

Town of Seymour
Board of Selectman
MINUTES

Regular Meeting
Tuesday, April 16, 2013 @ 7:00PM
Norma Drummer Room / Seymour Town Hall

COPY RECEIVED
DATE: 4/29/13
TIME: 11:00 AM
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Members Present: W. Kurt Miller, Nicole Klarides-Ditria, Gary Bruce, Annmarie Drugonis, Theresa Conroy, Karen Stanek and Town Counsel Rich Buturla.

Members Absent: Al Bruno.

Others Present: Frank Loda, Sean Walsh, Walter Birdsell, Paul Roy, Peter Rzasa, Bill Kovacs, Joseph Millak, Holly Gaydes, Eric Wolf, Sam Mirlis, Carolyn Beck, Rita Millak, Noah Watson, Fran Fitzpatrick Kingston, Josh Pulgarn, Dorothy Doroson, Lynn Pudim, Robert Leggio, Don Smith, Damien Kopek, Mike Flynn and Jeff Dussetschleg

Item #1 –Call meeting to order.

First Selectman, W. Kurt Miller called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

Item #2 –Pledge of Allegiance.

Everyone saluted the Flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item #3 –Public Comment.

Walter Birdsell, 42 Jupiter Drive: The Community Center has a golden opportunity to have the Boys & Girls Club, a gym, a field and to add the skate park is a good fit.

Paul Roy, 80 Washington Ave: Asked if the Skate Park Committee would be able to speak of if he should continue with his public comment. Kurt Miller stated the Skate Park Committee would have an opportunity later in the meeting to speak.

Peter Rzasa, 33 Woodcrest Road: He is unhappy and against moving the skate park to Sochrin Pond. Sochrin Pond is the only park in Seymour with a pond and lots of kids come down with their grandparents. The skate park would bring "out of towners" and noise. It is also the only area in that district with a field. Kids use the field for baseball. The pond is surrounded by wetlands and if paved could be a problem. He would contact the DEP if the skate park is approved at Sochrin Pond. Moss Road is not made for heavy traffic with no sidewalks. Would like to see the skate park in an industrial area, at the Middle School or the Community Center not at Sochrin Pond.

Bill Kovacs, 25 Oakwood Drive: Sochrin Pond is not as bad as it has been portrayed.

Joseph Millak, 13 Patton Ave: He is not against the skate park; he is against the skate park at Sochrin Pond. The park is used every day with kids playing modified softball and flying kites. There are 90% wetlands around the pond with water to the Naugatuck River. Clean water is coming from these wetlands. He is an avid bird watcher and he knows how to remove birds. The skate park would ruin the pond. Putting up a 24 inch fence around the pond will stop the geese from taking over the field. Waterfowl would be affected because of the noise.

Holly Gaydes, 11 Moss Ave: As a mother of two small children she uses the park often. She is concerned with the added noise and security. She researched other areas that live near a skate park and the major complaint is noise. Concerned about security, it is a secluded area that rarely sees police unless they are called. It is hard to believe there is no other location available.

Eric Wolf, 6 Moss Ave: His backyard faces Sochrin Pond. A skate park is great, but not at a family park. The park is used for fishing, basketball and baseball. His family walks the creek cleaning as they go for an earth day tradition. Concerned the skate park would bring more litter and graffiti and harm the wildlife that is there. Kids traveling on their own to Sochrin Pond for the skate park would be in danger with no sidewalks. Downtown is better suited with sidewalks and food venues available.

Sam Mirlis, 24 Moss Ave: These same concerns were brought to the Board of Selectmen in July 2001. Sochrin Pond is not the proper environment for the skate park. The Board of Selectmen would do the right thing by putting the skate park at the Community Center.

Carolyn Beck, 10 Patton Avenue: Kids need something to do in town. Maybe the best use of the funds allotted for the skate park of \$180,000 would be better used at a private venue that could be used year round. Please look into that.

Rita Millak, 13 Patton Ave: Petition presented to the Board of Selectmen with over 100 signatures asking the skate park not be located at Sochrin Pond. There was a vote from a previous Board of Selectmen to exclude Sochrin Pond as a site for the skate park.

Noah Watson, 21 Shelton Road: As a skateboarder he does not want the skate park moved to Sochrin Pond. He and his friends live more toward the center of town and would have a hard time using the skate park if it was located at Sochrin Pond. Also, downtown has food and shops available.

Fran Fitzpatrick Kingston, 30 Moss Ave: All for a skate park in Seymour but is concerned with locating it at Sochrin Pond. Downtown is where it always was. The skate park at Sochrin Pond would increase trash, vandalism and noise. Sochrin Pond is a wooded secluded area and the skate park would decrease the home values. Moss Avenue is not designed for high traffic and has a dangerous blind spot which is a danger to the children. The field is used on weekends by about 20-30 kids playing TBL league baseball. Hopes the skate park will find a home downtown.

