

DRAFT

**THOMASTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
VIA ZOOM MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2026**

Call to Order & Roll Call:

The meeting was called to order by First Selectman Sileo at 6:04 p.m. First Selectman Sileo, Selectman Burr and Selectman Campbell were attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance – by all in attendance.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion was made by Selectman Campbell and seconded by Selectman Burr to approve the meeting minutes of the regular meeting of September 1, 2026 as presented. Motion carries unanimously.

New Business/Discuss-Approve Sanford Avenue Field Fence Repair:

First Selectman Sileo said Joe Aniki, Recreation Director, received quotes from three vendors; one from DML for \$19,300 (who didn't bid what was asked for in specs); one from Osowiecki & Sons for \$13,600 and the other from Thomaston Fence & Hardscapes in the amount of \$12,955. Money for this project has already been approved by the Capital Committee. Joe Aniki and the Commission made the recommendation for Thomaston Fence & Hardscapes as low bidder. However, the selectmen decided to go with Osowiecki & Sons as they are in close proximity to the park.

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by Selectman Campbell to award bid to Osowiecki & Sons for \$12,955. Motion carries unanimously.

Selectman Burr wanted to know why the Recreation Commission can't utilize their own money to pay for these types of things instead of taking from a fund. First Selectman Sileo said because it has already been budgeted for and approved by capital.

New Business/Discuss-Approve Education Budget Financial Review RFP:

There were four companies that were asked to bid on the BOE Operational & Internal Controls review RFP for FY 25/26 overspend which was posted publicly. Two of the four companies declined to bid due to the timeline. The third company, CBiz, was not able to achieve the same scope level and refused to do any attestations. The company that was

recommended by the Board of Finance was PKF O'Connor Davies which the town has used in the past. They will begin one phase at a time. Phase I will be \$31,625 and will come from the contingency fund.

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by Selectman Campbell to award PKF O'Connor Davies with the BOE Operational & Internal Controls Review, Phase I, for an amount of \$31,625. Motion carries unanimously.

New Business/Discuss-Approve Pension Calculation Requests:

The Retirement Committee met last week on two items. The first item was for all active members of the town's defined benefit pension plans who are considering retirement and who request estimate calculations. The Retirement Committee recommended that each member receive only one estimate calculation per fiscal year at the town's expense (it costs the Town \$400 for each calculation and we don't budget for these). These requests go to our actuaries. All additional benefit calculations requested within the same fiscal year shall be at the member's expense.

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by Selectman Campbell that as recommended by the Retirement Committee, to allow for one pension calculation per member per fiscal year. Motion carries unanimously.

New Business/Discuss-Approve Pension Eligibility for Penelope Fox:

The second item was for a past employee of the town, Penelope Fox, who was a paraprofessional for the schools. She has documentation that shows she successfully purchased extra hours of service in order to hit her shortfall of 654 hours for her 10th year. However, she was later told that was not the case and she was still short. The Retirement Committee recommended that credited hours for Ms. Fox be identified/accepted in the amount of 654 hours required in calendar year 2021 in order for her to reach the 1,250 hours needed for ten years of vested service.

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by Selectman Campbell that, as recommended by the Retirement Committee, the credited service hours of 654 hours be accepted for Ms. Penelope Fox for calendar year 2021 in order for her to reach the 1,250 hours needed for ten years of vested service. Motion carries unanimously.

New Business/Opera House Roof Completion & Retention Notice:

Through our town attorney, we served notice twice to the contractor and contractor's bond company. First Selectman Sileo stated that the contractor reached out and said they would like to come out on September 21 to finally complete the items that were not finished in order to complete the project. We have the monies in retainage. However, what

happens to the warranty on the roof. Town attorney says we have to either accept their offer or reject it and have someone else complete.

First Selectman Sileo suggests we should not accept the offer from Young Developers to come back and finish the work on this project due to their inability to show up when scheduled and our low confidence in their ability to do the work. We will move on and make the repairs ourselves out of remaining retainage to complete this work with a vendor of our choice.

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by Selectman Campbell to not accept the offer from Young Developers to come back and finish the work on this project due to their inability to show up when scheduled and our low confidence in their ability to do the work. We will move on and make the repairs ourselves out of remaining retainage to complete this work with a vendor of our choice. Motion carries unanimously.

Selectman Burr did have concerns of the warranty. He also wanted to make sure it was noted that the quality of the roof is decent. Valley Restoration did work on tower and did a great job. The end result was good.

New Business/Elm Street Culvert Collapse:

We had an old stone hand-laid culvert collapse under Elm Street. There is a partial collapse in the area near Uni-metal at the corner of Elm and Maple. This needs to be repaired before winter. Spoke to Tighe & Bond as they are working on the current LOTCIP project in that area. We need to make a temporary repair until other projects on this street have been completed. They have some suggestions to design a precast insert. Tighe & Bond's engineering cost is for this is \$25,000.

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by Selectman Campbell to approve of the proposal for engineering services from Tighe & Bond of the Elm Street stone box culvert pending approval by the Board of Finance and subsequent town meeting. Motion carries unanimously.

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by Selectman Campbell to amend the agenda to add under New Business/Gutters for Roof in Courtyard at Town Hall. Motion carries unanimously.

New Business/Gutters for Roof in Courtyard at Town Hall:

We recently put new pavers in the courtyard and subsequently realized the roof, the way it was designed, is now leaking all around and eroding all the sand we installed between the pavers. When this area was constructed, it was intended to have gutters as there is a leader drain in the corner which goes to the drain in the center. Joe Ouellette received

quotes from two gutter companies; one was from Pierpont's Gutters for \$3,500 and the other from Northeast Gutters for \$4,500. We will have to borrow the lift from Landmark as it is too high.

