

COPY RECEIVED
DATE 3/22/11
TIME 4:07 pm
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

MINUTES
Board of Selectmen
Tuesday, March 15, 2011 @ 7:30PM
Norma Drummer Room/Seymour Town Hall

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

Not present: Sandra Gesek.

Others present: Marietta Sabetta, Howard Simpson, Sean B. Walsh, Peter Kubik, and Jay Hatfield.

ITEM # 1 - Call meeting to order.

Meeting was called to order by the First Selectman at 7:32PM.

ITEM # 2 - Pledge of Allegiance.

Everyone saluted the Flag and stated the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM # 3 - Approve Minutes from Board of Selectmen meeting on 3/1/11.

Motion to approve minutes from Board of Selectmen meeting on 3/1/11.

Motion: Philip Wilhelmy

Second: Karl Trybus

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

ITEM # 4 - First Selectman's Report.

- **Attended a Legislative Breakfast sponsored by Bristol Resource Recovery Facility Operating Committee. Representative Len Greene and Public Works Director Dennis Rozum also attended- legislation concerning BRRFOC discussed. Accident reported on Monday at BRR, everyone ok.**
- **Met with Seymour-Oxford Rotary Club and spoke about business in Seymour.**
- **Met with representatives of VCOG and the owner of Cars on Location to discuss a cleanup of business site.**
- **Met with Connecticut Main Street Center and representatives of the Economic Development Commission and Board of Selectmen usage of sign grant.**
- **Hosted meeting of DOT, VCOG, Cocchiola Paving, members of our Emergency Services Department, Public Works Director on Derby Ave. ARRA Project. Must begin no later than May 1, 2011.**
- **Sidewalk Project to begin again by next week.**
- **Housatonic Wire cleanup will begin the first week in April.**

ITEM # 5 - Public Comment.

Bill Ferris, 13 Spruce Brook Road: Talks about the controversy over his offer to pay for a referendum and his desire to see the submitted Board of Education Budget go to vote without any cuts to let the voters decide. Is disenchanted by the process and feels that by the Board of Finance cutting down the request, it is taking away his right to vote on the issue.

Bob Koskelowski, Pearl Street: States that as a member of the Board of Finance it is their job to cut the budgets and thought that the Board of Education's budget request was excessive. He wants to avoid a deficit for next year. The Board of Finance looks at all departments budgets to cut. Feels that he may have over-reacted over the offer to pay for a referendum, but he had never heard that before.

Maryanne Mascolo, Superintendent of Seymour Schools: Feels that the Board of Education budget was not excessive and if anyone had any questions or concerns her office would have forwarded them anything they asked for. She feels very strongly that due to the Board of Education not receiving any increase in years that they are in need of the funds that they request. She asks for the Board of Selectmen's support for the entire Board of Education budget to go to referendum.

Bruce Baker, Greenwood Circle: Agrees with Maryanne Mascolo and feels that the schools need the funds that were submitted by the Board of Education. They need programs. He feels that the Board of Selectmen needs to explain the need of the schools to the electors and convince them to vote in support of the budget. The schools need to be rescued.

ITEM # 6 – Discussion with WPCA on Financial Issues.

Steve Kulas, WPCA Counsel: States that the Chairman of the WPCA was unable to attend tonight's meeting due to personal reasons. He also states that the WPCA did not receive a copy of the document that was submitted to the Board of Selectmen which contains financial information on the WPCA. He would like a copy of the document to submit to the WPCA members. Attorney Kulas will be billing the WPCA for his time this evening.

Motion to table the WPCA discussion until the next meeting.

Motion: John Conroy

Second: Philip Wilhelmy

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

ITEM # 7 – Discussion and possible action on Fire Department Clerk Position.

At the last Board of Selectmen meeting on 3/1/11, the Fire Department requested that the Board change their part-time clerk position into a full-time position due to the large amount of mandated work that must be done. The information about the cost differential was not available at the last meeting. Currently, the position is 19 ½ hours, with a salary of approximately \$16,000 annually and \$14.00 per hour. The individual in this position currently works approximately 30 hours per week. The First Selectman states that by increasing the hours that the hourly rate will be \$16.12, which is what the union wages are for this position. There is some controversy on whether this would be a union position or not.

Motion to change the Fire Department Clerk position from 19 ½ hours to 25 ½ hours.

Motion: Philip Wilhelmy

Second: Karl Trybus

Vote: 1-Yes (Paul Roy)

4-No (Philip Wilhelmy, Karl Trybus, W. Kurt Miller, John

Conroy)

1-Abstain (Annmarie Drugonis)

0-Disqualify

Motion Fails.

Motion to change the Fire Department Clerk position from 19 ½ hours to 29 ½ hours.

Motion: Philip Wilhelmy

Second: John Conroy

Vote: 3-No (Paul Roy, W. Kurt Miller, John Conroy)

2-Yes (Philip Wilhelmy, Karl

Trybus)

1-Abstain (Annmarie Drugonis)

0-Disqualify

A lengthy discussion was had concerning the hourly rate, union wages, and the exact amount that would be added to the budget, including pension and social security. This will be discussed at the next Board of Selectmen meeting on Tuesday, April 5, 2011.

Motion to place on the table to discuss the offer by a resident to pay the Town \$5,000.00 for a referendum.