Josh Pulgarn, 15 Dolan Circle: Agrees with all the speakers. Swearing and noise will be at the skate park and it is not fair to the home owners. The skate park at the Community Center keeps them with the community.

Dorothy Doroson, 50 Woodcrest Road: The original pond was under developed and over the years the town has worked hard to improve the area into a beautiful pond. Geese have always been there, they come for the pond not the grass and will still be there if a skate park was added. She is against the skate park at Sochrin Pond.

Katheryn Hicks, 19 Bryson Avenue: She moved here in 1979 and Sochrin Pond was a terrible park. Now it is a nice neighborhood park and it would be a waste of the money spent to tear up what has been put in.

Damien Kopek, 106 Balance Rock Road: It would be a waste of money to change the original planned location of the skate park. The Skate Park Committee would have to incur further costs to perform more soil testing.

Lynn Pudim, 10 Osprey Drive: Agrees the skate park should not be at Sochrin Pond.

Peter Rzasa, 33 Woodcrest Road: Concerned with other areas of Seymour. The Hanes Quarry looks awful with the trees knocked down. He can't see the stars anymore from all the dust. Need to take control of the town and clean up these areas quicker.

Walter Birdsell, 42 Jupiter Drive: Numbers 1, 3 and 6 Jupiter Drive are in need of a visit from the Blight Officer. There is wood covered with tarps and cars. It looks terrible.

Sam Mirlis, 24 Moss Ave: There is a need to educate residents on wetlands in the area. A neighbor cut all the trees down and removed a fence. He did what he wanted to do and devastated the area. The trees are needed and should not be removed less than 100 feet from wetlands.

Robert Leggio, Robert Road: Wishes all the public were here backing his problem. It is the right thing for the Board of Selectmen to not place the skate park at Sochrin Pond.

Bill Kovacs, 25 Oakwood Drive: The blight officer needs more leeway to be able to walk on private property to see problems that may be at the back of the property.

Item #4—First Selectman's Report.

The location of the Emergency Center has been finalized and will be at the Police Station. Kurt Miller discussed with our State Representatives the area of Sweets-n-Eats where an area of concern needed help with locating a new business at that location. He read to a Kindergarten class and met with CL&P to discuss tree removal at the Middle School. Work on tree removal will start when school recess begins. The town proposed budget for 2013/2014 was finalized for the Annual Town Meeting on April 30, 2013 and the May 9, 2013 vote. DEEP has the information on the fish bypass and has passed it on to the State Attorney General.

Kurt Miller wanted to remind the Board of Selectmen there will be a Special Board of Selectmen meeting on April 30, 2013 immediately following the Annual Town Meeting to act in lieu of the Annual Town Meeting if not enough residents attend. The outside of Town Hall will be redone with generous donations of materials from local area businesses and residents.

Item #5—Approve Minutes April 2, 2013 Regular Meeting.

Motion to approve Minutes from April 2, 2013 Regular Meeting.

Motion: Karen Stanek Second: Annmarie Drugonis
Yes: 6 No: 0 0: Abstain

Motion to go out of order on the agenda and discuss Item #7 the 2013 Clean Energy Campaign.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria
Yes: 6 No: 0 0: Abstain

Resolution read:

Motion to approve the 2013 Clean Energy Campaign resolution as read.

Motion: Theresa Conroy Second: Annmarie Drugonis
Yes: 6 No: 0 0: Abstain

Item #6— Discussion and take possible action on Building Review Committee recommendations.

- **Discussion on appraisal for 20 Maple Street**

An appraisal for 20 Maple Street was forwarded to the Board of Selectmen for their review. Discussion is scheduled during Executive Session at the May 7, 2013 Regular Meeting.

- **Discussion regarding location of skate park**

Motion to not include Sochrin Pond as a potential location for the Skate Park.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis

Second: Theresa Conroy

Yes: 6

No: 0

0: Abstain

Discussion on the Community Center Building will continue at the May 7, 2013 Regular Board of Selectmen meeting after the air / mold testing report has been completed.

