

**TOWN OF THORNTON**  
**Board of Selectmen**  
**Meeting Date: March 18, 2009**

The Thornton Board of Selectmen met and held a meeting on,  
Tuesday, March 18, 2009 9:00 AM at the Thornton Town Hall.

**Selectmen present:**

Roy Sabourn, Jim Parziale, & Tim Tyler

**Public present:**

Administrator Tammie Beaulieu,

At 9:00 AM Selectmen Sabourn called the meeting to order.

**Motion**

Selectmen Sabourn moved to appoint Selectmen Parziale as the chairman to continue Town tradition that the member in his third year is up for the chair position, seconded by Tim Tyler. Motion passed 3-0-0

The following was agreed by all members of the Board:

Selectmen Tyler assigned as the representative to the Planning Board and Budget Committee (Advisory Body)

Selectmen Sabourn assigned to the Safety Committee

Selectmen Parziale assigned as the Board contact for Emergency Management Director.

9:15 Josephine Belville & Dawn Wirkkala, State representatives from DRA-Property Appraisal Division

Ms. Belville presented all applicable information she felt important to the Town prior to the upcoming revaluation set up between Avitar Associates and the Town of Thornton. Ms. Belville explained the process and requirements of all parties involved. It is the State's position to oversee the project, to verify the work is correct and meet the state certifications. Avitar Associates Data collector, Mike Vein was present and agreed to all presented and informed the Board that the revaluation is scheduled for completion by August to allow the Town to submit their MS1 by 9/1/09 as required annually. The Board thanked everyone for attending and felt comfortable that the Town is prepared for the project ahead in 2009 with the assistance of TA Beaulieu.

Town Administrator presents:

Ms. Beaulieu informed the Board Becky Farnsworth had submitted a corrected annual Trustee Report. She apologized for the error in the Town Report, which was discussed at Town Meeting by Jim Demeritt. TA Beaulieu gave Mr. Demeritt a corrected copy of the report while he was in attendance and informed all that the interest check submitted to the Town had the correct funds as noted on the new report.

Selectmen present:

Selectmen Sabourn discussed the vote taken at Town Meeting referencing the purchase of a new Highway Truck as requested by RA Dubey. He explained that the vote was no and he felt the Board should agree to abide by the vote but to keep in mind that it is only advisory and should it become apparent that we have problems towards the end of the year that they need to keep the option open.

**Motion**

Selectmen Sabourn moved to approve the minutes of 3/10/09 as submitted, seconded by Selectmen Parziale. Motion passed 2-0-1

Selectmen Sabourn updated the other Board members on the Hazard Mitigation program he attended that was held here at the Town Hall last week. He informed everyone of the hand out available for the Board to review. The

conclusion on the Town's letter of intent and application submitted for the Millbrook Bridge project was that it would not qualify because you can't start work on a project without the application confirmed to get funding and it takes 6-8 months to get through the paperwork cycle. The State representatives agreed the Town should continue to put funds aside as we have been for the last few years. When any part of the state is declared a disaster area in the future it is likely these funds will become available again. Selectmen Sabourn asked John Piantedosi (Thornton Deputy Emergency Director) and RA Dubey to get together to continue working on the riprap and to look at other possible sites where future grant applications might work.

Selectmen Sabourn informed all the Hawkensen property deed from Heidi Hawkensen & Parker Uhlman had a hiccup due to Ms. Hawkensen signing Hawkensen-Uhlman. Selectmen Sabourn called counsel and spoke with Attorney Jeff Belanger for advice of correction and resigning. Town Counsel confirmed we should have the deed corrected, resigned, and recorded. TA Beaulieu was directed by the Board to complete this project with the assistance of counsel.

Selectmen Sabourn questioned for the abatements in the signature file and TA Beaulieu reminded the Board that at the previous meeting the tax bills with last names A-D were addressed out of Town were misplaced within the postal service, as Tax Collector Lyons informed them and the Board motioned to have a blanket motion to cover all applicable interest and penalty abatements requested. The Board recalled the motion and signed all abatements.

Selectmen Parziale had a couple people address him at Town Meeting of some problems with an area on Mad River Road that had a boulder that had been removed earlier and is causing problems. It was confirmed that half the road is state/half is town. The change occurs at John March's house. Selectmen Sabourn stated that someone had also approached him and he believed the problem area to be near MarjorieBroad's house. Selectmen Sabourn asked the individual if they had approached RA Dubey on the problem, they had not and he directed them to do so. It was agreed it needs to be looked at and patched.

Selectmen Parziale brought up the complaints he has received on Millbrook Road and that he reviewed the RSA that referenced scenic roads and it states that the Board can order the removal of branches if they believe they are creating an unsafe situation on the road. Jim Demeritt asked if the Board had read the article last month in Town & City that stated it is the homeowner's responsibility. Selectmen Sabourn had read the article and informed Mr. Demeritt that his interpretation differed and that the article stated that it is the homeowner's property but if the branches create safety issues over the road the Town has legal right to order their removal. Selectmen Sabourn's opinion was that the Planning Board held their public hearing at the site and RA Dubey attended with his concerns and the Planning Board declared that it is not an eminent hazard. Selectmen Sabourn's opinion was that the Selectmen should not override the Planning Board's decision. If people in the community feel strongly they should attend a Planning Board meeting as a group and share their feelings. This matter has been discussed with RA Dubey who also agrees that the Planning Board decision was wrong. Selectmen Parziale asked what next step of action could be taken. TA Beaulieu explained that if the Board wanted to do anything different than the Planning Board's decision the Board would need a majority vote to declare the direction of this request, which she would share with counsel. Selectmen Tyler asked for clarification of the area in question. The board informed him it was the area near Gloria Kimball's house.