Motion: W. Kurt Miller

Second: John Conroy

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

W. Kurt Miller: Commends Mr. Ferris for standing up for his beliefs. Does not want to support taking the money for the referendum. Would like to see the Board of Finance re-discuss the Board of Education budget and feels that the decision was made too quickly.

John Conroy: Also commends Mr. Ferris, but there is a Board of Finance and they have their job, which is spelled out in the Charter. Also states that if the Board of Finance lets the Board of Education budget go to referendum as is, then they will have to do so for all departments.

Paul Roy: Does not believe that the Town can legally accept the money for the referendum. He also feels that the Board of Finance has a job to do, but they may have acted too quickly.

Philip Wilhelmy: Understands Mr. Ferris's frustrations and commends him for standing up for what he believes. Feels that the voters need to be educated on the budget and the process. The information on the budget and the needs of the Town also need to be advertised.

Karl Trybus: Thanks Mr. Ferris for his concerns and feels that they are genuine, but it is problematic to accept the money.

ITEM # 8 - Discussion of SMART Plan and Enterprise Corridor Zone.

W. Kurt Miller: Would like the SMART & Be SMART Plans reviewed and updated every few years. He would like to research expanding the tax incentive programs to the small businesses in Town. He uses Oxford as an example. He also feels that the website should have more information on these programs.

The SMART Plan's dates and info have been updated. The Enterprise Corridor Zone is administered by the State of Connecticut.

The Board members would like to do research of other Town's Tax Abatement Programs and have a Workshop to develop the Town of Seymour's programs to help with Economic Development.

Motion to place on the table to set the Annual Town Meeting for Thursday, April 14, 2011 @ 7:00PM at the Seymour Middle School.

Motion: Karl Trybus

Second: Philip Wilhelmy

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

Motion to set the Annual Town Meeting for Thursday, April 14, 2011 @ 7:00PM at the Seymour Middle School.

Motion: Philip Wilhelmy

Second: John Conroy

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

Motion to place on the table to set the referendum for Tuesday, April 26, 2011, from 6:00AM to 8:00PM at the Seymour Community Center.

Motion: W. Kurt Miller

Second: Philip Wilhelmy

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

Motion to set the referendum for Tuesday, April 26, 2011, from 6:00AM to 8:00PM at the Seymour Community Center.

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

Second: Philip Wilhelmy

Motion to place on the table to set an additional referendum if needed, for Tuesday, May 10, 2011 from 6:00AM to 8:00PM at the Seymour Community Center.

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

Second: Karl Trybus

Motion to set an additional referendum if needed, for Tuesday, May 10, 2011 from 6:00AM to 8:00PM at the Seymour Community Center.

Motion: Karl Trybus
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Second: Philip Wilhelmy

Motion to place on the table Workshop for Capital Projects.

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

Second: Philip Wilhelmy

Motion to discuss Capital Projects and Capital Projects Workshops.

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

Second: Philip Wilhelmy

The Board members had a Workshop on the Capital Projects on March 10, 2011. They worked on a new form, which they feel should be used by each department when presenting their Capital Projects Requests prior to budget season. The Board Members will schedule Workshops for Departments that submit a Capital Project Plan so they are aware of the new process.

ITEM # 9 – Appointments.

Motion to re-appoint Keith Mitchell as the Town Arborist for a 1-Year term expiring 3/31/12.

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

Second: Karl Trybus

Motion to re-appoint Joseph Cass to the Economic Development Commission for a 3-Year term expiring 3/19/14.

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

Second: John Conroy

ITEM # 10 – Tax Refunds/Abatements.

Motion to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$897.51.

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

Second: W. Kurt Miller

ITEM # 11 – Transfers.

None.

ITEM # 12 – Correspondence.

- Check Registers.
- Police Enhancement Accounts.

- Chart from the Chatfield LoPresti School Building Committee showing that the project is under budget, but the timing is off slightly due to the long winter.
- There will be a public forum at the Strand Theater on April 13, 2011 concerning the reconstruction of the train bridge over the Naugatuck River, given by the CTDOT and the Metro North Railroad.

ITEM # 13 - Other Business.
None.

ITEM # 14 - Public Comment.
Steve Kulas, Skokorat Street: Encourages the Board of Selectmen to get people out to vote because on average only 10% of the registered voters come out and vote.

Bill Ferris, 13 Spruce Brook Road: Thanks the Board of Selectmen for their support, but still feels disenfranchised by the Board of Finance's decision to cut the Board of Education's budget. He states that he will be donating the \$5,000 to the Seymour Board of Education to be used in this fiscal year. He does not trust the Board of Finance.

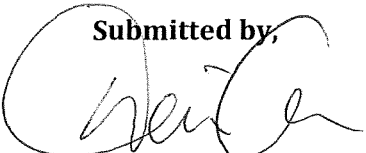
Marietta Sabetta, Buckingham Road and a member of the EDC: Thanks the Board of Selectmen for their support in approving an ED Director. She hands out packets of pamphlets that the EDC are having made to advertise our Town. The packets will also include a copy of the Town Video, which should be ready soon.

ITEM # 15 - Selectmen's Public Comment.
None.

ITEM # 16 - Executive Session (Contract Negotiations, Pending Litigation, Personnel).
None.

ITEM # 17 - Adjournment.
Motion to adjourn at 9:04PM.
Motion: Annmarie Drugonis
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No

Second: Karl Trybus
0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Submitted by,

Deirdre Caruso,
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,

Paul Roy,
First Selectman