

MINUTES  
Board of Selectmen  
Tuesday, April 7, 2009 @ 7:30PM  
Norma Drummer Room/Seymour Town Hall

Members present: First Selectman Robert J. Koskelowski, John Conroy, John Putorti, Annmarie Drugonis, Paul Roy, Frank Conroy, and Town Counsel George Temple (7:40PM).

Not present: Roberta King.

Others present: James Garofolo, Frank Loda, Kurt Miller, Peter Kubik, Ray Catlin, Trisha Danka, Fred Stanek, Rick Belden and Alex Danka.

- The First Selectman opened the meeting at 7:30PM.
- Everyone saluted the Flag and stated the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion to approve minutes from Board of Selectmen meeting on 3/17/09.

Motion: John Conroy            Second: John Putorti

Vote: 4-Yes (Robert J. Koskelowski, John Conroy, John Putorti, Paul Roy)            0-No  
2-Abstain (Annmarie Drugonis, Frank Conroy)            0-Disqualify

First Selectman's Report:

- Roberta King will not be attending the meeting due to being under the weather.
- O&G will be repairing the paving job on Pearl Street and Maple Street next week when the schools are closed.
- CL&P is doing new wiring work on West Church Street, Bungay Road and Botsford Road.
- The new guardrail has been installed on Haddad Road and Public Works will be installing the signage this week.
- The Town of Seymour is applying for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Formula Program (JAG) under the Recovery Act.

Public Comment:

None.

ITEM # 1 - Discuss financing for Chatfield LoPresti School Project.

The First Selectman met with the Town's financial advisors with the Finance Director and Assistant Finance Director to discuss options for the Town to fund the Chatfield LoPresti project. The First Selectman presents a list of the Town's debt for the Board members to review. Ted May, Financial Advisor stated to the First Selectman that as far as Short-term notes: The Town may finance the project using notes for up to eight years. While notes carry an initial lower interest cost the Town would be required to make an annual pay down (equivalent to 1/20 of the project cost) after the second year and before the third year of borrowing. Funds can be borrowed for up to one year at a time and current rates are in the 2% range. Bonding: Would allow the Town the opportunity to lock in the current low fixed rates for a period of up to 20 years. The Town would have the opportunity to skip the first 2 principal payments softening the budget impact for 2011 and 2012 fiscal years. The Town would be required to shorten

the bond principal maturities to no more than 18 years (instead of 20); current rates are in the 4 - 4.25% range.

John Conroy: States that he supports this project and it should not be delayed. He states that even though the interest rates are higher, the construction rates are down and they will offset each other.

Robert J. Koskelowski: States that the State reimbursement rate is still at 61% from what he has been told.

John Conroy: Would like to see a set of cash-flows to see how the Committee has the financials worked out.

Don Smith, Co-Chairman of the Chatfield LoPresti Building Committee: States that they will not have the cash-flow chart until they decide on a design company.

ITEM # 2 - Recommendation from Chatfield LoPresti Building Committee. (Take possible action)

The Board members receive a list of the top four candidates for the architect contract for the Chatfield LoPresti School Project. The First Selectman has several concerns regarding the whole bid process that the Committee went through for the architect contract. He questions why the Committee chose one of the higher qualified bidders when they stated that all four candidates were qualified, especially since the highest bidder was approximately \$500,000 more than the lowest qualified bidder. He also questions the integrity of the bids since after they were opened the highest bidder called some of the committee members and also sent a letter offering to lower their bid by 15%.

George Temple, Town Counsel: States that he doesn't feel that any law had been violated by Statute, but does feel that the conduct lacks fundamental fairness and integrity. He also feels that all bidders should have the opportunity to lower their bids.

Several Committee members speak about their personal opinions on the bidding process and the firm that was chosen. The Committee vote was not unanimous and a lot of the members were not present at that meeting. The Firm that was chosen was the firm that has done all of the work thus far on this project, but were paid for all of this work.

The First Selectman requests that the Committee members meet again and put in writing to the Board of Selectmen why they are not choosing the lowest qualified bidder and why they chose the firm that they did. He would like this brought to the Board of Selectmen for their next meeting on 4/21/09. Several of the Board of Selectmen members agree and would also like to see justification on the firm that was chosen.

Motion to send the Architectural Firm bids back to the Chatfield LoPresti School Building Committee for review and written recommendations on the firm that was chosen and reasons why the other bidders were not chosen to the Board of Selectmen at their next meeting on 4/21/09.

Motion: John Conroy                      Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 5-Yes (Robert J. Koskelowski, John Conroy, Annmarie Drugonis, Paul Roy, Frank Conroy)                      1-No (John Putorti)                      0-Abstain                      0-Disqualify

The Chatfield LoPresti School Building Committee will also be bringing their recommendations for the Construction Manager for this project to the Board of Selectmen at their next meeting on 4/21/09.

