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**MINUTES**  
**Board of Selectmen**  
**Tuesday, May 17, 2016 – 7:00PM**  
**Norma Drummer Room – Seymour Town Hall**

**Members Present:** W. Kurt Miller, Nicole Klarides-Ditria, Karen Stanek, Stephan Behuniak, Al Bruno, Annmarie Drugonis and Len Greene.

**Others Present:** Town Counsel, Brian LeClerc; Fred Messoro, Alex Danka, Pat Lombardi, Fred Stanek, Richard Demko, Jamie Brennan, Bob Santy, Myya McGregory and Erron Smith.

**ITEM #1: Call meeting to order.**

Meeting was called to order by First Selectman, W. Kurt Miller, at 7:10 PM.

**ITEM #2: Pledge of Allegiance.**

Everyone saluted the flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ITEM #3: Public Comment.**

Jamie Brennan, 124 Bungay Road, expressed his frustration regarding the operations of the Inland Wetlands Commission and Enforcement Officer. He discussed what happened when he tried to be put on the agenda for the Inlands Wetlands Commission.

**ITEM #4: Approve minutes from May 3, 2016 regular meeting.**

Motion to approve minutes from May 3, 2016 regular meeting.

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Len Greene – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

**Motion to go out of order to Item #9: Discussion and take possible action regarding tax abatement for Seymour Land Conservation Trust property located off 336 Roosevelt Drive.**

Motion: Len Greene

Second: Karen Stanek

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Len Greene – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

**ITEM #9: Discussion and take possible action regarding tax abatement for Seymour Land Conservation Trust property located off 336 Roosevelt Drive.**

Attorney Fred Stanek, Counsel for Seymour Land Conservation Trust, stated the Land Trust was donated 45+ acres of land by 589 Investments on December 18, 2015. 589 Investments have acquired a tract of land plus another 4.05 acres along Roosevelt Drive that extended into Oxford. 589 Investments donated a track of land that extended into Oxford to the Oxford Land Trust. The acreage donated to the Seymour Land Trust is being taxed. They are here to ask the Board of Selectmen to abate the taxes for the parcel that was given to the Land Trust on the Grand List of October 1, 2014 second half and thereafter. The Land Trust is a 501C3 Exempt Corporation under the Internal Revenue Code of the United States.

Motion to abate the taxes on behalf of the Seymour Land Conservation Trust, Inc. for its acquisition of open space from 589 Investments, LLC off of 336 Roosevelt Drive - Parcel 2 and that abatement include taxes due for the October 2015 Grand List.

Motion: Len Greene

Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

Vote: 7-Yes                      0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Len Greene – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

**Motion to go out of order to ITEM #8: Discussion and take possible action regarding Citizens Engine's request for waiving of Ordinance 11-20a for firefighters' carnival,**

Motion: Karen Stanek

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 7-Yes                      0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Len Greene – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

**ITEM #8: Discussion and take possible action regarding Citizens Engine's request for waiving of Ordinance 11-20a for firefighters' carnival**

Kurt read the following letter:

Rory,

Would you kindly place Citizen's Engine Co. #2 on the Selectmen's Meeting Agenda for their May 17<sup>th</sup> meeting? Citizen's Engine Co. #2 will be conducting an "Old Fashion Town Carnival" on July 21<sup>st</sup> through July 23<sup>rd</sup>, to be held at the Seymour Community Center Grounds.

We will e making application for a waiver of Town ordinance 11-20 sub part a.

Should you require any further information please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely, Pat Lombardi, Committee Member

Pat Lombardi stated Citizen's Engine is planning on having an Old Fashion Carnival Thursday, July 21<sup>st</sup> through Saturday July 23<sup>rd</sup>. He stated they are going through all the regulatory procedures including fencing, etc. He has had two informal meetings with the Chief of Police regarding security and police protection for the event. They have been approved by the Parks Commission and are now looking for approval to sell alcoholic beverages at the event. He stated the best place to hold this event would be the Community Center with its available parking. They will be contacting the church to utilize their grass for parking. They will also be using the Trestle parking lot, the fish bypass lot, Town Hall lot and gravel parking lot, etc.

