

MINUTES
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Tuesday, January 3, 2006 @ 7:30 PM
Norma Drummer Room/Seymour Town Hall

Members present: First Selectman Robert J. Koskelowski, Patrick Lombardi, John Conroy Jr., Yashu Putorti, Frank Conroy, Paul Roy, and Town Counsel George Temple.

Not present: Roberta King.

Others present: Bob Potash, Carmie Potash, Edward P. Willis, Scott Martin, John Leon, Tom Eighmie, Walter Birdsell, Frank Loda, Jeanne Loda, Mike Ouellette.

- **Meeting opened at 7:33 PM.**
- **Everyone Saluted the Flag and Stated the Pledge of Allegiance.**
- **The First Selectman wishes everyone a Happy, Healthy New Year.**

Motion to approve Minutes from Board of Selectmen 12/21/05.

Motion: John Conroy

Second: Patrick Lombardi

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

First Selectman's Report:

- **Audit Report - almost a 3 million dollar fund balance. Reason: refinancing, insurance savings, departments staying within their budgets, conservative spending.**
- **Audit on Sewer and Water projects should be completed by the beginning of February.**
- **Town Hall was closed for the holidays.**
- **Met with 3 different developers in the past 2 weeks who have been looking at a possible move to Seymour. Has been in contact with Ron Spector, owner of Tri-town Plaza. Constant contact with the EDC and Jon Szuch, Chairman.**
- **The Library is in need of another person for their circulation desk. They currently have 4 pages and they would like to make one of them a head page at approximately 12-hours. There is enough \$\$ in the budget this year and next year there will be no additional cost, except for employee percentage increases.**
- **The elevator was down at Town Hall and the cost to fix the computer on the elevator was approx \$4,000.00. Also, the elevator at the Community Center had to be repaired, approx \$300.00.**
- **Roof at the Library leaking; DiGiorgi Roofing working on finding leak and repairing it.**
- **Former Police Station: Phase 1 of the Asbestos has been abated, which cost over \$14,000. Jachimowski has begun renovations, which should be completed in April.**
- **Met on Wednesday, December 28, 2005 with VTD Board to discuss the finances and what to do for the future.**

- **Met with Parks Board to discuss the recreation fields and upkeep. This includes 18 recreation fields at 9 locations, which need to be mowed, fertilized, and lined. There are also 16 locations at Town Buildings/Town Properties that have to be mowed.**
- **Tom Eighmie began as new Fire Chief on January 1, 2006.**
- **There was a contest at Town Hall and Senior Center for Christmas decorations and Girl Scout troop 1236 judged and gave Senior Center 1st prize.**
- **The van that was turned over to the Town that was to be used by the Seniors has been on the Town's insurance policy, which is a Fleet policy that the Town has and there is no additional cost. This will save \$ because of the gas prices and the van gets better gas mileage. The van is presently at Public Works and will go through safety check and repair before being put on the road. It has no plate on it as of yet.**
- **2 vehicles assigned to Town Hall; Blue Ford is used by the Assessor with plate # SE-77. The White Ford, which needs a quart of oil every time you fill the gas tank has plate # SE-1 and is supposed to be used by the First Selectman. This practice started 2 administrations ago. I have only used vehicle twice and put on less than 5 miles.**

ITEM # 1 – Town Policy on Video Taping Public Meetings by Private Parties. Motion to accept the Town Policy on Video Taping Public Meetings by Private Parties as presented.

**Town Policy on Video Taping Public Meetings
By Private Parties**

- 1) **Purpose:** The purpose of this policy is to recognize the right of private parties to video tape public meetings; while also providing for order and safety during same and to insure the proper conduct of public meetings.
- 2) **Devices and Location in Meeting Rooms:** All such video recording equipment shall be set up in the back of the meeting room. All video taping and equipment will be inconspicuous and non-disruptive to the meetings, per State Statute F.O.I. Sec. 1-226.
- 3) **Operation of Video Taping of Meetings:** Private parties who video tape public meetings shall at all times use such equipment in a safe, reasonable non-disruptive manner, and shall not drape wiring across floors, chairs, tables, etc. No one shall disrupt any meeting by altering the placement of any furniture. Equipment shall not take up seating or reduce the seating capacity of the meeting room or interfere with the public's right to observe and hear the action of the meeting.
- 4) **Public Comment Portion of Meetings:** When the public is recognized to speak at public meetings, those who wish to speak but do not wish to be videotaped can request that the video equipment be turned off during their comments, and it is recommended that the operator of the video equipment comply with their request.

