



TOWN OF THORNTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Town of Thornton • 16 Merrill Access Road • Thornton NH, 03285 • 603.726.8168

Approved on: 11/18/20
BOS Initial: MB
Rec'd by Town Clerk on: 11/23/20
Town Clerk Initials: dpm

Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes November 10, 2020

12:30 p.m. Chairwoman Peabody opened the Thornton Board of Selectmen meeting work session with the Pledge of Allegiance. This meeting was held via Zoom with the link referenced on the posted agenda.

ROLL CALL: Chairwoman Marianne Peabody, Vice-Chairman Brad Benton, Selectman Roy Sabourn, and Selectman Joseph Monti (present via Zoom).

STAFF PRESENT: Debra Shepard, Town Administrator

ABSENT: Selectman Jack Gaites

MOTION: "To approve the vendor manifest for the backhoe purchase dated 11/10/2020 in the amount of \$43,000."

Motion: R. Sabourn

Seconded: B. Benton

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: Marianne Peabody – yes, Brad Benton – yes, Joseph Monti – yes, Roy Sabourn – yes

Motion Passes: 4 – Yes, 0 – No Abstained: 0

MOTION: "To approve and sign the tax collector warrant for property tax levy as presented in the amount of \$4,891,587.00."

Motion: R. Sabourn

Seconded: B. Benton

Discussion: J. Monti asked what the new tax rate will be. TA Shepard stated that the tax rate is \$20.11. The Board has used \$250,000 from the fund balance account to offset the tax rate.

J. Monti is concerned that the overall tax rate has increased by 18%. Chairwoman Peabody explained the following reasons for the increase in the tax rate:

- The Board had voted to increase the amount allowed for the Veteran's Exemption credit, the Elderly Exemption and the Totally and Permanently Disabled Exemption.
- The State of NH has reduced the interest rate for penalties that the town collects for delinquent taxes.
- The town lost anticipated revenues while the transfer station was closed due to COVID 19.

- The town budget also increased by \$250,000.
 - The Board voted to approve an additional full time police officer position.
- Chairwoman Peabody suggested that the Board review increasing their fee schedule in the future to help offset these expenses. Selectman Monti asked that this explanation be available in print format. The board agreed.
- Roll Call: Marianne Peabody – yes, Brad Benton – yes, Joseph Monti – yes, Roy Sabourn – yes

Motion Passes: 4 – Yes, 0 – No Abstained: 0

MOTION: “To approve a request for funds to the Trustee of Trust Funds to withdrawn \$43,000 from Capital Reserve Fund - Highway Vehicle Equipment and Major Maintenance.”

Motion: R. Sabourn
 Seconded: B. Benton
 Discussion: None.
 Roll Call: Marianne Peabody – yes, Brad Benton – yes, Joseph Monti – yes, Roy Sabourn – yes

Motion Passes: 4 – Yes, 0 – No Abstained: 0

Non-public pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3, II (a)

12:43 p.m. MOTION: “To enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II (a-personnel, b - hiring).”

Motion: R. Sabourn
 Seconded: B. Benton
 Discussion: None
 Roll Call: Marianne Peabody – yes, Brad Benton – yes, Roy Sabourn – yes, Joe Monti – yes

Motion Passes: 4 – Yes, 0 – No Abstained: 0

1:06 p.m. MOTION: “To exit non-public session.”

Motion: R. Sabourn
 Seconded: B. Benton
 Discussion: None
 Roll Call: Marianne Peabody – yes, Brad Benton – yes, Roy Sabourn – yes, Joe Monti – yes.

Motion Passes: 4 – Yes, 0 – No Abstained: 0

MOTION: "To offer candidate B the part-time transfer station position as advertised at Labor Grade 2 Step 7, \$13.41/hour."

Motion: R. Sabourn

Seconded: B. Benton

Discussion: None

Roll Call: Marianne Peabody – yes, Brad Benton – yes, Roy Sabourn – yes,
Joe Monti – yes.

Motion Passes: 4 – Yes, 0 – No

Abstained: 0

Selectman Monti thanked the Town Administrator for providing meeting documents so that he could attend the meeting remotely.

1:09 p.m. MOTION: "To adjourn."

Motion: R. Sabourn

Seconded: B. Benton

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: Marianne Peabody – yes, Brad Benton – yes, Joseph Monti – yes,
Roy Sabourn – yes.

Motion Passes: 4 – Yes, 0 – No

Respectfully submitted,

Jessi Fleury
Board Secretary