

COPY RECEIVED
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TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

MINUTES
Board of Selectmen
Tuesday, January 3, 2012 @ 7:30PM
Norma Drummer Room/Seymour Town Hall

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

Others present: Frank Loda, Tom Eighmie, Mike Metzler, Paul Satkowski, Sean Walsh, Wayne Finkle, Paul Wetowitz, Tim Willis, Dennis Rozum, James Brennan, Sandra Gesek, Paul Roy, Heather McDaniel, Matthew Petrino, Tara Petrino, and Paul Thompson.

ITEM # 1 – Call meeting to order.

Meeting was called to order by the First Selectman at 7:31PM.

ITEM # 2 – Pledge of Allegiance.

Everyone salutes the Flag and states the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM # 3 – Executive Session (Contract Negotiations, Pending Litigation, Personnel).

None.

ITEM # 4 – Public Comment.

Lt. Paul Satkowski, Seymour Police Department: Update on the burglary situation that was discussed at the last Board of Selectmen meeting. Unfortunately due to the investigation he was unable to discuss details of the burglaries. On December 21, 2011 a young man coming home from college noticed a strange vehicle at his home, after confirming that it did not belong there he dialed 911. The police responded and a chase ensued, stop sticks were deployed and eventually the suspect was caught on Rte 8 by exit 19. A warrant for the suspect's residence was obtained and at least 1,500 pieces of jewelry and other items linked to several Seymour and other Town's robberies were seized.

ITEM # 5 – First Selectman's Report and discussion of 100 Day Plan.

Kurt gives the Board members an updated 100 Day Plan, which is color coded to show his progress so far.

Grey – Completed

Yellow – Progress Made

Red – Progress made with outstanding items

Blue – Not done yet.

Tax Incentives – On target, Committee are meeting on a regular basis.

Extension of Town Hall Hours - Working with the Unions and have the support of one so far, meeting with another tomorrow. Start by staying open on Thursday evenings until 7:30PM beginning on February 2, 2012.

Technology Committee – Met twice and have started a Facebook Page, Office of the First Selectman of Seymour, CT (Would like everyone to "LIKE" the page!). Are working on communication tools and upgrading the Town website.

Housatonic Wire – Owner has paid off all back taxes and as of 5:00PM tonight all paperwork for the loan has been sent to the State. Hopefully the cleanup can start by February 1, 2012.

Fish Ladder Project – There are two outstanding issues. The first has been cleared up and the other should be cleared up by next week. Working with Attorney Stanek and Chuck Lee from the DEEP to make this a priority so we do not lose funding.

The 100 Day Plan will be updated and sent with the Board of Selectmen agenda packet on the Thursday before the meetings.

Department Head Meetings – Going well. Town Hall Department Heads in one meeting and other Department Heads (PD, B of Ed, PW, etc.) in another meeting. Communicating well and working together.

Completed HR Audit in packet for review. The Human Resources Consulting Group will be at the next Board of Selectmen meeting on January 17, 2012.

ITEM # 6 – Approve Minutes from Board of Selectmen meeting on 12/21/11.

Motion to approve minutes from the 12/21/11 Board of Selectmen meeting with the following changes: Theresa stated on page 4: Support our Troops (not Veteran's) and Al Bruno would like his comment on page 4 changed to say: "To vote on issues at town meetings elected officials and appointed individuals should be physically present. Allowing off-site voting is a dangerous precedent for the town to set. In my opinion, being on a Board is a serious commitment and voting without being present is not acceptable."

Motion: Al Bruno

Second: Theresa Conroy

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

ITEM # 7 – Discussion and authorize First Selectman to sign the Contract for the Emergency Communications Console at the Police Department.

Tom Eighmie, Chairman Communications Commission, and Emergency Management Director: The additional breakdown of the emergency communications equipment for the Police Department has been included in the Board of Selectmen packet this evening. Mr. Eighmie states that they have worked very hard to get these quotes and to get the best equipment that would suit the needs of the Town of Seymour.

