

## Town of Thorndike

### Selectmen's Meeting Minutes- 09.18.2019

**Attendees:** R Nelson, J Ard, M Mayer, D Berry, M Berry, D Raven, J Trafton, W Trafton, T Veazie ,S Bristol & R Stevenson.

**Minutes:** R Nelson made motion to accept the minutes as written from the 9.4.2019 Selectmen's Meeting; J Ard seconded, motion carried. Minutes accepted as written.

3 votes in favor of the motion / 0 votes to opposed the motion

#### **Planning Board:**

Planning Board Chair, Michael Berry: discussion on Selectmen's terms; process to make them 3 year; rotating terms. This must occur at a town meeting, to vote.

There was discussion on how terms for each position would rotate and recommended not to keep the "1st, 2nd and 3rd" titles. All would be considered the same; as it is now. The Chairman of the Board would still be selected by the Selectmen. The Selectmen will write up an article on the next Special Town Meeting and it would be more than 90 days before Annual Town Meeting. Discussion on how other town offices are doing their annual town meeting.

R Cunningham: Would there be an election before the annual Town Meeting? R Nelson advised that no; voted on at Annual Town Meeting.

J Trafton: discussion to recommend election before annual town meeting; to vote on Selectmen positions. This would make it easier for people to get out and vote.

M Mayer advised that if they go with this way of electing Selectmen, the nomination process will need to change.

R Cunningham: discussion that if ballots are used, then petitions may need to be signed. Minimum signatures would be required from Town of Thorndike registered voters to be on the ballot for Selectmen. There would be an option for a "write in"

Planning Board Chair: M Berry asked if they went with the ballot process, would this require an ordinance from the Planning Board? M Berry advised that it is a State Law that if you do not have something written then it will only be for 12 months. The Selectmen want to research this some more to make sure it is done correctly.

Marijuana Ordinance/ Moratorium: Planning Board Member: Daryl Raven: invited the Selectmen to attend their next meeting on 10/9/2019 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss and review a marijuana ordinance or moratorium. M Mayer advised that the Selectmen are looking to have a moratorium to pause it; to wait on an ordinance. J Ard advised that he does not prefer a moratorium ; seems to stall it. As of right now there are no town restrictions in place.

Planning Board Chair: M Berry advised that there is an option to "Opt In" with the State of Maine then the State of Maine would cover the Town for enforcement.

J Ard and M Mayer advised that a moratorium would allow time to research an ordinance.

There will be a notification to the residents of the Town of Thorndike that the Selectmen will be attending the next Planning Board meeting on 10/9/2019 at 6:30 p.m.

Planning Board Chair, M Berry, advised the Selectmen that this will be a scheduled Planning Board meeting and not a Public Hearing.

M Berry also asked for clarification from the Selectmen of what their goals are: permit fees or regulating marijuana?

J Ard: advised, regulation and safety; issue with THC?

J Ard advised that the has had a discussion with caregivers and they are concerned about cross pollinating from the hemp and reducing the value and the quality of their marijuana.

J Ard continued with discussion on permit processing.

M Berry advised that the Town can regulate where it can be grown.

M Berry asked who would be getting the moratorium together. M Mayer and J Ard advised that they would needing to get more info on this and will have by 10/9/2019.

### **Fire Department:**

#### **Old:**

M Mayer still working on other electrical quotes ; needing to get a second quote.

Compressor: R Nelson advised that the compressor bought recently is advised to be too big for what the department needs. To return to Home Depot would entail restocking fees and shipping fees. R Nelson offered to buy the compressor for what they paid for it and R Nelson will note the sales tax on his income tax return for the amount of the sales tax due as the compressor was purchased with the Town of Thorndike's tax exempt certificate.

M Mayer made a motion to sell the compressor to R Nelson for \$499 and to have J Ard pay the sales tax if necessary (\$27.45) ; J Ard seconded, motion carried.

3 votes in favor of the motion / 0 votes to opposed the motion

10/12/2019 Open House at the Fire House: Fire Chief: R Stevenson: he has ordered the items for the open house. It will be 10am-1pm ( Saturday)

S Bristol: discussion on applications submitted for volunteers. Some applications the Selectmen have had for 7 weeks or more and he works very hard on recruiting volunteers and would like to see a more smoother transaction to apply and acceptance.