Motion: Yashu Putorti **Second: Patrick Lombardi**
Vote: 4-Yes (Robert J. Koskelowski, Patrick Lombardi, John Conroy, Yashu Putorti) **2-No (Frank Conroy, Paul Roy)** **0-Abstain** **0-Disqualify**

ITEM # 2 – Veteran’s Exemptions.

Motion to increase the Veteran’s Exemptions \$1,500.00 for 2006. From \$5,000.00 to \$6,500.00.

Motion: John Conroy **Second: Patrick Lombardi**
Vote: 5-Yes (Robert J. Koskelowski, Patrick Lombardi, John Conroy, Yashu Putorti, Paul Roy) **0-No** **1-Abstain (Frank Conroy)** **0-Disqualify**

ITEM # 3 – Requests from Board of Fire Chiefs.

Fire Chief Thomas Eighmie explains to the Board of Selectmen that the Fire Department has just completed a ten-year review of Personal Protective Gear. The Board of Fire Chiefs and Board of Fire Commissioners have all voted unanimously to change the manufacturer and vendor of the gear and go with Globe Fire Gear sold by Industrial Safety Supply Company in West Hartford, which they feel have better protection. This is in the budget and they will be looking for grant money to purchase more equipment.

Motion to have the Fire Department purchase 12 sets of Globe Fire Gear from Industrial Safety Supply Company in West Hartford, CT for \$19,875.00.

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

The Fire Department is also requesting a new vehicle for their fleet to replace the 1999 Crown Victoria, which is in need of many repairs. They are looking to lease to purchase a 2006 Ford Expedition from the State Bid List at \$8,200.00 per year for 3-years. Including the \$1,700.00 for the trade in, the balance that they will need from the Town is \$2,459.00. This offer is good for 45 days.

Motion to table this until the next Board of Selectmen Meeting on January 17, 2006 so that the Finance Department can have a transfer ready for the \$2,459.00.

Motion: Patrick Lombardi **Second: Yashu Putorti**
Vote: 6-Yes **0-No** **0-Abstain** **0-Disqualify**

ITEM # 4 – Parks Department Request.

Motion to table this item until the next Board of Selectmen Meeting on Tuesday, January 17, 2006, when the Parks Commission is available for a presentation.

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

ITEM # 5 – Proclamation for the American Heart Association.

Motion to accept the Proclamation for the American Heart Association for “Wear Red Day for Women” on February 3, 2006. (see attached)

Motion: Patrick Lombardi **Second: Yashu Putorti**
Vote: 6-Yes **0-No** **0-Abstain** **0-Disqualify**

ITEM # 6 – Proclamation for the Breast Cancer Alliance.

Motion to accept the Proclamation for the Breast Cancer Alliance, Winter Wonderland Walk on January 21, 2006. (see attached)

Motion: Patrick Lombardi

Second: John Conroy

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

ITEM # 7 – Tax Refunds/Abatements.

Motion to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$6,977.73.

Motion: Yashu Putorti

Second: Patrick Lombardi

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

ITEM # 8 – Appointments.

Motion to appoint Rocque Orts to the EMS Commission for a 3-year term expiring 1/3/09.

Motion: Frank Conroy

Second: Paul Roy

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

ITEM # 9 – Transfers.

None at this time.

ITEM # 10 – Correspondence.

- **Memo regarding the Asbestos Removal at the Former Police Station.**
- **Check Registers.**
- **Letter from Michael Magut regarding himself and two family members working for the Recreation Department.**

ITEM # 11 – Other Business.

Motion to place on the table CL&P rate increases and Street Light refunds.

Motion: John Conroy

Second: Patrick Lombardi

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

Discussion: Questions about the outcome of the company hired months ago to audit the CL&P refunds. It is known that this is a lengthy process. The First Selectman will check on this for the next meeting.

The First Selectman also appreciates any input that any of the Board members have concerning the budget and thanks Mr. Conroy for his input. He also states that in the Charter the First Selectman and the Finance Director are part of the budget process and that everyone needs to work together.

ITEM # 12 – Executive Session (Personnel, Contract Negotiations, Pending Litigation)

None at this time.

ITEM # 13 – Public Comment.

No Action Taken

**ITEM # 14 – Adjournment.
Motion to Adjourn at 8:35 PM.**

Motion: Patrick Lombardi

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No

Second: Yashu Putorti

0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Submitted by,

Attested to:

**Deirdre Caruso,
Recording Secretary**

**Robert J. Koskelowski,
First Selectman**