Gary Bruce: Congratulates the Seymour Police Department on apprehending the burglary suspect. Gary has a few questions for Tom Eighmie about the system. He asks Tom if he feels that he has made the right choice on this system and Tom answers yes. Tom states that they have studied and worked on this project for a long time and feels that this will move Seymour forward. This system is not used or refurbished and its maneuverability allows the PD to log in from outside if the building would ever need to be evacuated. This system will also be able to be tied into the railroad system. Gary asks if the Communications Commission will be coming back to the Board of Selectmen for more money for upgrades. Tom answers that possibly in the future upgrade will be needed, but right now this system will resolve all issues that we have currently. Gary asks if Tom will oversee the project and Tom answers that he will and that the project is already under budget by \$58,000.

Motion to authorize First Selectman to sign the Contract from Motorola for the Emergency Communications Console at the Police Department.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis

Second: Gary Bruce

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

ITEM # 8 – Discussion and presentation regarding modifying the Fire Marshal's office fee schedule to include inspections.

Paul Wetowitz, Fire Marshal & Tim Willis, Deputy Fire Marshal: Submit a list of proposed additions and changes to the current Fee Schedule for the Seymour Fire Marshal's Office. The intent of these

increases is to help offset the cost of hiring additional staff. The primary goal of this additional staffing would be to assist in the code compliance activities associated with existing residential occupancies. He looked at 21 communities to see what their fee schedules consisted of.

The new fees would include:

- New propane exchange and refueling stations.
- Propane tank installation – above and under ground.
- Renewal/Liquor License.
- Temporary liquor license.
- Movie Theater Renewal License.
- Nursing and Convalescent License Renewal.
- Residential Board and Care License Renewal.
- Day Care License Renewal.
- Certificate of Occupancy or Compliance Inspection.
- Request for Inspection (excluding Wood Stove and or 1 and 2 family homes).
- Request for CD of pictures (Investigations/Inspections)
- Returned Check.
- Fuel Truck Inspection. (Currently on fee schedule, requesting increase in fee).

There are concerns about the timing of adding additional fees to the schedule at this time since the economy is so bad and we are fighting to keep business in town.

Table issue until the January 17, 2012 Board of Selectmen Meeting.

ITEM # 9 – Request from Fire Marshal to add a stipend inspector to the Fire Marshal's office budget for 2012-2013 for \$4,000.00.

Paul Wetowitz, Fire Marshal & Tim Willis: Attempted to have a stipend inspector added to the Fire Marshal's budget last year and although it was approved by the Board of Selectmen it was not approved by the Board of Finance. They outline the need for the position and what it can do to help their office and for the safety of the town. They outline the Fire Marshal's legal responsibilities, which are listed in the Connecticut State Fire Code, as well as the number of inspections per year. The number of inspections per year is broken down by a 4-year period with the first year being 364 inspections, the second year being 394 inspections, the third year being 654 inspections and the fourth year being 480 inspections. Besides all of the inspections and re-inspections they also list administration work, phone calls, emails, inspection reports, mailing, filing, fire investigations/follow-ups, reports, responding to incidents, complaints, in-service training, construction plan reviews/inspections, and fire prevention activities.

For the stipend inspector the Fire Marshal's office is requesting \$4,000.00 annually, which will be paid quarterly and a gasoline reimbursement of 10 gallons per month totaling an annual cost of \$366.00. They are requiring a minimum of 48 activities per fiscal year assigned by the Fire Marshal.

The Fire Marshal states that currently there are 5 volunteer staff members in the Fire Marshal's office. The Board of Selectmen members would like to know how far behind the Fire Marshal's office is on inspections and would like a detailed report/analysis for their next meeting on Tuesday, January 17, 2012. Table until the next meeting.

ITEM # 10 – Discussion concerning telecommunication at Town of Seymour Municipal Board Meetings. This issue has come up for discussion due to a member of the Board of Education who teleconferenced into a meeting. This issue has been presented to the Town Attorney so that he may draft an ordinance to be discussed at an Ordinance Committee meeting next week.