Len inquired if Bridge Street would be closed. Pat stated there will be no street closures.

Len inquired about having a crossing guard on Bridge Street.

Pat stated they will have a police officer and will be using their own officers from the fire department.

They have to get permits that need to be signed off on. There will be plenty of bathroom facilities. They plan on having a DJ one night and a band another night.

Annmarie inquired about having someone there that will be carding people to prevent underage drinking.

Pat stated the alcohol area will be fenced off and there will be supplements of fire police officers and regular staffing for that.

Pat stated they will carry all necessary insurances. This is a fundraiser for Citizen's Engine.

Motion: Waiving of Town Ordinance 11-20 sub part a to allow Citizen's Engine #2 to hold Old Fashion Town Carnival on July 21<sup>st</sup> through July 23<sup>rd</sup> pending all legislative approvals.

Motion: Len Greene

Vote: 7-Yes

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Len Greene – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

0-No

Second: Stephan Behuniak

0-Abstain

Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes

Annamarie Drugonis – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

**ITEM #5: Presentation from Connecticut Economic Resource Center (CERC).**

Fred Messoro introduced Bob Santy (CEO and President), Myya McGregory (Research Analyst), and Erron Smith (Program Manager) from CERC.

Bob Santy gave a brief background on CERC. He then introduced the Program Manager, Erron Smith.

Erron gave a brief overview of the sites that were reviewed which included the following:

- Parcel 1 - 15 Franklin Street and 38 Rimmon Street
- Parcel 2 – 109 River Street and 79-101 Bank Street
- Parcel 3 - 600-842 Derby Avenue

Myya discussed the Demographic Analysis for Seymour as follows:

- With over 16,000 residents - Seymour is the 67<sup>th</sup> largest town in CT and the 10<sup>th</sup> smallest in the County.
- Seymour is a very family oriented community - a third of all households have children under age 18.
- The median age is closer to 41.
- Either very experienced or highly educated – experience is valued.
- 90% are pulled southward for employment – residents commute mostly to Stratford and Fairfield County.

Erron discussed the advantages Seymour has and the opportunities present that Seymour can capitalize on:

- Education, healthcare and social assistance
- Manufacturing
- Professional, scientific and management
- Retail Trade
- Arts, entertainment, recreation accommodations and food services

Myya discussed the Retail Gap Analysis and stated that retail gaps are more alarming at the regional level. Want to mitigate revenue loss.

- Seymour residents are traveling elsewhere besides gas and groceries.
- Residents are traveling 30 minutes for medical care (including emergency medical), entertainment and retail - having concentration in Derby, New Haven, Shelton and Bridgeport.

Myya discussed the Residents Survey.

Erron discussed the development potentials for parcels 1, 2, and 3.

- Parcel 1: Mixed-use Residential and Retail: option for non-homeowners, aid with retaining and attracting young and educated people to Seymour and those looking to downsize.
- Parcel 2: Dining/Entertainment: provide entertainment for residents; capitalize on proximity to Naugatuck River and developments.
- Parcel 3: Urgent Care Facility: Healthcare jobs and easier access to emergency medical care for the aging population and families.
  - Community College Continuing Education Collaboration: train and enhance the high skilled workforce in Seymour and surroundings; frame Seymour as a regional asset to the emerging advanced manufacturing industry.

Bob discussed Seymour's position in the market place.

Len inquired about looking into what students in the area are actually doing when they go to college or what they are looking to do in college. He inquired if Seymour High School doing a good job pushing manufacturing.

Erron he stated conditions have improved in many locations.

Myya stated that Seymour is having difficult time retaining younger people. Rebranding will help retain younger work force.

