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**MINUTES**  
**Board of Selectmen**  
**Tuesday, April 4, 2017 – 7:00PM**  
**Norma Drummer Room – Seymour Town Hall**

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

**Members Absent:** W. Kurt Miller.

**Others Present:** Town Counsel, Richard Buturla; Tom Eighmie, Rory Burke, Kevin Flaherty and Janice Han.

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

Meeting was called to order by Deputy First Selectman, Len Greene, Jr. at 7:04 PM.

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

Everyone saluted the flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ITEM #3: Public Comment.**

None.

**ITEM #4: Approve minutes from March 21, 2017 public hearing.**

Motion to approve minutes from March 21, 2017 public hearing.

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 3-Yes                      0-No

3-Abstain

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Al Bruno – Abstain

Annmarie Drugonis – Abstain

Stephan Behuniak – Abstain

Karen Stanek – Yes

Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes

**ITEM #5: Approve minutes from March 21, 2017 regular meeting.**

Motion to approve minutes from March 21, 2017 regular meeting.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis

Second: Stephan Behuniak

Vote: 6-Yes                      0-No

0-Abstain

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes

**ITEM #6: First Selectman's Report.**

There was no First Selectman's report because Kurt is on vacation with his family this week.

**ITEM #7: Discussion with Emergency Management Director regarding ordinance changes.**

Tom Eighmie, 50 Laurel Lane, Director of Emergency Management discussed when and how the Emergency Management Director position was created by the state. He stated there is nothing in writing that ties the Emergency Management Director position to the town. He stated he has received push back by various departments in town. He suggested sending it to the Ordinance Committee for changes.

Annmarie stated that it makes sense to make changes and to update the ordinance with the correct terms.

Karen discussed the availability of shelters for the older residents in the Smithfield and Bungay areas and inquired what would be done in case of an emergency.

Tom stated the Seymour Middle School is the primary shelter and Chatfield LoPresti School is the secondary shelter. Both sides of the town would be covered.

Tom also suggested updating the Communications Commission charge. It was originally written back in the 1970s. Technology has progressed and the commission doesn't work as it was first designed to. He believes it should be reevaluated and sent to the Ordinance Committee. He suggested making it a Public Safety Dispatch Committee.

**ITEM #8: Update regarding Small Cities Program.**

Len stated this is the program they have heard a lot about from residents. Kurt had asked the Building Department to look into this matter. A letter was sent back to Kurt, as well as, the homeowners who have come before us before.

Len read the following letter from Jim Baldwin:

*Dear Kurt,*

*This letter is to inform you after review by the office of the Building Compliance Dept. of the Town of Seymour the status of 3 projects completed under the Town of Seymour's Small Cities Housing Rehab Program. Sponsored in conjunction with funding from CT Department of Housing and administered under Lisa Low & Associates.*

*Two of the properties reviewed have met compliance with the Building codes set forth by the State of Connecticut. One property has the status of non-compliance and the proper code has been indicated by this Dept. and after correction and re-inspection this property will be brought into compliance with the CT building code.*

*Work such as driveways and site improvements stand outside of applicable building codes et forth in the CT building codes and this work is to be governed by Industry standards of such work as outline in the contract to each individual owner.*

*Some concerns are that paving of driveways do not meet the Town of Seymour driveway regulations that require a 1 1/2" lip at the intersection with the street as to deflect water from entering the property.*

*With all three properties a letter of opinion on the driveways was issued and included into the file by the firm of Nafis & Young engineers representing the Town of Seymour.*

*With respect to any and all deficiencies in the work performed on each property the contract includes specific remedies for all work and performance of said work that the owner of the property may pursue.*

*In conclusion, the work outlined under the specifications was performed and meets the minimum standard of the CT State Building Codes. Any owner that is not satisfied with the performance of any work performed by an individual contractor or materials that were used in conjunction with their project should follow the outlined procedures that are specifically outlined in the contract for such works.*

*Any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me.*

*James Baldwin, Building Official, Town of Seymour*

Len stated that Kurt would like to provide an additional update when he gets back at the next meeting.

