

MINUTES
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Tuesday, January 16, 2007 @ 7:30 PM
Norma Drummer Room/Seymour Town Hall

Members present: First Selectman Robert J. Koskelowski, Yashu Putorti, John Conroy, Roberta King, Paul Roy, and Town Counsel George Temple.
Not present: Frank Conroy.

Others present: Trisha Danka, Rhonda Geffert, Jesse Rallis, Frank Loda, Melanie Kalako, Angela Lydikson, Jennifer Harkey, Doug Knotts, Bob Lang, Brian Pisano, Tom Shutte, Carmie Potash, Bob Potash, Dolores Conroy, Joan Gee, Joseph Marcinek, Roque Orts, and John Leon.

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

Motion to approve minutes from the Board of Selectmen meeting on 1/2/07.

Motion: John Conroy Second: Yashu Putorti

Vote: 5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

First Selectman's Report:

- **Special Joint meeting to be held tomorrow night, which is Wednesday, January 17, 2007 at 7:00 PM for a presentation by the developer who has plans for a project on Bank and River Streets. The meeting will be with the Board of Selectmen, the Economic Development Commission, Planning & Zoning, Inland Wetlands, and the Zoning Board of Appeals.**

ITEM # 1 - Housatonic Valley Association presentation on Greenway Trail. Ron Skurat, 19 Glen Circle, representing HVA: Discussion of projects that the HVA has done and are in the process of doing. The board members have all received a packet containing information about the HVA. Elaine LaBella, Director at HVA informs the Board of the future plans for a Greenway Trail in Seymour along the Naugatuck River on Franklin Street. She also speaks of other projects that she has done and other towns that have benefited from the Greenway Trail project. The HVA are researching costs, land, and grant sources. The proposed trail in Seymour will be 2.4 miles and about 12 feet wide and it will be handicapped accessible. Others involved are the Seymour Conservation Commission, Peter Jezierny Chairman, and Peter Rasa, who has a lot of knowledge of this part of the Naugatuck River. Also, the Ansonia Nature Center, who will be providing volunteers to help clean up the river and the Seymour Land Trust.

ITEM # 2 - Castles in the Park Committee presentation on revitalization project. Jennifer Harkey, 3 Deerfield Drive, member of the Castles in the Park Committee starts a presentation, which describes a plan/proposal of new playground equipment made out of 85% to 100%, recycled plastic, which is extremely durable. This play-scape will be totally handicapped accessible as well. The committee is still working on getting their non-profit organization license, which Fred Stanek and Peter

Donnelly are both helping with. The committee will be getting a total cost break down for the Board of the cost of equipment, concrete, fencing, labor and other materials for the February 6, 2007 Board of Selectmen agenda.

ITEM # 3 - Winter Wonderland Breast Cancer Proclamation.

Motion to approve the attached proclamation for the State of Connecticut Winter Wonderland Breast Cancer Walk, which the official day will be January 20, 2007 by Governor M. Jodi Rell.

Motion: John Conroy Second: Roberta King
Vote: 5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

ITEM # 4 - Report from the EMS Oversight Commission.

Irene Jecusco, Chairperson of the EMS Oversight Commission has submitted on behalf of the Commission an interim report on Seymour Ambulance Association, which contains some issue that the Commission felt should be discussed with the Selectmen. This report does not contain any financial reports from Seymour Ambulance. The EMSOC has concerns regarding the quarterly reports that Seymour Ambulance must file with the State of Connecticut not being filed on time or not at all. They also have an issue with a conflict of interest matter with the new billing company that was hired by Seymour Ambulance, as well as the company's ability to accommodate the report needs of EMSOC. Seymour Ambulance has not yet hired an auditor from last April when their fiscal year ended. The EMSOC are frustrated that the financial reports that they are given are not accurate and there must be some changes. The Board of Selectmen would like to have a joint meeting with EMSOC at their next meeting, which is on Thursday, February 8, 2007, they would also like the new lease agreement that Town Counsel has drawn up on the agenda.

ITEM # 5 - Parks Commission synthetic turf proposal.

