



# **TOWN OF SOUTH THOMASTON**

## **QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER**

Cheryl Waterman, Chairman

Dorothy Meriwether

Dianne Darling

E-mail: [sthomstn@midcoast.com](mailto:sthomstn@midcoast.com)

**SEPTEMBER 2014**

Website: [town.south-thomaston.me.us](http://town.south-thomaston.me.us)

Town of South Thomaston

125 Spruce Head Road

P.O. Box 147

South Thomaston, ME



### **NEW FIRE TRUCK ORDERED**

The Selectboard has ordered a new fire truck from Greenwood Emergency Vehicles of Brunswick Maine. The manufacturer is E-One of Ocala Florida. The year and model is a 2015 E-One Typhoon. It is anticipated that delivery will be made in June or July of 2015. Voters authorized purchase of the truck at the March 2014 Annual Town Meeting.

Ferrara Fire Apparatus was the only other company to submit a proposal. After an extensive review of the two proposals by several members of the Fire Department, Chief Bryan Calderwood recommended that the Selectboard accept the Greenwood proposal. The Greenwood proposal was \$343,000 with the pre-pay discount and the Ferrara proposal was \$350,000 with the pre-pay discount.

### **SELECTBOARD AUTHORIZES LEGAL ACTION TO SECURE FORMER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION FUNDS**

At its meeting of September 14th the Selectboard unanimously voted to authorize attorney James Strong to take appropriate legal action to recover funds that belonged to the former South Thomaston Firemen's Association that were, by vote of the former association, to be donated to the Town.

The Selectboard took this action after receiving a letter on July 21, 2014 from Brian MacMaster, Director of Investigations, Office of the Attorney General, that the AG's active investigation of the matter is "to determine if criminal wrongdoing occurred, and is not focused on securing payment of the funds in question to the Town." MacMaster's letter went on to advise the Selectboard to consult with its Town Attorney in the matter of securing payment of the funds.

As has been widely reported in the local press, the former South Thomaston Firemen's Association voted, upon its dissolution in 2007, to donate these funds to the Town to assist with the purchase of a class A pumper. Despite repeated efforts by town officials over the years, the persons holding these funds, which total nearly \$15,000, have refused to comply with the vote of the association and turn the funds over to the Town.

### **TRANSFER STATION UPDATE**

#### **NEW STICKERS NOW AVAILABLE**

New access stickers required to enter and dispose of trash and recyclables at the Transfer Station on Butter-milk Drive in Thomaston are now available at the Town Office. The new stickers are valid until December 31, 2016. The new stickers will be orange and black. The current yellow stickers expire on December 31, 2014. All town residents, property owners and businesses are eligible to purchase a sticker. (continued on page 3)

### **EMERGENCY (E911) SIGNS**

Blue or green emergency house number signs are available at the Town Office. They cost about \$8.00 to \$11.00, depending on size and the number of digits. These signs are critical for emergency responders to be able to locate you quickly, especially at night or in inclement weather.

### **IN AN EMERGENCY DIAL 911**

# TOWN OF SOUTH THOMASTON NEWSLETTER

## FIRE PREVENTION WEEK IS OCTOBER 5TH — 11TH CHECK SMOKE DETECTORS AND CO ALARM BATTERIES

### CODE DEFICIENCIES AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING

The Selectboard has established an ad hoc committee to examine and make recommendations regarding how best to rectify code deficiencies at the Municipal Building. The violations include both life safety and disability access codes. The initial concern was identified by the State Fire Marshal and involved lack of proper egress from the second floor meeting room in the fire department section of the building. Several weeks ago local architect John Hansen agreed to produce a report identifying all code deficiencies in the building. The issues identified in Hansen's report were fairly extensive. In addition to Hansen, the Committee membership includes Selectperson Cheryl Waterman, Fire Chief Bryan Calderwood, Ambulance Director Pat Dougherty, Budget Committee Member Don Protheroe and Administrative Assistant John Spear.

