

TOWN OF THORNTON
Board of Selectmen
Meeting Date: August 5, 2009

The Thornton Board of Selectmen met and held a meeting on Wednesday,
August 5, 2009, 9:00 AM at the Thornton Town Hall.

Selectmen present:
Jim Parziale, Roy Sabourn, & Tim Tyler

Public present:
Town Administrator: Tammie Beaulieu
Staff: Mary Conn

At 9:09 a.m. Chairman Parziale called the meeting to order.

Town Administrator (TA) Beaulieu suggested John Bolster and Murray Movitz, residents of Judges Road attend the meeting with RA Dubey to discuss their concerns of the road deteriorating due to the design of the road, which has drainage problems. It also is a safety issue because it has rocks coming up through, which has caused the road to need patching. RA Dubey informed the BOS he would patch the road. Selectmen Sabourn feels the residents have a legitimate issue concerning Judges Road but a special warrant is needed at town meeting and the voters will have to decide to repair the road beyond the scope of maintenance. Selectmen Tyler agrees the road is a tough road. BOS scheduled to visit Judges Road on September 2, 2009 @ 9:30 am. Murray Movitz thanked TA Beaulieu and the BOS for allowing them to attend the meeting with such short notice. Mr. Bolster & Mr. Movitz exited at 9:29 am.

RA Dubey was present to discuss whether the Town of Thornton should keep the Police Department's old 2002 Ford Explorer for the Highway Department and Administration to use when needed. He felt with the cost of repair, maintenance and lack of use it would not be in the best interest of the town. TA Beaulieu feels the cost of insurance and the lack of use would be an added expense to the town. Selectman Sabourn's opinion is it will be a liability and there will be constant maintenance needed.

Motion

Selectmen Tyler motioned to send the Police Department's 2002 Ford Explorer out to bid. Selectmen Sabourn seconded. Motion passed 3-0-0.

RA Dubey will be to putting out bids for 5000 yards of winter sand. Selectmen Tyler asked if bidding on sand with other towns is ever done. RA Dubey stated there isn't any joint bidding on sand with other towns.

RA Dubey would like to purchase the 1987 wood chipper for four thousand dollars (\$4000). Selectmen Sabourn agrees a chipper will be a good investment to the town as long as the Highway Department will use it. Selectmen Tyler was not in favor of

purchasing the wood chipper this year, due to the budget. Resident Jim Demeritt agreed with Selectmen Tyler. Jim Demeritt also felt there should be a more detailed plan on maintenance, gas, repairs and how much it will be used. It was also discussed on skipping a year of mower rental, which will offset the cost some. Selectmen Sabourn stated if RA Dubey was able to take the four thousand dollars (\$4000) from the Highway budget, he was in favor of the purchase. RA Dubey stated he has the money in his budget.

Motion

Selectmen Sabourn motioned to purchase the 1987 wood chipper from Tim Collins for four thousand dollars (\$4000). Chairman Parziale seconded the motion. Selectmen Tyler voted no. Motion passed 2-1-0

RA Dubey wanted to comment to the BOS on usage of the cell phone. He felt the town needed cell phones but it doesn't matter to him if the plan had text messaging or not. There was discussion if the Town needed a cell phone plan or trac phones. TA Beaulieu was given a cell phone when she was hired but does not use it and feels it should be disconnected to save the Town unnecessary expenses. She also met with US Cellular Company representatives and negotiated a combined plan for all departments and savings of over \$100. monthly, which includes insurance on each phone that is not currently on the plan, 250 text messages for each phone at a cost of \$4.95 per month. If an employee wants more text messages for personal use, they will be required to pay the difference.

RA Dubey exited the meeting to attend another meeting with property owners out to Thornton Gore regarding re-ditching because of constant wash out problems near the Hiltz property.

Motion

10:35 Selectmen Sabourn moved to enter into non-public under RSA 91-A:3, II (a) and RSA 91-A: 3, II (b), Selectmen Tyler seconded. Motion passed 3-0-0

For the record of the non-public meeting, the Board discussed Police Department Chief hiring/negotiations and Police Department promotion, duties, and wages for patrolman Diamond. The BOS received a letter from Sandy Moulton, Police Department Administrative commending Sargent Diamond on his transition to a leadership role. She spoke of his hard work, dedication and determination to the Town of Thornton and all of its citizens. She also states how he has a great reputation and works well with surrounding Chiefs, Police Officers and State Troopers.

Motion

12:14 Selectmen Sabourn moved to exit from non-public under RSA 91-A:3, II (a) and RSA 91-A: 3, II (b), Selectmen Tyler seconded. Motion passed 3-0-0

Motion

Selectmen Sabourn moved to adjust Sgt. Diamond's wages to Step 4 @ \$19.85 per hour. Selectmen Tyler seconded. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Motion

Selectmen Sabourn motioned to notify Police Chief applicant #1 the conditional offer was rejected and they will proceed with a new search. Selectmen Tyler seconded. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Motion

Selectmen Sabourn motioned to accept the amended minutes of June 10, 2009. Selectmen Tyler seconded. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Action Folder:

TA Beaulieu received an email from Town Counsel (Jeff Belanger) referencing options for the Town for event permits. Selectmen Sabourn would like to enact a licensing events permit policy with rules and not change zoning ordinances as long as the voters support it. NH Local Government Center has event-planning book, which should help with the policy. Selectmen Tyler had a public safety concern on the function that will be held by Brooke White. TA Beaulieu will contact Brook White regarding her event, which she expects 150 people to attend and explain the Town's future plans for permits. TA Beaulieu informed the BOS she needs surgery on her shoulders due to extensive pain caused by tendinitis, calcium and several other problems. She is opting for surgery in September on a Wednesday and hopes to be back to work the following Monday or Tuesday to complete payroll and vendors. She will have the specifics at a later date. Selectmen Sabourn questioned if Mary Conn has been trained to complete payroll and vendors in the new system. TA Beaulieu informed them she is going to start in August and feels Mary will catch on quickly, as the new system is user friendly.

TA Beaulieu shared with the BOS that she was in the field August 7th with Jonathan Adams the Locksmith and changed locks on the tax-deeded property. The former owners are still trying to get the funds to buy the property back.

TA Beaulieu informed the BOS as requested by Campton Police Chief Warn with suggestions of combining the Thornton & Campton Police Departments. He reported it could save the Town \$100,000. a year. The BOS opted to proceed with NH Local Government Center conducting interviews with two other applicants from the original resumes submitted by July 10, 2009 for the Chief of Police position.

Selectmen Sabourn thanked TA Beaulieu for negotiating a lower cost to the town with the amended contract from Avitar Associates for four thousand eight hundred dollars (\$4,800) including photos on tax property cards.

Motion

12:41 Selectmen Tyler moved to adjourn the meeting, Selectmen Sabourn seconded. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Signature File:

Building permits Map & Lot

Michael St. Laurent – 15-1-25

Johanna St. Gelais – 13-7-6

Notice of Intent to Cut

Alexis Eynon - 16-4-35

Permanent Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions

Richard Gilpatric – 11-4-3

Douglas Burhoe - 3-2-7

Kathleen Moore - 17-7-22

Patrick Donahue – 15-1-18

Robert Day – 6-11-12

Raymond Schoenweiss - 17-3-14

Mary Fraser – 15-4-13A

Amended Avitar Associates contract for tax card photos - four thousand eight hundred dollars (\$4,800), two thousand four hundred dollars (\$2,400) paid in 2009 and two thousand four hundred dollars (\$2,400) in 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Conn