

MINUTES
Board of Selectmen Public Hearing
Tuesday, August 19, 2008 @ 6:45 PM
Norma Drummer Room/Seymour Town Hall

Members present: First Selectman Robert J. Koskelowski, Annmarie Drugonis, Roberta King, John Putorti, Paul Roy, Frank Conroy, and Town Counsel George Temple.

Not present: John Conroy.

Others present: Michele Pavlik, Peter Sampieri, and Special Town Counsel Richard Bruchal.

ITEM # 1 - Pledge of Allegiance.

Everyone saluted the Flag and stated the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM # 2 - Open Public Hearing.

The First Selectman opens the Public Hearing at 6:50PM.

The Recording Secretary reads the following Public Notice:

TOWN OF SEYMOUR BOARD OF SELECTMEN PUBLIC NOTICE

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN OF THE TOWN OF SEYMOUR, CONNECTICUT WILL CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING PURSUANT TO § 7-191 CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES on Tuesday, August 19, 2008 @ 6:45 PM at Seymour Town Hall, Norma Drummer Room, 1 First Street, Seymour, Connecticut for the following purpose:

- To receive public comments and communications, both oral and written as to possible revisions, additions, and amendments to the Charter of the Town of Seymour.
- The Board will consider the following draft report passed by the Charter Revision Commission on July 30, 2008.

DRAFT REPORT

The following is the draft report of the Charter Revision Commission to the Board of Selectmen pursuant to Section 7-191 of the Connecticut General Statutes:

The Commission has voted as follows: To amend the following language contained in Section 12.3 of the Charter.

The voters shall be given the option to vote either "Yes" or "No Too-High or No-Too Low". All NO votes shall be added together as one total in order to determine passage or rejection of a budget.

To read as follows:

The voters shall be given the option to vote either "Yes" or "No".

If the referendum vote at an adjourned Town Meeting shall reject the budget or either part thereof the rejected portion shall be reconsidered by the Board of Finance within five (5) business days. *The duly called meeting shall be noticed in the local paper by notice of the Chairman of the Board of*

Finance without the necessity of a meeting of the Board of Finance, and public comments shall be allowed and shall be limited to budget recommendations and proposals for consideration by the Board of Finance during its deliberations. The Board shall then approve a revised budget or part thereof for presentation at a second referendum vote at an adjourned Town Meeting. In case of further rejection this process shall be continued using the five (5) day period for reconsideration by the Board of Finance until a budget is adopted.

(Additions to Section 12.3 are italicized and deletions are in bold type.) The Commission recommends no further changes to the Charter at this time. All interested persons may attend and be heard. Written communications will be received at the time of the above hearing or prior thereto addressed to the Seymour Charter Revision Commission, Town Hall, 1 First Street, Seymour, Connecticut 06483.

Dated at Seymour, Connecticut this 5th day of August 2008.

By: The Board of Selectmen, Town of Seymour. Robert J. Koskelowski, First Selectman

ITEM # 3 - Public Comment.

Peter Sampieri, 90 Tomlinson Road: Is in favor of keeping No-too high and No-too low. He feels that it gives the public a voice and if it is changed to a straight Yes or No then it will end up costing more money because more budgets will be voted down.

Al Yagovane, 27 Washington Avenue: Is against changing to a straight Yes or No and feels that it is a help and that the residents know the difference when they vote No-too high and No-too low.

Michele Pavlik, 5 Emma Street: Is in favor of going back to the straight Yes or No vote. As a member of the Board of Finance she feels that they have enough mechanisms to determine how the residents vote and that the additional language that is being added to the Charter will make sure that there is as much public comment and ways that the public can let the Board of Finance know what they want including email addresses and more meetings advertised.

Trisha Danka, 203 Pearl Street and a member of the Board of Finance and the Charter Revision Commission: She would like everyone to know that throughout the Charter Revision process the majority of people that had come out wanted the change to go back to the straight Yes or No vote. She feels that the No-too high and No-too low only led to confusion and that the additional language being added will make sure that there is public comment at all meetings and workshops for the Board of Finance. She also states that the Board of Finance will be advertising via newspaper, email and the Town website that meetings will be taking place.

ITEM # 4 - Close Public Hearing.

The First Selectman closes the Public Hearing at 6:58 PM.

Submitted by,

Reviewed by,

Deirdre Caruso,
Recording Secretary

Robert J. Koskelowski,
First Selectman