

COPY RECEIVED  
DATE: 10/16/12  
TIME: 4:55pm  
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

**Town of Seymour  
Board of Selectman  
MINUTES  
Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, October 16, 2012 @ 7:30PM  
Norma Drummer Room / Seymour Town Hall**

**Members Present:** W. Kurt Miller, Nicole Klarides-Ditria, Gary Bruce, AnnMarie Drugonus, Al Bruno, Karen Stanek, Theresa Conroy and Town Counsel Rich Buturla.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Others Present:** Rosalie Averill, Bob Koskelowski, Sean Walsh, Phil Wilhelmy, Steven Kulas and Deirdre Caruso

**Item #1 –Call meeting to order.**

First Selectman, W. Kurt Miller called the meeting to order at 7:35pm.

**Item #2 –Pledge of Allegiance.**

Everyone saluted the Flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Item #3 –Public Comment.**

Rosalie Averill, 38 N. Benham Road: Speaking as a citizen and not a representative of the Economic Commission, she has questions regarding the Downtown Committee. She is confused with the nature of the committee, when the committee is complete will there be terms of appointment? Is there a provision if a merchant on the committee leaves the downtown area? Is this an advisory committee? On the draft it states the committee would provide "policy recommendations", what is policy?

Bob Koskelowski, 130 Pearl Street: The wording on question #1 for the Charter revision vote on November 6<sup>th</sup> is vague. It does not give people a choice of what to do. He supports changes in one department but not all and will vote no because he cannot support all department changes. Regarding the vacant Captain position in the Police Department, he recommends not filling the position at this time. The Police Department has been running without a Captain for the last 19 months and the department currently has difficulty with large amounts of overtime. Not filling the captain position will save the town about \$50,000 this year. The school union contract that was recently approved, it states a 2.9% increase in salary. Two years ago arbitration ruled a zero increase. The BOE will state the salary increase will be between 5 to 6% due to teacher salary steps. The BOE will be asking the BOF for \$900,000 to \$1 million increase to meet the teacher salary. He would have liked to see the Blight Officer position hired from within. There is a qualified person that has done the job for over one year with no pay, yet he was not considered or interviewed for the position.

**Item #4—First Selectman's Report.**

The HR department has begun the process of reviewing job descriptions with all municipal staff. It is expected to be done next week and the formal review process begun in December. A status report from HR has been provided.

Kurt Miller attended the first of three State Legislative meeting for CCM to prepare for the upcoming session. He also attended the Valley Leadership Conference and spoke about government in the valley.

Kurt Miller met multiple times with our financial advisors to review the current debt levels and to discuss financing options for new debt from recent projects and purchases. An update is planned for the November 2012 Board of Selectmen meeting.

Kurt Miller met with representative of Silver Petruceli regarding the building review study. They will be presenting findings Thursday October 18, 2012 to the committee about potential building usages going forward. He also met with representatives of Walnut Hill & KofC to discuss needed repairs to the Strand and long term lease options. A report will be presented to Culture & Arts on Thursday October 18<sup>th</sup>.

An agreement with South Central Area Agency has been reached for a title 5 worker, Helen Licho, to help in the finance office. Kurt Miller, Tony Caserta and Michele Wasikowski met with Maura Tyszka from PMT to discuss new online reporting options for the workers compensation program that will allow the town to be more proactive and have better control of the program.

Kurt Miller attended the Grand Re-Opening of Ozzies and the Grand Opening of a new steakhouse 1757 at Villa Bianca. The bell has been fully restored and should return to the front of Town Hall on Friday, October 19, 2012. He attended the ribbon cutting ceremony at the new Chatfield-Lopresti Elementary School. The event was well attended and the school looks beautiful. Fusco Corp. has gifts for the Board of Selectmen members, framed pictures of the building. They will be available for pick-up on Wednesday, October 17<sup>th</sup> in the Selectman's Office.

Walk-a-Mile in her Shoes was held on Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup>. The event raised almost \$6,500 for Seymour Pink. Kurt Miller is proud of the efforts put in by Christine Conroy to make the event so successful. Pounding the Pavement for Pink 5k was also very successful with almost 700 runners. Seymour should be very proud of this great event. Smoke in the Valley had roughly 2,500 in attendance and was a success for Seymour Tradition. Wednesday, October 17 is Seymour Pink Day.

**Item #5—Executive Session (Personnel, Contract Negotiations, Pending Litigation)**

None.

**Item #6—Approve Minutes from October 2, 2012 Regular Meeting.**

Motion to approve Minutes from October 2, 2012 Regular Meeting.

Motion: Al Bruno

Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

Al Bruno requested the wording change from "neutral" to "objective" in the Selectmen's Public Comment section of the minutes.

Yes: 7

No: 0

0: Abstain

Motion to add to the agenda discussion and take possible action on the resolution for financing per the request of Bond Counsel.