**Motion to add to agenda discussion and possible action regarding a resolution for the 2017 CT STEAP Grant – Sidewalk Phase VI**

**Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria**

**Second: Annmarie Drugonis**

**Vote 6-Yes**

**0-No**

**0-Abstain**

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes

**Discussion and possible action regarding a resolution for the 2017 CT STEAP Grant – Sidewalk Phase VI.**

Len read the resolution as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Certified a true copy of a resolution duly adopted by the

**Town of Seymour**

(Name of the Applicant, Organization or Municipality)

at a meeting of its **Board of Selectmen**

(Legislative or Governing Body)

On April 4, 2017 and which has not been rescinded or modified in any way whatsoever.

(Date)

April 5, 2017

(Date)

Susan DeBarber, Town Clerk Town of Seymour

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to C.G.S. Sec. 4-66g,

(State Statutory Reference)

the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development is authorized to extend financial assistance for economic development projects; and **WHEREAS**, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Town of Seymour make an application to the State for

(Applicant)

\$ 250,000.00 in order to undertake the Seymour Sidewalk Replacement Phase VI

(Name and Phase of Project)

and to execute an Assistance Agreement.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE**

**Board of Selectmen**

(Legislative or Governing Body)

1. That it is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites for the State Assistance imposed by

C.G.S. Sec. 4-66g

(State Statutory Reference)

2. That the filing of an application for State financial assistance by

The Town of Seymour

(Applicant)

in an amount not to exceed \$ 250,000.00 is hereby approved and that

W. Kurt Miller, First Selectman

(Title and Name of Authorized Official)

is directed to execute and file such application with the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, to provide such additional information, to execute such other documents as may be required, to execute an Assistance Agreement with the State of Connecticut for State financial assistance if such an agreement is offered, to execute any amendments, decisions, and revisions thereto, and to act as the authorized representative of

**The Town of Seymour**

(Name of Applicant)

Motion to accept the resolution as presented.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis (as friendly amendment)

Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis– Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes

**ITEM #9: Update regarding LED streetlight conversion.**

Rory stated that work has begun. There are two phases; the audit and retro fitting. The audit is still underway but close to completion. They requested that Real Term include any outdoor lighting on municipal properties. Negotiations with Eversource will start soon. He had a meeting with representatives from Real Term and had a conference call with Eversource about basic guidelines. They will be installing pilots somewhere in town. They started thinking the pilots could be installed on the Broad Street Bridge but that being a state road, it was too complicated. They are working with the state to determine if the town can do the conversion on state roads. They are looking for other sites to put the pilot. They are waiting on Eversource and Connecticut D.O.T. (Department of Transportation) for some details.

Real Term will be looking at 10 properties that are municipally owned with exterior lights tomorrow and should be done by the end of week. The amount of lights on state roads is substantial. Rory stated in speaking with DOT, they are looking into doing state roads themselves. Once they have that it will be a matter of how quickly Eversource will move.

Len inquired if Rory had reached out to the Eversource’s Community Service Directors in specific towns.

Rory stated the town has a representative who was on the conference call. There are some standards that have to be met. They were directed to the people with the right knowledge.

Len inquired about an approximate time of completion.

Rory stated during the construction phase, it could take 4 months. It is a matter of how long it will take them to ride with the construction phase and if the town is responsible for the lights on the state roads. It is hard to say when construction will be done.

Annmarie asked if Rory reached out about the schools’ exterior lights.

Rory stated he reached out to Rick Belden and the exterior lighting had already been converted at the schools.

**ITEM #10: Discussion and take possible action regarding charge of Sustainability Committee.**

Len stated Rory developed a charge for the Sustainability Committee as follows:

*The Sustainability Committee is a 5-member appointed committee charged with generating, evaluating and assisting in the execution of sustainability projects, policies and partnerships to benefit the Town of Seymour and its residents. The Committee will look to implement recommendations of Seymour’s Plan of Conservation & Development, the Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection and the Environmental Protection Agency with a focus on savings for residents and taxpayers. Initiatives shall focus on efficiency, conservation, recreation and encouraging all things local.*

Motion to adopt the charge as written.

