

MINUTES

Board of Selectmen

Tuesday, September 6, 2011 @ 7:30PM

Norma Drummer Room/Seymour Town Hall

Members present: First Selectman Paul Roy, Philip Wilhelmy, Sandra Gesek, W. Kurt Miller, Annmarie Drugonis, John Conroy and Town Counsel Colleen Fries.

Not present: Karl Trybus.

Others present: Frank Loda, Sean Walsh, John Boanno, Valerie Pollack, Kevin O'Connor, James Brennan, John Dantona, Dawn Valeski, Craig Stevens, Mike Labon, Tom Eighmie, Howard Simpson, Sergio Desiderato, Jim Baldwin, and Gene Atkas.

ITEM # 1 – Call meeting to order.

Meeting called to order at 7:33PM.

ITEM # 2 – Pledge of Allegiance.

Everyone salutes the Flag and states the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM # 3 – First Selectman's Report.

Paul Roy: Gives a written report of the Storm since the Emergency Management Director Tom Eighmie will be giving his report. He would like to thank everyone, all Town Agencies for all of the cooperation and great job they did during and after the storm.

ITEM # 4 – Report on Hurricane Irene from Emergency Management Director Tom Eighmie.

Tom Eighmie, Emergency Management Director: Explains that the Town had done a great job preparing for the Hurricane, which thankfully just ended up being a tropical storm. All Town Agencies worked had preparing for public safety. Public Works evaluated retention ponds, catch basins, drainage and did policy reviews. EMS and Fire Department had increased staffing. There was a meeting held on Friday afternoon with all agencies involved. The Public Works Department filled 1,800 sandbags and gave out another 2,000 to residents to fill themselves, limiting them to 25 per household. On Saturday night the President and Governor issued a State of Emergency for the State of Connecticut, at that time the First Selectman did the same for the Town of Seymour. The winds picked up to approximately 45 mph and 89% of the Town of Seymour was out of power by Sunday. There was no TV, internet, cell and home line service either. The Naugatuck River overflowed and hadn't done so since 1955. At least 10 families were evacuated and sent to the emergency shelter due to the overflow, which was at the Middle School. The Town of Seymour was assigned a representative, Matt Hickey, from CL&P who worked well with the group. The Elderly Housing was put back on line first and then emergency services. Emergency Services were extremely busy during and after the storm starting at 9pm Aug 27 (Sunday-Wed Thursday). Police Department handled 315 calls for assistance including a robbery, larceny and domestic during the storm itself. Fire Department handled 185 request for services from downed trees, and power lines to cellar pump outs. EMS was also busy handling some 48 calls for medical assistance during the storm. Code Red notification system was utilized 10 times during and after the storm. Seymour Middle School was used for the first time since it was constructed as an evacuation shelter and also serving the community as a place for public showers.

Paul Roy adds that Senator Blumenthal came to Seymour to assess the damage and assure help from the State. Paul asked that the State fund new communication consoles for the PD and generators for Town Buildings, due to mechanical problems with some and a tree falling on the PD's unit. Paul also thanks

\$20,651.00.

Total Cost: \$438,332.13 – Estimated Cost: \$447,300.00 – Under Budget: \$8,967.87

Motion: Philip Wilhelmy

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Motion Withdrawn: Philip Wilhelmy

Second Withdrawn: Annmarie Drugonis

Motion to table until the next Board of Selectmen meeting on 9/20/11 and have Don Smith, Rick Belden, and D'Agostino & Associates there to discuss in further detail.

Motion: Philip Wilhelmy

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

ITEM # 8 – Approve LOCIP funds to expand salt shed at the Public Works Facility.

Motion to approve the use of LOCIP funds in the amount of \$23,435.00 to expand the existing salt shed at the Public Works Facility.

Motion: John Conroy

Second: Philip Wilhelmy

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

ITEM # 9 – Discussion of Zoning Regulations and Enforcement with Planning & Zoning Commission.

Jim Baldwin, Chairman Planning & Zoning: Submits general revisions approved by the Planning & Zoning Commission to the SIGNS Regulations. Is working with the EDC and the Economic Development Director with these updates and would like input from the Board of Selectmen.

Would also like to update the Planning & Zoning Procedures and Fines, which has not been updated since 2001. This needs to be reviewed by Town Counsel and be brought up to date and coincide with State Statutes. Also suggests that the Zoning Enforcement Officer not have to wear the blight hat since it conflicts with his zoning duties on some cases. The P&Z Commission are also working on a procedure to wrap up projects.

John Conroy: States he would like to see all of the enforcement officers more united and would like to see the blight issue looked at again.