Item #7— Discussion and take possible action on 2013 Clean Energy Campaign

Resolution Read:

WHEREAS, the Seymour Board of Selectmen promotes conservation, energy efficiency and the study of the use of clean energy sources; and

WHEREAS, electricity generation produces more harmful air pollution than any other single human activity and emission from traditional methods trigger asthma attacks and contribute to other respiratory illnesses, as well as contribute significantly to climate change; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Seymour passed a resolution on July 2010, to join the Connecticut Clean Energy Communities program and committed the Town to purchase 20% of its electricity needs from clean energy sources by the year 2010; and

WHEREAS, today, the Town of Seymour agrees to take on a new challenge put forth by the Clean Energy Communities program to reduce its municipal building energy consumption 20% by the year 2018, with technical assistance by CL&P program administrators of the Energy Efficiency Fund, and commits to benchmarking Town buildings' energy usage and developing a Municipal Action Plan (MAP) for the Town to reduce energy consumption; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Seymour pledges to maintain its commitment to voluntarily purchase 20% of its municipal building electricity from clean, renewable energy sources by the year 2018, with technical assistance from the Clean Energy Finance & Investment Authority, and will investigate all options for meeting that goal and beginning the purchases as soon as possible, including purchasing RECs (Renewable Energy Certificates) and installing local clean energy installations; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Seymour hereby makes its commitment to the Clean Energy Communities Program by affirming its Clean Energy Communities Municipal Pledge and will track and report progress towards these goals and will continue to promote energy efficiency and clean, renewable technologies in the community. By doing so, the Town of Seymour is eligible to receive incentives that may include free clean energy systems and up to two \$10,000 Bright Idea Grants per fiscal year that can be used toward energy-saving projects.

Item #8— Discussion and take possible action on Agreement between the Town of Seymour and the Seymour Conservation Trust regarding property at Chatfield Park and Legion Pool.

Completed plans are scheduled for the May 7, 2013 Regular Board of Selectmen meeting.

Motion to table Discussion and take possible action on Agreement between the Town of Seymour and the Seymour Conservation Trust regarding property at Chatfield Park and Legion Pool.

Motion: Theresa Conroy

Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

Yes: 6

No: 0

0: Abstain

Item #9— Presentation from the Boys & Girls Club

Representatives from the Boys & Girls Club provided the Board of Selectmen with their 2012 Annual Report as well as sample programs that could potentially be offered. The presentation was information and introductory. The Boys & Girls Club and the Town of Seymour are in the discussion phase of possibly utilizing sections of the Community Center Building.

Item #10— Discussion and take possible action on file name convention for Town website

Motion to accept the file name conventions for the Town website as recommended by the Technology Committee.

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria Second: Karen Stanek
Yes: 6 No: 0 0: Abstain

Motion to add to the agenda Discussion and update from the Skate Park Committee.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis Second: Theresa Conroy
Yes: 6 No: 0 0: Abstain

Paul Roy thanked the Board of Selectmen for their decision to not move the Skate Park to Sochrin Pond. The Skate Park Committee is requesting funds for permits and engineer design costs. \$5,800 additional fees are included in the proposed budget.

Motion to allow the Skate Park Committee to spend no more than \$2,200 to prepare for bid, \$1,100 for design phase engineer costs and \$2,800 for permit costs.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis Second: Theresa Conroy
Yes: 6 No: 0 0: Abstain

The Board of Selectmen asked the Skate Park Committee to report back on their progress in the end of May 2013.

Town Counsel is excused at 8:45pm.

Item #11— Executive session (personnel action – DPW retirements)

None.

Item #12— Appointments.

Motion to appoint Brian Anderson to the Local Emergency Planning Committee for a term of two (2) years expiring on April 21, 2015.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria
Yes: 6 No: 0 0: Abstain

Motion to appoint Scott Andrews to the Local Emergency Planning Committee for a term of two (2) years expiring on April 21, 2015.

Motion: Theresa Conroy Second: Annmarie Drugonis
Yes: 6 No: 0 0: Abstain

Motion to appoint Thomas Eighmie to the Local Emergency Planning Committee for a term of two (2) years expiring on April 21, 2015.

Motion: Karen Stanek Second: Theresa Conroy
Yes: 6 No: 0 0: Abstain

Motion to appoint Annmarie Drugonis to the Local Emergency Planning Committee for a term of two (2) years expiring on April 21, 2015.

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria Second: Karen Stanek
Yes: 5 No: 0 1: Abstain (Annmarie Drugonis)

Motion to appoint Kelley Kyle to the Local Emergency Planning Committee for a term of two (2) years expiring on April 21, 2015.

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria Second: Theresa Conroy
Yes: 6 No: 0 0: Abstain

Motion to appoint Kurt Miller to the Local Emergency Planning Committee for a term of two (2) years expiring on April 21, 2015.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis Second: Karen Stanek
Yes: 5 No: 0 1: Abstain (Kurt Miller)

Motion to appoint Dennis Rozum to the Local Emergency Planning Committee for a term of two (2) years expiring on April 21, 2015.

Motion: Theresa Conroy Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria
Yes: 6 No: 0 0: Abstain

Motion to appoint Paul Satkowski to the Local Emergency Planning Committee for a term of two (2) years expiring on April 21, 2015.

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria Second: Annmarie Drugonis
Yes: 6 No: 0 0: Abstain

Motion to appoint Jim Smith to the Local Emergency Planning Committee for a term of two (2) years expiring on April 21, 2015.

Motion: Theresa Conroy Second: Karen Stanek
Yes: 6 No: 0 0: Abstain

Motion to appoint Karen Spargo to the Local Emergency Planning Committee for a term of two (2) years expiring on April 21, 2015.

Motion: Theresa Conroy Second: Karen Stanek
Yes: 6 No: 0 0: Abstain

Motion to appoint Steve Childs to the Local Emergency Planning Committee for a term of two (2) years expiring on April 21, 2015.

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria Second: Theresa Conroy
Yes: 6 No: 0 0: Abstain

Motion to appoint Paul Wetowitz to the Local Emergency Planning Committee for a term of two (2) years expiring on April 21, 2015.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria
Yes: 6 No: 0 0: Abstain

Motion to appoint Tim Willis to the Local Emergency Planning Committee for a term of two (2) years expiring on April 21, 2015.

Motion: Theresa Conroy Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

Yes: 6

No: 0

0: Abstain

Motion to appoint Steve Kulas to the Motor Vehicle Hearing Officer (CGS 14-150) for a term of two (2) years expiring on May 2, 2015.

Motion: Theresa Conroy

Second: Karen Stanek

Yes: 6

No: 0

0: Abstain

Item #13—Tax Refunds/Abatements.

Motion to accept the Tax Refunds / Abatements as presented.

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Yes: 6

No: 0

0: Abstain

Item #14—Transfers.

Motion to accept Transfer #9 from Public Works Purchased Service Garbage to Public Works Salary Regular Employees in the amount of \$15,000.00 as presented and pass the transfer onto the Board of Finance.

Motion: Karen Stanek

Second: Theresa Conroy

Yes: 6

No: 0

0: Abstain

Item #15—Correspondence.

Check Register.

Invitation from the Boys & Girls Club to attend Meet the Kids Night on Wednesday April 17, 2013

Town of Seymour Employee Newsletter

Flyer stating Seymour Day at Beardsley Zoo is Saturday June 8, 2013

Flyer stating Seymour Night at New Britain Stadium is Friday May 31, 2013

Letter from Tax Collector answering question regarding tax status of abatements

Item #16—Public Comment.

Robert Leggio, Robert Road: Concerned as to why he was not on the agenda this evening. He was referred to the Board of Selectmen, then to the ZBA. The ZBA approved his easement, but then he received a letter stating the town could be sued if the easement was allowed. He would like to be added to the Board of Selectmen agenda at the next meeting.

Mike Flynn, 85 Skokorat Street: Speeding on Skokorat Street in the morning hours is out of control in the area of Chatfield Dairy.

Jeff Dussetschleg, 48 Davis Road: The NVHD has a monthly newsletter that can be posted to the town employees.

Item #17—Selectmen's Public Comments.

Karen Stanek: Congratulations to parents and children for coming out tonight.

Theresa Conroy: Thanks for the tax abatement information. Asked Kurt Miller for the contact name and phone number at the State Level to follow-up on the Fish Bypass.

Nicole Klarides-Ditria: It was nice to see residents at the meeting tonight. Lots of people have contacted her directly to not locate the skate park at Sochrin Pond.

Annmarie Drugonis: It was nice to see residents and it would be nice to see them at other meetings too. She received many calls and no calls were in favor of locating the skate park at Sochrin Pond. Asked if she

could receive the first quarter reports. Kurt Miller stated they had been emailed; he would have them emailed to all Board of Selectmen again.

Gary Bruce: Echoes what was said, he also received calls regarding the location of the skate park. He remembers ice skating at Sochrin Pond as a kid. It was always fun. He caught his first fish there. It is nice that so many people got together to defend their stance. Thanks to Theresa Conroy and Kurt Miller for attending the testimonial at Colonial Tavern on April 13, 2013 in honor of Tom Tomasheski. It was a good way to show gratitude to an outgoing Fire Chief.

Item #18—Adjournment.

Motion to adjourn at 9:04pm.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis

Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

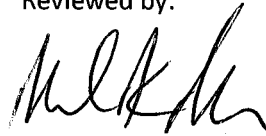
Yes: 6

No: 0

0: Abstain

Submitted by:

Reviewed by:



Michelle Walsh
Recording Secretary

W. Kurt Miller
First Selectman