Karen Stanek: Watched the video of the Board of Education meeting and felt that the teleconference was very disruptive to the meeting. Feels that being voted onto a Board by the people is a privilege and that elected or appointed officials have an obligation to be present at the meetings and feels that voting over the phone should not be allowed.

Al Bruno: Being face to face in a meeting is fundamental to the process. He strongly disagrees with teleconference, texting, video skyping, etc. into meetings and being present is key to what goes on in these meetings. We have a responsibility to be present and if one cannot attend then they should not get to vote on issues. He agrees with Karen's comments.

Kurt Miller: States that the Ordinance Committee will be meeting next week to discuss this issue and will hopefully have something to bring to the Board for the next meeting on January 17, 2012.

ITEM # 11 – Discussion and possible action on claim for damage due to pothole.

Kurt shows the board members photos of the pothole. He states that there has not been a mechanism in place that has tracked when potholes were reported, so that is why they weren't paid for by the insurance company. A mechanism has been put into place now. There is a pothole tracking log that is located in Google Docs that can be imputed by Public Works and shared with the First Selectman's Office and the Police Department. This will be updated daily and the Public Works Department will be submitting work schedules every Friday. The Public Works crew have gone out this past week and identified at least 40 potholes on the east side of town.

Theresa Conroy: Happy that we are now setting up a process to keep a record of potholes. This should set precedence for other departments to keep records.

Richard Buturla, Town Counsel: States that the insurance company denies claims for damage from potholes because the town does not have any records of when potholes were reported or fixed. If notice of potholes is recorded then the claims should be approved. If insurance company denies the claim even after notice then there must be additional issues and good reason for denial.

Al Bruno: States that all procedures need to be tightened up. We are responsible to pay for the damage since the information was not recorded.

Motion to pay \$449.06 in damages to Barbara Tucci from 58 Frances Drive, Seymour due to hitting a pothole on Canfield Road on 10/23/11.

Motion: Theresa Conroy

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

ITEM # 12 – Discussion and possible action on new phone system for town departments, to be tabled until the January 17, 2012 Board of Selectmen meeting.

Motion to table action on new phone system for town departments until the January 17, 2012 Board of Selectmen meeting so that we can get an additional quote from another company for the system.

Motion: Karen Stanek

Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

*Town Counsel was excused by the First Selectman at 8:48PM.

ITEM # 13 – Approve resolution for STEAP Grant Sidewalk Construction Program Second Phase. Whereas, pursuant to CGS Sec. 4-66g the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development is authorized to extend financial assistance for economic development projects; and Whereas, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Town of Seymour make an application to the State for \$150,000 in order to undertake the Sidewalk Construction Program, Second Phase and to execute an Assistance Agreement.

Now therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Selectmen:

1. That it is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites for the state financial assistance imposed by CGS Sec 4-66g.
2. That the filing of an application for state financial assistance by the Town of Seymour in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 is hereby approved and that First Selectman W. Kurt Miller is directed to execute and file such application with the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, to provide such additional information, to execute such other documents as may be required to execute an Assistance Agreement with the State of Connecticut for state financial assistance if such an agreement is offered to execute any amendments decisions and revisions thereto and to act as the authorized representative of the Town of Seymour.

Motion to approve the resolution for STEAP Grant Sidewalk Construction Program, Second Phase.

Motion: Al Bruno

Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

ITEM # 14 – Approve resolution for STEAP Grant Industrial Park Signage Program.

Whereas, pursuant to CGS Sec. 4-66g the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development is authorized to extend financial assistance for economic development projects; and Whereas, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Town of Seymour make an application to the State for \$37,000 in order to undertake the Town of Seymour Industrial Park Signage and to execute an Assistance Agreement.

Now therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Selectmen:

3. That it is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites for the state financial assistance imposed by CGS Sec 4-66g.
4. That the filing of an application for state financial assistance by the Town of Seymour in an amount not to exceed \$37,000 is hereby approved and that First Selectman W. Kurt Miller is directed to execute and file such application with the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, to provide such additional information, to execute such other documents as may be required to execute an Assistance Agreement with the State of Connecticut for state financial assistance if such an agreement is offered to execute any amendments decisions and revisions thereto and to act as the authorized representative of the Town of Seymour.

