

MINUTES
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Tuesday, August 12, 2008 @ 7:30 PM
Norma Drummer Room/Seymour Town Hall

Members present: First Selectman Robert J. Koskelowski, John Conroy (7:32PM), Annmarie Drugonis, Roberta King, John Putorti, Paul Roy, Frank Conroy, and Town Counsel George Temple.

Others present: Thomas Eighmie, Trisha Danka, Jay Monahan, Tom Shutte, Jesse Rallis, Sean Walsh, John Leon, Rosalie Averill, and Lucy McConologue.

- 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 7/8/08.

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

Motion to approve minutes from Special Board of Selectmen meeting on 8/5/08.

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

Public Comment:

Several residents came to the meeting to ask for the Board of Selectmen's help in distributing letters to other Towns asking for support concerning the Fanotto vs. Seymour Inland Wetlands Commission case. Which the Town originally won and then the appellate court overturned and now the Town is appealing that decision. The residents want to make sure that Towns retain local control of their jurisdictions when it comes to developers. The Attorney General and the CT DEP also support this.
The Board of Selectmen supports the letter and would like Town Counsel to review it and draft a letter to send to other Towns.

Motion to have Town Counsel draft a support letter concerning the Fanotto vs. Seymour Inland Wetlands Commission and send it to other Towns.

Motion: Paul Roy Second: John Conroy
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

First Selectman's Report:

The First Selectman talks about unanticipated repairs and expenditures for town buildings since July 1, 2008 (new fiscal year 2008/2009), which could not be projected during the budget process.

- Replacement and repairs to air conditioning at Town Hall approximately \$4,000.00.
- Condensation system at Town Hall repaired by Oatley.
- Sprinkler system repairs at Town Hall and Library, approximately \$3,000.00.
- Air conditioner at Police Department repairs, approximately \$13,000.00.

- Police Department roof replacement approximately \$45,000.00, but the First Selectman is researching the warranties on that because the roof is only 7 years old.
- The First Selectman wants to let everyone know that the Public Works Department is not in chaos like it has been portrayed. There are some personnel issues, but that is everywhere. The workers in the Seymour Public Works Department are excellent at what they do. They take care of over 80 miles of road and they know their jobs. Seymour does the best snow plowing job in the winter than any other town in the whole valley.
- Update on Bungay Road that has been on the news that the State Police, Shelton Police, Seymour Police, and FBI are searching for a missing person. The First Selectman came in last Friday to get land records for the search.

Motion to place on the table bids for Digital Thermostats for the Community Center.

Motion: John Conroy Second: John Putorti
 Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

The First Selectman reports that bids were due in the office at 4:00PM today and none were received. We will be contacting the companies who took out the bids to see why no one bid on the project. A couple of the companies stated due to the age of the boiler system and the 100% performance bond, among other things were the reasons that they did not bid. The First Selectman will report back to the Board at the next meeting, but would like a motion to go out to bid again and have the bids come into the First Selectman's Office on September 2, 2008 @ 4:00PM.

Motion to go out to bid for Digital Thermostats for the Community Center and have the bids come into the First Selectman's Office on Tuesday, September 2, 2008 @ 4:00PM.

Motion: Roberta King Second: Frank Conroy
 Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

ITEM # 1 - Recommendations for GPS for Public Works vehicles.
 Deputy First Selectman John Conroy had put together a spreadsheet on the eight bids that were received for the GPS in the Public Works vehicles to compare prices and features. He put them in order of lowest price to highest. He explains that the internet based system is better than the workstation based systems. He would like to know what company provides the police department with their GPS and what features they have. He suggests that we take the top three companies, which have internet based systems and request a demo on the systems they are offering to help make the decision. The top three companies in order are Millennium Plus, AT&T, and Diplomat DCS with internet based systems.

Motion to contact the top three choices of companies (Millennium Plus, AT&T and Diplomat DCS) to request a demo of their product and services and take action at the next Board of Selectmen meeting on Tuesday, September 2, 2008.

