

Approve April 12, 2021

TOWN OF THOMASTON
FEBRUARY 22, 2021
SELECTBOARD MINUTES

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING 5:30PM.

PRESENT: Joanne Richards, Ron Gamage, Susan Devlin, Kim Matthews, Town Manager Kara George, Pete Lammert, Bill Hahn, Sandy Moore, Charlie Grover, John Fancy, Diane Giese, Zel Bowman-LaBerge, Brian Doyle. **Absent:** Doug Erickson.

Discuss the recommendation to place PERC funds into a Solid Waste account.

Discussion was held to take the PERC money out of Reserves and place it into a Solid Waste Reserve Account.

ACTION: Motion made by Zel Bowman-LaBerge to move the funds. Seconded by Joanne Richards.

VOTE: 4-0.

Discussion held to nominate Doug Erickson as Chair of the Budget Committee. Joanne Richards Vice-Chair and Susan Devlin Secretary.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING 6:00 PM.

1. Meeting called to order at 6pm by Chair Pete Lammert.

PUBLIC HEARING

Motion to open the Public Hearing made by Bill Hahn. Seconded by Sandy Moore.

VOTE: 5-0.

To hear comment on Article 2 of the Special Meeting Warrant to establish a Solid Waste Facility Reserve with funds received from PERC of \$363,440.93 with the ratification of (\$48,578.00) for a total of \$314,862.93 plus interest to fund a new Solid Waste Facility Reserve.

ACTION: Motion made by Zel Bowman-LaBerge to establish a Solid Waste Reserve. Seconded by Sandy Moore.

VOTE: 5-0

Motion made by Sandy Moore, seconded by Bill Hahn to exit the Public Hearing.

VOTE: 5-0.

3. Approve the minutes of Feb.8, 2021. (as amended)

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ACTION: Motion to approve the minutes made by Zel Bowman-LaBerge, seconded by Diane Giese.

VOTE: 5-0.

4. Approve the Warrants

ACTION: Motion made by Bill Hahn to approve the warrants, seconded by Sandy Moore.

VOTE: 5-0.

5. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA: Beechwood St. Culvert Grant.

The Town of Thomaston received a grant from the Dept. of Environmental Protection in the amount of \$125,000 for the upper Beechwood St. culvert that is in very bad shape. John Fancy stated that the design is 80% done. The project needs to move ahead before the culvert collapses. The road will be closed for several weeks while the work is being done. Approx. \$24,000 will be placed on the Town Warrant this year for this project to be able to be completed. Bill Hahn asked if there was any EPA money available. John Fancy will look into this.

ACTION: Motion made by Diane Giese to place the \$24,000 on the Town Warrant for this year. Seconded by Sandy Moore.

VOTE: 5-0.

10B. Update on the Thomaston Historical Society happenings per Susan Devlin.

Susan Devlin informed the Town that the Historical Society will be receiving software that will allow them to make maps for a "Walking Town" tour for visitors to be able to locate the historical buildings in town.

10C. Review the request of the Library Board to increase distribution rates. (Operating and Book Fund).

Discussion was held by the Board to allow this increase for just this year.

ACTION: Motion made by Diane Giese, seconded by Bill Hahn to allow the increase in rates.

VOTE: 5-0.

9C. Thomaston Green Update.

Update on hold until the 2nd meeting in June, 2021.

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9B. Consider accepting the highest bid of \$20,210 as submitted by Dan Ford on the foreclosed property at 59 Water Street.

ACTION: Motion made by Diane Giese, seconded by Sandy Moore to accept the bid from Dan Ford.

VOTE: 5-0.

9A. Update on the Project Canopy Assistance Grant by Sandy Moore.

Sandy Moore updated the Board on the project. USDA Forest Service is funding this grant. A portion of the money would be to replace and fill-in trees where needed. Sandy is getting prices. The grant would be for approx. \$8,000 with a 50% match. The Public Works Dept. would assist in the tree placement.

10A. Special Town Meeting on March 3, 2021 at 6pm/Review the Special Town Meeting Warrant.

ACTION: Motion made by Diane Giese for a Special Town Meeting and to review the Special Town Meeting warrant. Seconded by Sandy Moore.

VOTE: 5-0.

10D. Review for approval the new Personnel Policy.

All Board members commended Town Manager Kara George for her hard work in updating the policy.

ACTION: Motion made by Zel Bowman-LaBerge to approve the new policy. Seconded by Diane Giese.

VOTE: 5-0.

10E. Confirm the Town Manager's appointment of Ian Anderson to Reserve Officer.

ACTION: Motion made by Diane Giese to appoint Ian Anderson as a Reserve Officer. Seconded by Bill Hahn.

VOTE: 5-0.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Bill Hahn informed the Board that the Watts Hall will be applying for a 501.c.3 status. Watts Hall being an integral part of the community. The 2nd floor would be the Watts Hall Community Arts Building. A committee would be formed to assist in the functions and upgrading of the Watts Hall area. This is a "Work in Progress" at this time. Bill Hahn will keep the Board informed and things proceed.

ACTION: Motion made by Bill Hahn to proceed with the 501.3.C. paperwork. Seconded by Sandy Moore.

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VOTE: 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Chair Pete Lammert

Recording Secretary Donna Culbertson