The Parks Commission hired a company months ago to do a proposal for synthetic turf for the field at Seymour High School. The Board of Selectmen would like specific specifications done as soon as possible so that the Town can go out to bid to get prices for this project. This must be done this coming week. This will be posted in the paper and specs will be sent to interested companies. The bids should be back into the First Selectman's Office on February 20, 2007 at 5:00 PM. The Parks Commission will be the "building committee" for this project and be in charge of approving all bills, if funding is available for this project. The town will continue to pursue grant moneys for this project.

Motion to go out to bid with specifications done by Turf Talk contingent upon funding with the bids coming into the First Selectman's Office on February 20, 2007 at 5:00 PM and opened that evening at the Board of Selectmen meeting then to be referred to the Parks Commission.

Motion: Roberta King Second: Paul Roy
Vote: 5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

The First Selectman will call the Ansonia Mayor to see if he is interested in going out for artificial turf. The Parks Commission says that the new principal of the new Oxford High School is also interested in this project.

ITEM # 6 - Transfers.
None at this time.

ITEM # 7 - Tax Refunds/Abatements.

Motion to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$1,486.11.

Motion: Yashu Putorti Second: John Conroy
Vote: 5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

ITEM # 8 - Appointments.

Motion to appoint Alex Danka as an Alternate for the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 4-year term expiring 1/16/10.

Motion: John Conroy Second: Paul Roy
Vote: 5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to appoint Frank Conroy, Jr. to the Board o Public Works for a 2-year term expiring on 12/3/07.

Motion: Paul Roy Second: Yashu Putorti
Vote: 4-Yes 0-No 1-Abstain (John Conroy) 0-Disqualify

Motion to appoint Clifford Strumello, Jr. to the Board of Selectmen for a 2-year term expiring on 12/3/07.

Motion: Roberta King Second: Yashu King
Vote: 5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

ITEM # 9 - Correspondence.

- Check Registers.
- Ltr and Agenda for the Special Joint Meeting on Wednesday, January 17, 2007 @ 7:00PM with the developer that is proposing the project on Bank & River Streets with the Board of Selectmen, Planning & Zoning, Zoning Board of Appeals, Inland Wetlands, and Economic Development in the Norma Drummer Room.

ITEM # 10 - Other Business.
None at this time.

ITEM # 11 - Executive Session (Personnel, Contract Negotiations, Pending Litigation).
Motion to table Executive Session until later on the agenda.

Motion: John Conroy Second: Roberta King
Vote: 5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

ITEM # 12 - Discussion and possible action on Selectman's Office position.
Motion to table item # 12 until later on the agenda.

Motion: John Conroy Second: Yashu Putorti
Vote: 5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

ITEM # 13 - Public Comment.
No Action Taken.

ITEM # 14 - Selectmen's Comments.

John Conroy - He and Frank Conroy will have a report on the findings of their sub-committee for the First Selectman's Position salary at the next meeting in February.

Robert J. Koskelowski - Reminder of the Special Joint Meeting to be held tomorrow night, Wednesday, January 17, 2007 @ 7:00 PM in the Norma Drummer Room for a discussion of the proposed project on River and Bank Streets.

Motion to place item # 11, Executive Session, Personnel back on the table.

**Motion: John Conroy Second: Roberta King
Vote: 5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify**

Motion to go into Executive Session for Personnel at 10:00 PM with the Board of Selectmen and Town Counsel.

**Motion: Paul Roy Second: Roberta King
Vote: 5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify**

Motion to come out of Executive Session for Personnel with no actions or motions taken at 10:19 PM.

**Motion: Yashu Putorti Second: Roberta King
Vote: 5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify**

Motion to hire Deirdre Caruso as Assistant Department Head for the First Selectman's Office per union approval.

**Motion: Yashu Putorti Second: Roberta King
Vote: 5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify**

ITEM # 15 - Adjournment.

Motion to adjourn at 10:25 PM.

**Motion: Paul Roy Second: John Conroy
Vote: 5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify**

Respectfully submitted by,

Reviewed by,

**Deirdre Caruso,
Recording Secretary**

**Robert J. Koskelowski,
First Selectman**