MINUTES
Board of Selectmen
Tuesday, January 20, 2009 @ 7:30 PM
Norma Drummer Room/Seymour Town Hall


- The First Selectman opened the meeting at 7:30PM.
- Everyone saluted the Flag and stated the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion to approve minutes from the Ordinance Public Hearing on 1/6/09.
Motion: Frank Conroy Second: John Conroy
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to approve minutes from Board of Selectmen meeting on 1/6/09.
Motion: John Conroy Second: Annmarie Drugonis
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

First Selectman’s Report:
- Roberta King is ill and will not be attending the meeting tonight.

Public Comment:
A resident of Woodbridge discusses with the Board his concerns over no guard rail on Haddad Road since an accident in November 2007 where someone lost their life.

Motion to place discussion of Haddad Road on the table.
Motion: John Conroy Second: Paul Roy
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Robert J. Koskelowski: Explains that the accident happened in November 2007 and the first request to put up a guard rail on Haddad Road was from the victim’s brother, which was received this December 2008, which was over a year after the accident. The First Selectman immediately called the Chief of Police and the Public Works Director to investigate whether or not the road is safe and needs a guard rail. The accident report was not completed until December 2008 and it was reported to him that this was possible driver error, but also was inconclusive on the cause of the accident. He also states that in the past decade there have only been two accidents on Haddad Road and the other was someone who was in a car chase with the police. He also contacted Peter Jezierny, who is the Town of Seymour representative for the Regional Water Authority, which we believe owns the property where the residents want the guard rail put up. The water company is still in the process of its investigation and the Town of Seymour also continues to investigate this issue. The Chief of Police has stated that this is not an unsafe road. The First Selectman also states that if a guard rail was to be put up it would cause the road to have to be either one way or a dead
end. The First Selectman states that if the Chief of Police, Public Works Director or himself thought that the road was unsafe then they would have taken action already.

Dennis Rozum, Director of Public Works: States that he has never received any complaints from the Public Works plow drivers that the road is unsafe. He also knows of several people that walk that road all of the time. He suggests possible stop signs on either side of the curve or possibly signs stating there is a curve ahead.

Frank Conroy: States that the same fencing has been in that spot for 65 years since he was a boy.

ITEM # 1 - Adopt revisions to the Anti-Blight Ordinance.

TOWN OF SEYMOUR
Amendment to Anti Blight Ordinance
(To go into effect on 2/10/09.)

The Anti Blight Ordinance of the Town of Seymour is hereby amended to add the following section:
Section 6.D. Anti – Blight Lien
In the event that the homeowner does not appeal the action of the Anti – Blight Enforcement Officer within the time set by the ordinance and in the event that no action has been taken by the homeowner to cure the Blight situation within 90 days of the notice of violation issued by said Anti – Blight Enforcement Officer then a Town Attorney may place a lien against the subject property on the land records of the Town of Seymour which shall recite the status of the Blight situation and the total amount of the fines due as of the date of said lien. Said lien shall remain an encumbrance upon the subject property until such time as the Blight condition shall be cured and the fines assessed have been paid.

Motion to adopt the above revision to the Anti-Blight Ordinance to go into effect in 21 days, which is February 10, 2009.

Motion: John Putorti
Second: Frank Conroy
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

ITEM # 2 - Set Public Hearing on the Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct for Tuesday, February 3, 2009 @ 7:00PM in the Norma Drummer Room/Seymour Town Hall.

Motion to set a public hearing on the Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct for Tuesday, February 3, 2009 @ 7:00PM in the Norma Drummer Room/Seymour Town Hall.

Motion: John Conroy
Second: Paul Roy
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

ITEM # 3 - Appointments.

Motion to appoint Jay Hatfield to the Board of Assessment Appeals for a 1-Year Term expiring on 11/3/09.

Motion: John Putorti
Second: John Conroy
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify
ITEM # 4 - Tax Refunds/Abatements.
Motion to approve tax refunds in the amount of $119.69.
Motion: John Putorti    Second: John Conroy
Vote: 6-Yes    0-No    0-Abstain    0-Disqualify

ITEM # 5 - Discussion of Winter Storms.
The First Selectman states that an emergency transfer is needed for supplies and overtime for the Public Works Department due to the depletion of funds in those line items because of the 10 snow storms already this season. Also, the gas, oil and salt costs went up this year. We are using treated salt, which costs more, but less is used and it works better. This is an inter-departmental transfer at this time and is not new money. He also states that there may possibly be another transfer at the next meeting.

Dennis Rozum, Director of Public Works: States that usually FEMA through the State of Connecticut would help with the costs of the winter storms, but because of the deficit that may not happen this year. He also states that he has been researching a salt consortium to purchase salt and treated salt at lower prices along with other municipalities. He also suggests possibly buying salt in advance and stockpile it for next winter season.

Frank Conroy: Asks if there have been any mechanical failures this year so far.

Dennis Rozum: States that there have not been any major problems. One transmission went on one truck, but it was repaired. There have been minimal operating costs.

ITEM # 6 - Transfers.
Motion to place on the table an emergency line item transfer for Public Works for a public safety issue per Town Charter.
Motion: John Putorti    Second: Frank Conroy
Vote: 6-Yes    0-No    0-Abstain    0-Disqualify

Motion for an emergency line item transfer for the Public Works Department of $48,000.00. Transfer from Directors Salary acct # 1-001-430-3110-570-101 $13,000.00 and from Salary Regular acct # 1-001-430-3110-570-110 $25,000.00 and from Overtime acct # 1-001-430-3110-570-130 $10,000.00 into Snow plowing – Overtime acct # 1-001-430-3110-570-131 $20,000.00 and into Snow plowing – Materials acct # 1-001-430-3110-570-422 $28,000.00. For emergency funds for snow plowing overtime and materials. Usual number of snow and ice storms has produced a shortage of budgeted funds. Savings have occurred within the Directors and Salary Regular line items due to hiring of Foreman in November rather than the planned on July hiring as budgeted. Salary Regular has savings due to contractual probationary hiring rate of 70% of regular pay and timing of hiring. A copy of this will be given to the Board of Finance per Town Charter.
Motion: John Putorti    Second: Paul Roy
Vote: 6-Yes    0-No    0-Abstain    0-Disqualify

ITEM # 7 - Correspondence.
#7a: Check Registers.
#7c: Quarterly Police Accounts: Seizure - $39,469.23, Enhancement - $33,149.15, Community Policing - $31,500.46.

ITEM # 8 - Other Business.
None at this time.

ITEM # 9 - Public Comment.
None at this time.

ITEM # 10 - Selectmen's Public Comments.
None at this time.

ITEM # 11 - Executive Session (Contract Negotiations - Police Union, Administrative Union, Public Works Union, and Town Hall Union) (Personnel - Economic Development Director position).
Motion to go into Executive Session for Contract Negotiations concerning Police Union, Administrative Union, Public Works Union, and Town Hall Union at 8:30PM with the Board of Selectmen and Town Counsel. The Personnel - Economic Development Director position will not be discussed at this time.
Motion: John Putorti Second: John Conroy
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:50PM with no motions or action taken.
Motion: Paul Roy Second: Annmarie Drugonis
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

ITEM # 12 - Adjournment.
Motion to adjourn at 8:51PM.
Motion: John Conroy Second: Annmarie Drugonis
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Respectfully submitted by,
Deirdre Caruso,
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,
Robert J. Koskelowski,
First Selectman