

COPY RECEIVED
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TIME: 12:30PM
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

MINUTES

Board of Selectmen

Tuesday, February 21, 2012 @ 7:30PM

Norma Drummer Room/Seymour Town Hall

Members present: First Selectman Kurt Miller, Al Bruno, Annmarie Drugonis, Gary Bruce, Theresa Conroy, Karen Stanek, and Town Counsel Richard Buturla.

Not present: Nicole Klarides-Ditria.

Others present: Frank Loda, Sean Walsh, Jodie Mozdzer, Wayne Finkle, Tom Eighmie, and Warren Holcomb.

ITEM # 1 - Call meeting to order.

Meeting was called to order by the First Selectman at 7:34PM.

ITEM # 2 - Pledge of Allegiance.

Everyone salutes the Flag and states the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM # 3 - Executive Session (Personnel – Discussion on disciplinary action of Town Employee) (Contract Negotiations, Pending Litigation).

Motion to go into executive session for a personnel matter – discussion on disciplinary action of town employee with the Board of Selectmen, Town Counsel and Labor Counsel at 7:34PM.

Motion: Al Bruno Second: Karen Stanek

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain

Motion to come out of executive session with no motions or action taken at 7:49PM.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain

ITEM # 4 - Approve minutes from Board of Selectmen meeting on 2/7/12.

Motion: Theresa Conroy Second: Karen Stanek

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain

ITEM # 5 - First Selectman's Report – Update on 100-Day Plan.

Resolution/100-Day Plan – The First Selectman has decided to restructure his plan to first list all completed issues, then issues still being worked on and their status. He apologizes for giving it to everyone tonight, but was extremely busy putting his budget presentation together for the Board of Finance. If anyone has any questions or concerns concerning the list they are welcome to contact the First Selectman's Office.

ITEM # 6 - Public Comment.

Ray Faustich, 33 Davis Road: I am here tonight to make you aware of a serious issue regarding the soccer fields and playground area at Gary Park. Almost two years ago the Seymour Soccer Association (SSA) and the Seymour Parks Commission recognized and addressed a similar situation concerning the southern perimeter of the Gary Park fields. Through their combined efforts a fence was purchased and erected to prevent soccer balls from rolling down a 5"- 8" embankment and into a deeply wooded and unimproved area. Unfortunately, the northern perimeter still requires a fence and for even more important reasons. Soccer balls leave the fields at high rates of speed and immediately enter the adjacent playground area. Families with

small children and babies are being constantly bombarded with errant kicks while senior citizens are forced to "duck and dodge" while trying to enjoy the companionship of their grandchildren. Not only is this a dangerous safety issue but it also exposes the Town of Seymour to potentially serious litigation. The proximity of the field to the playground; its benches and picnic tables is minimal and I have personally witnessed numerous soccer balls strike children and adults. Fortunately, none of these collisions have caused serious injury as yet but this really is a serious accident waiting to happen. At the eastern end of this perimeter stands a gazebo with picnic tables. This gazebo is approximately 15' behind the adjacent field. I have also witnessed soccer balls entering this picnic area sending plates and food in the air. I can fully appreciate that the present economic environment in Seymour and the surrounding area is not strong but I do believe that if we fail to address this issue now we run the risk of enduring future legal issues by not responding appropriately. I would be more than willing if you wish to assist in the planning for and the installation of a new fence. Thanks you for listening and your attention is most certainly appreciated.

Frank Loda, 27 Osprey Drive: Would like to comment on Item # 18, Presentation from CCM. As a former member of the Board of Finance, CCM was very helpful. He would like the Town to give support to CCM because they provided a tremendous service to the Town.

ITEM # 7 - Discussion on adoption of Tax Incentive Program.

Kurt would like any questions and/or comments for the Tax Incentive Committee so we may send them to them and then have the Tax Incentive Program ready for approval at the March 6, 2012 Board of Selectmen meeting. Then the Economic Development Director can take it to his meeting in Hartford on March 7, 2012 to present to potential businesses.

Karen: Paragraph B #6 -- add after building permit "and not in violation of any town codes including the fire code."

Paragraph G: Last paragraph -- shall be by first class mail "certified, return receipt requested" and shall apprise..

Karen: Also asks about parking downtown and if the Town will be buying the property downtown that was proposed by the Economic Development Director.