Motion to approve the resolution for STEAP Grant Industrial Park Signage Program.

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

Second: Theresa Conroy

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

ITEM # 15 – Approve resolution for STEAP Grant Seymour Police Department Roof Replacement.

Whereas, pursuant to CGS Sec. 4-66g the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development is authorized to extend financial assistance for economic development projects; and Whereas, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Town of Seymour make an application to the State for \$45,000 in order to undertake the Replacement of the Seymour Police Department Roof and to execute an Assistance Agreement.

Now therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Selectmen:

1. That it is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites for the state financial assistance imposed by CGS Sec 4-66g.
2. That the filing of an application for state financial assistance by the Town of Seymour in an amount not to exceed \$45,000 is hereby approved and that First Selectman W. Kurt Miller is directed to execute and file such application with the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, to provide such additional information, to execute such other documents as may be required to execute an Assistance Agreement with the State of Connecticut for state financial assistance if such an agreement is offered to execute any amendments decisions and revisions thereto and to act as the authorized representative of the Town of Seymour.

Motion to approve the resolution for STEAP Grant Seymour Police Department Roof Replacement.

Motion: Al Bruno

Second: Karen Stanek

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

ITEM # 16 – Appointments.

Motion to appoint Heather McDaniel to the Aging Commission for a 2-Year term expiring 12/31/13.

Motion: Al Bruno

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 7-yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

Motion to reappoint Phyllis Jachimowski to the Aging Commission for a 2-Year term expiring 12/31/13.

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 7-yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

Motion to reappoint Evelyn Molner to the Aging Commission for a 2-Year term expiring 12/31/13.

Motion: Al Bruno

Second: Gary Bruce

Vote: 7-yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

Motion to reappoint Mary Reyher to the Culture & Arts Commission for a 3-Year term expiring 12/31/14.

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

Second: Theresa Conroy

Vote: 7-yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

Motion to reappoint Michele Pavlik to EMSOC for a 2-Year term expiring 12/31/13.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis

Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 7-yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

Motion to reappoint Gene Atkas to the Fire Commission for a 3-Year term expiring 12/8/14.

Motion: Al Bruno

Second: Karen Stanek

Vote: 6-yes (Kurt Miller, Al Bruno, Nicole Klarides-Ditria, Annmarie Drugonis, Theresa Conroy, Karen Stanek)

0-No

1-Abstain (Gary Bruce)

0-Disqualify

Motion to appoint Paul Roy to the Skate Park Committee for a term expiring at the completion of the project.

Motion: Karen Stanek

Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

Motion to appoint Richard Kearns to the Skate Park Committee for a term expiring at the completion of the project.

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria Second: Theresa Conroy
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to appoint Shari Watson to the Skate Park Committee for a term expiring at the completion of the project.

Motion: Theresa Conroy Second: Karen Stanek
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to appoint Mike Horbal to the Skate Park Committee for a term expiring at the completion of the project.

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria Second: Karen Stanek
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to appoint Matt Thompson to the Skate Park Committee for a term expiring at the completion of the project.

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

Motion to appoint Dennis Rozum to the Skate Park Committee for a term expiring at the completion of the project.

Motion: Theresa Conroy Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to appoint Karol Czerwiowski to the Skate Park Committee for a term expiring at the completion of the project.

Motion: Al Bruno Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to appoint Bryan Ryan to the Skate Park Committee for a term expiring at the completion of the project.

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

Motion to appoint Tim Willis to the Skate Park Committee for a term expiring at the completion of the project.

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria Second: Karen Stanek
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to appoint Joe Matusovich to the Technology Committee for a 1-Year term expiring 12/6/12.

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria Second: Al Bruno
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to appoint Robert J. Koskelowski as the Assistant Treasurer for a 2-year term expiring 12/3/13.

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria Second: Gary Bruce
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to appoint James Baldwin to the Valley Transit Board of Directors for a 2-year term expiring 12/31/13.

Motion: Karen Stanek
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Second: Al Bruno

Motion to appoint Fred A. Messore to the Brownfields Study for a 2-year term expiring 12/31/13.