### DEMOLITION DEBRIS FACILITY STICKERS AVAILABLE SOON

New access stickers that are required to enter and dispose of brush, demolition debris, furniture and other waste accepted at the Stump Dump Road Demolition Debris Facility, located behind the Town Office, should be available around October 15th. The current orange stickers will expire on December 31, 2014. The Selectboard has set the price for the new stickers, which will be valid for two years from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2016, at \$10.

### 2014 TAXES DUE OCTOBER 1ST

Please note that 2014 taxes are due October 1st. Interest, at a rate of 7%, begins accruing on any unpaid balance as of October 2nd. The names of property owners owing taxes at December 31st will be published in the Town Report.

#### TOWN OFFICE 2014/2015 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

2014 Holidays	Date Observed
Columbus Day	October 13
Veterans Day	November 11
Thanksgiving Day	November 27
Christmas Day	December 25

2015 Holidays	Date Observed
New Year's Day	January 1
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	January 19
President's Day	February 16
Patriots Day	April 20
Memorial Day	May 25
Independence Day	July 3
Labor Day	September 7
Columbus Day	October 12
Veterans Day	November 11
Thanksgiving Day	November 26
Christmas Day	December 25

**2014 GENERAL ELECTION**  
**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2014**  
**POLLS OPEN 8:00 AM TO 8:00 PM**  
**TOWN OFFICE , 125 SPRUCE HEAD ROAD**

**ABSENTEE BALLOTS ANTICIPATED  
TO BE AVAILABLE AFTER OCTOBER 1st**

#### VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Anyone interested in serving on the Fire Department, Ambulance or Library or being a member of the Appeals Board or Cemetery Committee is urged to call the Town Office at 596 - 6584 for more information.

#### TOWN WEBSITE

Visit the Town's website. Lots of information including news and announcements of upcoming meetings. Access it at anytime. If you have suggestions regarding the site, including what additional information could be added, please email Terri Baines at [deputyt@midcoast.com](mailto:deputyt@midcoast.com) or call her at 596-6584.

# TOWN OF SOUTH THOMASTON NEWSLETTER

## TOWN LIBRARY TO SERVE AS COMMUNITY WARMING CENTER SHELTER

The Selectboard recently designated the South Thomaston Library as a community warming center shelter. The designation means that the Library would be available to the public in the event of a declared emergency. Its availability would be limited in that it would not serve as an overnight shelter.

The Town has included in its 2014/15 Federal Emergency Planning Grant application a request for funds to purchase a portable generator that would serve the shelter. Library Director Pennie Alley was appointed to serve as the Shelter Officer, For more information contact EMA Director Bryan Calderwood at 596-6674.

## NEW CODE OFFICER APPOINTED

John Snow of South Thomaston began his duties as the Town's new Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) on August 20, 2014. The CEO is responsible for administering and enforcing the town's Land Use, Shoreland Zoning Floodplain Management and the Public Landings ordinances.

John can be contacted by email at ceolpist@gmail.com or by phone at 390-0054. John will typically be in the office on Monday mornings from 8:30 to 12:30.

John replaces long time Code Enforcement Officer Larry Terrio who resigned earlier in the year. Larry continues to serve as Local Plumbing Inspector (LPI) on a temporary basis. Larry can be contacted at 596-0545.

## VOLUNTARY TAX CLUB

Voluntary Tax Club Booklets are available at the town office. Anyone interested in participating should contact the town office at 596-6584 for assistance. You can budget your property taxes on a monthly basis. October is a great time to start , although you can start participating in the Tax Club at any time during the year.

### OPERATIONAL HOURS

#### Town Office

Mon, Wed, Thurs 8:30 - 5:00

Tuesday 8:30 - 6:00

Closed Friday

Phone: 596-6584 Fax: 596-7529

E-mail: sthomstn@midcoast.com

#### Demolition Debris Facility

Wed, Sat 9:00 - 4:00

A sticker is required for residents and vouchers are available at the Town Office.

