

**Town of Thomaston
Select Board Minutes
February 26, 2024**

Board Present: Pete Lammert, Chris Rector, Sandy Moore, Patricia Hubbard, Town Manager Kara George, and Recording Secretary Melissa Stevens.

Absent: Bill Hahn

Meeting called to order by Peter Lammert at 6 P.M.

ACTION: Motion for the Breen made by Peter Lammert, seconded by Sandy Moore to take the agenda out of order. VOTE: 4-0

10. NEW BUSINESS

A) Approve the purchase of a 26 KW Generator for the Fire/EMS Station at a cost of \$12,500 from EMA Funds per the request of Fire Chief Mike Mazzeo.

ACTION: Motion to approve the purchase of a 26 KW Generator for the Fire/EMS Station. Chris Rector. Seconded by Sandy Moore. VOTE: 4-0

It was noted that upon the time the Fire and EMS departments change buildings, the generator will be used at the Public Works garage.

B) Accept with regret the resignation of Ron Gamage from the Budget Committee.

ACTION: Motion to accept the resignation of Ron Gamage from the Budget Committee with regret by Patricia Hubbard. Seconded by Sandy Moore. 4-0

Sandy Moore referred to Ron Gamage's resignation letter and wanted to remind the board should the Ordinance be amended at the June 12, 2024, Annual Town Meeting, Ron would like the opportunity to be run again for that committee.

C) Consider the appointment of Alan Blake to the Budget Committee.

ACTION: Motion to approve Alan Blake to the Budget Committee by Chris Rector. Seconded by Patricia Hubbard. VOTE: 4-0

D) Discuss the request of William Jackson to extend the use of Butler Road (owned by the town) to connect to Mr. Jackson's right-of-way for access to his landlocked parcel of land (Map 401-Lot 036). Extension to be maintained by William Jackson.

ACTION: Motion to approve the request of William Jackson to extend the use of Butler Road (owned by the town) to connect to Mr. Jackson's right-of-way for access to his landlocked parcel of land (Map 401-Lot 036) contingent that the extension is to be built and maintained by William Jackson, he obtains permission from MDOT, the Railroad, and all applicable permits local, state, and federal issuance. Seconded by Patricia Hubbard. VOTE: 4-0

Select Board Approved 6/10/24

Rene Dorr stated that the Town owns the road from High St. to Buttermilk Lane. If Mr. Jackson wants to access his easement, he will have to build a road on the Town property to gain access to his property. He will need to obtain permission from the Railroad to have the road cross the railroad. He will need to ensure that if he sells the property, that an easement is created for any future owner to maintain the town road; all of this should be listed in the easement.

Chris Rector requested that Mr. Jackson be responsible for that legal documentation.

E) Review the Traffic Analysis Report of Roxbury Street as presented by Police Chief Tim Hoppe.

Chief Tim Hoppe presented the data received from the black box borrowed from the Rockland Police Department to monitor vehicle speeds.

The speed limit on Roxbury Street is 25 mph. The data shows that 85% of cars averaged 27 mph, 50% of cars averaged 22 mph. The minimum speed was 19 mph, maximum was 47 mph with an average of 20 mph. In 12 days, 2,720 cars passed the box, with 5 houses on that stretch. The street is heavily traveled. The Thomaston Police Department will borrow the black box to monitor other roads, too.

At the next meeting we will pursue more information about lighted speed limit signs.

F) Discuss the use of the Public EV charging stations per the request of Vice-Chair Pete Lammert.

Peter Lammert discussed concerns with commercial businesses using the EV charging stations long-term.

John Fancy presented the usage of the public electric vehicle charging stations.

Kara presented findings of what other municipalities charge the public for EV charging.

John recommends continuing the current policy and monitoring EV charging usage.

9. Old Business

A) Update from the Ad Hoc Thomaston Green Park Committee.

The committee requested a copy of the names and addresses of abutting landowners so that they could send a letter with updated information.

B) Appointment of Michael Silverstein to the Comprehensive Plan Committee.

No action. Michael Silverstein was not present.

C) Public Hunting Lands List Update.

Peter Lammert responds to Patricia Hubbard's email regarding the public hunting lands list, shared by resident Cindy Lang, that was originally generated by the previous Assessors' Agent. The Select Board repealed the hunting ban policy at their previous meeting.

There is nothing in the tax information designating property as public hunting land.

4) Approve the minutes of: Tabled on 2/12/2024 Minutes from October 23, 2023

Select Board Approved 6/10/24

ACTION: Chris Rector made a motion to table February 12th and October 23rd minutes because Bill Hahn is absent and there is not a quorum to vote. Seconded by Peter Lammert. VOTE: 4-0

5) Approve the Warrants.

ACTION: Chris Rector made a motion to approve the Warrants. Seconded by Sandy Moore. VOTE 4-0

7) Town Manager's Report (See attached.)

11) Closing Public Comments.

Scott Johnson spoke about William Jackson's request to extend the use of Butler Road. Scott stated that William Jackson does have a 30' right of way, but there is a 10' conversion ditch in that right of way. It is unclear what access rights William has to the road. Further, there are no public utilities in the location. Scott hoped that the request of William Jackson would not be granted until further conversation.

Patricia Hubbard recommended further conversation between Scott Johnson, William Jackson, Town Manager Kara George, and Code Enforcement Officer Rene Dorr to sort the matter out between the parties.

ACTION: Chris Rector made a motion related to the property on Butler Road, retracting the original motion due to the new information provided, and requested that Town Manager Kara George coordinates a meeting with Rene Dorr, William Jackson, and Scott Johnson to discuss the matter. Seconded by Sandy Moore. VOTE: 4-0

12) Adjourn.

ACTION: Sandy motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Peter Lammert. VOTE: 4-0

Adjourn 8:00 p.m.

Vice Chair, Peter Lammert

Melissa Stevens, Town Clerk