The board discussed recommendations for Seymour, as well as, the strong union presence in that state of Connecticut with the CERC members. They also discussed Seymour supporting another urgent care facility, manufacturing opportunities and community college opportunities. The board and Fred Messore discussed looking at the ordinances from an economic development point of view.

**ITEM #6: Discussion and take possible action regarding Founders Day request.**

Kurt read the following letter:

Dear Mr. Miller,

Seymour will be experiences its Seventh Annual Founders' Day on June 5, 2016 (rain date June 12, 2016) in celebration of its history and heritage. The event will be held from 10:00a.m. to 5:00p.m. and will encompass the entire downtown area, Main Street from Trestle Tavern to the Strand Theater parking lot, including Bank, First, Columbus and part of Deforest Streets, they will be closed to vehicles and open to only pedestrian traffic. The street will be filled with venders, amusements and other forms of entertainment.

We are anticipating the festival will attract not only local residents but many visitors from other areas. Therefore, it is our hope that you will provide us the use of these parking lots on the above dates. Seymour Community field, Seymour Community Parking Lot, The Strand Theater lot for handicap parking, the parking area at 115 and Main Street known as the Metro North Lot, but owned by the town, the Wakely Street lot across from the Citizens Engine Company, and the Town Hall Lot for our beer garden and food court, if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me.

The Seymour Founders' Day Association wishes to thank you in advance for the help and support.

Sincerely, Judy Simpson

Motion to give permission to the Seymour Founders' Day Committee to have use on June 5<sup>th</sup> 2016 with rain date of June 12<sup>th</sup> 2016 from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. of the following lots:

Seymour Community field, Seymour Community Parking lot, The Strand Theater lot for handicap parking, the parking area at Rte. 115 and Main Street known as the Metro North lot, the Wakely Street lot (Fish Bypass Lot), and the Town Hall lot.

Motion: Karen Stanek

Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

Vote: 7-Yes                      0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller -- Yes

Nicole Klarides-Ditria -- Yes

Al Bruno -- Yes

Len Greene -- Yes

Annmarie Drugonis -- Yes

Karen Stanek -- Yes

Stephan Behuniak -- Yes

**ITEM #7: Discussion and take possible action regarding 2015 Town homeowner's program.**

Kurt read the following letter from Priscilla Altorelli, Assistant Assessor:

This is to inform you that we have 256 applicants eligible for the Town Homeowners Program. The Town has approved a line item of \$50,000 for the program. The recommendation of this office is that the applicants be granted a benefit of \$195.00 for those that have 100% ownership or have life use of the property. Those having ownership of less than 100% will have the benefit prorated by their percentage of ownership.

Please advise this office of the decision of the Board of Selectmen regarding the granting of this benefit.

Thank you, J. Kusiak, Assessor, D. Thomas Finance Director and D Flach, Tax Collector.

Motion: Board of Selectmen grant the request of the Assessor's Office for Town Homeowner's Program in the amount of \$195.00 for those qualified with 100% ownership or have life use and those who don't will have the benefit prorated by their percentage of ownership.

Motion: Al Bruno

Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

Vote: 7-Yes                      0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes  
Len Greene – Yes  
Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes  
Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes  
Karen Stanek – Yes

**ITEM #10: Discussion and take possible action regarding 103 Davis Road and 8 Blueberry Lane**

**a. Acceptance of property**

- a. Brian LeClerc stated Planning & Zoning Commission approved a subdivision in 2004 and one of the conditions was specific parcels of land were to be conveyed to the town. This was attempted to be effectuated in 2007/2008. There was a comment from the Town Planner regarding a problem with one of the deeds. The town has received a Quit Claim deed conveying 2 parcels to the town - .85 acres and the other being 0.043 acres.

