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MINUTES

Board of Selectmen

Tuesday, February 4, 2014 – 7:00 PM

Norma Drummer Room – Seymour Town Hall

Members Present: Karen Stanek, Paul Roy, Nicole Klarides-Ditria, W. Kurt Miller, Al Bruno, Annmarie Drugonis, Len Greene Jr., Town Counsel Bryan LeClerc

Others Present: Marha Schuck, Ed Schuck, Mike Kearney, Dennis Rozum

Item # 1: Call meeting to order

The 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

Mike Kearney 72 Mountain Rd. – We have asked about the official name of the Park and we have been told it's Broad Street Park. There is an article in the Register – "Memorial Day in Jeopardy." It says "Broad Street Veterans' Memorial Park." The veterans' park in Seymour is French Memorial Park. The letter from the Memorial Day Committee had [Kurt's] name on it. It said we're not going to have a parade unless we get money. The guys at the Legion are livid. Also, I'm working with Stanley Jachimowski on getting the stones for the park, but we're not quite ready.

Marcia Shuck – 7 Country Club Drive – After speaking at the 2 previous meetings, I'm very much opposed to the proposed tower at Great Hill Hose. I've been paying a lot of attention to cell phone towers in the area. I haven't seen a single one in the middle of a residential area. This appears to be a great deal for AT & T. Since they're turning over the tower, it's exempt from taxes. Seymour would lose quite a bit of money in assessed taxes. Compared to the \$18,000 they're paying, I don't think it's a great deal for the Town. A gentleman asked 25 questions a few meetings ago and the answers are still not available. I sincerely hope you take the concerns of the neighbors into consideration when making your decision.

Ed Schuck – 7 Country Club Drive – Generally I support the Town and the schools because it's part of the community and I believe in supporting all constituents of the community. I don't believe that we need to pay for those expenses by sacrificing one neighborhood. The documents we received from your office indicated that AT & T will be turning over the tower to the Town. I believe it's the Town that has to solicit additional vendors. I don't think the Town should be acting as a real estate agent. AT & T will not be paying taxes on the property. Last week you supported a tax abatement for Henny Penny, but I find it ironic that AT & T and Henny Penny are getting more consideration when they haven't paid any taxes compared to someone who has been in the Town for 40 years. I urge all of you to look at the tower down by John J. Sullivan's and see how unsightly the tower and its support buildings are. I won't be at the public

hearing but I urge all of you to reject this proposal from AT & T. It's not good for my neighborhood and I don't think it's good for the Town.

Item #4: Approve minutes from January 27, 2014 special meeting

Motion: Len Greene Jr. **Second:** Karen Stanek

Discussion: Karen Stanek - "Others Present" – Evelyn Keith-Luzzi is wrong. "Richard" is missing a last name. Item 9 on Page 3 – Town counsel would like to add "an" item.

Vote: Yes: 4 No: 0 Abstain: 3

Karen Stanek: Yes Al Bruno: Abstain
Paul Roy: Yes Annmarie Drugonis: Abstain
Nicole Klarides-Ditria: Abstain Len Greene Jr.: Yes
W. Kurt Miller: Yes

Item #5: First Selectman's report

There was no First Selectman's Report

Item #6: Discussion and take possible action on Building Department fee increases

Re-inspection fee from \$30 to \$50
Minimum fee for permits up to \$3,000 from \$34.50 and \$45 to \$50
Certificate of Occupancy from \$20 to \$50 under \$100,000
Certificate of Occupancy from \$20 to \$75 for \$100,000 to \$149,000
Certificate of Occupancy from \$20 to \$100 for \$100,000 to \$150,000 and over

Motion: Paul Roy **Second:** Al Bruno

Discussion: Annmarie Drugonis: Where did the Building Inspector get these numbers from?
Kurt Miller: If you remember we changed these when Joe Raiola left and Gordon Grammolini came in. Jim's numbers coming from his years of experience as a builder.

Vote: Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Karen Stanek: Yes Al Bruno: Yes
Paul Roy: Yes Annmarie Drugonis: Yes
Nicole Klarides-Ditria: Yes Len Greene Jr.: Yes
W. Kurt Miller: Yes

Item #7: Discussion and take possible action on Building and Zoning Departments change in hours

Kurt Miller- Currently the hours for these departments are scattered. We're going to move Donna Kozey, the secretary, down for half of each day and that will allow us to open the Departments for a substantial period of time each day. They're all on board with all of this.

