MINUTES
Board of Selectmen
Tuesday, April 6, 2010 @ 7:30PM
Norma Drummer Room/Seymour Town Hall

Others present: Sean Walsh, Anthony Sanzo, Frank Connors, Evelyn Molner, Phyllis Jachimowski, Edward Pollack Sr., Valerie Pollack, Harry Marks, Joan Fowler-Gee, Frank Loda, and Alex Danka.

ITEM # 1 – Call meeting to order.
The First Selectman opened the meeting at 7:30PM.

ITEM # 2 – Pledge of Allegiance.
Everyone saluted the Flag and stated the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM # 3 – Approve minutes from Board of Selectmen meeting on 3/16/10.
Motion to approve minutes from the Board of Selectmen meeting on 3/16/10.
Motion: John Conroy   Second: Philip Wilhelmy
Vote: 7-Yes  0-No  0-Abstain  0-Disqualify

ITEM # 4 – First Selectman’s Report.
• Negotiations have begun for union contracts for Town Hall employees.
• Energy Committee has met. (John Conroy will update Board under Selectmen’s Comments).
• Met with developers of Housatonic Wire/Seymour Lumber project, and Connecticut Main Street Center.
• Met with seniors at Ray House about concerns about getting rides to the Senior Center in the senior bus.
• Met with parents group concerning the budget.
• Read to preschoolers at Explorers Learning Center.
• Attended annual dinner at Citizens Fire House.

ITEM # 5 – Public Comment.
Ed Pollack, 25 Walnut Street: Last storm this past week caused 6+ hours of work to clean up the water in their basement. They are pleading for the Town to help get this water issue resolved.

ITEM # 6 – Present Certificate to the Town and County winner of the 5th Grade Connecticut Fire Prevention Poster Contest, per Fire Marshal.
Fire Marshal Paul Wetowitz explains that there is a contest held every year for Fire Prevention posters. This year Janna Rudy a 5th grader from Anna LoPresti School won the Town of Seymour contest and went on to win the New Haven County contest with her poster of snow in front of a fire hydrant. The First Selectman and the Fire Marshal present her with a certificate of accomplishment for her achievement.
ITEM # 7 – Review and take possible action on proposed rules governing recording, photography or the use of broadcasting equipment for Seymour town meetings, per FOI.

A lengthy discussion was held concerning the three proposed rules governing recording at town meetings. The three versions are from Town Counsel Colleen Fries, FOI Counsel Perpetua, and Mr. Frank Loda. Board members have conflicting views.

Motion to adopt FOI rules governing recording of town meetings that were faxed to the Town of Seymour by Attorney Perpetua from FOI on January 16, 2009.

Motion: W. Kurt Miller   Second: John Conroy

Motion to amend motion to include changing item # 3 from 6 camera to unlimited cameras.

Motion: W. Kurt Miller   Second: John Conroy

Vote: 4-Yes (Paul Roy, John Conroy, W. Kurt Miller, Annmarie Drugonis)   3-No (Philip Wilhelmy, Karl Trybus, Sandra Gesek)   0-Abstain   0-Disqualify

Original motion with amendment.

Vote: 3-Yes (John Conroy, W. Kurt Miller, Annmarie Drugonis)   4-No (Paul Roy, Philip Wilhelmy, Karl Trybus, Saundra Gesek)   0-Abstain   0-Disqualify

Motion Failed.

Motion to adopt the rules governing recording of town meetings submitted by Town Counsel Colleen Fries.

Motion: Karl Trybus   Second: Saundra Gesek

Motion to amend motion to include amendment to item # 6 to change to state unlimited amount of cameras.

Motion: Philip Wilhelmy   Second: Saundra Gesek

Vote: 7-Yes   0-No   0-Abstain   0-Disqualify

Original motion with amendment.

Vote: 4-Yes (Paul Roy, Philip Wilhelmy, Karl Trybus, Saundra Gesek)   3-No (John Conroy, W. Kurt Miller, Annmarie Drugonis)   0-Abstain   0-Disqualify

ITEM # 8 – Approve National Day of Prayer for May 6, 2010.

Motion to approve National Day of Prayer to be held at Town Hall on May 6, 2010 at 12:00PM.

Motion: Philip Wilhelmy   Second: W. Kurt Miller

Vote: 7-Yes   0-No   0-Abstain   0-Disqualify

ITEM # 9 – Proclamation for Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

WHEREAS, sexual assault affects women, children and men of all racial cultural and economic backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the immediate physical and emotional costs, sexual assault may also have associated consequences of post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, depression, homelessness, eating disorders and suicide; and

WHEREAS, sexual assault can be devastating for not only the survivor, but also for the family and friends of the survivor; and

WHEREAS, no one person, organization, agency or community can eliminate sexual assault on their own, but we can work together to educate our entire population about what can be done to prevent sexual
assault, support victim/survivors and their significant others, and increase support for agencies providing services to victim/survivors; and

WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month provides an excellent opportunity for citizens to learn more about preventing sexual violence;

NOW THEREFORE be it, Resolved, That I, Paul Roy, do hereby proclaim the month of April, 2010, as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Seymour, CT.

