

MINUTES
Board of Selectmen
Wednesday, December 16, 2009 @ 7:30PM
Norma Drummer Room/Seymour Town Hall

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

Others present: Al Yagovane, Walter Birdsell, Cynthia Zukas, Al Ermer, Frank Loda, Nancy Onofrio, Carol Grande, Sean Walsh, Bill Paecht, Rich Hodges, Evelyn Roy, Theresa Conroy, Michele Pavlik, Mark Thompson, and Yashu Putorti.

ITEM # 1 - Call meeting to order.

Meeting was called to order by First Selectman Paul Roy at 7:30PM.

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 12/1/09.

Motion to approve minutes from the Board of Selectmen meeting on 12/1/09.

Motion: W. Kurt Miller

Second: John Conroy

Vote: 4-Yes (Paul Roy, John Conroy, Annmarie Drugonis, W. Kurt Miller) 0-No

3-Abstain (Phillip Wilhelmy, Karl Trybus, Sandra Gesek) 0-Disqualify

ITEM # 4 - First Selectman's Comments.

- First couple of weeks in office has gone well and very busy.
- Will be scheduling F.O.I., Harassment and Sexual Harassment Seminars for Town Employees and Boards & Commission Members.
- Working on Fee Schedule and Blight issues with the Blight Enforcement Officers.
- Went to the Toys for Tots Drive last Saturday.
- Attended the Santa/Fireworks Celebration at the Seymour Land Trust last Saturday.
- Signed off on the Day Street Bridge Project, which has officially been completed.

ITEM # 5 - Public Comment.

None.

ITEM # 6 - Discussion and possible action on Improvements to exit 22, Route 8.

A packet was handed out to the Board Members to review, which includes maps from CT DOT and input from Seymour's Police Chief Michael Metzler, local surveyor and member of the Seymour EDC Michael Horbal, Seymour Ambulance and Fire Chief Scott Andrews, Town Engineer Jim Galligan of Nafis & Young and Town Planner Bob Looker. All of this input is needed to submit to the CT DOT for possible improvements to exit 22 off of Route 8 in Seymour. The First Selectman would like all of the Board Members to review this packet and if possible submit any opinions or

comments to Nancy Onofrio in the First Selectman's Office by Monday, December 28, 2009. This must be submitted to the State by December 30, 2009.

No Action Taken.

ITEM # 7 - Authorize the First Selectman to sign the Town Buildings HVAC Contract that was approved on October 6, 2009.

Motion to give First Selectman Paul Roy authorization to sign the HVAC Contract for Town Buildings that was approved on October 6, 2009 for Oatley Plumbing & Heating in Oxford, CT for the terms agreed upon at that meeting.

Motion: W. Kurt Miller

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

ITEM # 8 - Discussion of oversight of boards and commissions by the Board of Selectmen, per Charter section 7.2(i).

Charter Section 7.2(i) states: Require any board including, but not limited to, the Water Pollution Control Authority, Board of Police Commissioners, Board of Education and the Board of Public Works to submit quarterly reports to it on the status of their operations and appear before it to explain same on a quarterly basis. The Board will schedule said appearances on its agenda.

The Board members agree with beginning to schedule Boards and Commissions to attend the Board of Selectmen meetings and presenting reports on current activities, projects, etc.

No Action Taken.

ITEM # 9 - Proclamation for 100 Year Anniversary of Griffin Hospital.

First Selectman Paul Roy attended the 100 Year Anniversary Celebration for Griffin Hospital at Seymour Middle School one week ago.

