

Town of Seymour
Board of Finance

COPY RECEIVED
DATE: 7/24/13
TIME: 4:07pm
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Minutes

Regular Meeting
Tuesday, July 23, 2013 at 7:00pm
Norma Drummer Room, Seymour Town Hall

Members Present: David Bitso, Trisha Danka, Rich Grudzias, Beverly Kennedy, Heather McDaniel, John Stelma

Members Absent: Michele Pavlik, Bill Sawicki, and Ed Wasikowski

Others Present: Tony Caserta, Frank Loda, Kurt Miller, Dennis Rozum, Doug Thomas, and Sean Walsh

Item #1 – Call Meeting to order

Chairman Trisha Danka called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

Item #2 – Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone saluted the Flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item #3 – Seating of Alternates

Motion to seat Rich Grudzias as alternate for Bill Sawicki

Motion: David Bitso Second: Heather McDaniel
Yes: 4 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to seat Beverly Kennedy as alternate for Michele Pavlik

Motion: David Bitso Second: John Stelma
Yes: 5 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Item #4 – Appoint Beverly Kennedy to Board of Finance

Motion to appoint Beverly Kennedy to the Board of Finance

Motion: David Bitso Second: John Stelma
Yes: 6 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Item #5 – Appoint New Vice Chairman and any other open positions

Motion to appoint Bill Sawicki as the Vice Chairman of the Board of Finance

Motion: David Bitso Second: John Stelma
Yes: 6 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to appoint David Bitso as the Secretary of the Board of Finance

Motion: John Stelma Second: Heather McDaniel
Yes: 6 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Item #6 – Public Comment

None

Item #7 – Approval of Minutes—June 25, 2013 Regular Meeting

Motion to approve Minutes from June 25, 2013 Regular Meeting.

Motion: John Stelma

Second: Beverly Kennedy

Yes: 5

No: 0

Abstain: 1 (Trisha Danka)

Item #8 – Comments from the First Selectman

Trisha Danka asked if the Executive Session was necessary for the Transfer #1. First Selectman Miller said that it is not necessary.

Item #9 –Report from the Finance Director

- Working on closing out 2012-2013. Year end encumbrances are due by the end of the month. We will have some transfers for next month. It looks like we will break even or have a surplus of between \$50,000 - \$100,000 from savings on expenditures from various departments and FEMA reimbursements.
- Current year statements included in package.
- We got very good bond rates and S&P ratings are very good.
- Software audit went very well due to the upgrades implemented last year.
- Trisha Danka asked about the landscaping work done in front of Town Hall. First Selectman Miller said that the materials were purchased at cost, the labor was donated. It is an “Adopt-A-Spot” so the upkeep will be done by Alberto’s Restaurant and Ted Holly.

Item #10 Transfer Requests

Transfer #13 –Public Works – final transfer for Public Works for 2012-2013

Transfer FROM: Clothing \$2,000 – Electricity \$1,000 – Regular Overtime \$2,500 – Gasoline \$15,470.80

Transfer TO: Communications \$1,725 – General Supplies Catch Basins \$35 – Trees \$2,132.94 – Snow Plowing Materials \$2,227.86 – Snow Plowing Overtime \$14,850. Totaling \$20,970.80

Beverly Kennedy noted that the account # for Regular Overtime does not show enough money to cover the \$2,500 in the transfer. Doug Thomas said that there is a journal entry not yet posted that will raise the amount by \$2,500 coming from Regular Salary due to an incorrect posting.

Motion to approve the transfer detailed above

Motion: Rich Grudzias

Second: David Bitso

Yes: 6

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Transfer #1 – First Selectman’s Office/Blight Officer

Transfer of \$4,500 from Contingency – Labor to Blight Officer Salary (\$2,500) and Travel Allowance (\$2,000)

Board of Selectman discussed within Executive Session July 16, 2013 to increase the Blight Officer Salary by \$2,500 and provide a travel allowance of \$2,000.

This position was included in the projection in the Contingency – Labor line. When the budget was submitted the Blight Officer had only been in the position for less than six months. First Selectman Miller said that the amount for the Blight Officer was kept low until an evaluation of his performance could be made. Since then, the Blight Officer has done an exceptional job and is deserving of the additional stipend. Currently the Blight Officer is putting in between 15-20 hours/week. The travel allowance was not previously in place, but this was the only enforcement officer not receiving travel allowance. There is no cell phone allowance for this position. He uses his own vehicle. The money in the Contingency line was put there to accommodate up to 40-50 people.

Trisha Danka expressed concern the decision to increase the stipend is taking place immediately after the public voted on a presented, proposed budget. While she understands contractual increases are necessary to put aside until negotiations are complete, she views stipend positions very differently and does not believe it should have been set aside and excluded in the proposed budget prior to referendum.

Heather McDaniel asked if the stipend increase would conflict with the Board of Finance's decision to not add any new stipends during budget workshops for departments for the 2013-2014 fiscal year. First Selectman Kurt Miller responded there is a difference between creating a brand new stipend and increasing an existing one.

Beverly Kennedy noted that the account number for Salary should be 410-1940-515-101, not 520-101. Doug Thomas will correct.

Motion to approve the above transfer.

Motion: Rich Gruzias Second: David Bitso
Yes: 5 No: 1 (Trisha Danka) Abstain: 0

Trisha Danka asked about the large new signs put up. First Selectman Miller said this is part of the new Blight Enforcement.

Item #11 – Executive Session

Not needed

Item #12 – New Business

Borrowing Resolution – Long Term Capital Plan – acquisition of dump truck & related equipment (\$90,000); acquisition of a large mower & related equipment (\$70,000); oil tank removal @ Community Center (\$15,000); improvements to the Great Hill Firehouse Roof (\$25,000); acquisition of a Fire Marshall truck (\$33,000); miscellaneous financing costs (\$15,000); and the Town issue bonds or notes & temporary notes in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 to finance the appropriation.

Trisha Danka asked if purchasing is more cost efficient than leasing. Per First Selectman Miller, leasing options were considered, but purchasing was a better option for our current situation. Also, the Fire Marshall's truck and the roof work actual numbers were less than anticipated.

This will go to Town Meeting on August 6, 2013 @ 6:30pm. If there are not 50 people present to vote, this will go to the Board of Selectman.

Motion to approve the above Borrowing Resolution.

Motion: David Bitso Second: Heather McDaniel
Yes: 6 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Item #13 – Correspondence

E-mails from Bill Sawicki and Beverly Kennedy accepting appointments to their new positions.
E-mail from Michele Pavlik with her written resignation from the Board of Finance.

Item #14 – Public Comment

Kurt Miller – 18 Swan Avenue – Wished to welcome Beverly Kennedy to her new position on the Board of Finance.

David Bitso – 1 Meadow Woods Road – Asked about the pine trees being cut down in front of Middle School. First Selectman Miller said that the utilities company (CL&P) is taking these down for safety reasons. We did not pay for anything except police coverage. This saved us \$10,000-\$15,000.

Item #12 – Adjournment

Motion to adjourn

Motion: David Bitso

Second: Rich Grudzias

Yes: 6

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Meeting was adjourned at 7:53pm.

Submitted by:

Monica Dimon

Recording Secretary