Motion: John Putorti Second: John Conroy
 Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

ITEM # 2 - Approve Skokorat Street improvements.

The Planning & Zoning Commission submitted a letter asking that the improvements on Skokorat Street made in conjunction with the Rolling Hills Estates subdivision, phase one, section one be accepted by the Board of Selectmen.

Motion to accept the improvements on Skokorat Street made in conjunction with the Rolling Hills Estates subdivision, phase one, section one.

Motion: Frank Conroy

Second: Paul Roy

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

ITEM # 3 - Discussion with EMSOC concerning the SAA 2007-2008 Audit.

- Doug Thomas, Finance Director and Irene Jecusco, Chairman of EMSOC are here along with other members of EMSOC and members of the Seymour Ambulance Association are here to answer any questions that the Board may have concerning the 2007/2008 SAA Audit.
- The First Selectman states that he has concerns that the financial statements that are submitted quarterly do not match the audit. Doug Thomas states that the reports that were received in April were off, but the errors were found and corrected after the fact. The First Selectman compliments the SAA for all of the great strides they have made financially. Also, the Board would like to compliment the staff at SAA for everything they do and that there have been only compliments and no complaints about the service they provide to the residents of Seymour.
- The Board of Selectmen would like an accountant or auditor to review all of the quarterly financial statements before they are given to EMSOC. EMSOC has not been able to report to the Board of Selectmen quarterly due to errors on the financials. The Board would like SAA to try and get this done at the lowest cost possible.
- Seymour Ambulance has brought their outstanding debt down significantly and they have raised their cash flow. The Audit is very good and shows that the Seymour Ambulance Association has done an outstanding job fixing their financial situation.
- The members of EMSOC wanted to thank Doug Thomas, Finance Director for all of his help and hard work. They state that he is always there for any of their questions and he is an excellent employee for the Town.

Recess @ 8:22PM.

Out of Recess @ 8:28PM.

ITEM # 4 - Emergency request from Police Department concerning air conditioning.

The Chief of Police sent a letter dated July 30, 2008 to the First Selectman with an emergency request to get the air conditioning system repaired at the Police Department, which they received quotes from the contracted vendor MJ Daly for approximately \$13,200.00.

The First Selectman states that this work has been done due to the emergency because it is in the computer room and the funds being available in the Town Buildings Repairs and Maintenance account that were not anticipated.

ITEM # 5 - Updated Open Burning Ordinance from Fire Marshal.

The Fire Marshal states that he has updated the Open Burning Ordinance since the last time it was presented to the Board. He has added language to section 7: Appeals Procedure and he has attached the Ordinance for Establishing Hearing Procedure for Town Citations and Fines. He feels that this Ordinance is important and would like to make sure that it is publicized in some way due to the increased number of calls the Fire Department receives concerning legal campfires.

Motion to schedule an Ordinance Public Hearing for Tuesday, September 2, 2008 @ 7:15PM in the Norma Drummer Room/Seymour Town Hall.

Motion: John Conroy

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

ITEM # 6 - Proposed fuel efficient vehicle Ordinance.

A resident who owns a hybrid vehicle brought a copy of a Town of Orange Fuel Efficient Vehicle Ordinance to the First Selectman's Office and asked if the Town would consider this. This ordinance would give a tax abatement to any owner of such vehicle.

Motion to set a public hearing to discuss this Ordinance.

Motion: Paul Roy

No Second

Motion Fails.

ITEM # 7 - Approve service agreement for CODE RED System.

Tom Eighmie, Emergency Management Director is present for any questions that the Board may have concerning the CODE RED System. This is a more advanced phone system than the Board of Education has. This system has a GPS through the internet to call all or only certain areas of Town in case of an emergency. This system is also capable of making 2,133 calls per minute for \$10,000.00 per year. Several Towns in Connecticut already use this system. A thank you goes to Paul Beres and Tom Eighmie for all of their hard work on this. It should take approximately 2-weeks before the system is installed.