WHEREAS, a group of community leaders received a charter to incorporate "The Derby Hospital" in 1901 to serve residents of the Lower Naugatuck valley; and

WHEREAS, the group led by the hospital's first President Charles Clark soon after began a fund raising effort to build the new hospital; and

WHEREAS, George Griffin, a wealthy industrialist whose Shelton factory was the world's largest manufacturer of horn buttons, passed away bequeathing securities and a share in trading schooner valued at \$50, 583 to build the new hospital; and

WHEREAS, in appreciation of his bequest the trustees changed the name of the new hospital from "The Derby Hospital" to Griffin Hospital in his honor; and

WHEREAS, one hundred years ago, on December 9, 1909, Raphael Colonna, an Ansonia Brass worker became the first patient admitted to the new 24-bed Griffin Hospital; and

WHEREAS, over the last hundred years, Griffin Hospital has remained true to the mission envisioned for it by its founders of providing care and services to meet the health care needs of members of the community it serves; and

WHEREAS, Griffin Hospital now with 160 beds over 7,600 admissions and 36,000 E.R. visits annually and 1,350 employees, continues, as George Griffin envisioned, meeting the health care needs of residents of the community served by providing quality clinical services and creating an exceptional healthcare experience for those it serves; and

WHEREAS, as Griffin Hospital celebrates its 100th anniversary it is recognized internationally for its innovative programs, Planetree patient-centered approach to care, its unique healing environment and as a healing environment and as a model for hospitals around the world; now

THEREFORE, I, Paul Roy, First Selectman of the Town of Seymour, Connecticut, in recognition of it 100 years of service and achievement, do hereby officially proclaim December 16, 2009 as:

“Griffin Hospital Day in the Town of Seymour”

Paul Roy, First Selectman

Motion to accept the Proclamation for the 100 Year Anniversary of Griffin Hospital.

Motion: John Conroy

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

ITEM # 10 – Presentation concerning proposed plans for property at Housatonic Wire and Seymour Lumber.

Russ Smith, Amity Construction & Design and Alex Budzinski, Housatonic Wire: Presented conceptual plans to develop Seymour Wire and Seymour Lumber area in Town. They would like to build a 100,000 square foot mixed use development of retail, housing and office space. They are currently working with Valley Council of Governments and CT Dept of Economic Community Development to aid in the Brownfields process. They have worked with an Architect from North Carolina to come up with these conceptual plans. The estimated cost of the project is approximately \$20 million dollars if the economy permits. He reminds the Board that there is already a study being done on Rte 67 and although this project is not part of that, they would like to eventually incorporate them together.

John Conroy: Asks if there is a conceptual time-line in place. Mr. Smith answers that there are many things that must be done including plans, Brownfields, studies, etc., and hopefully they will get to the Brownfields Study by 2010. Mr. Smith also states that they have not yet gone to Planning & Zoning with plans. Mr. Smith and Mr. Budzinski will be in touch with the Town if any further plans are made.

No Action Taken.

ITEM # 11 – Tax Refunds/Abatements.

Motion to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$470.29.

Motion: John Conroy

Second: W. Kurt Miller

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

ITEM # 12 – Transfers.

None.

ITEM # 13 – Appointments.

Motion to appoint Paul Roy as the acting officer of the Americans with Disabilities for a 2-Year term expiring on 12/5/11.

Motion: John Conroy

Second: W. Kurt Miller

Vote: 6-Yes (John Conroy, W. Kurt Miller, Annmarie Drugonis, Phillip Wilhelmy, Karl Trybus, Sandra Gesek) 0-No 1-Abstain (Paul Roy) 0-Disqualify

Motion to appoint Joseph LaRovera as Assistant Animal Control Officer for a 1-Year term expiring on 12/31/10.

Motion to appoint Colleen Fries as Town Counsel at a rate of \$160.00 per hour plus expenses for a 2-year term expiring on 12/5/11.

Motion: Phillip Wilhelmy Second: Karl Trybus

Discussion: Selectmen have concerns over the hourly rate being higher than the previous Town Counsel and about the previous time Ms. Fries served as Town Counsel. The First Selectman assures the Board Members that he has confidence in Ms. Fries's abilities and overall this will save the taxpayers money and he will bring a comparison chart to the next meeting.

Vote: 4-Yes (Paul Roy, Phillip Wilhelmy, Karl Trybus, Sandra Gesek) 3-No (John Conroy, Annmarie Drugonis, W. Kurt Miller) 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to appoint Steven Kulas as WPCA Counsel at a rate of \$100.00 per hour for a 2-year term expiring on 12/5/11.