Motion: Al Bruno

Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

Yes: 7

No: 0

0: Abstain

WHEREAS, the Town of Seymour, by resolutions adopted at a Special Town Meeting held October 18, 2011, appropriated \$180,000 for acquisition of a public works department dump truck, \$160,000 for acquisition of a public works department pay-loader and \$497,000 for acquisition of a Police Department emergency communications console, and at Special Town Meeting held September \_\_, 2012 authorized the entrance into lease purchase agreements or the issuance of bonds or notes and temporary notes in the same amounts to finance said appropriations; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Seymour, by resolution adopted at a Special Town Meeting held November 1, 2011, appropriated \$499,000 for acquisition of rescue truck for use by the Citizens Engine Fire Department, and at Special Town Meeting held September \_\_, 2012 authorized the entrance into lease purchase agreements or the issuance of bonds or notes and temporary notes in the same amounts to finance said appropriations; and

WHEREAS, said resolutions authorized the Board of Selectmen to delegate to appropriate officers of the Town certain determinations and actions in connection with such lease purchase agreement or the issuance of bonds or notes and temporary notes;

NOW, THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the First Selectman and the Treasurer are authorized to determine the amounts, dates, interest rates, maturities, form and other details of such lease purchase agreement or bonds, notes and temporary notes; to bind the Town pursuant to such representations and covenants as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption of interest on of such lease purchase agreement or bonds, notes and temporary notes from federal income taxation, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years; to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of such lease purchase agreement or bonds, notes and temporary notes to provide secondary market disclosure information; to execute and deliver any such lease purchase agreement or to sell the bonds, notes and temporary notes at public or private sale; to execute and deliver the bonds, notes and temporary notes; and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to execute and deliver any such lease purchase agreement or to sell, issue and deliver the bonds, notes and temporary notes.

Motion to accept the resolution as presented.

Motion: Al Bruno

Second: AnnMarie Drugonus

Yes: 7

No: 0

0: Abstain

**Item #7— Resolution Concerning the Great Give.**

WHEREAS, the residents of the Town of Seymour benefit from the services and programs offered by many nonprofit organizations; and,

WHEREAS, The Community Foundation *for* Greater New Haven brings people and nonprofits together to address issues and create opportunities to improve their communities; and

WHEREAS, The Community Foundation *for* Greater New Haven and local nonprofits have partnered to offer giveGreater.org as a resource for knowledge of local arts and culture, health and wellness, children and seniors, the environment, education, workforce development, hunger, housing and other issues; and

WHEREAS, giveGreater.org features nearly 200 nonprofits which offer programs and services to support our community's emergency and ongoing needs; and

WHEREAS, nonprofits need financial resources from a broad base of supporters to continue to provide programs and services to enrich the quality of life in Seymour; and

WHEREAS, The Community Foundation *for* Greater New Haven is conducting The Great Give 2012 for 36 hours from 8:00am on October 16<sup>th</sup> through 8:00pm on October 17<sup>th</sup> and will offer up to \$150,000 in grant prizes to local nonprofits that attract new and repeat donors; and

Now, therefore, I W. Kurt Miller, First Selectman of Seymour do hereby proclaim October 16 and 17, 2012, as The Great Give 2012 in Seymour. I call upon public officials, educators, librarians, and all the people of Seymour to observe this period, to learn more about our local nonprofits on giveGreater.org,

and to support the organizations or causes with donations that put resources directly into the hands of people engaged in work you consider important.

Signed this 16<sup>th</sup> Day of October, 2012

W. Kurt Miller  
First Selectman

Motion to accept the resolution as presented.

Motion: Theresa Conroy            Second: Gary Bruce  
Yes: 7                                    No: 0                                    0: Abstain

**Item #8— Proclamation concerning Seymour Red Day on November 9, 2012.**

Motion to table the proclamation concerning Seymour Red Day on November 9, 2012.

Motion: AnnMarie Drugonus    Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria  
Yes: 7                                    No: 0                                    0: Abstain

**Item #9— Discussion and take action on Town of Seymour Mission Statement.**

The Board of Selectmen were provided with two drafts of possible town mission statements. After discussion the Selectmen decided to use “draft one” in paragraph form adding “to foster a town-wide living and working environment that is built on trust, respect, and broad-based citizen involvement” to the third (3) bullet. Al Bruno requested the word “greening” be researched to confirm this is correct verbiage.

**Item #10— Discussion and possible action of charge of the Downtown Committee.**

Motion to go out of order on the agenda.

Motion: AnnMarie Drugonus            Second: Al Bruno  
Yes: 7                                    No: 0                                    0: Abstain

**Item #11— Discussion and possible action on Silvermine Road easement.**

Motion to table the discussion and possible action on Silvermine Road easement.

Motion: Al Bruno                            Second: Theresa Conroy  
Yes: 7                                    No: 0                                    0: Abstain

Motion to return to item #10 Discussion and possible action of charge of the Downtown Committee.

Motion: AnnMarie Drugonus            Second: Al Bruno  
Yes: 7                                    No: 0                                    0: Abstain

After discussion, the Selectmen decide at the top of the page prior to the list of duties the statement, “The committee shall have the following duties and perform the following advisory functions” needs to be added. Minor spelling and grammatical changes needed and the consensus is to remove items #5 and #10. An updated version will be emailed to Board of Selectmen members by Wednesday, October 17, 2012.