Monday: Donna Kozey 1:00 – 6:00 PM
 Jim Baldwin 4:00 – 7:00 PM
 Bill Paecht 4:00 – 7:00 PM
Tuesday: Donna Kozey 1:00 – 6:00 PM
 Jim Baldwin 4:00 – 7:00 PM
 Bill Paecht 4:00 – 7:00 PM
Wednesday: Donna Kozey 1:00 – 5:30 PM

Thursday: Donna Kozey 1:00 – 6:00 PM
Jim Baldwin 4:00 – 6:00 PM
Bill Paecht 4:00 – 6:00 PM

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria **Second:** Al Bruno

Vote: Yes: 6 No: 0 Abstain: 1

Karen Stanek: Yes Al Bruno: Yes
Paul Roy: Abstain Annmarie Drugonis: Yes
Nicole Klarides-Ditria: Yes Len Greene Jr.: Yes
W. Kurt Miller: Yes

Item #8 - Discussion with Recreation Director

Motion to Table: Nicole Klarides-Ditria **Second:** Annmarie Drugonis

Discussion: Mr. Ahearn was unaware that there was a meeting tonight.

Vote: Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Karen Stanek: Yes Al Bruno: Yes
Paul Roy: Yes Annmarie Drugonis: Yes
Nicole Klarides-Ditria: Yes Len Greene Jr.: Yes
W. Kurt Miller: Yes

Item # 9: Discussion and take possible action on employee performance measurement initiative

This item was tabled until the March 4th meeting at the meeting on January 21st.

Item # 10: Discussion with Blight Officer

Mike is unable to attend but stresses he's more than happy to discuss any questions you have directly with him.

Item #11: Executive session

There was no executive session

Item #12: Appointments

Motion to reappoint Ted Holly to the Zoning Board of Appeals

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

Vote: Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Karen Stanek: Yes Al Bruno: Yes
Paul Roy: Yes Annmarie Drugonis: Yes
Nicole Klarides-Ditria: Yes Len Greene Jr.: Yes
W. Kurt Miller: Yes

Motion to reappoint Nicolette O'Toole to the Zoning Board of Appeals

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria **Second:** Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Karen Stanek: Yes Al Bruno: Yes
Paul Roy: Yes Annmarie Drugonis: Yes

Nicole Klarides-Ditria: Yes Len Greene Jr.: Yes
W. Kurt Miller: Yes

Motion to reappoint Susan Liscinsky to the Zoning Board of Appeals

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria **Second:** Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Karen Stanek: Yes Al Bruno: Yes
Paul Roy: Yes Annmarie Drugonis: Yes
Nicole Klarides-Ditria: Yes Len Greene Jr.: Yes
W. Kurt Miller: Yes

Motion to reappoint Phil Wilhelmy to the Zoning Board of Appeals (Alternate)

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria **Second:** Al Bruno

Vote: Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Karen Stanek: Yes Al Bruno: Yes
Paul Roy: Yes Annmarie Drugonis: Yes
Nicole Klarides-Ditria: Yes Len Greene Jr.: Yes
W. Kurt Miller: Yes

Item #13: Tax Refunds/Abatements

Motion to approve the Tax Refunds/Abatements as read

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis **Second:** Al Bruno

Vote: Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Karen Stanek: Yes Al Bruno: Yes
Paul Roy: Yes Annmarie Drugonis: Yes
Nicole Klarides-Ditria: Yes Len Greene Jr.: Yes
W. Kurt Miller: Yes

Motion to add to the agenda - Discussion of establishing an emergency declaration for the Town of Seymour

Motion: Len Greene Jr. **Second:** Karen Stanek

Vote: Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Karen Stanek: Yes Al Bruno: Yes
Paul Roy: Yes Annmarie Drugonis: Yes
Nicole Klarides-Ditria: Yes Len Greene Jr.: Yes
W. Kurt Miller: Yes

Item #14: Discussion of establishing an emergency declaration for the Town of Seymour

Section 12.4(d) of the Town of Seymour Charter states that the Board of Selectmen, acting pursuant to a declaration of a state of emergency, shall be empowered to make appropriations for the purpose of meeting a public emergency threatening the lives, health or property of citizens, provided such appropriations shall receive a favorable vote of at least a majority of the quorum of the full Board of Selectmen. Emergency shall be restricted to "natural disasters" and other "unforeseen events." Written notification of such appropriations shall be given within

Motion: Len Greene Jr.

Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

Discussion: Paul Roy - I think it's a good resolution to this problem.

Kurt Miller – The issue started in 5/2012.

Vote: Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Karen Stanek: Yes

Al Bruno: Yes

Paul Roy: Yes

Annmarie Drugonis: Yes

Nicole Klarides-Ditria: Yes

Len Greene Jr.: Yes

W. Kurt Miller: Yes

Control #8 - \$8,000 from fund balance to VEMS.

Kurt Miller - We pay VEMS \$30,000 for services and bundle billing for residents who can't pay their full balance. Last year during the budgeting process, VEMS requested \$48,000 and received \$40,000 and were told to come back if they need more. This Board will also need to make a decision regarding whether to continue bundle billing since the amount is due to increase and VEMS has been eating some of the cost.