Motion: W. Kurt Miller Second: John Conroy

Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to appoint Steven Kulas as Special Counsel at a rate of \$100.00 per hour for a 2-year term expiring on 12/5/11.

Motion: W. Kurt Miller Second: Phillip Wilhelmy

Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to appoint Welch, Teodosio, Stanek & Blake, LLC as Labor Counsel at a rate of \$160.00 per hour for a 2-year term expiring 12/5/11.

Motion: W. Kurt Miller Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to appoint Welch, Teodosio, Stanek & Blake, LLC as Land Use Counsel at a rate of \$160.00 per hour for a 2-year term expiring 12/5/11.

Motion: John Conroy Second: W. Kurt Miller

Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to appoint Welch, Teodosio, Stanek & Blake, LLC as Workers Compensation Counsel at a rate of \$160.00 per hour for a 2-year term expiring 12/5/11.

Motion: John Conroy Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to re-appoint Day & Pitney, LLP as Bonding Counsel for a 2-year term expiring 12/5/11.

Motion: John Conroy Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to re-appoint Nafis & Young as Town Engineer for a 2-year term expiring 12/5/11.

Motion: Phillip Wilhelmy Second: Karl Trybus

Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to appoint Steven Kulas as Treasurer for a 2-year term expiring 12/5/11.

Motion: Phillip Wilhelmy Second: Karl Trybus

Motion: John Conroy **Second: Annmarie Drugonis**
Vote: 7-Yes **0-No** **0-Abstain** **0-Disqualify**

Motion to re-appoint Bruce Baker to the Chatfield LoPresti School Building Committee for a 1-year term expiring on 12/31/10.

Motion: W. Kurt Miller **Second: Annmarie Drugonis**
Vote: 7-Yes **0-No** **0-Abstain** **0-Disqualify**

Motion to re-appoint Donald Smith to the Chatfield LoPresti School Building Committee for a 1-year term expiring on 12/31/10.

Motion: John Conroy **Second: Phillip Wilhelmy**
Vote: 7-Yes **0-No** **0-Abstain** **0-Disqualify**

Motion to re-appoint Mike Marcinek to the Chatfield LoPresti School Building Committee for a 1-year term expiring on 12/31/10.

Motion: W. Kurt Miller **Second: Annmarie Drugonis**
Vote: 7-Yes **0-No** **0-Abstain** **0-Disqualify**

Motion to re-appoint Phyllis Jachimowski to the Chatfield LoPresti School Building Committee for a 1-year term expiring on 12/31/10.

Motion: John Conroy **Second: W. Kurt Miller**
Vote: 7-Yes **0-No** **0-Abstain** **0-Disqualify**

Motion to re-appoint Al Yagovane as the Ordinance Hearing Officer for a 2-year term expiring on 12/5/11.

Motion: John Conroy **Second: Phillip Wilhelmy**
Vote: 7-Yes **0-No** **0-Abstain** **0-Disqualify**

Motion to re-appoint Joseph Hernandez to the Parks Commission for a 2-year term expiring on 12/3/11.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis **Second: W. Kurt Miller**
Vote: 7-Yes **0-No** **0-Abstain** **0-Disqualify**

Motion to re-appoint Mike Gargano to the Parks Commission for a 2-year term expiring on 12/3/11.

Motion: John Conroy **Second: Annmarie Drugonis**
Vote: 7-Yes **0-No** **0-Abstain** **0-Disqualify**

Motion to re-appoint Robert Lang to the Parks Commission for a 2-year term expiring on 12/3/11.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis **Second: John Conroy**
Vote: 7-Yes **0-No** **0-Abstain** **0-Disqualify**

ITEM # 14 - Correspondence.

- Check Registers.
- Memo from First Selectman Paul Roy giving back \$2,500.00 of his salary.

ITEM # 12 - Other Business.

Motion to place on the table the Seymour Founders Day Committee.

Motion: John Conroy

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

The First Selectman reads a letter sent to the Board of Selectmen (see attached) from the Seymour Founders Day Committee explaining their purpose and to share their ideas.