**ITEM # 3 - Resolution Bristol Resource Recovery.**

Motion to approve the following resolution concerning the Bristol Resource Recovery.

Motion: Frank Conroy

Second: John Conroy

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, among other agreements, the Cities/Towns of Berlin, Branford, Bristol, Burlington, Hartland, New Britain, Plainville, Plymouth, Prospect, Seymour, Southington, Warren Washington, and Wolcott entered into an Amended and Restated Service Agreement dated June 1, 1985, as amended, with Ogden Martin Systems of Bristol, Inc. (currently know as Covanta Bristol, Inc.) (hereinafter, the "Service Agreement") relative to its rights and obligations with respect to a resource recovery facility now located in the City of Bristol, Connecticut and owned and operated by Covanta Bristol, Inc. (the "Facility");

WHEREAS, said Cities and Towns (collectively, the "Contracting Communities") entered into an Inter-Community Agreement dated August 1, 1985, as amended, (hereinafter, the "Inter-Community Agreement") relative to their respective and collective rights, duties and obligations pertaining to such Service Agreement, the Facility, and other certain agreements;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Inter-Community Agreement, the Contracting Communities established the Resource Recovery Facility Operating Committee (currently know as the Bristol Resource Recovery Facility Operating Committee) (hereinafter, the "BRRFOC") consisting of representatives from each of the Contracting Communities and vested the BRRFOC with certain powers and authority to act by and on behalf of the Contracting Communities;

WHEREAS, the Inter-Community Agreement is scheduled to expire on August 1, 2020;

WHEREAS, the Service Agreement, however, is scheduled to expire on July 1, 2014;

WHEREAS, the BRRFOC, pursuant to its executive authority, and in recognition of the end of term of the Service Agreement, has commenced a review and analysis of rights and options afforded to the Contracting Communities and the BRRFOC under the Service Agreement and in furtherance of such review and analysis, the BRRFOC has retained experienced consultants to conduct a detailed study and to identify all relevant rights, issues, options and their economic impacts available to the BRRFOC and the Contracting Communities, and to recommend an implementation and action plan to pursue;

WHEREAS, depending on the option or set of options identified and their economic implications to the BRRFOC and the Contracting Communities, Covanta Bristol, Inc. and other entities that may provide solid waste disposal to the BRRFOC and the Contracting Communities after the term of the Service Agreement may or may not be the beneficiary of any such implementation and action plan recommended;

WHEREAS, those entities, including Covanta Bristol, Inc., having any interest in any such recommendation, may seek, directly or indirectly, to attempt to affect, by various means, such recommendation;

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the Contracting Communities, both independently and collectively, to support and empower the BRRFOC as their agent to conduct a thorough, comprehensive and independent study and to identify all such relevant rights, issues, options and their economic impacts leading to such implementation and action plan free from any participation, directly or indirectly, of any entity, including Covanta Bristol, Inc., having an interest in such recommendation except to the extent determined by the BRRFOC; and

WHEREAS, in furtherance of such support and empowerment, the Cities/Towns of Berlin, Branford, Bristol, Burlington, Hartland, new Britain, Plainville, Plymouth, prospect, Seymour, Southington, Warren, Washington, and Wolcott recognize that any activities that may be taken by any interested entity, including Covanta Bristol, Inc., regarding the BRRFOC's study and anticipated implementation and action plan should be solely addressed by the BRRFOC and that the Contracting Communities should not entertain or provide an audience to any such interested entity, including Covanta Bristol, Inc., for such purpose.

NOW, BE IT

RESOLVED that in furtherance of the powers and authority vested in the BRRFOC pursuant to the Inter-Community Agreement, the Cities/Towns of Berlin, Branford, Bristol, Burlington, Hartland, New Britain, Plainville, Plymouth, Prospect, Seymour, Southington, Warren, Washington and Wolcott support the review and planning activities of the BRRFOC regarding solid waste disposal after the term of the Service Agreement leading to its anticipated recommendation of an implementation and action plan to best serve the interests of the Contracting Communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Cities/Towns of Berlin, Branford, Bristol, Burlington, Hartland, New Britain, Plainville, Plymouth, Prospect, Seymour, Southington, Warren, Washington and Wolcott will not take any action, provide any audience or otherwise facilitate the interests of any entity, including Covanta Bristol, Inc., having a potential interest in the recommendation and potential pursuit of the anticipated BRRFOC implementation and action plan that could serve to affect results of such plan.