**Item #12— Discussion and possible action on eligibility for boards, commissions, and committees.**

Town Counsel Rich Buturla researched eligibility of non-residents on boards, commissions and committees. Permanent boards and boards created by ordinance need to be electors from the town. Non-resident’s cannot be prohibited on temporary or ad hoc committees such as School Building Committee, Skate Park

Committee and Christmas Parade. Rich Buturla asked to research the list of current non-residents sitting on committees to provide an opinion of eligibility at the November Board of Selectmen meeting.

Town Counsel is excused at 8:50pm.

**Item #13— Appointments.**

Motion to appoint Susan Liscinsky to the Zoning Board of Appeals as replacement for Pat Lombardi for a term of four (4) years elected expiring on February 1, 2014.

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria Second: Al Bruno

Yes: 7 No: 0 O: Abstain

Motion to appoint Philip Wilhelmy to the Zoning Board of Appeals (Alternate) as replacement for Susan Liscinsky for a term of four (4) years expiring on January 1, 2014.

Motion: AnnMarie Drugonus Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

Yes: 7 No: 0 O: Abstain

Motion to appoint Patrick Lombardi to the Water Pollution Control Authority as replacement for John Fanatto for a term of four (4) years expiring on December 31, 2015.

Motion: Karen Stanek Second: Al Bruno

Yes: 7 No: 0 O: Abstain

**Item #14—Tax Refunds/Abatements.**

Motion to accept the Tax Refunds / Abatements as presented.

Motion: Karen Stanek Second: Al Bruno

Yes: 7 No: 0 O: Abstain

**Item #15—Transfers.**

Motion to accept Transfer #2—First Selectman’s Office from Fund Balance to Professional Fees in the amount of \$12,000.00.

Motion: AnnMarie Drugonus Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

Gary Bruce suggested a company other than the town’s current auditor be hired to perform the additional audit to provide a check on the current auditor as well. Kurt Miller stated he would be sure to discuss with the Board of Finance the option of using an auditor other than BlumShapiro. BlumShapiro may provide a lower fee because they have experience with the town files; however, the final choice of auditor is with the Board of Finance.

Yes: 7 No: 0 O: Abstain

**Item #16—Correspondence.**

Check Register.

Letter from Patrick Lombardi resigning as a member of the Seymour Zoning Board of Appeals.

Report from Human Resources

Memo from Jason Weaving Technology Committee

**Item #17—Public Comment.**

Philip Wilhelmy, 116 Maple Street: He has been listening to the comments regarding the Downtown Committee. The actions of the committee is another layer of ideas and advise that the other boards should be having. The mission and function is idea making.

Steven Kulas, 31 Skokorat Street: Thanks to Mr. Fanotto for his hard works and providing greater health to the area. He disagrees with Mr. Koskelowski regarding the importance of filling the vacant Captain position at the police department. Filling the position may help with coordination of schedules. Please consider filling it. He agrees with Mrs. Stanek that it is dangerous to have the majority of members on the Downtown Committee that are not town residents.

Sean Walsh, 126 Pearl Street: Thanks to all who participated in the Walk a Mile in Her Shoes on Sunday. As chairman of the Public Works Board, he would like to know the tentative date the 5-year Capital Plan needs to be turned into the Selectman's Office.

**Item #18—Selectmen's Public Comments.**

Karen Stanek: Supports the comments of Steve Kulas. The problem with the Downtown Committee is not just non-residents residing on the board but that Steve Kulas was not contacted to become a member of the committee. She would like to see Democrats included on the committee. She has been asked to be a checker at the polls on election day, if any member of the Board of Selectmen object, please speak now. Banners need to be removed in a timely manner after an event. Kurt Miller stated banners are no longer allowed on the railroad bridge. She would like to compliment Pat Lombardi; he is doing a good job downtown.

Theresa Conroy: Handicap accessibility in downtown is poor. It is difficult to navigate. Kurt Miller stated Fred Messoro recently walked downtown with a resident to begin addressing this issue. Thank to Francesca DelPrete for designing the Seymour Pink T-shirts. 2,500 shirts have been sold this year. Please stop by Hot Tamale to honor memories and support survivors. Asked Kurt Miller to please invite all Board of Selectmen to Grand Openings. Kurt Miller stated he would make all Board of Selectmen aware of Grand Openings in the future.

Kurt Miller: He would like to clarify states made in public comment by Bob Koskelowski regarding the union contract with the BOE. There is a step salary increase and the cost of living increase of 6% is inaccurate. The contract will be provided to all Board of Selectmen members when it is available.

**Item #19—Adjournment.**

Motion to adjourn at 9:14pm.

Motion: AnnMarie Drugonus

Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

Yes: 7

No: 0

0: Abstain

Submitted by:



Michelle Walsh  
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by:



W. Kurt Miller  
First Selectman