Kurt: Losing one crossing guard when Anna LoPresti School will be closed and the Chief of Police would like to replace that position by hiring a parking attendant and also looking at the possibility parking meters downtown. The purchase of the property downtown for parking has been moved into the capital plan.

Theresa: As long as smaller businesses are included in the plan she is happy with it.

Gary: Just would like to repeat his last statement about this plan in wanting to make sure that the tax incentive does not kick in until project/building is completed.

Kurt: The plan was designed to accommodate each kind of business in Town. It also gives the Board of Selectmen the leeway to negotiate with the businesses to get the best benefit for the Town of Seymour and the businesses. The Economic Development Commission will be sending their recommendations to the Tax Incentive Committee as well. The Board of Selectmen will be taking action on the plan at their March 6, 2012.

ITEM # 8 - Discuss and take action on Fire Marshal's office stipend position.

Town Counsel Rich Buturla: Took a look at the issues that were raised about this issue. Is comfortable to proceed with the motion that was made at last meeting.

Kurt: If the Board of Selectmen decide to approve the position then it will go to the Board of Finance. If approved then the Board of Fire Commissioners will interview the candidate and give their recommendations to the Board of Selectmen for approval.

Motion to hire an additional part-time fire marshal for a stipend of \$3,000 on the condition that time sheets be provided on a quarterly basis to the Office of the First Selectman detailing the locations of all inspections and how much time each inspection and re-inspection required with a minimum of 48 activities annually.

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

ITEM # 9 - Discussion and take action on the updating of the phone system for town departments.

The First Selectman, Finance Director, and Assistant Finance Director were ready to make a recommendation and another vendor came with another offer.

Motion to table the updating of the phone system for town departments until the March 6, 2012 Board of Selectmen meeting.

Motion: Theresa Conroy Second: Al Bruno
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain

ITEM # 10 - Approve resolution for the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security.

Motion to approve the following resolution:

Resolved, that the Board of Selectmen may enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection including the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security any and all document which it deems to be necessary or appropriate; and

Further Resolved, that W. Kurt Miller, as First Selectman of the Seymour Board of Selectmen, is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of Seymour and to do and perform all acts and things which he deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents.

The undersigned further certifies that W. Kurt Miller now holds the office of First Selectman and that he has held that office since December 5, 2011.

Motion: Annmarie Dragonis Second: Karen Stanek
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain

ITEM # 11 - Approve Grant Application for the State Library in the amount of \$4,000 for the Town Clerk's office.

Motion to approve grant application State Library \$4,000.00 for Town Clerks Office.

Motion: Karen Stanek Second: Al Bruno
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain

ITEM # 12 - Resolution concerning extension of Seymour Ambulance Association Contract, per contract. (Take action)

Motion to approve the following resolution:

Resolved, the Town of Seymour hereby ratifies and approves the two year extension of the agreement with the Seymour Ambulance Association, Inc. from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2013.

Be it Further Resolved, the Town of Seymour acknowledges and confirms the waiver of the three percent (3%) base increase for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012; and

Be it Further Resolved, the Town of Seymour confirms that the base amount for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013 is \$52,787.50, all other terms and conditions set forth in the Agreement are to remain in full force and effect.

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

ITEM # 13 - Approve disposition of funds from RAF Claim. (Take Action)
Will discuss this issue in further detail under transfers.

ITEM # 14 - Approve contract from Constellation Energy. (Take Action)
This contract is an extension of the current contract for electricity for the Town. The savings for the Town in the first year will be approximately \$29,695.10. The savings for the Board of Education will be approximately \$100,000.00. The rate will change from 0.0842 to 0.0699.

Motion to approve contract with constellation energy as presented. 10/24/12-10/28/14.
Motion: Al Bruno Second: Annmarie Drugonis
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain

Motion to authorize the First Selectman W. Kurt Miller, from the Town of Seymour to enter into a contract with Constellation Energy to prove electricity requirements for the terms set forth in the contract.

Motion: Karen Stanek Second: Theresa Conroy
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain
• Gary asks that the 800# is sent out to all emergency services personnel.