#### Transfer Station (Buttermilk Drive)

Tues, Weds, Thurs, Sat. 8:00 - 4:00

Phone: 594-0748

#### Library

Monday 11:00 - 4:00

Wednesday 2:00 - 7:00

Saturday 10:00 - 2:00

Story Hour, Monday 10:00

Phone 596-0022

(from page 1)

The Solid Waste Cooperative Board, representing the Towns of Owls Head, South Thomaston and Thomaston voted in August to set the price for these two (2) year stickers at \$10, noting that the price hadn't increased in four years.

The Transfer Station opened its new four lane drive through on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Users now enter through the new gate on the south end of the facility, pull up to the new single stream recycling and trash containers, and then exit through the middle gate. The need to back up vehicles has been eliminated. The Co-Op reports that as users have become acquainted with the new layout they are voicing their approval to the station attendants.

The facility is located just south of the newly paved section of Buttermilk Drive in Thomaston and is open on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday from 8 AM to 4 PM. If you have questions about what can be deposited at the Transfer Station, please call 594-0748 during open hours.

# TOWN OF SOUTH THOMASTON NEWSLETTER-DIRECTORY

## Selectboard

Cheryl Waterman, Chair	Cell: 691-5449
Dorothy Meriwether	Home :594-7873
Dianne Darling	Home: 354-0184

## RSU # 13 Board of Directors Representative

Christine Curtis	Home: 596-0252
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## RSU # 13 Superintendent

John MacDonald	596-6620
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## Administrative Assistant, Town Clerk, Tax Collector, Treasurer, Registrar & General Asst Administrator

John A. Spear	596-6584
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## Deputy Clerk, Treasurer, Tax Collector, and Registrar

Terri-Lynn Baines	596-6584
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## Deputy Assistant

Michelle Ames	596-6584
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## Animal Control Officer (ACO)

Robert Robinson	593-9132
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## Call Knox Communications ACO issues

## Fire Department: Emergency Dial 911

Bryan Calderwood, Fire Chief	596-6674
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David Elwell, Deputy Chief	542-4797
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Gerald Harjula, Assistant Chief	354-8026
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*All 3 are Fire Wardens and can issue burning permits*

## Ambulance Service: Emergency Dial 911

Pat Dougherty, Director	594-9305
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Rich Norman, Asst. Director	594-5428
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## Emergency Management Director:

Bryan Calderwood	596-6674
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## Library Director

Pennie Alley	596-0022
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## E-911 Coordinator

Arthur Grierson	Home: 594-8873
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## Road Commissioner

Gerald Grierson	Home:594-5493
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## Budget Committee

Donald Protheroe, Donna Withington, Gary Skarka, Gayle Gallant, Moira Paddock, Rebecca Geesey and Sonja Sleeper

## Planning Board Roger Young, Chair, Eileen Skarka,

Christine Curtis, Edward Gallant and Ruth Rinklin. Alternates: Gregory Peet and Jeffery Northgraves.

## Board of Appeals Rich Norman, Chair, Rolf Winters, John Hansen and Barbara Noyes Alternate: Charles Hartman

## Knox County Budget Committee

Dorothy Meriwether	Home: 594-7873
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## Code Enforcement Officer

John Snow	Cell: 390-0054
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## Plumbing Inspector

Lawrence Terrio	Home: 596-0545
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Terry Brackett, Alternate LPI

## Assessor's Agent

RJ D — Kevin McCormick	596-6584
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## Solid Waste Committee

Dianne Darling	Home: 354-0184
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Gordon "Skip" Connell	Home: 594-1801
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## Georges River Shellfish Warden

Neil Pollis	Cell: 542-4281
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<b>Knox County Sheriff (non-emergency)</b>	<b>593-9132</b>
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<b>Maine State Police (non-emergency)</b>	<b>1-800-452-4664</b>
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**IN AN EMERGENCY—FIRE, POLICE OR AMBULANCE -DIAL 911**

Town of South Thomaston  
 PO Box 147  
 South Thomaston, ME 04858