The undersigned individual, duly authorized, hereby certifies that the foregoing resolution was properly enacted by the City/Town of \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_, 2009

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Seal:

**ITEM # 4 - Request for Farmers Market 2009.**

**Motion to approve Gazy Brothers Farm, Naugatuck, CT to run the Seymour Farmers Market beginning on Tuesday, May 12, 2009 in the parking lot of the Seymour Community Center at 20 Pine Street, Seymour to be held weekly from 12PM to 6PM until October 27, 2009.**

**Motion: Annmarie Drugonis**

**Second: John Conroy**

**Vote: 6-Yes**

**0-No**

**0-Abstain**

**0-Disqualify**

**ITEM # 5 - Authorize First Selectman to sign lease/purchase for Fire Chief Vehicle.**

Motion to authorize the First Selectman to sign the lease/purchase agreement for the Fire Chief Vehicle for a total cost of \$27,621.96, which is in the budget.

Motion: John Putorti                      Second: Paul Roy

Vote: 6-Yes                      0-No                      0-Abstain                      0-Disqualify

**ITEM # 6 - Recommendations for non-union salary increases for 2009/2010.**

Motion to approve the following salary increases for non-union employees for 2009/2010.

Motion: John Putorti                      Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 4-Yes (Robert J. Koskelowski, John Putorti, Annmarie Drugonis, Paul Roy)

0-No                      2-Abstain (Frank Conroy, John Conroy)                      0-Disqualify

- 1) Doug Thomas, Finance Director - FT 2.99%
- 2) Dennis Rozum, Director of Public Works - FT 2.99%
- 3) Craig Stevens, Public Works Foreman - FT 2.99%
- 4) Carol Ralston, Head Librarian - FT 2.99%
- 5) Denise Powell, Administrative Assistant to the First Selectman - FT 2.99%
- 6) Joseph Raiola, Building Inspector - PT 2.99%
- 7) Walter Woods, Assistant Building Inspector - PT 2.99%
- 8) Missy Orosz, Assistant Recreation Director - PT 2.99%
- 9) Joseph LaRovera, Animal Control Officer - PT 2.99%
- 10) Deborah Ice, Assistant Animal Control Officer - PT 2.99%
- 11) John Conroy, Sr., Wetlands Enforcement Officer - PT \$500.00
- 12) Art Baldwin, Zoning Enforcement Officer - PT \$500.00
- 13) Elise Wood, Deputy Registrar - PT \$500.00

**ITEM # 7 - Set Annual Town Meeting for April 20, 2009 @ 7:00PM at the Seymour Middle School.**

Motion to set Annual Town Meeting for April 20, 2009 @ 7:00PM at the Seymour Middle School.

Motion: John Conroy                      Second: Frank Conroy

Vote: 6-Yes                      0-No                      0-Abstain                      0-Disqualify

**ITEM # 8 - Set Annual Budget vote for April 27, 2009 from 6:00AM to 8:00PM at the Seymour Community Center.**

Motion to set Annual Budget vote for April 27, 2009 from 6:00AM to 8:00PM at the Seymour Community Center.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis                      Second: Paul Roy

Vote: 6-Yes                      0-No                      0-Abstain                      0-Disqualify

**ITEM # 9 - Set Annual Budget vote for May 12, 2009 from 6:00AM to 8:00PM at the Seymour Community Center if needed.**

Motion to set Annual Budget vote for May 12, 2009 from 6:00AM to 8:00PM at the Seymour Community Center if needed.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis                      Second: John Conroy

Vote: 6-Yes                      0-No                      0-Abstain                      0-Disqualify

**ITEM # 10 - Rescind previous motion for Capital Projects from Special Board of Selectmen meeting on 2/4/09.**

Motion to rescind motion made at the 2/4/09 Special Board of Selectmen meeting, which was: Recommend motion made that the Board of Selectmen do not submit

moneys for Capital Projects at this time, \$11,319.00 for lease purchase of Fire Chief's vehicle purchased last year.

Rescind Motion: John Conroy, Jr.                      Rescind Second: John Putorti  
Vote: 6-Yes                      0-No                      0-Abstain                      0-Disqualify

Motion to remove \$11,319.00 from the budget due to the vehicle being paid off.

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

**ITEM # 11 - Set Special Joint meeting with Board of Selectmen and the Housing Authority for Monday, April 13, 2009 @ 7:00PM concerning Randall Field.**

Motion to set a special joint meeting with the Board of Selectmen and the Housing Authority to discuss the possibility of joining the City of Bridgeport's Section 8 Program and utilize the funds to build at the Randall Field site.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis                      Second: John Putorti

Discussion: The First Selectman explains to the Board members that he met with David Keyser, Director of the Seymour Housing Authority concerning the contract that the Town of Seymour entered into in 1982 with the City of Ansonia Section 8, that was never signed, to allow Landlords in the Town of Seymour to utilize the Section 8 program through the State. Mr. Keyser has requested that the Town of Seymour enter into a similar Section 8 program with the City of Bridgeport. He feels that this would be beneficial to the Town of Seymour because the Housing Authority would receive money from this program and they would like to use those funds to build additional senior or disabled housing on the Randall Field site, which they have been unable to appropriate any grant money to build.

