MINUTES
Board of Selectmen
Tuesday, July 21, 2015 – 7:00PM
Norma Drummer Room – Seymour Town Hall

Others Present: Town Counsel, Richard Buturla, Michael Flynn, Rory Burke, Bill DeFelice and Elliot Feldman.

ITEM #1: Call meeting to order.
Meeting was called to order by First Selectman, W. Kurt Miller, at 7:03 PM.

ITEM #2: Pledge of Allegiance.
Everyone saluted the flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM #3: Public Comment.
Bill DeFelice, 7 Jefferson Street, stated that the noise on his street is a problem. He stated that the noise ordinance needs more work especially with regard to nonresident property owners. He suggested including a heavy fine for property owners.

ITEM #4: Approve minutes from July 7, 2015 public hearing.
Motion to approve minutes from July 7, 2015 public hearing.
Motion: Len Greene, Jr. Second: Annmarie Drugonis
Vote: 5-Yes 0-No 2-Abstain
W. Kurt Miller – Yes Annmarie Drugonis – Yes Al Bruno – Yes
Len Greene, Jr. – Yes Paul Roy – Abstain Karen Stanek – Yes
Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Abstain

ITEM #5: Approve minutes from July 7, 2015 regular meeting.
Motion to approve minutes from July 7, 2015 regular meeting.
Motion: Al Bruno Second: Annmarie Drugonis
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 1-Abstain
W. Kurt Miller – Yes Annmarie Drugonis – Yes Al Bruno – Yes
Len Greene, Jr. – Yes Paul Roy – Yes Karen Stanek – Yes
Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Abstain

ITEM #6: First Selectman’s Report.
- Second Quarter 2015 executive session summary.
  o Tomorrow night I will be presenting along with the Director of Operations, Tony Caserta, and the director of Finance to the 10-Year Strategic Planning Committee. He stated that the surplus stands at $126,833.00. Doug Thomas is projecting an additional $20-$25,000.00, however that is offset by a $321,000.00 short fall in worker’s compensation from the Board of Education.
- New Community Services website is up and running. Mary will be at the first meeting in August to give a full report.
- On Thursday we sold 6.6 million dollars in bonds. The numbers came in lower than anticipated. Currently running numbers for our 5 and 6 year projections with debt service.
ITEM #7: Discussion and take possible action regarding James Street.
Kurt stated that James Street is shown on a 1902 map of Seymour running from Main Street across the railroad tracks to Humphrey Street thence to Washington Avenue. He stated that part of James Street from Main Street to Humphrey Street was abandoned by action of the Board of Selectmen on June 27, 1955. A portion of James Street from Humphrey Street (106 feet) remains the responsibility of the town. Kurt stated that they will be adding 106 feet of James Street to the road program and it will be addressed in the fall or the spring depending on cost.

ITEM #8: Discussion and take possible action regarding Haynes Sign.
Motion to allow the First Selectman once advised by special counsel Ben Proto, to sign the license agreement on behalf of the Town of Seymour for Seymour Beacon Falls, LLC to have a sign placed at designated area on Franklin Street as listed.
Motion: Paul Roy Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain
W. Kurt Miller – Yes Annmarie Drugonis – Yes Al Bruno – Yes
Len Greene, Jr. – Yes Paul Roy – Yes Karen Stanek – Yes
Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes

ITEM #9: Discussion and take possible action regarding LED street light conversation.
The Project Manager from Tanko Lighting, Elliot Feldman stated that Tanko is a leading expert in LED street light retrofits. They are currently in contract with Berlin, Rocky Hill, New London, and Vernon. They are proposing a full turnkey solution for the street lighting in Seymour. He briefly discussed what Tanko’s process will be.
Karen Stanek inquired if the new lights will be replacing the old ones and if there will be new lights installed.
Elliot Feldman stated they will be removing the head of the existing street light and replacing it with the LED fixture.
Karen stated she is interested in seeing additional lighting. She inquired if the maintenance would be something that the Public Works Department could maintain.
Elliot stated there are a variety of different solutions with regard to maintenance and discussed briefly.

Len Greene, Jr. inquired about the assumptions with regard to savings.
Elliot stated in terms of everything that is built into the financial analysis, they looked at the existing rate structure and then they looked at new costs. He stated there is a 1% built-in inflation rate. He will email Len the detailed figures.
Elliot briefly discussed cost savings. He will get more information on the betting process for CCM. He stated the lifespan of the LED lights is approximately 20 years. He also discussed the lack of vandalism in their other projects across the country. The timeline of the project is 4-5 months. Elliot discussed a little about the company as follows:
- The company was started as a recycler for street lights.
- The model eventually grew into a full turnkey model.
- 175,000 converted to LED in the last 3 and a half years