Motion to approve the proclamation for Sexual Assault Awareness Month.
Motion: Philip Wilhelmy Second: Annmarie Drugonis
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

ITEM # 10 – Update from the Commission on Aging.
Joan Fowler-Gee, Chairman of the Commission on Aging along with Commission members Harry Marks, Evelyn Molner, and Phyllis Jachimowski. Member Bonnie Wilkes is absent. Joan reads the Charter Section that states the charge of the Commission on Aging.

They give a verbal report on what they have discovered and their recommendations for the Senior Center. They have found several areas that they believe need improvement, which include newsletters, activities, grants, membership and transportation.

The First Selectman will write a letter to the Director of the Senior Center to ask for cooperation to the Commission on Aging.

ITEM # 11 – Update and discussion on pending or proposed grants.
The First Selectman provides a list of proposed and/or pending grants that the Town is currently working on.

ITEM # 12 – Appointments.
None.

ITEM # 13 – Tax Refunds/Abatements.
Motion to approve tax refunds in the amount of $961.70.
Motion: Philip Wilhelmy Second: John Conroy
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

ITEM # 14 – Transfers.
None.

ITEM # 15 – Correspondence.
- Check Registers.
- Report from Fire Marshal on inspections of the schools.
- Copy of the Town of Tolland Anti-idling Policy.

ITEM # Other Business.
Motion to place on the table to set the Annual Town Meeting for Thursday, April 22, 2010 @ 7:00PM at the Seymour Middle School.
Motion: John Conroy   Second: W. Kurt Miller
Vote: 7-Yes  0-No  0-Abstain  0-Disqualify

Motion to set the Annual Town Meeting for Thursday, April 22, 2010 @ 7:00PM at the Seymour Middle School.
Motion: W. Kurt Miller   Second: John Conroy
Vote: 7-Yes  0-No  0-Abstain  0-Disqualify

Motion to place on the table set referendum vote for Thursday, April 29, 2010 from 6:00AM to 8:00PM at the Seymour Community Center.
Motion: John Conroy   Second: W. Kurt Miller
Vote: 7-Yes  0-No  0-Abstain  0-Disqualify

Motion to set referendum vote for Thursday, April 29, 2010 from 6:00AM to 8:00PM at the Seymour Community Center.
Motion: W. Kurt Miller   Second: Annmarie Drugonis
Vote: 7-Yes  0-No  0-Abstain  0-Disqualify

Motion to place on the table set referendum vote for Tuesday, May 11, 2010 from 6:00AM to 8:00PM at the Seymour Community Center.
Motion: W. Kurt Miller   Second: Philip Wilhelmy
Vote: 7-Yes  0-No  0-Abstain  0-Disqualify

Motion to set referendum vote for Tuesday, May 11, 2010 from 6:00AM to 8:00PM at the Seymour Community Center.
Motion: Philip Wilhelmy   Second: Annmarie Drugonis
Vote: 7-Yes  0-No  0-Abstain  0-Disqualify

ITEM # 17 – Public Comment.
Alex Danka, 203 Pearl Street: Would like to give the Board an update on Earth Day. Everything is moving along and he has approximately 17 Girl Scout troops from several towns voluntering.

ITEM # 18 – Selectmen’s Public Comments.
W. Kurt Miller: Has been working with a group of people to come up with a policy on comp time among other things. He suggests that they put together a committee to help negotiate the union contracts. He gives the Board members recommendations on comp time and time off for the First Selectman’s position. This will be reviewed by the Board members.

John Conroy: Is the Chairman of the Energy Committee and had their first meeting a few weeks ago. Committee members have been given assignments and have been working well together. Realized that the Town is no longer getting competitive rates on their CL&P accounts and by implementing this then the Town will save money on their utilities. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 15, 2010 and there
will be a representative from the State there to discuss options for the Town to save on energy costs.

Paul Roy: States that the Energy Efficiency Grant that the Town received has to be used partially for new windows at the Library, but the rest of the funds, approximately $48,000 can be used for energy efficiency projects in Town Buildings. He would like the energy committee to decide on those funds.

ITEM # 19 – Executive Session (Contract Negotiations, Personnel – Attorney Kevin Blake – Workman’s Comp, Pending Litigation – Tri-town Plaza, Nyne, Inc.).

Motion to go into Executive Session for Personnel, Workman’s Comp with Attorney Kevin Blake, Town Counsel Colleen Fries and the Board of Selectmen at 8:58PM.
Motion: Philip Wilhelmy  Second: Annmarie Drugonis
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to come out of Executive Session at 9:16PM with no motions or action taken.
Motion: Philip Wilhelmy  Second: Karl Trybus
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to authorize Attorney Blake to go into negotiations per discussion in executive session.
Motion: Annmarie Drugonis  Second: John Conroy
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to go into Executive Session for Pending Litigation – Tri-town and Nyne, Inc. with the Town Assessor Joe Kusiak, Town Counsel Colleen Fries and the Board of Selectmen at 9:17PM.
Motion: John Conroy  Second: Philip Wilhelmy
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to come out of Executive Session at 9:30PM with no motions or action taken.
Motion: Philip Wilhelmy  Second: Annmarie Drugonis
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

ITEM # 20 – Adjournment.
Motion to adjourn at 9:32PM.
Motion: Philip Wilhelmy  Second: Annmarie Drugonis
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Submitted by, Reviewed by,

Deirdre Caruso, Paul Roy,
Recording Secretary First Selectman