Motion to accept the service agreement for the CODE RED System for \$10,000.00 annually.

Motion: Roberta King

Second: Paul Roy

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

ITEM # 8 - Resolution for Homeland Security.

Motion to approve the Resolution for the Memorandum Agreement for Homeland Security.

Motion: Frank Conroy

Second: John Putorti

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

ITEM # 9 - Memorandum Agreement for Homeland Security.

Motion to approve the Memorandum Agreement for the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security for the State Homeland Security Grant Program.

Motion: John Putorti

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

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

ITEM # 10 - Estimate for new LED Exit signs and motion sensors in Town Hall.
The Town's Safety Manager/Fire Marshal suggested that the Town look to update the exit signs and get motion sensors in Town Hall to save energy. WJ Electric has given the Town an estimate of \$985.00 for labor and materials to install all new LED exit signs and motion sensors on the lights in the downstairs hallway and bathrooms.

Motion to approve the estimate for new LED exit signs and motion sensors for Town Hall by WJ Electric for \$985.00 for labor and materials.

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

The First Selectman excuses himself for a few minutes and Deputy First Selectman John Conroy takes over the meeting.

ITEM # 11 - Approve resurfacing of Town Roads.
Dennis Rozum, Director of Public Works has submitted a list of roads to be resurfaced with a new process that will allow 8 to 10 years of wear from Seymour Sealing of Wallingford, CT. The total cost is \$40,000.00 and this is the certified State low bid price.

The roads to be resurfaced are:
Roberts Street
Church Street
Chadden Lane
Robin Road
Sanford Street
Birch Street
Dewolf Street

Motion to approve the above roads to be resurfaced by Seymour Sealing of Wallingford, CT for a total cost of \$40,000.00 certified State low bid price.

Motion: Frank Conroy Second: Roberta King
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

ITEM # 12 - Appointments.
Motion to appoint Jim Geffert to the Recreation Commission for a 2-year term expiring 8/3/10.

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

The First Selectman rejoins the meeting.

Motion to reappoint Gary Bruce to the Recreation Commission for a 2-year term expiring 8/3/10.

Motion: John Putorti Second: Paul Roy
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to reappoint Christine Battis to the Recreation Commission for a 2-year term expiring 7/6/10.

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

Motion to reappoint Dawn Supranovich to the Recreation Commission for a 2-year term expiring 7/6/10.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis Second: Paul Roy
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to reappoint Joseph Falcha to the Recreation Commission for a 2-year term expiring 9/7/10.

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

Motion to appoint Peter Jezierny to the Representative Policy Board of South Central CT Regional Water District for a 2-year term expiring on 6/30/10.

Motion: John Putorti Second: Roberta King
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

ITEM # 13 - Transfers.

#13a: Motion to transfer for Town Buildings \$9,499.33 from Police Oil 420-2100-535-624 for \$337.49, Fire Dept Oil 420-2200-550-624 for \$2,987.40, Public Works Oil 430-3110-570-624 for \$1,659.74, Dog Warden Oil 440-4143-605-624 for \$309.32, Public Works Electricity 430-1940-510-622 for \$391.23, Street Lighting 430-3160-580-622 for \$3,814.15 into account Town Building Oil 410-1940-510-624 for \$9,499.33 to cover heating oil cost for community center. To be referred to the Board of Finance.

Motion: John Conroy Second: John Putorti
Vote: 7-yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

#13b: Motion to transfer for Town Buildings \$6,478.49 from Public Works Wages 430-3110-570-110 into Town Buildings Wages account 410-1940-510-110 for \$6,046.47 and into Town Buildings Social Security account 410-1550-510-220 for \$432.02 to cover town buildings overtime and Public Works wages are under budget due to the Worker Compensations and short term disability. To be referred to the Board of Finance.

