MINUTES
Board of Selectmen
Tuesday, April 19, 2016 – 7:00PM
Norma Drummer Room – Seymour Town Hall

Others Present: Town Counsel, Richard Buturla; Tom Eighmie, Richard Demko, Al Yagovane, Wendy Rossi.

ITEM #1: Call meeting to order.
Meeting was called to order by First Selectman, W. Kurt Miller, at 7:01 PM.

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

ITEM #3: Public Comment.
None.

ITEM #4: Approve minutes from April 5, 2016 regular meeting.
Motion to approve minutes from April 5, 2016 regular meeting.
Motion: Annmarie Drugonis Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain
W. Kurt Miller – Yes
Len Greene – Yes
Stephan Behuniak – Yes
Annmarie Drugonis – Yes
Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes
Al Bruno – Yes
Karen Stanek – Yes

ITEM #5: First Selectman’s Report.
1. Met again with advisors from William Blair to discuss the upcoming bond refunding and to prepare for next steps. We have also started to put together our presentation strategy for our upcoming Bond Rating Review with S&P.
2. Attended several CCM meetings regarding current legislation in Hartford that would be problematic for towns and cities. CCM continues to fight these bills that would put undue burden and stress on municipal tax payers with additional unfunded mandates.
3. Had several meetings to discuss how Seymour will handle Animal Control in the near future. Discussions with Woodbridge are ongoing. I also met with a representative from the volunteer group in Seymour as well as reviewed another potential local option. I would expect to have something for the Board to review, discuss and decide on in the next few weeks.
4. Threw out the first pitch for the George J Hummel Little League Baseball and Softball Opening day this past weekend which is always fun.
5. Finally, the Governor’s updated budget was released last week. This budget is designed to close the over $900 million dollar budget shortfall for fiscal year 2017. The town of Seymour had it’s revenues cut $832,938 from the original proposal the Governor presented in February. The cuts came from two places, the first being a cut of $419,615 to our ECS funding and the second being a cut of $413,323 from the new MRSA account (the fund from the quarter point increase to the sales tax). The town does have some money built into the budget to absorb either a one-time cut in revenue or a one-time spike in expenses each year through the mill rate stabilization fund. At this point, we will wait to see what the final outcome is which I expect to know in the next few weeks. I will provide updates going forward.
Motion to add to the agenda a change to Item #6: discussion and take possible action regarding approval of blight and adult entertainment ordinance changes.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis  Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria
Vote: 7-Yes  0-no
W. Kurt Miller — Yes  Len Greene — Yes  Stephan Behuniak — Yes
Nicole Klarides-Ditria — Yes  Annmarie Drugonis — Yes  Karen Stanek — Yes

ITEM #6: Discussion and take possible action regarding approval of blight and adult entertainment ordinance changes.

Motion to approve the updated Anti Blight Ordinance as presented effective Wednesday June 1, 2016 (Motion amended by Nicole and Karen)

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria  Second: Karen Stanek
Vote: 7-Yes  0-No
W. Kurt Miller — Yes  Len Greene — Yes  Stephan Behuniak — Yes
Nicole Klarides-Ditria — Yes  Annmarie Drugonis — Yes  Karen Stanek — Yes

Karen inquired if police officers had any involvement in the enforcement of the Blight Ordinance. Town Counsel, Richard Buturla, stated that generally it is not something the police handle. He stated there is a violation of the town ordinance which is part of the penal code. Karen discussed an example and Town Counsel advised her that the police would not be involved in a blight situation.

Kurt asked if an abridged version of the adult entertainment ordinance could be published in the newspaper.

Town Counsel stated most likely not. He and Kurt discussed making the ordinances effective by a certain date. The motion was amended to state “effective Wednesday, June 1, 2016.”

Motion to approve the updated Adult Oriented Establishment Ordinance as presented effective June 1, 2016.