Town Counsel, Richard Buturla stated the town is dealing with a competitive bid ordinance and would like to know more about the CCM process. He stated he would like to meet with the city attorney from the city of New London. He stated the contract needs to be tweaked to fit the needs of Seymour. He stated he would like to revisit in 2 weeks.
ITEM #10: Discussion and take possible action regarding adoption of ordinances regarding:

a) Fire Department membership
   a. Motion to approve the changes as recommended by the ordinance committee.
      Motion: Len Greene, Jr.          Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria
      Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain
      W. Kurt Miller – Yes
      Len Greene, Jr. – Yes
      Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes
      Annmarie Drugonis – Yes
      Paul Roy – Yes
      Al Bruno – Yes
      Karen Stanek – Yes

b) Delinquent Taxpayers
   a. Motion to approve the changes as recommended by the ordinance committee
      Motion: Karen Stanek              Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria
      Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain
      W. Kurt Miller – Yes
      Len Greene, Jr. – Yes
      Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes
      Annmarie Drugonis – Yes
      Paul Roy – Yes
      Al Bruno – Yes
      Karen Stanek – Yes

c) Sidewalk liability
   a. Motion to approve the changes as recommended by the ordinance committee
      Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria     Second: Annmarie Drugonis
      Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain
      W. Kurt Miller – Yes
      Len Greene, Jr. – Yes
      Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes
      Annmarie Drugonis – Yes
      Paul Roy – Yes
      Al Bruno – Yes
      Karen Stanek – Yes

d) Veterans tax exemption
   a. Motion to approve the changes as recommended by the ordinance committee
      Motion: Paul Roy                  Second: Al Bruno
      Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain
      W. Kurt Miller – Yes
      Len Greene, Jr. – Yes
      Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes
      Annmarie Drugonis – Yes
      Paul Roy – Yes
      Al Bruno – Yes
      Karen Stanek – Yes

Motion to add to the agenda discussion and possible action regarding the rubberized asphalt track at Seymour High School.
Motion: Annmarie Drugonis                 Second: Al Bruno
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain
W. Kurt Miller – Yes
Len Greene, Jr. – Yes
Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes
Annmarie Drugonis – Yes
Paul Roy – Yes
Al Bruno – Yes
Karen Stanek – Yes

Discussion and possible action regarding the rubberized asphalt track at the SHS.
Kurt read letter from Jim Galligan as follows:
   Dear Mr. Miller,
   The Low Bidder (Cape & Island) for the above reference project has indicated that they did not bid the specified product in their June 17, 2015 bid. Therefore, Nafis & Young Engineers, Inc. deems their bid as non-responsive.
   If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.
   Very truly yours,
   James H. Galligan
Motion to reconsider Seymour High School track bids.
Motion: Len Greene, Jr. Second: Annmarie Drugonis
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 1-Abstain
W. Kurt Miller – Yes Annmarie Drugonis – Yes Al Bruno – Yes
Len Greene, Jr. – Yes Paul Roy – Yes Karen Stanek – Yes
Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Abstain

Len Greene, Jr. and Paul Roy withdraw their previous motions to award the track bid to Cape and Island Track and Tennis.

Motion to reject all bids presented to the Turf Committee for the rubberized track at Seymour High School.
Motion: Len Greene, Jr. Second: Paul Roy
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain
W. Kurt Miller – Yes Annmarie Drugonis – Yes Al Bruno – Yes
Len Greene, Jr. – Yes Paul Roy – Yes Karen Stanek – Yes
Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes

ITEM #11: Discussion and take possible action regarding worker’s compensation transfer.
Kurt stated the auditors recommended creating inter-service fund with the Board of Education. The board needs to move forward with the funding mechanism. He stated that last year the Board of Education had $642,084.00 in workers compensation claims. Last year, the town had $414,450.00 in workers compensation claims. Kurt stated the Board of Education budgeted $127,500.00 and are not allowed to carry a reserve; they had a substantial shortfall. The municipal side budgeted $350,000.00 and had a reserve of $257,479.00. In summation, the town has a shortfall of $321,556.00. The shortfall is coming entirely from the Board of Education. He stated the town needs to fund inter-service fund. If the Town uses the entire surplus to offset the shortfall, they will be left with $194,723.00.
Kurt stated a lot of the claims from the Board of Education are coming to a close. He stated Town Counsel, Richard Buturla is working on an agreement which will define how much each side (Municipal and Board of Education) should be allocating into the fund each year.

Town Counsel, Richard Buturla stated it would be appropriate to send this to the Board of Finance for their recommendations.

ITEM #12: Set special Town meeting for August 4, 2015 at 6:45 PM regarding worker’s compensation transfer.
No action needed.

ITEM #13: Discussion and possible action regarding sidewalk reimbursement for Scott Tuttle.
After reviewing the quotes the lowest bidder is Marini Paving & Sealing, LLC in the amount of $3,600.00.

