

DRAFT

**THOMASTON BOARD OF SELECTMAN
REGULAR MEETING
VIA ZOOM MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2026**

Call to order at 6:03 p.m. In attendance were First Selectman Sileo, Selectman Burr and Selectman Campbell. Deborah Bournival, Administrative Assistant to the First Selectman, was also in attendance to take the minutes.

Pledge was recited by all.

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by Selectman Campbell to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2026 meeting as presented. All in favor, motion carries unanimously.

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by Selectman Campbell to add under New Business/Fund Balance Policy. All in favor, motion carries unanimously.

Old Business/Update re: School Feasibility Study:

Discussion ensued. First Selectman Sileo stated that he hopes to have the final plan and distribute it shortly. Selectman Burr would like to see it ahead of time if possible.

Old Business/Update re: FY 2026/2027 Budget and Capital Plan:

First Selectman Sileo stated that the Board of Finance, at their last meeting, approved the FY 2026/2027 budget and set a date for public hearing. They also set a special BOF meeting to immediately follow the public hearing to either make additional changes if needed and send to the Board of Selectmen to make the call for the annual budget town meeting.

New Business/Discussion-Approval re: Post Budget Hearing Special BOS Meeting (4/14):

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by Selectman Campbell to set a special BOS meeting to immediately follow the public hearing and special BOF meeting set for Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. All in favor, motion carries unanimously.

New Business/Discussion-Approval Fund Balance Policy:

The Fund Balance Policy was drafted as a guide to explain how the town's fund structure works. Our Finance Director, Tracy Decker, has been working on this for some time now. It will become part of the Board of Finance's financial policies that provide detail for the purpose, conditions and guidance for each fund and what is contained in each fund. The Board of Finance will review this policy annually or as needed. approved it.

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by Selectman Campbell to approve the Fund Balance Policy as presented. Discussion ensued.

Selectman Burr wanted to know where in this fund policy the revenues that come in for Nystrom's Park are housed as well as the revenues from ticket sales for the Opera House renovations. Discussions continued.

Both selectmen want to have more time to review this policy and, therefore, Selectman Burr would like to rescind the motion on the table. Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by Selectman Campbell to rescind the previous motion and table this item to the next regular Board of Selectmen meeting. All in favor, motion carries unanimously.

New Business/Discussion-Approval re: Fishing Club Raffle:

First Selectman Sileo presented a letter he received from Brandon Lynn, who is a Tech-Ed teacher and Fishing Club advisor for Thomaston High School. As advisor to the Fishing Club, he is looking to hold another raffle fundraiser to benefit the club. He was advised by the superintendent's office to share the fundraising initiative with the Board of Selectmen for transparency when involving local companies for donations to benefit the school organization. Both selectmen said to send back to the BOE for approval as it is a school function.

New Business/Discussion-Approval re: Main Street Flag Committee:

It was suggested to develop a "flag committee" for the banners on poles outside the town hall building who would be responsible for putting them up and taking them down at the appropriate times during the year. It was thought that the EDC had a responsibility as they received some CT. Main Street funding, but that was for the brackets to attach the flags to only. Most times, it was the Light Up Thomaston committee members who would hang the Christmas wreaths for the start of the holiday season. Jeff Dunn, who was at the meeting, said it really isn't the full responsibility of EDC, but they would be more than happy to assist with Light Up Thomaston.

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by Selectman Campbell to add under “New Business/Discussion of Number of Members on the Library Board”. All in favor, motion carries unanimously.

First Selectman Sileo stated that currently there are 12 members on the board. There will be four members terming out in November, 2027 including the vacancy left by the resignation of Jen Delaney. There have been challenges with getting a quorum at meetings and it was suggested to go with only 9 members as it would help with reaching the required quorum at meetings. Selectman Burr asked if this is driven by ordinance or state statute and First Selectman Sileo said both. Selectman Burr asked to see copies of both. Selectman Campbell asked if we would be leaving Jen’s seat vacant until 2027 as she would rather see the vacancy filled now and then go to 9 members then. Selectman Burr doesn’t have a problem filling the vacancy either. He does not have an opinion at this time.

New Business/Organizational Realignment:

Our Highway Superintendent is retiring at the end of the month. Rich has a proposal he would like to share with the selectmen as to how to reshape and realign what we are doing. That would be to create a single superintendent of public services who would be responsible for public works and WPCA responsibilities. The new job descriptions were provided to the selectmen for review.

In addition, we would be creating a new position called a Reporting Coordinator. That person would take a lot of the reporting responsibilities from Public Works and WPCA like MS4’s, SWPPP’s, dam emergency action plans, etc. Their three primary responsibilities would be 1) manage all the reporting for the town as it relates to state and local requirements; 2) assist in projects (project coordinator or assistant) help managing invoicing processing, making sure meetings are scheduled, making sure reports get out and 3) insure we are searching for and applying for all grants. He has written job descriptions for each of the new roles.

Selectman Burr said First Selectman Sileo has already answered many of his questions he had going into this meeting. He sees the need for the Reporting Coordinator. However, he doesn’t like the idea of comingling both jobs of Public Works Superintendent and WPCA Superintendent. This is a lot for one person to handle. He thinks if we take on something this enormous, we owe it to the town to go out to bid on the position. Selectman Campbell asked if this is going to save the town money. First Selectman Sileo said no, but it will not cost if he can pull off the way anticipated. There would be no changes in personnel below the superintendent positions.

Selectman Burr asked to read into record the job descriptions for the superintendent as presented and attached hereto.

This seems like a lot of responsibilities. Selectman Campbell asked if other towns have a similar model. First Selectman Sileo said yes and no. There are towns with similar model, but have an entire layer below that, but they are also bigger than we are. Selectman Burr asked where does the money come from. WPCA is their own taxing authority – how do you break down costs between WPCA and town?

First Selectman Sileo will be meeting with WPCA next week. Both selectmen would like to hear what the WPCA has to say.

Board/Commission Appointments/Resignations:

Motion was made by Selectman Campbell and seconded by Selectman Burr to accept the resignations of Joe Aniki from the Greenway Committee and Ernie LeClair from the Recreation Commission. All in favor, motion carries unanimously. Selectman Burr asks that the First Selectman send a thank you letter to each.

Motion was made by Selectman Campbell and seconded by Selectman Burr to appoint Daniel Osorio to EDC; Shanelle Dupre to Library Board; Austin Frank to Greenway Committee; David Shypinka to the Recreation Commission and Robert Norton, Jr. to ZBA. All in favor, motion carries unanimously.

Tax Refunds:

Motion was made by Selectman Campbell and seconded by Selectman Burr to approve a tax refund submitted by the tax collector in the amount of \$31.47 to Joseph Armstrong, Miles Holding. All in favor, motion carries unanimously.

Motion was made by Selectman Campbell and seconded by Selectman Burr to approve a tax refund submitted by the tax collector in the amount of \$2,042.96 to Corelogic. All in favor, motion carries unanimously.

Motion was made by Selectman Campbell and seconded by Selectman Burr to approve a tax refund submitted by the tax collector in the amount of \$2,515.48 to Cotality. All in favor, motion carries unanimously.

Communications – none.

Member Comment – none.

Public Comment (from the room) – Jeff Dunn did remember the teacher coming to the Board of Selectmen before about the raffle fundraiser for the Fishing Club. Selectman Burr

makes a motion to approve of the raffle fundraiser for the Fishing Club as presented. All in favor, motion carries unanimously.

Public Comment (from those online) – none.

Adjournment:

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by Selectman Campbell to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. All in favor, motion carries.