Motion: Karen Stanek  Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria
Vote: 7-Yes  0-No
W. Kurt Miller — Yes  Len Greene — Yes  Stephan Behuniak — Yes
Nicole Klarides-Ditria — Yes  Annmarie Drugonis — Yes  Karen Stanek — Yes

ITEM #7: Discussion and take possible action regarding 5-day work week.

Kurt suggested the following schedule for approval:

Monday through Thursday - 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM (8.5 hour day with a 45 minute lunch for employees)

Fridays – 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM (4 hour day with no lunch) 35 hour work week. For each Friday holiday, employees will receive 4.25 hours of vacation time. The two holidays that always fall on Friday are Thanksgiving and Good Friday. He stated each year they will look at other holidays that fall on Fridays. The new schedule will go into effect July 1, 2016 with new fiscal year.

He also requested to make official the hiring of the Town Hall Floater effective May 1, 2016 money has been budgeted for that position in the FY 2017 budget and money has been identified in the FY 2016 Budget.

Karen stated there are certain times of the year where the Tax Office needs to be opened. She inquired if there would be any adjustments to that office’s hours so people can come in and pay taxes.
Kurt stated this new 5-day scenario would add Friday for residents to come in. Residents can also mail in their taxes as well as pay online. He stated by contract the employees work 35 hours.

Al stated the schedule sounds reasonable and thinks 8:00 AM is a reasonable time.

Kurt stated the initial reasoning for the current schedule was to have Town Hall open 8:00 AM - 5:30 PM for people to have the opportunity to go before and after work. He stated there are more people in Town Hall at 8:00 AM than later on.

Motion to move the Town of Seymour to a five (5) day work week Monday through Thursday 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM with employees getting a 45 minute lunch break and Friday 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM with no lunch; the schedule will commence on July 1, 2016 with the new Fiscal Year; the Town will hire a Town Hall Floater position effective May 1, 2016 which has been budgeted for in the Fiscal Year 2017 budget and money has been identified for the rest of the Fiscal Year 2016; For each Friday holiday, employees will receive 4.25 hours of vacation time and that will be in effect as long as this schedule is in effect.

Motion: Stephan Behuniak  Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain
W. Kurt Miller – Yes
Len Greene – Yes
Stephan Behuniak – Yes
Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes
Annmarie Drugonis – Yes
Karen Stanek – Yes
Al Bruno – Yes

ITEM #8: Discussion and take possible action regarding Quaker Farms communication tower.

Town Counsel, Richard Buturla stated the town has certain communication equipment located on a tower in Oxford at Quaker Farms. There was never a signed lease document related to the positioning of our equipment on that tower. Crown Castle acquired that tower and forwarded a lease document that purported to charge rent to the town of Seymour. This was held back because Town Counsel wrote a letter to Crown Castle. He stated he had thought the space was free and that it is public safety space that was designated by Connecticut Siting Council. Crown Castle confirmed that it is free. He stated there is now a formal written document.

Kurt read the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town of Seymour has placed certain communication equipment on a certain cell tower located at 85 Quaker Farms Road, Oxford, Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, CCATT, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, also known as Crown Castle has acquired the site;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that W. Kurt Miller, First Selectman, is hereby authorized to execute a certain First Amendment to Sublease Agreement with Crown Castle on behalf of the Town of Seymour.

Motion to accept the resolution as presented.

Motion: Len Greene  Second: Al Bruno
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain
W. Kurt Miller – Yes
Len Greene – Yes
Stephan Behuniak – Yes
Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes
Annmarie Drugonis – Yes
Karen Stanek – Yes
Al Bruno – Yes

Motion to go out of order to Item #11: Appointments.

