, Town Clerk and Town Treasurer reviewed the Draft Elected Official Addendum.

## **Discussion of Act 27 - Appointment of Clerk or Treasurer 10:02 p.m.**

Stuart Rogers explained that Act 27 allows municipalities the ability to warn to the voters at Town Meeting, or to hold a special Town Meeting, to decide on appointing the Town Treasurer and/or Town Clerk. This would be a separate warned article.

There was discussion about the advantages and disadvantages of appointing the Town Clerk and/or Town Treasurer.

There was discussion about Town Administrators and Town Managers

## **Old Business**

### **Update on Town Hall Floors with Tracy Borst**

Tracy Borst reported that the floor project went smoothly. There were fumes when office workers moved back in on Monday, and the refrigerator has to be replaced. All chairs and tables now have protective pads installed at the bottom of each leg. There was discussion about the number of rugs needed, and where and when to use them.

#### **- 2017 Working List - Review & Update**

#### **- Upcoming Agendas**

School House and Clay Road

Energy question

## **Other Business**

### **Camp Norway Waterfront Letter**

Stuart Rogers and the Town Tree Warden had a site visit. The Tree Warden has no concerns at this time.

### **Letter from Mary Ellen Parkman**

There will be a letter sent out to residents on Stevens Road and Quail John Road. Stevens Road will be closed until the Town gets approval for a replacement design.

#### **- Town Interest in Timothy Frost Church**

The Selectboard reviewed a Preservation Trust Report done for the Timothy Frost Church in 2013. There was brief discussion about the Town's interest in taking ownership of the Timothy Frost Church.

The Selectboard has received phone calls from residents on Houghton Hill Road, and Gary Road reporting culvert problems. There was brief discussion about Turnpike South, 5 Corners Road, Latham Road, van Norden Road, and Potato Hill Road.

**- Union Negotiations Update (Executive Session)**

**- Personnel Discussion (Executive Session)**

**Motion** made by James Dixon at 11:17 p.m. to discuss Union update and personnel in an Executive Session per *Discussion of Matters as per 1VSA.subsection 313 paragraphs A1&3*. Seconded by Stuart Rogers. **VOTE (5-0-0)**

**Motion** by Stuart Rogers to exit Executive Session at 11:48 p.m. Seconded by Li Shen. **VOTE** unanimous (5-0-0)

James Dixon will follow up with legal counsel regarding clarification of a union contract question.

**Motion** by James Dixon to adjourn the Regular Selectboard Meeting at 11:54 p.m. Seconded by Li Shen. **VOTE unanimous (5-0-0)**