Motion to reimburse Scott Tuttle in the amount of $1,200.00 which is one third of the quote from Marini Paving & Sealing, LLC to remove and replace 40 feet of concrete city sidewalk from the estimate he received on June 9, 2015.
Motion: Len Greene, Jr. Second: Karen Stanek
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain
W. Kurt Miller – Yes Annmarie Drugonis – Yes Al Bruno – Yes
Len Greene, Jr. – Yes Paul Roy – Yes Karen Stanek – Yes
Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes

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ITEM #14: Discussion and take possible action on George J. Hummel Little League tax abatements.
Kurt read letter from President of little league as follows:

Dear Members,

As in the past years, the George J. Hummel Little League respectfully requests the Board of Selectmen to abate the taxes due in the amount of $6,125.90 on Casagrande Little League Field located at 14 Chestnut Street in Seymour.

For the Board information the property was donated to Little League with a clause that the property reverts to the donor if the League should disband. As a result the Little League has been taxed on the property by the town each year.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,
William Ragaini, President

Motion to waive the taxes due on the property on 14 Chestnut Street for the Seymour Little League in the amount of $6,125.90.

Motion: Karen Stanek  
Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 7-Yes 0-No
W. Kurt Miller – Yes  
Len Greene, Jr. – Yes  
Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes
Annmarie Drugonis – Yes  
Paul Roy – Yes

ITEM #15: Discussion and take possible action regarding Parks Commission recommendation regarding dedications.

Motion to formally name the flagpole overlook at French Memorial Park in honor of the Jachimoski family and have it formally be named Jachimowkski Overlook.

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria  
Second: Paul Roy

Vote: 7-Yes 0-No
W. Kurt Miller – Yes  
Len Greene, Jr. – Yes  
Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes
Annmarie Drugonis – Yes  
Paul Roy – Yes

Motion to approve recommendation from the Parks Commission to formally name the gazebo at Broad Street Park in honor of Al Yagovane.

Motion: Len Greene, Jr.  
Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 6-Yes 1-Abstain
W. Kurt Miller – Yes  
Len Greene, Jr. – Yes  
Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes
Annmarie Drugonis – Yes  
Paul Roy – Yes

ITEM #16: Executive session.

None.

ITEM #17: Appointments

Motion to appoint Pete Wols as a Fire Commissioner for a term of one (1) year expiring on July 22, 2016.

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria  
Second: Len Greene, Jr.

Vote: 7-Yes 0-Abstain
W. Kurt Miller – Yes  
Len Greene, Jr. – Yes  
Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes
Annmarie Drugonis – Yes  
Paul Roy – Yes

Kurt read letter as follows:
Dear Selectman Miller,

During the recent July meeting of the Great Hill Hose Company, the following two members were selected for your consideration for a position on the Board of Fire Commissioners. This position is currently held by Chris Motasky. The two individuals are Mike Julian and Pete Wols.

Thank you,
Jeff Cronin, Company Secretary, Great Hill Hose Company

Pete Wols received the most votes.

ITEM #18: Tax Refunds/Abatements.
Motion to approve Tax Refunds/Abatements as read.
Motion: Len Greene, Jr.  Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain
W. Kurt Miller – Yes  Annmarie Drugonis – Yes Al Bruno – Yes
Len Greene, Jr. – Yes  Paul Roy – Yes  Karen Stanek – Yes
Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes

ITEM #19: Transfers.
None.

ITEM #20: Correspondence.
  • Check registers.
  • Letter from Linda Bellevance to Betty Gallo in Oxford informing her of the date of Seymour Founders’ Day next year.

ITEM #21: Public Comment.
Michael Flynn, 85 Skokorat Street, suggested putting a monument or plaque in Broad Street Park including the names of all the volunteers that contributed their time and effort.

Brian Stevens, 136 Washington Avenue, stated he is concerned about the parking lot behind the Strand Theatre. He inquired as to when the town did renovations there last.

ITEM #22: Selectmen’s Public Comments.
Karen Stanek suggested putting a “No littering, there is a fine” sign up at Paul Pawlak Fish Bypass Park because people have been trashing it.
Kurt stated the Downtown attendant will be going through the park and picking things up.

Kurt stated that Michael Horbal started a project for the Broad Street Park volunteers who dedicated their time and service. He is working on a plaque filled with their names. He stated that the dates and times for the Strand Parking lot construction were finalized today. Kurt stated they will start staging work on July 27th, 28th and 29th and on August 3rd the power will be out. This will create 17 more spaces.

Karen inquired why Columbus Street will be made a One Way.
Kurt stated because of construction.
Karen stated that some business owners are thinking about shutting down.
Kurt stated he doesn’t know why they would shut down because there will be no impact to the businesses.
ITEM #23: Adjournment.
Motion to adjourn at 8:41 PM.
Motion: Annmarie Drugonis
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No
W. Kurt Miller – Yes
Len Greene, Jr. – Yes
Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes

Second: Karen Stanek
0-Abstain
Annmarie Drugonis – Yes
Paul Roy – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes
Karen Stanek – Yes

Submitted by,

Lianna Staffieri
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,

W. Kurt Miller
First Selectman