Motion: Len Greene  Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain
W. Kurt Miller – Yes
Len Greene – Yes
Stephan Behuniak – Yes
Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes
Annmarie Drugonis – Yes
Karen Stanek – Yes
Al Bruno – Yes
ITEM #11: Appointments.
Motion to appoint Wendy Rossi to the Friends of the Broad Street Park for a term of two (2) years expiring on April 19, 2018.
Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria  Second: Len Greene
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain
W. Kurt Miller – Yes Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes Al Bruno – Yes
Len Greene – Yes Annmarie Drugonis – Yes Karen Stanek – Yes
Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Motion to appoint Rich Demko to the Conservation Commission for a term of four (4) years expiring on April 19, 2020.
Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria  Second: Al Bruno
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain
W. Kurt Miller – Yes Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes Al Bruno – Yes
Len Greene – Yes Annmarie Drugonis – Yes Karen Stanek – Yes
Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Motion to go back in order to Item #9: Executive session (WPCA Claim – Totaro).
Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria  Second: Al Bruno
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain
W. Kurt Miller – Yes Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes Al Bruno – Yes
Len Greene – Yes Annmarie Drugonis – Yes Karen Stanek – Yes
Stephan Behuniak – Yes

ITEM #9: Executive session (WPCA Claim – Totaro)
Motion to enter into executive session (WPCA pending claim – Totar) at 7:32 PM with Town Counsel, Richard Buturla.
Motion: Al Bruno  Second: Len Greene
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain
W. Kurt Miller – Yes Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes Al Bruno – Yes
Len Greene – Yes Annmarie Drugonis – Yes Karen Stanek – Yes
Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Motion to exit executive session at 7:41 PM with no motions or actions taken.
Motion: Len Greene  Second: Annmarie Drugonis
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain
W. Kurt Miller – Yes Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes Al Bruno – Yes
Len Greene – Yes Annmarie Drugonis – Yes Karen Stanek – Yes
Stephan Behuniak – Yes

ITEM #10: Discussion and take possible action regarding Totaro.
No action needs to be taken at this time.

ITEM #12: Tax Refunds/Abatements.
Motion to accept the April 13, 2016 Tax Refunds/Abatements as presented amounting in $587.29.
Motion: Annmarie Drugonis  Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain
W. Kurt Miller – Yes Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes Al Bruno – Yes
Len Greene – Yes Annmarie Drugonis – Yes Karen Stanek – Yes
Stephan Behuniak – Yes
ITEM #13: Transfers.
None.

ITEM #14: Correspondence.
- Check register.
- Letter to Kurt from Chief Metzler.
- Agenda for the Special Board of Selectmen meeting on Thursday April 21, 2016.

ITEM #15: Public Comment.
None.

ITEM #16: Selectmen’s Public Comments.
Stephan Behuniak stated it was great attending the Citizen’s Engine Breakfast. He inquired how the Board of Assessment Appeals actions affect the Board of Selectmen. He stated it looks like they took off $1 million from the Grand List.
Kurt stated that is a Board of Finance issue and it was a little over $500,000.

Karen Stanek inquired about statutes related to Justice of the Peace. She inquired about how many the town currently has. She heard that Woodbridge has 60.
Town Counsel stated there are several statutes that deal with Justice of the Peace.
Kurt stated this will be discussed at the Ordinance meeting. Rory will discuss a time and date with her.

Al Bruno stated the $419,000 in ECS cuts for Seymour will likely mean a number of positions that will not be funded in our school district. He stated it is disappointing that this state has come to this and it is a big deal for the town.
Kurt doesn’t think this will be passed at that level and thinks the cuts won’t be as bad as projected. He discussed a possible scenario.
Al thanked Seymour Public Works for getting fields in town ready for the spring season. He stated the town is very clean and things are looking up.
Kurt will give out a report that Tony DePrima, the new Public Works Director, has been working on. He has been collecting data.

ITEM #17: Adjournment.
Motion to adjourn at 7:50 PM.
Motion: Annmarie Drugonis
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No
W. Kurt Miller – Yes
Len Greene – Yes
Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Second: Karen Stanek
0-Abstain
Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes
Annmarie Drugonis – Yes
Karen Stanek – Yes

Submitted by,
Lianna McMurray
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,
W. Kurt Miller
First Selectman