ITEM # 15 - Accept Forest Hollow Road as a Town Road, per recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Commission. (Take Action)

Motion to accept Forest Hollow Road as a Town road per recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Motion: Karen Stanek Second: Theresa Conroy
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain
Maintenance bond being held in the amount of \$80,000.00 until released by P&Z.

ITEM # 16 - Accept Hidden Meadow Road as a Town Road, per recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Commission. (Take Action)

Motion to accept the southerly section of Hidden Meadow Road as Town Road per recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Motion: Al Bruno Second: Karen Stanek
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain
Maintenance bond for the southerly section of Hidden Meadow Road being held in the amount of \$17,500.00 until released by P&Z.

ITEM # 17 - Approve tax abatement list for emergency services volunteers for the 2011 tax year. (Take Action)

Karen: Questions why she sees that only the Great Hill members list their points?

Tom Eighmie: States that both captains from each Fire House keep track of the points earned and produce their own report. The SAA have a different system.

Gary Bruce: States that there is a point criteria, which includes drills, training, etc. Each member needs 150 points to qualify. You also have to live in town to meet the criteria on the list.

Motion to approve tax abatement list for emergency services volunteers as presented for the 2011 tax year.

Motion: Al Bruno Second: Theresa Conroy
Vote: 4-Yes (W. Kurt Miller, Al Bruno, Theresa Conroy, Karen Stanek) 0-No
2 –Abstain (Annmarie Drugonis, Gary Bruce)

The First Selectman excuses Town Counsel at 8:25PM.

ITEM # 18 - Presentation from CCM.

Kurt and Annmarie have heard before, important, need to make a decision, due to budget time, please review packet.

Kevin Maloney: Would like the chance to work with the Town. Work with Towns that are similar to Seymour and can help us by letting us know what they are doing. Will get answers quickly from their open ended research service. They get approximately 1,500 research requests per year. At the State Capital they are the municipal lobbying group. Diligent in looking for state aid for the municipalities. Lobbied for a property tax relief grant that will go into effect this year saving approximately \$9,700 per year. Possible new grants available in the amount of \$171,000, not sure if Seymour has taken advantage of it. Helps town save money, reverse auctions on equipment. Try to relieve towns of state mandates. The current Governor used to be the President of CCM. CCM has their own insurance company, liability, workers comp, etc., called Cirma, a division of CCM. They also offer training for employees/workshops for professional development. CCM had worked the past 3 years with a 0% increase, but this year there may be a small increase. Other towns in our area use CCM such as Ansonia, Oxford, Beacon Falls, and Naugatuck. They also provide energy programs that offer savings. Shelton has purchased into the electric program. They also provide a municipal salary survey. Very helpful and important. Annual membership, CCM would like the opportunity to work with the town. Workshops for Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance, or appointed and elected board members. If proposal and in budget for July 1st, services would be opened at the time of agreement, prior to budget.

Theresa Conroy: States that she is aware that the Town of Seymour are members of Cost now, and belonged to CCM a while back.

Kevin Maloney: COST does a great job with what they do. CCM deals with more issues. CCM also has a great website that has a lot of information and password protected for members.

Theresa: Would like the Town to consider joining CCM and feels that they would provide a beneficial service.

*The Board of Selectmen will review the packet handed out by CCM and take action at the March 6, 2012 meeting.

ITEM # 19 - Appointments.

Motion to appoint Paul Sponheimer to the Building Review Committee for a term expiring upon completion.

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

Motion to appoint L. Scott Andrews to the Building Review Committee for a term expiring upon completion.

Motion: Al Bruno Second: Annmarie Drugonis
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain

ITEM # 20 - Tax Refunds/Abatements.

Motion to approve refunds in the amount of \$292.41.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis Second: Al Bruno
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain

ITEM # 21 - Transfers.

Motion to approve transfer of control # 11 Contributions in the amount of \$2,000.00 from Contingency Acct 1-001-410-1950-530-872 and into Founder's Day Acct 1-001-410-1940-520-300 for the cost to pay for the police presence for the 2012 Founder's Day Event.

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

Motion to approve transfer control # 12 Emergency Management in the amount of \$1,500.00 from Contingency Acct 1-001-410-1950-530-872 and into Emergency Mgt Purchased Services Acct 1-001-420-2153-542-350 due to the emergency responses to the two storms (Irene and Alfred) we have exhausted all funds.