ITEM # 10 – Discussion and possible action on alternative work schedule for the Police Department and appoint a committee to study possible changes and bring report back to the First Selectman by October 27, 2011.

Members of the Police Department have been discussing alternative work schedules for the Police Officers to try to save the Town money in overtime in the budget. They would like a committee to work on this issue and discuss alternatives.

The recommendations that will be made to the Board of Police Commissioners and the Board of Selectmen from this committee will require opening up the union contract. Only the issues approved will be discussed and/or changed. The changes will be an addendum to the contract.

Motion to appoint a committee of the following people to discuss and research alternative work schedules for the Police Department and have the report back to the First Selectman by 10/27/11:

Philip Wilhelmy, Bill Sawicki, Jim Simpson, Tony Caserta, John D'Antona, Sergio Desiderato, Mike Jasmin, Todd Romagna, and John Popik.

Motion: W. Kurt Miller

Second: Philip Wilhelmy

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

ITEM # 11 – Approve 1/3 of repairs to sidewalk at 21 Osprey Drive.

Motion to re-appoint Andy Fiedler to the Lake Housatonic Authority for a 3-Year Term expiring on 8/2/14.

Motion: W. Kurt Miller Second: Philip Wilhelmy
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to appoint Timothy Willis as the Deputy Emergency Management Director.

Motion: W. Kurt Miller Second: Philip Wilhelmy
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to appoint Paul Satkowski as the Assistant Emergency Management Director.

Motion: W. Kurt Miller Second: Philip Wilhelmy
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

ITEM # 16 – Tax Refunds/Abatements.

Motion to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$4,839.61.

Motion: Philip Wilhelmy Second: W. Kurt Miller
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

ITEM # 17 – Transfers.

None.

ITEM # 18 – Correspondence.

- Check Registers.
- Town Clerk Report, August 2011
- WPCA Capital Projects 5-Year Plan List.

ITEM # 19 – Executive Session (Property Negotiations, Pending Litigation, Contract Negotiations, Personnel).

Motion to go into executive session at 9:10PM with the Board of Selectmen and Town Counsel for Property Negotiations and Pending Litigation.

Motion: Philip Wilhelmy Second: John Conroy
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to come out of executive session with no motions or action taken at 9:29PM.

Motion: Philip Wilhelmy Second: Annmarie Drugonis
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to authorize Town Counsel to negotiate the sale of 43 Colony Road as discussed in executive session.

Motion: Philip Wilhelmy Second: W. Kurt Miller
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to have Town Counsel file a withdrawal for Fletcher Thompson as discussed in executive session.

Motion: Philip Wilhelmy Second: Annmarie Drugonis
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

ITEM # 20 – Other Business.

None.

ITEM # 21 – Public Comment.

Gene Atkas, Fire Commissioner: Would like an update on the status of the Fire Department getting a new Rescue Truck?

ITEM # 22 – Selectmen’s Public Comments.

John Conroy: Would like to see a copy of the request form that was submitted by the Fire Department for the new Rescue Truck. Also suggests that long agenda items be placed on the agenda so the Board members can discuss the concerns and address the problems. Has an issue with the list of Capital Projects from the WPCA because there is no detail on the list. There are no dates or prices on the list. Would like the WPCA to give more detail, but this is a first step towards a response.

Annmarie Drugonis: Any word on OSHA?

Paul Roy: No report received yet.

Philip Wilhelmy: Would like to know if there are any groups or individuals that need any special thanks for their help and efforts during and after the storm.

W. Kurt Miller: The new Chatfield LoPresti School will be equipped with a generator system that could accommodate more necessities if the need for a shelter arises again.

Tom Eighmie: Stated using the Code Red during and after the Tropical Storm Irene was a learning experience and suggests more people put their cell phones into the system.

John Conroy: Asks about 98 Bank Street Building Committee.

Paul Roy: They have been meeting and the last meeting was scheduled for Monday, but was cancelled due to the power outages after the storm. Also, will be appointing a committee to decide what to do with the Anna LoPresti School.

W. Kurt Miller: Would like to know if the Town can help with the Code Red System by way of Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.).

ITEM # 23 – Adjournment.

Motion to adjourn at 9:50PM.

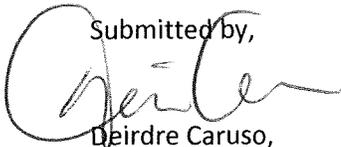
Motion: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No

Second: Philip Wilhelmy

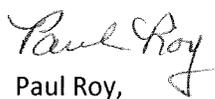
0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Submitted by,



Deirdre Caruso,
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,



Paul Roy,
First Selectman