

COPY RECEIVED
DATE: 7/27/15
TIME: 8:15 AM
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

MINUTES
Seymour Public Works Department
Monday, July 13, 2015 @ 7:00 p.m. Public Works Garage

Members Present: Sean Walsh, Wayne Finkle, Yashu Putorti

Members Not Present: Annmarie Drugonis, Phil Wilhelmy

Others Present: Dennis Rozum, Robert Koskelowski, Jr.

ITEM #1: Call meeting to order.

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

ITEM #2: Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone saluted the flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM #3: Public Comment

Robert Koskelowski, Jr., 10 Poplar Drive, Seymour. A June 3 meeting was called by the director to discuss the purchase of fertilizer that is no longer to be purchased by him for other employees. He is puzzled that fertilizer was the only product that was brought up, as there are other products that are purchased through the town account. He feels like one product is being singled out and there should be a discussion about it by the board. The fertilizer he is purchasing is with his own money and his own account, his name on the receipt, and he feels he is being singled out. He asked for this to be added to the agenda.

Public comment was then closed.

ITEM #4: Approve minutes from May 11, 2015 meeting.

Putorti made a motion to add to the agenda approve minutes from the previous meeting's minutes.

Motion: Yashu Putorti Second: Wayne Finkle

Vote: 4 – Yes 0 – No

Motion to approve minutes from May 11, 2015 meeting.

Motion: Yashu Putorti Second: Wayne Finkle

Vote: 3 – Yes 0 – No

Item number four is closed.

ITEM #5: Financial Update

Rozum presented the Board with a financial report print out.

Walsh asked about changing to LED street lights and any cost associated with that. Rozum indicated it is expensive initially but savings were expected down the road.

Walsh noted that LED lights do not get warm so snow and ice will stick to them and block them out and asked that Rozum pass that information along to whomever will be making the decision.

Rozum noted there were three seasonal employees starting and a fourth just gave notice at a previous job.

ITEM#6: Vehicle Update

Rozum stated that the truck is ready but the plow is not there yet. Truckloads of plows are set to arrive this week. Truck looked good.

Walsh asked to be notified when it is delivered so it can be inspected.

Other trucks: Walsh stated funds were moved around to purchase three new trucks. Rack and lift, utility body, bucket truck.

Rozum updated that Steve Clark stated the frame of the truck is solid and could rebuild body underneath and get functioning properly, for between \$15,000 - \$20,000. Also said a sander could be installed. Stated the engine is solid. He is putting together a list for Rozum. Walsh wants to know the status with the engine, radiator, differential, full mechanical systems in the truck, etc. Rozum stated he would have the report by next meeting.

Finkle asked about the tub grinder. Rozum stated it would be going in tomorrow and the clutches are all there. He just got rid of the rack body truck on Friday. It had a complete service.

The side arm of the tractor had a broken piston and tried to get it repaired unsuccessfully through Industrial Hydraulics. The manufacturer said 6-8 weeks from Europe. Andy welded it up and it looks brand new. Had to wait for the seals for it.

Rozum asked about the generator and who would be footing the bill. Walsh asked what was actually wrong with the generator. Rozum stated to his knowledge it was just the fuel pump and the pump is unavailable. Walsh stated that the Public Works building is the one building that has to operate during a storm because if a truck goes down, we need this building to operate. Any other function in town can be done out of that building, but no other building in town can support Public Works function. He is okay with the generator if it is truly shot and unable to be fixed. But if it's okay enough to move to another facility and be utilized then he doesn't want to get rid of it. Walsh is okay with getting a new one and was getting prices around \$40,000.00 range.

Item number six was then closed.

ITEM#7: Transfer Station Update

Pictures were taken of the back wall and also support beams from ground up because they were being hit. They were given to the first selectman who would be having a meeting with Winters Brothers. Pictures were also submitted of the sheet metal because they are the ones knocking it out when unloading. Rozum has not heard anything to say whether they are or are not going to do anything for it. Town Hall is dealing with it.

Putorti asked if they were running with two people, one guy in the back, even on the weekends. Rozum stated they were not. Walsh stated if the funds were there, to have someone else, at least on the weekends.

Finkle stated he saw a few trucks from Ansonia come by loaded with brush. He asked Matt at the dump if he was checking licenses, to which he stated they were not. He mentioned to Fritz to start checking licenses. Rozum stated that the times that they did check licenses randomly, it was fine. Rozum said he would follow up on it.

Item number seven was then closed.

ITEM#8 Work Policy Update

No updates on policies.

Item number eight was then closed.

ITEM#9 Discussion on request from Strategic Planning Committee.

Walsh read email from Rory Burke regarding Strategic Plan template asking the committee to answer the questions below with the board, use the discussion generated to fill the strategic template with goals -measurable/deliverable and priority ranking in order to guide discussion, place on a meeting agenda to discuss the completed template with Rory Burke at a date chosen to appear at meeting.

- 1) Please give a summary of duties and responsibilities of board.

Authority to make directives but no recourse if directives are not followed.

- 2) Some challenges regularly encountered in administration of duties.

Authority to make directive but not recourse if directives are not followed.

- 3) Any internal or external policies or governmental factors that hinder your administrating your duties.

Board is ignored when it comes to construction projects.

- 4) What are major issues facing town of Seymour within our outside purview of board.

Not enough money invested in infrastructure. Roads are in bad condition. Town needs bigger commercial base. Not business friendly to open a business in town.

Walsh asked everyone to consider these answers for next month's meeting.

Item nine was then closed.

ITEM#10: Other Business

Subject matter was brought up by Mr. Koskelowski, Jr. under public comment regarding policies for purchasing things.

Motion to add to subject to the agenda.
Motion: Putorti Second: Finkle

Vote: 3-Yes 0-No

Walsh explained that an individual was going to an establishment and purchasing fertilizer with own money but using town discount and doing it on town time. Another town employee brought complaint. Said employee circumvented the Public Works Director and went directly to town hall.

Walsh made a motion that a directive be made to employees that they initial and agree upon that there is a chain of command to be followed and no one has authority to go above the Director's head unless a decision is given by director that they don't agree with. Only then, with Director's permission can they take the issue to town hall. This is to be included into the work policy. Putorti seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-Yes 0-No

Rozum stated everything was being purchased at the same time so not extra trips were being made to purchase material. Rozum had a meeting and addressed this issue and it included any purchases, nothing was to be purchased through the town. As far as the fertilizer offered by that company, they have agreed to offer any town employee the discounted town rate, on their own time.

Walsh asked Mr. Koskelowski Jr. had any issues he'd like to bring to the table. Mr. Koskelowski Jr. stated his issue is that the policy Rozum has enforced has to include the mechanics going to Daddio's, Chatfield power, etc.

Finkle said that policy will be impossible to police.

Walsh stated that he has no problem if the employee is not charging items to the town, is purchasing items with a paper trail, and paying proper sales tax. The first Selectman and Director of Operations feel it should not be allowed.

Rozum stated this policy could be changed to allow that to happen based on the right criteria, paying tax, etc.

Walsh will find out if the first selectman's decision can be overruled, but if not, the directive is that no one does it.

Finkle stated that the whole issue is that the employee should have never gone to town hall first. If it does then Rozum needs to handle it. Finkle stated if it has to do with policy, it has to go through Rozum first.

ITEM# 11: Public Comment

No comment.

ITEM #12: Adjournment

A Motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Motion: Finkle Second: Putorti Vote: 3–
Yes 0 No 0–Abstain

Respectfully Submitted, Angela Chernesky