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by Selectman Campbell to approve the bid from Pierpont's Gutters in an amount now to exceed \$3,500 for gutters. Motion carries unanimously.

The funding for this project will come from a capital roof fund that retains residual monies after a project is complete.

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by Selectman Campbell to add to the agenda under New Business/POCD. With all in favor, motion carries.

New Business/POCD:

Tony Adili was online to present. Last year, the P&Z passed the POCD. One of the points of the POCD is to use it as a guide for the kinds of projects the town works on, the kind of laws or legislation we pass or how we should budget things. The Board of Selectmen should always make sure it is an agenda item on all their agendas so we don't lose sight of action items. We need to review the plan periodically to make sure we are following the things listed. We spend the money to produce this we should use it.

We will have a meeting with all who crafted the POCD on December 2 @ 7pm. It will be a yearly thing.

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by Selectman Campbell to add to the agenda under New Business/Purchase of Plow Blades:

New Business/Purchase of Plow Blades:

First Selectman Sileo explained that we are running low on plow blades. We usually keep a few in stock, but our inventory was down after last snow event. We didn't replace like we should have done. Consequently, we have to buy seven sets @ \$6,200/set to be ready for this year. We need to waive the three-bid policy in order to purchase the seven sets.

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by Selectman Campbell to waive the three-bid policy to purchase plow blades. Discussion ensued. Selectman Burr said the math doesn't add up. Eastcoast Supply bid states \$24,000 - seven sets is \$43,400. The correct number of sets is four. With this correction, motion carries unanimously.

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by Selectman Campbell to approve the quote for four sets of plow blades not to exceed \$25,000 from Public Works operating budget. Motion carries unanimously.

Selectman Burr asked mentioned “pads” that he was informed about that can be used on the blades during winter months so roads do not get ripped up and damaged.

Old Business/Discuss-Approve Electricity Metering for the Opera House:

Selectman Burr spoke with MJM Electric to see if they would be able to meter both the old firehouse and opera house, a split system, in order for the Town to be able to charge for that space. The short answer is yes and it can go up to eight circuits which would be wired to the new panel in the basement/computer room. A lot of stuff is covered and the only reoccurring expense we would have would be the subscription fee. The first year is free. We are in the middle of contract negotiations now with Landmark so this will help.

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by Selectman Campbell to waive the three-bid policy for monitoring the electricity in town hall. Motion carries unanimously.

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by Selectman Campbell to approve the bid by MJM Electric for Thomaston Opera House Tenant Power Monitoring System for an amount not to exceed \$20,545 subject to approval by town meeting.

Old Business/Inform – Alcohol on Town Property Policy:

No updates.

Old Business/Discussion re: TVAC Agreement:

First Selectman Sileo said he found an issue with the TVAC agreement and the Corps. They have lapsed reporting and their incorporation was dissolved by the Secretary of State’s Office. I have not had a chance to check this, but I have been told they have been reinstated as of today. I have paused on editing the agreement. They have also made a request to see their 990’s and a couple of other items. Those were delivered.

Old Business/Inform re: Waterbury Water Main:

Emails still going back and forth between the mayor’s office and New England Railroad. Still with their corporation counsel as they are putting together a package of other claims going to their insurance.

Old Business/Discuss/Approve re: Nystrom’s Communication Tower Cell Companies:

No update.

Old Business/Discuss/Approve re: Judson Street Drainage Pipe:

First Selectman Sileo is working with Tighe & Bond to identify a solution. Tighe and Bond is working on a proposal for us.

Old Business/Discuss-Education Budget:

We now have an interim business manager focused on fixing the BOE financial issues. Also, the BOE has approved Tracy Decker, Finance Director for the Town, to have limited access to their system to assist. The BOE superintendent is now on paid leave.

Board/Commission Appointments/Resignations:

We received a letter from Nathan Vieira dated August 26 giving his official resignation from the Inland Wetlands Watercourse Commission,

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by Selectman Campbell to accept the resignation of Nathan Vieira from IWWC. Motion carries unanimously.

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Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by Selectman Campbell to appoint Tom Williams as replacement for Nathan Vieira on IWWC. 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 \$394.55 to Toyota Lease Trust, vehicle sold July, 2024. 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 \$506.70 to Toyota Lease Trust, vehicle sold July, 2024. 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 \$289.18 to Toyota Lease Trust, vehicle sold October, 2025. 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 \$33.03 to Arthur Quinn, vehicle sold August, 2026. 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 \$327.34 to Nissan Motor Acceptance Corp., vehicle sold December, 2025. 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 \$227.48 to Brandon Colbert. 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 \$31.56 to Brandon Colbert, overpaid. Motion carries unanimously.

Communications:

First Selectman Sileo received an email from Cara Files of the Board of Ed to put Becky Shypinka in the vacancy left by the resignation of Ruthann (Roxy) Fainer. Selectman Burr said he is not ready to put a Democrat in a Republican seat.

Member Comment – none.

Public Comment (in room):

Resident Ann Williams from Turner Road asked if it is true that Nystrom's Pond has jellyfish and other invasive species in it.

Public Comment (on-line):

Tony Adili wanted to thank everyone for the appointment of Tom Williams to the Inland Wetlands Commission.

Motion was made by Selectman Burr and seconded by Selectman Campbell to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. Motion carries unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by
Deborah Bournival
Administrative Assistant