Motion: Theresa Conroy
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Second: Al Bruno

Motion to appoint Fred A. Messore to the Valley Regional Planning for the remainder of a 4-year term expiring 12/3/14.

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Second: Al Bruno

Motion to reappoint Fred A. Messore to the Transportation Technology Advisory Committee for a 2-year term expiring 12/31/13.

Motion: Theresa Conroy
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

ITEM # 17 – Tax Refunds/Abatements.

Motion to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$507.36.

Motion: Al Bruno Second: Theresa Conroy
Vote: 6-Yes (Gary Bruce, Annmarie Drugonis, Al Bruno, Nicole Klarides-Ditria, Theresa Conroy, Karen Stanek) 0-No 1-Abstain (W. Kurt Miller) 0-Disqualify

ITEM # 18 – Transfers.

None.

ITEM # 19 – Correspondence.

- Check Registers.
- Letter from James Brennan.
- Letter Board of Assessment Appeals Schedule.
- Letter from Fire Marshal stating outstanding OSHA issues.
- Copy of the HR Audit – to be discussed at the January 17, 2012 meeting.

ITEM # 20 – Other Business.

None.

ITEM # 21 – Public Comment.

Cliff Strumello, 15 Cemetery Road: Spoke to the First Selectman about Public Works closing his road for the winter. He is not in favor of this and neither are his neighbors. No one asked the residents of that road if they wanted it closed. It was closed in 2009 and Public Works has continued to close it every year. He feels that the Board of Selectmen should make that decision. He would like this issue addressed and resolved because he would like his street to remain open.

James Brennan, 124 Bungay Road: He understands that the Board of Selectmen have no power or authority to change his farm status, but he would just like their support. He also feels that the Fire

Marshal should not impose more fees, but instead impose more fines for people that don't comply with the laws. He feels that people pay enough in taxes.

Tom Eighmie, 50 Laurel Lane: Wanted to mention that the Valley Independent Sentinel has recognized the Seymour Emergency Management Team as extraordinary during the storms this past year.

James Brennan, 124 Bungay Road: Also feels that the schools should be charged for all of the inspections that the Fire Marshal's office does.

ITEM # 22 – Selectmen's Public Comments.

Karen Stanek: Would like the naming of the Elementary School on the next agenda.

Theresa Conroy: Would also like to see the naming of the school on the next agenda.

Nicole Klarides-Ditria: Thanks the Police Department on their job well done with catching the burglary suspect. Also would like to see the naming of the school on the next agenda.

Al Bruno: Thanks the Police Department for their fast response in apprehending the burglary suspect, it is appreciated.

Anmarie Drugonis: Would also like to see the naming of the school on the next agenda and thanks the Police Department for doing a great job.

Kurt Miller: Has asked the Chatfield LoPresti Building Committee and the Board of Education to make recommendations for the January 17, 2012 Board of Selectmen meeting. Also mentions that Deputy Fire Marshal Tim Willis got another grant for \$500 for a digital camera for the Fire Marshal's office. Kurt also thanks all of the Emergency Services Team for their honorable mention in the Valley Independent Sentinel and their great work during crisis in our town. (Tom Eighmie, Chief Metzler, Lt. Satkowski, the Police Department, the Public Works Department, Scott Andrew and the Ambulance Corps., and former First Selectman Paul Roy.)

Anmarie Drugonis: Would also like the Cemetery Road issue put on the next agenda.

ITEM # 23 – Adjournment.

Motion to adjourn at 9:16PM.

Motion: Al Bruno

Second: Anmarie Drugonis

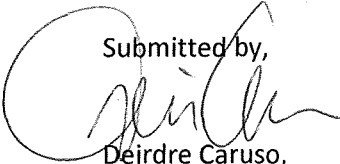
Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

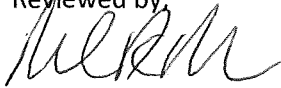
0-Disqualify

Submitted by,



Deirdre Caruso,
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,



W. Kurt Miller,
First Selectman