Selectmen Tyler received a call from a resident per a load sign being positioned on private property. The sign has been removed. TA Beaulieu added that she also had received a complaint on the sign being placed on a church sign and followed through with RA Dubey and explained that the Town can not put signs on private property and to keep them in the Town's right of way. Selectmen Sabourn added that the Gore Road posting of weight limit sign has been put up in Woodstock instead of the usual spot in Thornton. Selectmen Sabourn does not think it is an issue and hopefully we got permission from Woodstock because he agreed that the sign is posted in a better location for an overweight vehicle to have room to turn around prior to entering the road. TA Beaulieu will discuss this matter with RA Dubey.

Mr. Demeritt has problems with too many signs posted on Millbrook Road. TA Beaulieu informed that RA Dubey decided to post the signs due to a complaint last week from Mr. Demeritt about the culvert lifting and danger to vehicles. The RA then took sand and put some over the culvert and posted the road. TA Beaulieu was told that Millbrook and Mad River are the worst roads in town and both had been posted similarly. BOS agreed that TA

Beaulieu should ask RA Dubey to view the area again and request that he consider removing the signs coming out. Sally Kriebel stated that it's a no win situation either way.

Mr. Demeritt pointed out the culvert by Everett Steele's home on Millbrook Road, which was replaced last year, needs to be repaved. Selectmen Sabourn stated that once again it's not the culvert moving it's the road. Selectmen Parziale agreed it should be looked at but further expressed that the road is posted at 25 mph and he keeps his vehicle at the speed while others are going by him at 45mph, which included the police chief. TA Beaulieu will email the Chief that the Board would like the department to enforce 25mph.

Selectmen Tyler agreed to keep the most dangerous areas posted and that putting stone in the muddy sections makes a big difference. He was glad to hear they are using the stone and hope they continue. Mr. Demerit agreed but felt they should apply it a different way. Selectmen Tyler asked if the stone has helped which Mr. Demeritt confirmed.

Selectmen Parziale keeps getting calls from the alarm company that the alarm at the Police Department has sounded and he is asked for a password. He received a call this morning at 5am and is not aware of a password. TA Beaulieu explained the dilemma with the alarm company and that none of the Selectmen or staff has the code and the company will not discuss the system or coding without the password. TA will discuss the issue with Chief Joyce to try and get the matter resolved.

Ms. Kriebel asked that the selectmen consider reopening the interior dutch door to the police department. Until a few years ago that the door was always open for the staff and public to have the nice interaction between the people and the PD, as it should be. Mr. Demerit thought it came about due to the incident in Colebrook and the need for protection of the employees. Selectmen Sabourn stated also that some of the P.D. visitors need to have the door closed. The Board felt that they would like the Chief invited to their next meeting to discuss the options.

Selectmen Tyler thought Ms. Kriebels request was reasonable and that the town should do whatever is needed to open the line of communication between the P.D. and the citizens. The door could be closed during particular incidents.

Selectmen Sabourn discussed the flyers and the campaigners being in the walkway during this year's election. He received many complaints so he discussed the issue with surrounding towns and found that they don't allow such activity close to the polling entrance. He feels it is not acceptable and does not want people feeling intimidated to come and vote. He is getting some surrounding ordinances for the Board to review.

Dave Hilliard stated that at the last safety committee meeting they reviewed the police department and it was discussed the chief wanted a teller window set up on the current entrance side. He wondered if that might also work on the hallway side. The option of having the department wide open, he could understand the Chief's concern of security. Ms. Kriebel stated that it already has a dutch door. Selectmen Parziale suggested some concern for security on our side of the building due to people just walking in to the work area.

11:30 – 1:00 Alan Labrie from Harris –Financial Software presentation for Muni Smart

Selectmen Tyler was briefed on the schedule and processing of the Selectmen manifests and other items.

Mr. Demerit explained that it was discovered at the ZBA's last meeting that Giff Kriebel was up for reappointment the Board wondered if other appointments were in question. TA Beaulieu explained to Mr. Demerit that due to the way the appointments are dated the members are good until March 31<sup>st</sup> annually.

Signature Folder:

Sunset Rock LLC/Intent to Excavate 17-7-20

Owl Street Assoc. LLC/ Building Permit 16-1-07GL19

Signature File continued:

Abatements 2008 Current Taxes Account

11/1/235	Brough, Francis
10/3/2901	Bodkins, Hannah
7/2/7-03	Day, Kevin & Thea
16/7/04	Bortolotti, Lorenzo & Annie
13/5/4G5	Conrad, Robert & Martha
18/3/9	Cornell, Patricia
16/1/8L512	Dedonato, David & Karen
17/14/4003	Corrigan, Joseph & Sara

**Motion**

1:30 PM Selectmen Parziale moved to adjourn the meeting, Selectmen Sabourn seconded. Motion Passed (3-0-0).

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Tammie Beaulieu*