



TOWN OF THORNTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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Approved on: 2 28 20
BOS Initial: BEB
Rec'd by Town Clerk on: 3/2/2020
Town Clerk Initials: djm

Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes February 12, 2020

4:00 P.M. Chairman Benton opened the Thornton Board of Selectmen meeting work session with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Chairman Brad Benton, Vice-Chairman Roy Sabourn, Selectwoman Marianne Peabody, Selectman Jack Gaites and Selectman Joseph Monti.

STAFF PRESENT: TA Debra Shepard, Town Administrator

Action Folder:

MOTION: "To approve payroll manifest dated 2/14/2020 in the amount of \$30,228.07."

Motion: B. Benton

Seconded: M. Peabody

Discussion: None.

Motion Passes: 3 – Yes, 0 – No

Abstained: J. Gaites and J. Monti

MOTION: "To approve the vendor manifest dated 2/14/2020 in the amount of \$233,735.17."

Motion: J. Monti

Seconded: R. Sabourn

Discussion: None.

Motion Passes: 4 – Yes, 0 – No

Abstained: J. Gaites

Minutes

MOTION: "To approve Board of Selectmen public meeting minutes of January 29, 2020 as amended."

Motion: R. Sabourn

Seconded: J. Monti

Discussion: None.

Motion Passes: 4 – Yes, 0 – No

Abstained: B. Benton

ZCA Review

- No ZCA applications were submitted.

Town Administrator Presents:

Abatement Request

TA Shepard presented a request for an abatement

MOTION: "To approve two abatements, one for John and Gail Haggerty and one for Stuart and Karen Russell for campers located in Goose Hollow Campground in the total amount of \$342.37."

Motion: J. Gaite

Seconded: M. Peabody

Discussion: None.

Motion Passes: 5 – Yes, 0 – No

Certificate of Appointment

MOTION: "To approve an appointment for Katri Kiiskila Gurney to the Conservation Commission."

Motion: R. Sabourn

Seconded: J. Gaite

Discussion: None.

Motion Passes: 5 – Yes, 0 – No

Notice of Intent to Excavate

MOTION: "To approve an Intent to Excavate for PID# 17/7-20, Sunset Rock LLC located on Route 49."

Motion: R. Sabourn

Seconded: J. Gaite

Discussion: None.

Motion Passes: 5 – Yes, 0 – No

Land Use Change Tax

TA Shepard explained that an issue was brought to the attention of the Tax Collector when a buyer was trying to close on a property. During the title search, a current use lien was found on the property. The original parcel was subdivided years ago and lots were sold and no current use penalties were assessed. Tax Collector Mahurin sought direction from the NH Department of Revenue and was informed that the way to correct this issue was to assess a land use change tax release for \$0. At this time, the Town will not receive any land use change tax due to the fact the tax was not assessed in 2009 when the change in use occurred.

MOTION: "To approve a Land Use Change Tax in the amount of \$0 to clean up the title issue on PID #11-1-67 as discussed."

Motion: R. Sabourn

Seconded: J. Gaite

Discussion: None.

Motion Passes: 5 – Yes, 0 – No

Events Committee – election

TA Shepard discussed with the Board the refreshments for Town Meeting Day in March. Last year the Events Committee and the PTO both sold refreshments. D. Duffy of the

Events Committee recently contacted TA Shepard and asked if the Board would like them to do the same this year. TA Shepard contacted the PTO to see what their preference was. They are happy to provide refreshments. The PTO has provided refreshments in the past. After discussion, the Board asked TA Shepard to invite the PTO to sell refreshments as this is a fund raiser for them and they have provided the refreshments over the past several years.

4:35 p.m. MOTION: "To enter into non-public session pursuant to 91A:3, II (I- legal)."

Motion: R. Sabourn

Seconded: J. Gaites

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: R. Sabourn – Yes, B. Benton – Yes, J. Gaites – Yes, J. Monti – Yes,
M. Peabody – Yes.

Motion Passes: 5 - 0

4:52 p.m. MOTION: "To come out of non-public."

Motion: M. Peabody

Seconded: J. Gaites

Discussion: None.

Motion Passes: 54 - 0

Agenda Items: (no public input unless approved by the Chairman)

5:00 p.m. Conservation Commission

Myrtle Lewis met with the Board and discussed natural resources for Thornton. She would like to get inventories of natural resources for Thornton as well as surrounding towns to build a database. The Commission plans to meet monthly at this time on the second Tuesday of the month at 3:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

She explained that the Commission is working on understanding the Transfer Station operations and potential ways that the Commission can assist them. Myrtle Lewis is interested in helping with the Transfer Station Advisory Committee.

M. Lewis discussed the proposed Conservation Commission photo contest with the Board. She summarized that they would like to have a quarterly photo contest to raise awareness of the Commission and the photos would promote the Town's natural beauty. This would be arranged by age group and promoted at the library and Central School. They would like to offer a cash prize and understands that using town funds for the prize money is not something the Board wants to do as it may not be in the best interest of the taxpayers. She informed the Board that the CC is looking into other ways to fund this event including sponsorship. Discussion continued on sponsorship ideas.

R. Sabourn stated that the Board supports this event but does not feel that the taxpayers should fund the prizes. M. Lewis understands and is appreciative of the board's support moving forward with the event and for seeking out sponsorship. Discussion followed relative to obtaining signed releases for the photos, photos should not include children,

setting up an email for the CC and delegating a contact person on the CC to answer questions relative to the photo contest.

MOTION: "To approve the final 2020 Warrant."

Motion: B. Benton

Seconded: J. Gaite

Discussion: None.

Motion Passes: 5 - 0

MOTION: "To approve and sign the final 2020 MS636 as presented."

Motion: R. Sabourn

Seconded: M. Peabody

Discussion: None.

Motion Passes: 5 - 0

SELECTMEN REPORT

J. Monti requested to receive the agenda for the next Board meeting earlier than usual due to the anticipated public interest in agenda items. TA Shepard explained that the agenda deadline for appointments is 24 hours prior to the start of the meeting. J. Monti stated that this makes it difficult for members of the public to attend meetings. The Board discussed their past practice. The Board discussed the timing for agenda posting. The Board agreed to set the White Mountain National Forest agenda item for 2:00 pm for the BOS meeting on February 26, 2020 so that date and time can be shared with interested parties. The Board did not change the agenda posting process going forward at this time and will discuss this further at a future meeting.

B. Benton brought up for discussion an idea to have a plaque at Town Hall showing all who have served as Selectmen. Discussion followed. No decision was made relative to this item.

5:45 PM MOTION: "To adjourn."

Motion: M. Peabody

Seconded: B. Benton

Discussion: None.

Motion Passes: 5 - 0

Respectfully submitted,

Jessi Fleury
Board Secretary