Motion: Al Bruno Second: Karen Stanek
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain

Gary Bruce: Knows the value of Code Red/Reverse 911 System, but wants to know if the Town has checked into and thought about changing to EVERBRIDGE, which is a similar system provided by the State for free, same service and same notification. Would like the town to look at this service and save the money being spent on Code Red.

Tom Eighmie: States that the Code Red System had met the needs of Seymour and was reviewed by group and was analyzed twice. The Code Red activation process is faster and the committee felt it was a better fit for our Town and its needs. Had also found that the processing time with Everbridge has issues.

Gary Bruce: States that New Haven and East Haven use Everbridge and don't have problems. Would like to see it revisited due to the cost.

Tom Eighmie: The last review of the Code Red system was done right before the storms last year. Our dispatch center and surrounding towns use Code Red and they can all connect.

Kurt Miller: Asks Tom Eighmie if he can get the review info for the March 20, 2012 Board of Selectmen meeting, to review and discuss.

Motion to approve transfer control # 13 Town Miscellaneous in the amount of \$60,000.00 from Fund Balance 2-001-390-0000-000-000 and \$25,000.00 into Emergency Shelter Repairs 1-001-410-1950-530-875 and \$7,784.00 into Fire Dept Equipment 1-001-410-1950-530-876 and \$6,775.00 into Housing Authority 1-001-410-1950-530-877 and \$3,441.00 into Contingency 1-001-410-1950-530-874 and \$17,000.00 into Equipment non capital Town Hall Communications and Website 1-001-410-1310-430-745.

The \$25,000 will be used to upgrade power issues in association with the generator for the emergency shelter at the Middle School.

The \$17,000 will be used to upgrade Town telephone system and improve the Town website.

The \$7,784.00 will be used to pay for the smart board for the Great Hill FD, which was due to the loss of grant money.

The \$6,775.00 will be used to pay for the bingo machine for the Callahan House, which was due to the loss of grant money.

The \$60,000.00 was received as a settlement in the RAF Claim.

Motion: Gary Bruce Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain

ITEM # 22 - Correspondence.

- Check Registers.
- Curb log/PW.
- Pothole log/PW.
- First Quarter Report from Seymour Technology Committee. Attached budget for IT.

ITEM # 23 - Others Business.

None.

ITEM # 24 - Public Comment.

None.

ITEM # 25 - Selectmen's Public Comment.

Karen Stanek: Parking issue by the train kiosk. 2-hour parking. Where do people park downtown. What are we going to do about parking downtown.

Kurt: Working on parking issues with Police Chief, EDC, we will need to have discussions.

Parking may be a bigger issue until the fish ladder is finished.

Karen: Heard that a business will be going in across from the Post Office, will we be offering the Tax Incentive Program?

Kurt: When application is received we will do what is best for the Town and the business.

Theresa Conroy: Would like to know where we are on Chatfield Park restorations.

Kurt: The park is being worked on, and the Land Trust is currently working on the bridge.

Kurt: Also an elderly couple spent all of last weekend cleaning up the Chatfield Park. He would like to send them a thank you from the Town.

Theresa: Is still waiting for 4th quarter report from the Board of Education. Also the invasive bamboo issue will be going into session tomorrow. Hopefully the State will take action on this issue so Town doesn't have to.

Kurt: Should have the Board of Education 4th quarter report for the next meeting. Also has all of the invasive bamboo information.

Al Bruno: Are we still on track with Wire Company rubble pile?

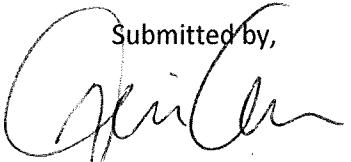
Kurt: Outstanding information, sitting on Attorney General's desk, hopefully within the next week. Has sent 2nd bill to the land owner and is being charged 18% interest per year. Town has applied for a Brownfields mediation grant and met with the owner of Seymour Lumber.

ITEM # 26 - Adjournment.

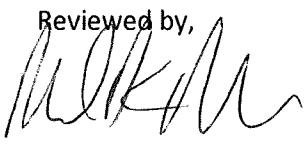
Motion to adjourn at 9:12pm.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain


Submitted by,

Deirdre Caruso,
Recording Secretary


Reviewed by,

W. Kurt Miller,
First Selectman