J Ard made a motion to allow M Mayer to approve any and all Fire Department Volunteer applications per his discretion, M Mayer seconded, motion carried.

(Applications will still be reviewed with the Fire Chief)

3 votes in favor of the motion / 0 votes to opposed the motion

M Mayer asked if they Fire Department was going to have a boot drive on Common Ground Fair Weekend.

Discussion that the donations received would provide additional funding to the Fire Department without taxation.

R Nelson advised that the worker's comp coverage would not cover the fireman that would be soliciting donations.

(per MMA anything that is not in the scope of fire fighting is not covered under the MMA Worker's Comp Insurance Policy)

There is a separate insurance policy to cover them as volunteers that would be approximately \$35 a person; minimum premium of \$350 a year. FC R Stevenson advised that they would be skipping the boot drive this year.

**New:**

F C R Stevenson: pre-buy option for oil, quote from Tidewater Oil; \$2.579 a gallon; other companies quote are at \$2.70 - \$2.80 a gallon.

J Ard made a motion to pre-buy 1000 gallons from Tidewater Oil for \$2.57 a gallon/ \$2579; M Mayer seconded, motion carried.

3 votes in favor of the motion / 0 votes to opposed the motion

**Town Office:**

**Old:** When M Mayer and J Ard have the Fire Department electrical work they will request to have the exterior light on the Town Office quoted too.

Discussion on the street lights , maybe looking into changing them to LED. It was asked if the town owned the lights? J Ard and M Mayer will look into this.

2019-2020 Snow Removal Contract : J Ard made a motion to amend the contract Article 7 section 3; on the fuel cost reimbursement to over \$3.00; to over to \$4.00; M Mayer seconded, motion carried.

3 votes in favor of the motion / 0 votes to opposed the motion

Discussion on the donation of the use of the Event Room at the Town office for the Annual Austin Grant Memorial Breakfast. As there are expenses incurred by the Town of Thorndike; i.e.heat, lights, insurance and maintenance; the \$85 for the use of the room and stove is a nominal fee for the value of the room and equipment.

J Ard made a motion to deny the use of the room for no cost, for the Annual Austin Grant Memorial Breakfast on 11/2/2019; R Nelson seconded, motion carried.

3 votes in favor of the motion / 0 votes to opposed the motion

A letter will be sent to Lori Nason that the use of the room has been denied for no cost and she would need to respond by 10/8/2019 if she was still interested in reserving the room and to pay the fees.

**Other:**

Spirit of American Award ( Nominated and Award recipient: Anthony Brillard) W Trafton advised that she will contact Anthony to offer a ride to the award banquet. J Ard will attempt to attend the function.

President of the Unity Area Rotary Club: Doreen Berry: donation from the Club's 50/50 raffle fundraiser at the Thorndike Bicentennial Celebration, to the Town of Thorndike, in the amount of \$112 to be used on cemetery stone restoration. M Mayer made a motion to accept the \$112 from the Unity Area Rotary Club for the use of cemetery stone restoration, J Ard seconded, motion carried.

M Mayer made a motion to accept \$714 from proceeds and donations from the Thorndike Bicentennial Celebration by the Town of Thorndike Park and Recreational Committee, J Ard seconded, motion carried.

3 votes in favor of the motion / 0 votes to opposed the motion

J Trafton wanted the minutes to reflect that the Town of Thorndike Park and Recreational Committee had not used any tax dollars for the Bicentennial Celebration; that all costs have been covered from fundraising and donations.

R Nelson discussion on current general funds available and at this time the Waldo County invoice that has a 10/1/2019 due date but at the latest can be paid by 11/30/2019 will be moved up from this warrant period to the beginning of November and proposed to advance John Cranouski another \$50,000, to assist in attaining equipment for snow removal; from the approved budget amount for snow removal.

R Nelson made a motion to not pay the Waldo County bill at this time and to advance John Cranouski \$50,000; J Ard seconded, motion carried.

3 votes in favor of the motion / 0 votes to opposed the motion

**Warrants:**

A/P Warrant from 09.04.2019      \$103,266.25

Current Warrant:                      \$86,649.75+50,000 +\$2579 = 139,228.75

Payroll Warrant:                      \$2004.85

R Nelson made a motion to adjourn; J Ard seconded, motion carried.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm**