

COPY RECEIVED
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MINUTES
Board of Selectmen
Wednesday, December 18, 2013 – 7:00PM
Norma Drummer Room – Seymour Town Hall

Members Present: W. Kurt Miller, Paul Roy, Annmarie Drugonis, Len Greene, Jr., Karen Stanek, Nicole Klarides-Ditria (7:06 PM), and Al Bruno (7:19 PM).

Members Not Present:

Others Present: Frank Loda, Tom Eighmie, Timm Willis, Fred Messore, Paul Wetowitz, Al Yagovane, Dave Bitso, Rory Burke, Brian LeClaire, Town Counsel, and Lianna Staffieri, Recording Secretary.

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.

Al Yagovane, 25 Elaine Drive, distributes a paper with questions from the Broad Street Park Committee in response to the proposed ordinance of Friends of Broad Street Park. He states that the Broad Street Park Committee would like to meet with the Ordinance Committee if that is an option.

Kurt states that the Ordinance Committee met briefly and tentatively put some things together. They will finalize the Ordinance in January and will let the public weigh in on it on January 21st.

Dave Bitso, 1 Meadow Wood Road, states that he is in favor of the self-proposed cell tower near the fire house and asked the selectmen to give strong consideration to camouflage the tower. He then provides an example picture of a cell tower tree to the board. In his opinion the cell tower tree would fit in nicely in the Great Hill area. The tower currently there now is old and does not have the same affect. In his opinion, the Downtown Committee was formed to make the downtown look nicer and that the aesthetic should be carried throughout the town. Dave also suggests that an Architectural Advisory Committee be formed to oversee the appearance of all the buildings in town. He stated that this has been done in other towns.

ITEM #4: Approval of minutes from December 3, 2013.

Motion to approve minutes from December 3, 2013 regular meeting.

Motion: Karen Stanek Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain

Kurt Miller – Yes Karen Stanek – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Paul Roy – Yes

Len Greene Jr. – Yes

Motion to add to the agenda First Selectman's report.

Motion: Paul Roy Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain

Kurt Miller – Yes
Annmarie Drugonis – Yes
Paul Roy – Yes
Len Greene Jr. – Yes

Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes
Karen Stanek – Yes

First Selectman’s Report.

- I have started meeting with department heads and committee chairs in preparation for the upcoming budget season. We are working to keep the mill rate down again this year while continuing to move important initiatives forward.
- I attended the Clean Harbor’s Ribbon Cutting for their new facility on Derby Ave. I am looking forward to a very long and strong relationship between the town and the company.
- I met with Tom Haynes and some members of his staff to discuss the blasting that has gone on over the last few weeks. We have come up with some ideas for better communication and to provide more information to the residents. I hope to have some more to report in the next few weeks.
- I attended the December First Saturday events which included lighting the tree at the American Legion Post as well as riding the train into Seymour with Santa. I’d like to thank the Culture and Arts Committee, The American Legion and all of the Downtown Merchants for making this a great family night. All the kids were thrilled to see Santa.
- I attended the Seymour Middle School Winter Concert. The kids did an outstanding job and I was very happy to be in attendance to enjoy the music.
- I held a conference call regarding starting the C-PACE program in Seymour.
- I attended a special meeting for the Valley Council of Governments to discuss and approve a potential merging of VCOG with COGCNV. While there is still much work to be done, we feel that this merger and potentially one with Greater Bridgeport are in the best interests of all of our residents along the Route 8 corridor. I was very honored to also have been elected by my peers to serve as Chairman and to lead VCOG through the negotiations and potential mergers.
- Selectman Len Greene, Jr. asked to put on tonight’s agenda about software, but we will hold off until January to give him an opportunity to talk with Tony Caserta.
- I attended the Bungay School geography bee.
- Finally, I just wanted to take this chance to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

ITEM #5: Discussion and take possible action on Greenway Trail.

Fred Messoro, Mark Aragoni, and Ryan Chimiluski presented the Greenway Trail plan. They went in depth and much detail with charts, photographs and a master plan booklet for the Greenway Trail. Fred Messoro gave a little history on the project and talked about the Downtown Strategy Plan. The Economic Development Committee wanted to tie in, along with the Fish Bypass Channel, the river that surrounds that area. They applied for a grant through the Connecticut Main Street Program and were successful in receiving a \$10,000.00 grant. As part of that grant, they put together a conceptual plan. Mark Aragoni, from Milone & MacBroom, commends Fred stating that he has the foresight to do this part of the process, the conceptual part, the feasibility study, etc. and chances are, it will be a long time before something like this is constructed

Ryan Chimiluski, the lead landscape architect for Milone & MacBroom, discusses the booklet and presentation at length. He showed and explained the data that was collected and discussed what was found on their site walks.

Ryan also discussed cross sections and 4 alternatives for River Street.

- The first alternative is a pedestal board walk on the river side.
- The second alternative is to build a retaining wall.
- The third alternative is to realign River Street.
- The fourth is to expand the sidewalk.

He states that in general terms of dollars, the bridge over the waterfalls (alternative one) could cost 6 to 8 million dollars to have built. He also states that 2,700 linear feet of street reconstruction (alternative three/four) could cost 10 to 13 million dollars. VCOG will be coming out with recommendations for the Bank Street section.

Mark explains that by using the master plan booklet, the best case scenario for Phase One for Seymour's Greenway Trail is to start with the connection to the existing sidewalk on Bank Street Bridge. He continued to explain the connection and what could be done to that connection.

Fred Messore explains that the next step is to start doing the feasibility and engineering study of phase one. He applied for a Preservation Grant and was successful in receiving a \$10,000.00 grant. He plans to, on his next upcoming budget, put money aside to match the grant so the project can start to be implemented.

Len Greene, Jr. asked what the overall approximate cost of phase one would be.

Fred explains that what was presented was the most cost effective approach. The project is calculated by linear feet. The area is approximately 700 linear feet and they priced it at approximately \$100 to \$300 per linear feet, so \$70,000.000 to \$110,000 for the construction of trail.

Len asks what the approximate percentage would be with the state and federal funding possibly being available.

Mark Argoni states that most common is 80/20, but it depends solely on the funding source.

Len asked what the estimated timeline would be.

Mark states that if funding is available and he is able to get documents for construction, which is a 6 month process, and get phase one regulatory approval, he thinks the town would be out to bid in a year from now.

Len asks Fred, from an economic development stand point, what kind of return on investment is the town looking at.

Fred states that economic development covers so many facets. He believes this Greenway will add quality of life to the residents and he hopes that they would support the plan.

Karen mentions that if this type of bridge isn't built, the loop won't be complete.

Mark Argoni states that there are existing sidewalk systems, but are very narrow. He states that by using the crosswalks, those could be a temporary connection until the bridge is built

Anmarie asks about the parking for the loop trail and discussion ensues about dedicated parking.

Ryan states that the report is available for download for the public through Fred Messore.

ITEM #6: Discussion and take possible action on CPACE.

Fred Messore will be bringing more information to the Board of Selectmen meeting on January 7, 2014. He gives the board a paper concerning CPACE.

Fred explains that he has been working on CPACE (Commercial and Industrial Property and Clean Energy) with First Selectman's office. If the town approves a resolution, then businesses and property owners can take advantage of applying for funding to improve and upgrade buildings for energy efficiency.

He states that out of 169 towns in the State of Connecticut, 69 towns have already adopted this plan. Fred introduces the Economic Development Commission's Seymour downtown and shops parking map that identifies public parking areas.

ITEM #7: Discussion and take possible action on Fire Marshal parking ticket issuance.

Kurt begins with two letters, one from the Fire Marshal and Deputy Fire Marshal and the other from Chief Metzler. The Fire Marshal, Paul Wetowitz and Deputy Fire Marshal, Timm Willis, raise some concerns about their inability to issue parking tickets to people who offend parking in a designated fire lane zone or blocking a fire hydrant. The other letter is one of support from Chief Metzler who is the parking authority for Seymour.

Town Counsel, Brian LeClaire states that there is an ordinance already in place for the parking authority which he can utilize and appoint up to three individuals to serve under the Chief of Police and issue such tickets. Town Counsel and the board agree that since the Police Chief is the parking authority, he could appoint the Fire Marshal and Deputy Fire Marshal and give them the ability to issue these specific tickets.

Kurt will contact Chief Metzler and let him know he can move forward with this.

ITEM #8: Discussion and take possible action on Department of Public Works truck sale.

Kurt read a letter from Dennis Rozum to the Board of Selection.

Kurt explains that during the storms that we have had, it was determined that there was a need for a new bucket truck that allows the town to be more proactive. The bucket truck we have now is getting near its end of use. Kurt explains that \$26,500.00 was put aside from FEMA reimbursements geared directly towards this truck. It was noticed that if the town can come up with another \$10,000.00, the town can get a truck with the level we need. Public Works would like to use \$6,000.00 to be combined with that \$26,500.00 to go out for a bigger bucket truck.

ITEM #9: Discussion and take possible action on AT&T tower at Great Hill Hose Co.

Kurt explains that about a month ago, Tom Eighmie and the Communications Commission approached him with an offer from AT&T to replace the existing tower at the Great Hill Hose Co. Kurt states that he has reached out to the fire departments, fire chiefs, fire commissioners and other boards to try and get as much feedback on this subject as possible.

Tom Eighmie went into detail about the AT&T tower timeline, spoke about different proposals of where to put this tower at Great Hill Hose Co., and explained all the research that was found.

Kurt urges the board members to go to Great Hill Hose Company and take a look at where the AT&T tower is planned to be placed. Paul asks if there could be someone on site to point everything out. Discussion continued in depth about the tower.

The board will set up a public hearing so the residents can weigh in on it and voice their opinions. The board will discuss the proposed AT&T tower at the next Board of Selectmen meeting on January 7th if they feel they have enough information and can take action then.

Motion to set Public Hearing for January 7, 2013 in the Norma Drummer Room at 6:00 PM to hear public comments regarding the AT&T Tower Proposal.

Motion: Len Greene, Jr. Second: Annmarie Drugonis
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain
Kurt Miller – Yes Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes
Annmarie Drugonis – Yes Al Bruno – Yes
Paul Roy – Yes Karen Stanek – Yes
Len Greene Jr. – Yes

ITEM #10: Discussion and take possible action on proposed ordinances.

The board discussed three ordinances as follows:

- WPCA Annual Budget: Depreciation Expense
- Creation of Friends of the Broad Street Park Commission
 - Establishment; Membership
 - Annmarie Drugonis suggests that the members should be defined more specifically.
 - Kurt states that the Ordinance Committee will define the seven members.
 - Karen suggests adding the process in selecting officers, secretary, chairman, etc.
 - Duties
 - Karen suggests adding chairman and all other officers added.
 - Fundraising
 - Expenditure of Funds
- Creation of the Strategic Planning
 - Establishment; Membership
 - Len suggests that the minority party representation be included.
 - Paul suggests an overlap continuity; 2 years staggered.
 - Duties
 - Kurt suggests quarterly meetings held. They would still report annually to the Board of Selectmen.

Kurt states that the Ordinance Committee will meet before January 7, 2014.

ITEM #11: Report from Blight Enforcement Officer.

Mike Marganski is not able to attend because of work but he has sent his report. He can make the January 7, 2014 meeting. Any questions or concerns can be passed through Kurt or can be directed to him.

Mike identified the issues he sees going forward in his report.

Karen asks if Mike can be more specific about Seymour Lumber.

Kurt states that overall blight enforcement officer has collected \$4,700.00 in fines.

ITEM #12: Discussion and take possible action on sidewalk reimbursement for Todd Morgan.

Discussion started at the last Board of Selectmen meeting about sidewalk reimbursement. Kurt read Ordinance for sidewalk reimbursement - Section 14-4 and 14-5. Kurt states that this ordinance is designed for when the board needs to force someone to repair their sidewalk.

Kurt cleared up a mistake with reimbursement for John Marciniak. The Town of Seymour already paid him one third of the \$2,800.00 and he was only looking for one third payment for the \$2,400.00 so a check was sent to him in the amount of \$800.00.

Motion to pay Todd Morgan \$734.00 for sidewalk work done in the amount of \$2,200.00.

Motion: Karen Stanek

Second: Len Greene, Jr.

Vote: 7-Yes 0-No

0-Abstain

Kurt Miller – Yes

Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Paul Roy – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Len Greene Jr. – Yes

ITEM #13: Executive Session.

None.

ITEM #14: Appointments.

None.

ITEM #15: Tax Refunds/Abatements

Motion to approve Tax Refunds/Abatements as read.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis

Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 7-Yes 0-No

0-Abstain

Kurt Miller – Yes

Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Paul Roy – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Len Greene Jr. – Yes

ITEM #16: Correspondence.

- Check register.
- Letter from Dave Pitney thanking the board for reappointment.
- Letter from Attorney Stanek thanking the board for reappointment as Land Use Counsel.
- Letter from State Representative Theresa Conroy, inviting everyone to the Seymour Senior Center on Wednesday, January 8, 2014 for a Livable Communities for All Ages presentation.
- Letter from Great Hill Hose Co. members about the AT&T tower.
- An invitation to Seymour Police Department Holiday luncheon at Seymour Police Department on Friday.

ITEM #17: Public Comment.

Al Yagovane, 25 Elaine Drive, states that the Broad Street Park Committee would like to be able to discuss the questions with the Ordinance Committee. He then asks about the sound waves from the AT&T Tower and whether there was a study done on it and if it is harmful to one's health. He also states that he likes the parking plan that the Economic Development Committee put together. He suggests updating it and putting their chairman's name on it or perhaps a phone number, if people have a question.

ITEM #18: Selectmen's Public Comments.

Karen Stanek asks for the future to get invitations the board receives as soon as possible. She also asks the status of renaming of the Broad Street Park.

Kurt explains that Rich is still looking into it.

Karen asks if the Boys & Girls Club opened.

Kurt explains that the kids that are currently members that come from Seymour are there now. They have been actively accepting members and they will be starting in January.
Karen asks why Jason Weaving resigned from the Technology Committee.
Kurt states that he had personal commitments. The website project has been taken over by Kurt and Rory. The new town website will be up by first week in January.

Nicole Klarides-Ditria thanks any of Board of Selectmen members who donated to the Hope Tree at the Seymour Middle School.

Al Bruno asks if there was anything in paper about the Boys & Girls Club opening.
Kurt explains that articles have be posted in the newspaper
Al asks if Jason Weaving will be replaced on the Technology Committee.
Kurt states that he will be looking for a new member.

Annmarie Drugonis reminds residents to clear the snow off sidewalks 24 hours after storm. She suggests that Public Works talk to contractors who are plow the snow in the middle of the road. She finally wishes everyone a Merry Christmas.
Kurt explains that the issues with snow are addressed case by case. Dawn was on the phone a lot with downtown merchants to shovel sidewalks.

Len states that he had the opportunity to attend his first Board of Public Works meeting and told the board to keep an eye out for a policy manual, at least completed for review, in January. Dennis Rozum will be offering work order samples that they will be using with their new software, which should provide town with more information. He finally wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

ITEM #19: Adjournment.

Motion to adjourn at 9:16pm

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No

Kurt Miller – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Paul Roy – Yes

Len Greene Jr. – Yes

Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

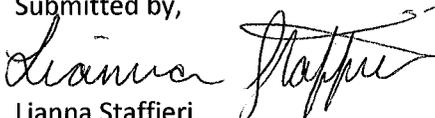
0-Abstain

Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Submitted by,



Lianna Staffieri
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,



W. Kurt Miller
First Selectman