Motion: John Putorti Second: Roberta King
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

#13c: Motion to transfer for Ambulance Corps \$10,943.92 from the Water-Fire Hydrants account 1-001-420-2230-560-411 and into Ambulance Utilities account 1-001-420-2153-545-622 for Seymour Ambulance Association utility costs for 2007-2008. To be referred to the Board of Finance.

Motion: John Conroy Second: Paul Roy
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

ITEM # 14 - Tax Refunds/Abatements.

Motion to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$7,669.84.

Motion: John Putorti Second: Annmarie Drugonis

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

ITEM # 15 - Correspondence.

#15a: Check Registers

#15b: Letter from Seymour Babe Ruth Baseball, Inc. explaining their side of the story concerning the American Legion Baseball League.

#15c: Letter from Seymour Babe Ruth Baseball, Inc. thanking the Town and Parks Department and Public Works worker Robert Koskelowski, Jr. for all of their work during the State of Connecticut Babe Ruth Tournament, which was held at French Park.

#15d: Letter from Bill Baxter, American Legion Baseball Committee thanking the Town of Seymour, Parks Department, and Public Works worker Robert Koskelowski, Jr. for all of their help during the baseball season and explaining their side of the story concerning the use of French Park.

#15e: Month of July 2008 Report from Town Clerk.

#15f: Article concerning Oxford Legion Baseball.

#15g: Letter to Tom Eighmie, Emergency Management Director concerning NIMS Certification.

#15h: Letter to Board of Finance concerning unanticipated expenditures for Town Buildings.

ITEM # 16 - Other Business.

The First Selectman states that until recently the CO's and Street Opening Permits have been signed off on by Public Works Clerical Staff, which they are not allowed to do. The only person who is supposed to sign off on those is the Public Works Director. The First Selectman has fixed this problem and all Street Opening Permits must be done by the regulations. As of this time the fee for Street Opening Permits is only \$25.00 and the First Selectman feels that it should be much higher due to all of the work the Town has to do.

Motion to raise the Street Opening Permit fee to \$200.00 effective immediately.

Motion: John Conroy Second: John Putorti

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

ITEM # 17 - Public Comment.

No Action Taken.

ITEM # 18 - Selectmen's Public Comments.

Robert J. Koskelowski, First Selectman: Updates the Board on a property at 22 Farrell Street and that the owner had passed away and the property did not go to probate. The owner's elderly sister received assistance from Attorney Richard Bruchal and Attorney Fred Stanek to get the whole thing straightened out and the property is being cleaned up and sold so the back taxes will be paid.

Also, as of August 1, 2008 there is a new State Law concerning all Public Works employees must have updated licenses and medical cards. The Public Works Director

has provided the First Selectman's Office with copies of most of the employees.
 Thank you to Sean Walsh for informing the Town about the law.
 The Town is also considering rumble strips on some of the roads to reduce speeding.
 They want to try them on approximately 5 roads, especially roads around our schools.

John Putorti: He is a member of the Board of Public Works and he gives a letter to the Board of Selectmen members concerning the Foreman's position. The Board of Public Works requests the following: A clarification of the Foreman's job description, union status, salary, pension, vacation time, sick time and benefits. Also, how long the probationary period is and can an employee within go back to the same position. They would also like the Board of Selectmen to reopen the position.

The First Selectman stated this position will be a non-union position. He would like to set a special meeting and bring updated information on the Foreman's position for review. The Board of Public Works may attend as citizens.

Motion to set a Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen to discuss and take possible action on the Foreman's position on Tuesday, August 19, 2008 @ 6:30PM in the Norma Drummer Room.

Motion: Paul Roy **Second:** Annmarie Drugonis
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

ITEM # 19 - Executive Session (Personnel, Contract Negotiations, Pending Litigation)
 None at this time.

ITEM # 20 - Adjournment.
Motion to adjourn at 9:24 PM.

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

Respectfully submitted by,

Reviewed by,

Deirdre Caruso,
 Recording Secretary

Robert J. Koskelowski,
 First Selectman

