

Town of Seymour
Board of Finance

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TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Minutes

Regular Meeting
Tuesday, October 27, 2015 at 7:00pm
Norma Drummer Room, Seymour Town Hall

Members Present: David Bitso, Beverly Kennedy, Heather McDaniel, Bill Sawicki and John Stelma; Jim Cretella (alternate).

Members Absent: Rich Grudzias

Others Present: Jamie Brennan, Patrick Lombardi, 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 – Seating of Alternates

Motion was made to seat Jim Cretella as alternate

Motion: David Bitso Second: Beverly Kennedy
Yes: 3 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Item #4 – Public Comment

Jamie Brennan – 124 Bungay Road – Raised concerns with regard to the Resolutions scheduled to be addressed on tonight's agenda: there is a considerable amount of money being requested to appropriate for the Greenway Trail construction that does not need to be done at this time; there are many other urgent maintenance needs on our town buildings that should be considered first. Information was provided from the Building Committee meeting on these needs. We should refrain from unnecessary spending.

Item #5 – Approval of Minutes—September 22, 2015 Regular Meeting

Motion to approve Minutes from September 22, 2015 Regular Meeting

Motion: Beverly Kennedy Second: Jim Cretella
Yes: 3 No: 0 Abstain: 3 (David Bitso, Heather McDaniel, and John Stelma)

Item #6 – Comments from the First Selectman

None

Item #7 – Comments from the Finance Director

- Contracted with HR Consulting Software cost \$12,000 for the ACA Compliance Audit
- First Selectman's Salary Increase cost \$8,000
- Cost for GPS put on Public Works Trucks (20 trucks @\$100/truck) - \$20,000 for installation PLUS the yearly operating costs (Comcast) are \$24,000. Bill Sawicki stated that this \$24,000 cost was omitted from the original cost estimate and this contract should have been sent out to bid. Bill Sawicki asked if this

cost went out to bid. He requested the Finance Director to provide him with all the information on how we came to purchase this, the costs for installation and equipment, bid information. Also, he requested a copy of the Purchasing Policy for the Town.

- Public Works Repair and Maintenance account is already short \$12,000
- Cost for Public Works trucks to be brought up to federal regulations: \$25,000. Bill Sawicki asked if Public Works knew this work needed to be done when budget was drafted.
- Cost for Sweeper repair: \$13,000. Again, did Public Works know this repair was needed?
- Cost for Hydraulic Lift Repair: \$20-30,000 – Public Works
- Bill Sawicki said that these costs are very disappointing – we are trying to do better with finances. Doug will get this information for the next meeting.

Item #8 – Discuss and Take Possible Action on the Following Resolutions

- **ITEM #8a: Greenway Construction Project:** RESOLVED, that, notwithstanding any prior action by the Board of Finance with respect thereto, the Board of Finance recommends the Town of Seymour appropriate \$900,000 for costs with respect to construction of a greenway trail along the Naugatuck River approximately from the Tingle Dam Bypass Channel and Fishway Park to the Bank Street Bridge, and related improvements and amenities; and financing costs related thereto; and that the Town issue bonds or notes and temporary notes in an amount not to exceed \$325,000 to finance in part the appropriation. The appropriation is anticipated to be funded in part by \$575,000 in grants from the State of Connecticut and the \$325,000 remainder, as to be determined by the Board of Selectmen, from unencumbered General Fund balance or the proceeds of borrowings.

Discussion: our portion of this cost is \$325,000; why are we appropriating \$900,000? We have only applied for the grant (\$575,000) but have not received any money as of yet. The Board of Finance would like to have someone come and provide more information at the next meeting.

Motion to table this resolution to next month, pending more information

Motion: John Stelma

Second: Heather McDaniel

YES: 6

NO: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

- **ITEM #8b: Rimmon Street/Old Drive/Clifton Street/Pershing Street Improvement Project:** RESOLVED, that, notwithstanding any prior action by the Board of Finance with respect thereto, the Board of Finance recommends the Town of Seymour appropriate \$2,410,000 for costs with respect to improvements to Rimmon Street, Old Drive, Clifton Street and Pershing Street including reconstruction of and improvements to Rimmon Street and a portion of Old Drive, sidewalk and curbing replacement on Clifton Street and Pershing Street, related improvements and amenities including but not limited to vertical alignment, drainage work including culvert and catch basin installation and replacement, intersection improvements, installation and improvement of utilities, sidewalks, guardrails, and curbing, and rebuilding retaining walls, and related land or easement acquisition, if any; and financing costs related thereto; and that the Town issue bonds or notes and temporary notes in an amount not to exceed \$286,000 to finance in part the appropriation. The appropriation is anticipated to be funded in part by \$2,124,000 in State of Connecticut and Federal grants and the \$286,000 remainder, as to be determined by the Board of Selectmen, from unencumbered General Fund balance or the proceeds of borrowings.

Discussion: our portion of this cost is \$286,000; State is covering the rest of cost; this is for the road from Route 67 to the Beacon Falls border. David Bitso said that he does not approve of borrowing to pay for road repair – they won't last till the time it takes to pay off the expense.

Motion to approve this resolution

Motion: Heather McDaniel

Second: Beverly Kennedy

YES: 5

NO: 1 (David Bitso)

ABSTAIN: 0

- **ITEM #8c: Various Town Facility, Recreational, Public Works, and Public Safety Equipment Acquisition and Improvement Projects:** RESOLVED, that the Board of Finance recommends that the Town of Seymour appropriate \$232,847 for costs with respect to various Town facility, recreational, public works and public safety equipment acquisition and improvements including: acquisition of a bucket truck and related equipment for use by the Public Works Department (estimated cost \$130,000); acquisition of a large plow blade for use by the Public Works Department (estimated cost \$5,000); acquisition and installation of computer hardware and software in connection with the creation of a Community Services website for the Town (estimated cost \$5,000); road paving at French Park (estimated cost \$30,000); acquisition of portable radios for use by the Police Department (estimated cost \$16,000); acquisition of mobile radios for use by the Fire Department (estimated cost \$9,347); oil tank removal at the Community Center, the Public Works Department building and the Board of Education administration building (estimated cost \$10,000); construction of a dog park at a site to be determined by the Board of Selectmen following the receipt of a report of the Planning and Zoning Commission pursuant to Section 8-24 of the Connecticut General Statutes, Revision of 1958, as amended, including land clearing and fencing (estimated cost \$25,000); and miscellaneous financing costs (estimated costs \$2,500); and that the Town issue bonds or notes and temporary notes in an amount not to exceed \$232,847 to finance the appropriation.

Discussion: these items were addressed in the Capital Plan; they are lumped together for simplicity sake so that each item doesn't have to be addressed individually (more costly).

Motion to approve this resolution

Motion: David Bitso

Second: Jim Cretella

YES: 6

NO: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

- **ITEM #8d: Town Communications Simulcast Upgrade Project:** RESOLVED, that the Board of Finance recommends the Town of Seymour appropriate \$475,000 for costs with respect to the installation of a simulcast upgrade to the Town's mobile/portable radio communications system facilities at the antenna tower sites at Progress Avenue in Seymour and at Quaker Farms Road in Oxford in order to provide 100% radio coverage throughout the Town, and related work and improvements; and financing costs related thereto; and that the Town issue bonds or notes and temporary notes in an amount not to exceed \$475,000 to finance the appropriation.

Discussion: eliminates dead spots in reception; safety issues – this is NEEDED for the Fire and Police Departments.

Motion to approve this resolution

Motion: Heather McDaniel

Second: David Bitso

YES: 6

NO: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