Bob Patinella, CEO of VEMS – We bundle our bills with Seymour Ambulance, especially for Medicare patients. We get \$71 for the bill and bundle billing covers the difference so that we don't send big bills to residents on fixed income. We recognized around 2007 that we were taking a loss but with the turn of the economy we were asked to hold off in increasing funds. We're at a point now where we need to collect.

Kurt Miller – This is directly for Seymour and won't be impacted by any other Towns' decisions.

Bob Patinella – We have a redacted list available to show it's only Seymour Residents.

Motion: Karen Stanek

Second: Al Bruno

Vote: Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Karen Stanek: Yes

Al Bruno: Yes

Paul Roy: Yes

Annmarie Drugonis: Yes

Nicole Klarides-Ditria: Yes

Len Greene Jr.: Yes

W. Kurt Miller: Yes

Control #10 - \$104,711 from fund balance to snow plowing accounts.

Kurt Miller - This is attached to the emergency declaration. Any questions?

Motion: Paul Roy

Second: Len Greene Jr.

Discussion: Brian LeClerc – It doesn't need to go to Town Meeting because of the emergency declaration.

Vote: Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Karen Stanek: Yes

Al Bruno: Yes

Paul Roy: Yes

Annmarie Drugonis: Yes

Nicole Klarides-Ditria: Yes

Len Greene Jr.: Yes

W. Kurt Miller: Yes

Item #16: Correspondence

There is a letter from all our service chiefs and Director of Public Works:

We, the undersigned executive officers of the Town of Seymour, Connecticut's emergency services, wish to express our support for the proposed AT & T communications tower at Great

Hill Hose Company. We believe that this project serves the best interests of the Town's emergency services personnel as well as its residents. Further, the slight change from the existing structure that this project represents is a small price to pay for the revenue and improved communications that would result from the execution of the project.

Sincerely,

Michael Metzler, Chief of Police; Thomas Eighmie, Director of Emergency Management; James Smith, Fire Chief; Scott Andrews, Chief of Seymour Ambulance Association; Dennis Rozum, Director of Public Works

Item #17: Public Comment

Mike Kearney – We had to cancel our 4 Chaplain Service due to the weather. I would like to see some representation from the Town. It was going to be at St. Margaret & Mary in Shelton. It's named after 4 chaplains that went down with the ship on the USS Dorchester after giving up their lifejackets. The Iwo Jima services are also off at the end of the year because they couldn't get any help to plan it. Broad Street Park isn't listed as a park on the Town website. I'm not aware of any other parks that have committees. I just think you're opening up a can of worms. When John O'Toole was Selectman we tried to get a committee to spruce up French Park and we were told no.

Scott Andrews – I signed the letter supporting the tower because of the income. As a fire commissioner I saw it as a win because it will go back to the department. During the blizzard last year when the phone lines went down and the AT & T service on the hill was terrible. I understand the neighbors' concerns but I think it's very important that we have better coverage up there. That particular spot already has electricity and it makes sense for it to be in that location. I think it's more of a benefit for the Town to have it than it is a detraction.

Item #18: Selectmen's Public Comments

Karen Stanek – None

Paul Roy – This past Sunday I attended a program at the Historical Society about the bypass project. Steve Gephart gave the presentation about the history of the Tingue Dam and what the project will do for migratory fish. One suggestion he had is that May 24th is National Fish Migration Day. People are going to come down to watch fish migrate. It would be a good way to attract people downtown. The only problem is that it's the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend.

Kurt Miller – Completion is slated for June at the moment, they're a little behind schedule.

Paul Roy – They dug up some cool artifacts.

Nicole Klarides-Ditria – None

AlBruno – I want to commend Rory and other Town employees for the work they did on the website. It's a big improvement. I see the signs for the Skate Park and I just want to know if they're going to come down.

Paul Roy – We're going to discuss a grand opening ceremony. We want the veterans to be involved because it's on Randall Field.

Annamarie Drugonis – WPCA did not meet Monday, we will meet next Monday.

Len – I want to thank the Seymour Police Department for responding to the issues with the parking ban. They took care of the issues for the constituents. It's a bigger issue than people realize because if the plows can't get through, neither can the emergency services.

Kurt Miler – none.

Item #19: Adjournment

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis

Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

Vote: Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Karen Stanek: Yes

Al Bruno: Yes

Paul Roy: Yes

Annmarie Drugonis: Yes

Nicole Klarides-Ditria: Yes

Len Greene Jr.: Yes

W. Kurt Miller: Yes

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 PM.

Submitted by,



Rory Burke
Recording Secretary

Approved by,



W. Kurt Miller
First Selectman