

DRAFT

**THOMASTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
VIA ZOOM MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 2026**

Call to Order & Roll Call:

The meeting was called to order by First Selectman Sileo at 6:03 p.m. First Selectman Sileo and Selectman Burr were attendance. Selectman Campbell was not in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance – by all in attendance.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by First Selectman Sileo to approve the meeting minutes of the regular meeting of June 2, 2026 as presented. Motion carries unanimously.

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by First Selectman Sileo to approve the meeting minutes of the special meeting of June 4, 2026 as presented. Motion carries unanimously.

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by First Selectman Sileo to approve the meeting minutes of the special meeting of June 9, 2026 as presented. Motion carries unanimously.

New Business/Discuss re: P&Z Alternate Members:

There have been discussions about changing the structure of the Planning & Zoning Commission. Currently, there are five regular members and three alternate members. They struggle with alternates which ensures there is always a quorum at all times. Alternates attend the meetings and participate, but unless they are seated to replace someone who is missing, they do not vote. People who volunteer want to participate. We should have some discussions about changing the structure making it a board of seven regular members with no alternates. This would increase the quorum to four, but would give them two more permanent members.

Selectman Burr asked what governs how these boards are structured. Administrative Assistant Bournival commented that when boards were established, they were done so by general statutes/ordinances. First Selectman Sileo doesn't have any background on these boards, but will follow up by doing some research. First Selectman Sileo will tap into the

knowledge that long-time board member Bill Guerrerra holds. First Selectman Sileo will attend a P&Z meeting in August to have conversations to see what they think about this.

New Business/Update re: Greenway BAN:

The Greenway project is about \$200,000 short. We put in for a recreation trails grant, but have not heard if we were getting it or not – two months late on knowing who is approved. If we get this grant, we will need to start work on this project very soon. He has had discussions on this with the chairman of the Greenway Committee, Amanda Burch, as to where the COG left off. If we don't get the \$200,000, we are at crossroads.

First Selectman Sileo explained that a BAN is the alternative to a bond. It is the interim borrowing we do during a project's duration until its completion. When partially complete or fully complete, we can then roll it into a bond. We are at that crossroad now. At this point in the process, if we don't bond, we have to start paying back the BAN - we have to make a payment by next week. We have discussed with bond council.

Selectman Burr said this Greenway project has been going on for some time now. How much was approved initially? First Selectman Sileo said \$445,000 was approved at a town meeting and the project would have taken the Greenway to East Main. However, we had to stop short of Maple Street (Elm Street section was cut down by voters). If we didn't go any further than Maple, how did we get short? First Selectman Sileo said there were multiple delays in funding this project and had to pull back on some of the aspects of the trail. The \$7M from the federal government was supposed to go all the way down to Ansonia and up through Torrington. First Selectman Sileo stated the \$445,000 was Thomaston's match. It is at a point now where we have to either bond the note for \$445,000 or pay it back. This is a critical juncture and we need to know how to proceed.

Old Business/Inform re: Waterbury Water Main:

Sent an email to Joe Geary, Chief of Staff for the Mayor of Waterbury. Asked what plan is. Knows he has to do something. Didn't have a head of water department. As of June 9, they have been researching and checking into technologies that may help them to identify weaknesses in some of the wire banding that wraps around the concrete pipe. Looking at different options. A new Water Superintendent is starting two weeks from June 9. Once that person is in place and gets up to speed on everything, then this will become their responsibility. Selectman Burr said this is good, but they need to be proactive as the pipe was breached twice already. The railroad still has substantial damage and they need to address that. First Selectman Sileo said Mr. Geary said he wants the railroad staff to fill out the form provided by the City of Waterbury and they will put through their insurance.

Board/Commission Appointments/Resignations:

First Selectman Sileo needs to amend the agenda to add the resignation of Anthony Keplar from the BOE. Motion seconded by Selectman Burr. Motion carries unanimously.

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by First Selectman Sileo to accept the resignation of Anthony Kepler from the BOE. Motion carries unanimously.

First Selectman Sileo needs to amend the agenda to add the resignation of Hillary Combs from the Greenway Committee. Motion was seconded by Selectman Burr. Motion carries unanimously.

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by First Selectman Sileo to accept the resignation of Hillary Combs from the Greenway Committee. Motion carries unanimously.

First Selectman Sileo needs to amend the agenda to add the appointment of Jim Campbell to the Board of Finance filling the vacancy of Adam Silverman. Motion was seconded by Selectman Burr. Motion carries unanimously.

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by First Selectman Sileo to appoint Jim Campbell to the Board of Finance filling the vacancy of Adam Silverman. Motion carries unanimously.

Tax Refunds – none.

Communications – From July 6-17, First Selectman Sileo will be on vacation. He will miss the first meeting in July but will be back for the second meeting. Selectman Burr and Selectman Campbell can decide how they want to handle the first meeting of the month.

Member Comment – none.

Public Comment – there were no comments from either those in the room or online.

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by First Selectman Sileo to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 p.m. Motion carries unanimously.