Vote: 0-Yes                      6-No                      0-Abstain                      0-Disqualify  
Motion Failed.

**ITEM # 12 - Appointments.**

Motion to reappoint Linda Bellevance to the Culture & Arts Commission for a 3-Year term expiring on 4/11/12.

Motion: Paul Roy                      Second: Frank Conroy  
Vote: 6-Yes                      0-No                      0-Abstain                      0-Disqualify

Motion to reappoint Lucy McConologue to EMSOC for a 3-year term expiring on 4/3/12.

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

Motion to reappoint Allen Rochelle to the Fire Commission for a 3-Year term expiring on 1/17/12. Per recommendation from the Fire Commission.

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

Motion to appoint Mike Marcinek to the Chatfield LoPresti Building Committee for a 1-Year term expiring on 12/31/09.

Motion: Paul Roy                      Second: Frank Conroy  
Vote: 6-Yes                 0-No                      0-Abstain                      0-Disqualify

(NOTE: Board Members are confident that this appointment will help the Committee tremendously.)

**ITEM # 13 - Tax Refunds/Abatements.**

Motion to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$1,155.40.

Motion: John Putorti                 Second: Paul Roy  
Vote: 6-Yes                      0-No                      0-Abstain                      0-Disqualify

**ITEM # 14 - Transfers.**

Motion to pass and reclassify the following transfers as Emergency Transfers, per Charter Section 12.4 (d) Emergency Appropriations:

- Transfer done on 2/4/09 for the Public Works Department for \$40,000.00 out of Contingency acct # 1-001-410-1950-530-872 into Snow Plowing - Overtime acct # 1-001-430-3110-570-131 for \$20,000.00 and into Snow Plowing - Materials acct # 1-001-430-3110-570-422 for emergency funds for snow plowing overtime & materials.
- Transfer done on 3/17/09 for the Public Works Department for \$32,489.49 out of Contingency acct # 1-001-410-1950-530-874 into Snow Plowing - Overtime acct # 1-001-430-3110-570-131 for \$14,558.50 and into Snow Plowing - Materials acct # 1-001-430-3110-570-422 for \$17,930.99 for emergency funds for snow plowing overtime & materials.
- Transfer done on 3/17/09 for the Public Works Department for \$36,251.84 out of Commercial Garbage acct # 1-001-430-3230-590-426 into Gasoline acct # 1-001-430-3110-570-626 for emergency funds for gasoline and diesel fuel, due to higher usage because of many snow storms.
- Transfer done on 3/17/09 for the Public Works Department for \$10,000.00 out of Commercial Garbage acct # 1-001-430-3230-590-426 into Highway Materials acct # 1-001-430-3120-575-600 for emergency funds for highway materials, which include cold patch and curb replacement.

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

**ITEM # 15 - Correspondence.**

#15a: Check Registers.

#15b: Town Clerks Report for March 2009.

#15c: Copies of letters to the legislators and Governor Rell asking not to cut funding to the Towns.

#15d: Copies of letters to the Board of Education and the Superintendents office concerning the \$261,740.00 shortfall in this year's budget.

**ITEM # 16 - Other Business.**

Motion to place on the table take action on telephone lines at 20 Pine Street.

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

Fire Marshal Paul Wetowitz has requested that the Board approve new phone lines to be installed for the fire alarm system at the Community Center, 20 Pine Street, Seymour. He states in a letter to the First Selectman that the necessary new lines and numbers will have an initial cost of \$225, but after the process the Town will be credited \$200. The monthly cost for these additional lines will be \$196.53.

Motion to table the telephone lines at 20 Pine Street until the next Board of Selectmen meeting on 4/21/09 so that the Fire Marshal may attend and explain in more detail.

Motion: John Conroy                      Second: Annmarie Drugonis

ITEM # 17 - Selectmen's Public Comments.

None.

ITEM # 18 - Public Comment.

Several comments were made concerning Comcast and the United Way adopting French Park on April 25, 2009 and volunteering time and materials to fix the park. Also, free dumpsters from the Garbage Company and Chatfield Power are supplying free power washes. Paul Tontini, Chairman of the Comcast Advisory Board has been instrumental in this process. Thanks to the Parks Commission as well.

No Action Taken.

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

None at this time.

ITEM # 20 - Adjournment.

Motion to adjourn at 9:06PM.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis

Second: John Conroy

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

Respectfully submitted by,



Deirdre Caruso,  
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,



Robert J. Koskelowski,  
First Selectman

I hereby certify that this  
is a true copy of a Board of Selectman minutes  
as received for record in the  
Seymour Town Clerk's Office on  
4/14/09 at 3:50 PM

ATTEST: Elenbeth M. Caruso  
Town Clerk  
*Caruso*