

Town of Seymour  
Board of Finance

Minutes

COPY RECEIVED  
DATE: 3/4/15  
TIME: 8:30 AM  
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

**Budget Deliberation Meeting**  
**Monday, March 2, 2015 at 7:00pm**  
**Norma Drummer Room, Seymour Town Hall**

**Members Present:** David Bitso, Rich Grudzias, Beverly Kennedy, Heather McDaniel, Bill Sawicki, John Stelma, Ed Wasikowski; Jake Holly (alternate)

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Tony Caserta, Nicole Klarides-Ditria, Kurt Miller, Jody Mozdzer-Gil, and Doug Thomas

**Item #1 – Call Meeting to order**

Chairman Bill Sawicki called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

**Item #2 – Pledge of Allegiance**

Everyone saluted the Flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Item #3 – Deliberation and Discussion of 2015/2016 Budget**

The First Selectman discussed his projected Budget:

- The First Selectman thanked the members of the Board of Finance for their dedication and service to the community
- Began work with Operations Manager in October to formulate this budget
- The First Selectman met first with each department to relate his recommendations
- There are five parts to the budget:
  - Debt Service
    - Have improved bond rating to AA+ strong
    - 8.94% - 7.13% is General Fund Debt - 1.81% is WPCA Debt
    - Negatively affected by the town roads and town buildings – Positively affected by the school buildings and WPCA debt has been separated
    - Over next few years debt should be fairly level
    - Schools are 77% of Debt
    - Capital plan will be fully funded after this year
  - Fund Balance
    - Working on bringing up to 8.5% this year – goal is 10% by 2017/2018
    - \$180,700 Reserve
  - Capital
    - Put in \$100,000 per year
    - Capital Plan – have \$332,847 in requests for this year – some things will be taken out
    - From 2014/2015 –added investments in capital not paid for from capital plan - \$357,000 out of LOCIP account; \$1,081,871 in other grants – largest is the Main Street Investment Fund; Sidewalk Replacement Grant - \$200,000; Small Cities Housing Rehab Project - \$400,000 (revolving loan fund)

previously had \$39,000 and \$22,000 for two people, now is \$43,000 plus \$5,000 for additional work required; will be merging the Building Compliance, Planning & Zoning, Fire Marshal, and Inland/Wetlands Departments to improve efficiency and avoid duplication of work.

- Highway Wages & Maintenance (Public Works) – Remove the \$8,000 for Catch Basins - are planning to purchase a vacuum truck with four other towns – this will allow us to do more cleaning of the catch basins than currently done – need to do every year; Annual F550 Truck Purchase – previously purchased through capital - put in \$90,000/year to purchase new 550– will save on maintenance costs and allow planning better because we will be able to turn over the fleet every six years; Line #'s 130, 131, 135 #'s are not correct for actual current costs – Doug Thomas will correct these along with the Sanitation #'s for Wednesday's deliberation meeting
  - Road Account – Recommend \$200,00 and add \$25,000 each year; \$297,000 in road aid received – this money needs to go to roads
  - Waste Collection – Recycling is saving us \$10,000 per month; should be entered in the revenue not an offset of the expense; receiving 20% more in our per tonnage
  - Recreation – increase is new director – will be responsible for overseeing the Recreation, Library and Services to the Elderly Departments; the new director will hire her assistant (27 applicants)
  - Parks – increase of \$5,000 for flags (donation has been received for the flagpole) for French Park; Rotary may donate this money; increase in the Machinery line item of \$15,000 – should have this in the budget every year for equipment needed to update; Public Works will be responsible for taking over the maintenance of the school grounds (inside the fences) – BOE will be responsible for outside the fences
  - Town Health Insurance – Decrease of 15.17 % - \$347,000 Savings – all town employees are given two choices
  - Workers Comp Insurance - \$325,000 – may change
  - Contingency - \$50,000 yearly contribution plus the \$15,000 from the Tax Collector (From Fund Balance)
  - Interest - \$225,000 in Bond Premium – change line item to debt service – put with revenue
- Town Side increase of 1.66% - Overall Increase of 1.57%; Mill rate = 34.31 (0.27% increase) If the Road Program and F550 truck are removed, the increase goes to 0.38% Town Side and 1.04 Overall.
  - First Selectman's Recommendation for the BOE budget was 1.5%; the budget presented by the BOE was higher than that.

#### **Item #4– Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

Submitted by:

**Monica Dimon**

**Recording Secretary**