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis– Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes

**ITEM #11: Discussion and take possible action regarding Earth Day event.**

Rory stated a few months ago the town entered into an agreement to start a solarized campaign for the Town of Seymour. It is a partnership with the town and the Connecticut Green Bank. The Director of Operations, Tony Caserta, and Rory have interviewed a few contractors. The Town has been matched with a solar power company that does installations called Pure Point. The campaign kickoff is on Tuesday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at the Seymour Middle School at 7:00 PM. They recommended holding an Earth Day event. He is working on putting together a volunteer cleanup event similar to what has been done in the past. He will advertise the event on the Facebook page, in the newspaper, on the town's website, etc. He suggested the woods behind Sochrin's Pond as the cleanup site. There is a lot of trash back there and could benefit from the cleanup. If anybody has other suggestions for cleanup sites they can talk to Rory. He stated in the past a local restaurant offered free food to people who volunteered. Earth Day is Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> and he is thinking the event will start late morning. More details will be forthcoming.

**ITEM #12: Appointments**

Motion to reappoint Wendy Rossi to EMSOC for a two (2) year term expiring on April 13, 2019.

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria	Second: Annmarie Drugonis	
Vote: 6-Yes	0-No	0-Abstain
Len Greene, Jr. – Yes	Al Bruno – Yes	Annmarie Drugonis– Yes
Stephan Behuniak – Yes	Karen Stanek – Yes	Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes

Motion to reappoint Mike Massie to the Recreation Commission for a two (2) year term expiring April 7, 2019.

Motion: Nicole Klarides-Ditria	Second: Al Bruno	
Vote: 6-Yes	0-No	0-Abstain
Len Greene, Jr. – Yes	Al Bruno – Yes	Annmarie Drugonis– Yes
Stephan Behuniak – Yes	Karen Stanek – Yes	Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes

**ITEM #13: Tax Refunds/Abatements.**

Motion to accept the Tax Collectors report as presented.

Motion: Karen Stanek	Second: Annmarie Drugonis	
Vote: 6-Yes	0-No	0-Abstain
Len Greene, Jr. – Yes	Al Bruno – Yes	Annmarie Drugonis– Yes
Stephan Behuniak – Yes	Karen Stanek – Yes	Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes

**ITEM #14: Transfers.**

None.

**ITEM #15: Correspondence.**

- Letter from Susan DeBarber, Town Clerk, regarding the Land Records management system.

**ITEM #16: Public Comment.**

David Manning, 16 Oakwood Drive, Oxford, stated he has been following the LED light program and is concerned that the primary motive is to save money. He stated this is a once in a lifetime opportunity to improve the night time appearance of Seymour. He hopes everyone pays attention to the nonfinancial aspects of the streetlights. He suggested engaging the community a lot more. He also suggested getting an architect or a lighting expert for an opinion because as of now there is no independent source for decisions.

Kevin Flaherty, 29 Emma Street, handed out a paper to the board members.

Janice Han, 29 Emma Street, stated everyone did get some information from the town regarding the Small Cities Grant. They also received a breakdown but it doesn't explain things clearly. She would like a breakdown of the cost of materials from the contractor. She stated the vinyl flooring and frame around the door in the bathroom is not being addressed.

**ITEM #17: Selectmen's Public Comments.**

Nicole Klarides-Ditria stated she had the honor of attending and speaking at Seymour High School Cheer banquet. She stated they are a great group of student athletes. She also went to the Seymour Police Department Awards Ceremony at the Villa Bianca. She attended it with Al, Len and Kurt. She stated it was nice to see the men and women on the police force for the Town of Seymour get recognition. She thanked them for putting lives on line every day.

Len Greene, Jr. stated he had the opportunity to go to the Seymour Police Award Ceremony. He thanked them for all they do. He stated it was a great event and he was able to hear stories about what they go through on a daily basis. The awards were well deserved.

**ITEM #18: Adjournment.**

Motion to adjourn at 7:40 PM

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 6-Yes                      0-No

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes  
Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Second: Nicole Klarides-Ditria

0-Abstain

Al Bruno – Yes  
Karen Stanek – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes  
Nicole Klarides-Ditria – Yes

Submitted by,



Lianna McMurray  
Recording Secretary