Sam Mirlis, Founders Day Committee: Would like to thank the Board of Selectmen for their support. He explains that the purpose of this committee and explains the celebration that they would like to have. The Board of Finance had rejected the request for \$250.00 for the deposit on the police presence for the celebration that is being planned in June 2010, but the First Selectman assures Mr. Mirlis that a donation has been secured for that purpose. Mr. Mirlis also states that the committee has established an account and tax exempt status with the help of many people in the community. He would like to get a formal transfer request for \$3,250.00, which is the balance on the police presence.

John Conroy would like a funding request for the next Board of Selectmen meeting on January 5, 2010 and suggests that Mr. Mirlis speak to the Finance Department to find the line item that the funding can come out of. Mr. Mirlis was also asked if he has spoken to the Police Commission about the fee and he has not as of yet.

No Action Taken.

Motion to place on the table a resolution for STEAP Grant as presented for Esther Rozum, Town Clerk to sign.

Motion: John Conroy

Second: W. Kurt Miller

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

Motion to approve the following resolution for the \$50,000.00 STEAP Grant for French Park Improvements as presented for Esther Rozum, Town Clerk to sign.

RESOLUTION

I, Esther Rozum, do hereby certify that I am the Town Clerk of the Town of Seymour, a municipal corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Connecticut having its principal place of business at 1 First Street, Seymour, CT, that I am the keeper of the corporate records and seal. That the following is a true and correct copy of resolutions duly adopted and ratified by the Board of Selectmen on Wednesday, December 16, 2009 in accordance with the constituent charter of the Town of Seymour; and that the same has not in any way been modified, repealed or rescinded, but is in full force and effect.

RESOLVED, that Paul Roy, First Selectman of the Town of Seymour be and hereby is authorized to execute on behalf of this municipal corporation a Personal Services Agreement with the State of Connecticut for financial assistance for French Park Improvements.

IN ADDITION, that Paul Roy, First Selectman is hereby authorized to enter into such agreements, contracts and execute all documents necessary to said grant with the State of Connecticut.

BE IT FURTHER KNOWN that Paul Roy, First Selectman was Elected First Selectman. His term of office began on December 7, 2009 and will continue until December 5, 2011. As the First Selectman, Paul Roy serves as the Chief Executive Officer for the Town of Seymour, and is duly authorized to enter into agreements and contracts on behalf of the Town of Seymour.

Dated at the Town of Seymour, Connecticut this 16th day of December, 2009.

Esther Rozum, Town Clerk
Town of Seymour, Connecticut

SEAL

Motion: John Conroy

Second: Phillip Wilhelmy

FOUNDERS DAY COMMITTEE
203-888-0431

First Selectman Paul Roy
Members of the Board of Selectmen
1 First Street
Seymour Town Hall
Seymour, CT 06483

December 10, 2009

Dear Mr. Roy and Members of the Board of Selectmen;

In recent months a small group of Seymour citizens have been meeting to discuss the possibility of holding a town **Founders Day** event. The purpose of this event would be two-fold. Its main purpose would be to raise much needed funds for the Seymour Historical Society, an important town organization that has suffered financial difficulties over the past few years. The structure in which the museum is housed and programs presented, is the homestead of the late Katharine Matthies. The society receives no yearly stipend for its maintenance and this year the members had to replace the furnace at a cost of \$17,000 and partially pay for the replacement of the security system. These expenses reduced the savings of the Society to a negligible amount. The exterior has not been painted in over fourteen years and an application was submitted for a grant from the Matthies Foundation for this purpose. However, there are many other areas in the house and on the property that require immediate attention for repairs.

The second purpose of the event would be to celebrate the town's rich history, as do the neighboring communities of Ansonia, Derby, and Oxford.

Several members of this committee would like to come before the Board of Selectmen to share with you our ideas and thoughts for holding this worthwhile event. We request, therefore, that you place us on your agenda for the December 16th, 2009 meeting. We look forward to presenting to your Board our ideas as well as hearing the thoughts of your members for what could be a very successful town event.

Sincerely,

Sam Merlis, Local Merchant
Nancy Onofrio, Economic Development Secretary
Loreen Coe, Seymour Historical Society