**Motion that the Town of Seymour accepts the properties described as Parcel A and Parcel B on map #2138 in Quit Claim deed dated November 12, 2007.**

Motion: Len Greene

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Len Greene – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

**b. Abatement of taxes**

- a. **Motion that the Town of Seymour abates taxes owed for Parcel A and Parcel B on map #2138 for the Grand Lists of October 2004 through October 2015.**

Motion: Al

Second: Nicole

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Len Greene – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

**ITEM #11: First Selectman's Report.**

- I will be presenting to S&P in Boston tomorrow regarding the town's bond rating.
- I met with Brian Nesteriak regarding major road work this year. We have approximately \$750,000 available. We are targeting the following roads to be completed by this spring/summer: Charles and Mayfair Roads, James and Hine Streets, Bungay Road from the intersection of Botsford and down to Knorr Avenue.
- State of Connecticut budget is finally passed. We are still waiting for final details. As it stands the mill rate that was set on May 5<sup>th</sup> will remain at 36 mills.
- I will be on vacation until May 29<sup>th</sup>. Nicole will handle all or any emergencies that occur.

**ITEM #12: Executive session (Contracts – Animal Control)**

Motion to add to enter into executive session at 8:32 PM with Town Counsel Brian LeClerc.

Motion: Len Greene

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-No

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Len Greene – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Motion to exit executive session at 8:53 PM with no motions or actions taken.

Motion: Karen Stanek

Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

Vote: 7-Yes  
W. Kurt Miller – Yes  
Len Greene – Yes  
Stephan Behuniak – Yes

0-No

0-Abstain  
Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes  
Anmarie Drugonis – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes  
Karen Stanek – Yes

**ITEM #13: Appointments.**

Motion to reappoint Valerie D’anna to the Culture & Arts Commission for a term of three (3) years expiring on May 17, 2019.

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

Second: Len Greene

Vote: 7-Yes                      0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes  
Len Greene – Yes  
Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes  
Anmarie Drugonis – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes  
Karen Stanek – Yes

**ITEM #14: Tax Refunds/Abatements.**

None.

**ITEM #15: Transfers.**

None.

**ITEM #16: Correspondence.**

- Check register.
- Letter of resignation from Mike Laban:
  - Please accept this letter as my formal resignation from the Board of Public Works. I am leaving my position for personal reasons as of April 1, 2016. I regret any inconvenience my resignation will cause for you and other board members. I have enjoyed my time with the Board and will remember my colleagues fondly. I wish you all well and thank you for your consideration.  
Sincerely, Michael Laban
- April Accomplishments of Productivity report from Public Works.
- Update on Town CCM Prescription Program.

**ITEM #17: Public Comment.**

None.

**ITEM #18: Selectmen’s Public Comments.**

Stephan Behuniak suggested looking into making parts of town non-smoking. He stated there are a disturbing number of cigarette butts in places and makes the area unattractive. He stated the public basketball courts around town are all in some sort of disrepair. He suggested starting to fix up one court very nicely to make it a great place to play and take it from there.

Kurt stated that Gary Park’s basketball court was redone last year.

Stephan stated the chains of the nets are falling apart. He suggested sending the non-smoking issue to the Ordinance Committee.

Karen Stanek questioned who Gary was and asked to name Gary Park after someone from Seymour.

Kurt will have Rory look into it.

Al Bruno stated the parking lot at Gary Park is a mess.

Kurt stated that Public Works is getting prices for the spring.

Al said someone from Seymour Soccer told him about an altercation regarding a parent smoking at a game. He inquired about an Ordinance regarding enforcement. He stated he hasn't seen any liners in the garbage cans at Gary Park.

Kurt stated they should have been addressed and will talk to Tony DePrimo.

**ITEM #19: Adjournment.**

Motion to adjourn at 9:03 PM

Motion: Annmarie Druognis

Vote: 7-Yes                      0-No

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Len Greene – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

0-Abstain

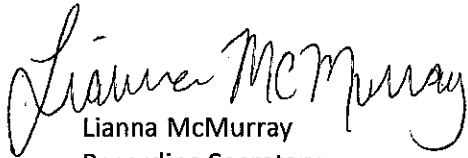
Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Submitted by,



Lianna McMurray  
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,



W. Kurt Miller  
First Selectman