

MINUTES
Board of Selectmen
Tuesday, June 6, 2017 – 7:00PM
Norma Drummer Room – Seymour Town Hall

Members Present: W. Kurt Miller, Al Bruno, Karen Stanek, Annmarie Drugonis, Len Greene, Jr. and Stephan Behuniak.

Members Absent: Nicole Klarides-Ditria.

Others Present: Town Counsel, Warren Holcomb; Judy Simpson, Linda Bellevance, Priscilla Altorelli, Michael Lombardi, Crystal Heiden, Valerie D'Anna, John Cronin, Jr., Doug Zaniewski and Romaniello - Boy Scouts Troop 19.

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.

None.

ITEM #4: Approve minutes from May 16, 2017 regular meeting.

Motion to approve minutes from May 16, 2017 regular meeting.

Motion: Karen Stanek

Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 4-Yes

0-No

2-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Abstain

Len Greene, Jr. – Abstain

Karen Stanek – Yes

ITEM #5: First Selectman's Report.

- Review from S&P: the town's goal was to obtain a AAA+ rating and S&P reaffirmed the town at AA+. There were various factors going against us. The State of Connecticut was downgraded before we went in for our review. Because of the downgrade, it causes a tremendous amount of pressure on municipalities. We were fortunate enough to receive a AA+ rating. S&P highlighted our strong economy, strong management, strong budgetary performance, strong budgetary flexibility, strong debt and contingency liability position and our strong institutional frame work.
- We priced our bonds and notes today. \$4.5 million for roads and \$1.5 million for buildings. We received an overall interest rate of 2.41 %. The first 10 years were priced as if we were a AAA+ rated community. Even though S&P did not rate us as such, the market treated us like a AAA+ community. In years 11-20, we were rated like a AA+ community. He stated that many compliments need to go to the Board of Selectmen, the Board of Finance and the Ten-Year Strategic Planning Committee along with the professional staff (Tony, Doug and Rory) for getting that rating to where it is.
- Kurt discussed a worksheet of roads. The roads that are highlighted are the ones we wanted to accomplish in 2017. Work has already started on the following roads: Nichols Street, French Street, Spruce Street, North Main Street, Bunting Road and Cherry Street. Colony Road will be starting in the middle of next week. Gloria Avenue and up were our goals for 2017. At this point, we are running approximately \$2.5 dollars below budget. We are going to add the following roads to be done this year: Columbus Street, Bank Street, the second half of Bungay Road (from Bungay School down to Tri-Town Plaza), Old Ansonia Road, Chatfield Road, Fox Drive and High Street. The Town Engineer, Bryan Nestieriak, feels that if things continue going the way they have been, we will be able to take care of majority of 2018 roads which include West Street, Chucta Road, Cedar Street, Olsen Road and Woodside

Avenue. We have LOTCIP applications in for Holbrook Road and Bungay Road (from the 4-way stop near the Historical Society to the High School) and Mountain Road (from 67 to the 3-way stop near Canfield). LOTCIP will take 2-3 years. The expectation is that Holbrook Road will start in the Fall this year and end in the Spring of 2018; Bungay Road will start in the Fall of 2018 and end in the Spring of 2019; and Mountain Road will start in the Fall of 2019 and end in the Spring of 2020. We will have a better update in July.

ITEM #6: Discussion and take possible action regarding Culture & Arts request.

Judy Simpson stated they were here last Fall to present the medallion and fish along the Greenway Trail. She inquired if they needed special permission for installation. They have a location in mind.

Kurt stated they can work with the Parks Commission and Fred Messoro to set details.

Crystal Heiden passed out packets and discussed them. The first section is about the fish that would possibly be mounted into the retaining wall. They are planning to create 30 for now and more could be reproduced and added later. She discussed possible site options for the medallion. She discussed the material of the medallion.

Kurt stated they would have to get sign off from D.E.E.P. to make sure there are no issues. The Town is responsible for everything not in the bypass itself. D.E.E.P. is responsible for the bypass and he isn't sure if they consider that in the bypass. He stated he will reach out to Attorney Stanek tomorrow. He inquired about the fish being mounted on the retaining wall.

Crystal discussed how they would be mounted. She stated it could take approximately a month to 6 weeks after getting the official word.

Judy stated that the Culture & Arts Commission would like to install a fountain at the end of the Greenway near the entrance of Route 8. She stated Fred Messoro said there was space but said he said they couldn't add water. We were thinking a water fountain with lights would look nice there.

Kurt stated they can take a look into it.

Judy said the water pump and line would have to be installed before they complete the Greenway. She stated the one in Derby runs year round. The Culture & Arts Commission is willing to look into all of this and research.

Kurt stated they might have more flexibility by the Fish Bypass. He has no issue with the Rte. 8 entrance.

All of the board members like the ideas brought forth from the Culture & Arts Commission.

Judy stated that they would also like to create a mural for the wall that comes around underneath Route 8. They would like it to be all painted blue and have fish scenes painted on it.

Kurt stated they need to get approval from D.O.T. There will be different colored lights installed under the bridge.

ITEM #7: Discussion and take possible action regarding Citizen's Engine Co. #2 Carnival waiver.

Kurt read the following letter:

Dear Board Members,

Citizen's Engine Co. #2 will once again this year be holding an "Old Fashion Town Carnival." The carnival activities will take place at French Memorial Park on Thursday, July 13th through Saturday, July 15th. This year's event will feature fun for all ages including rides, games, food and beverages.

The Carnival Committee is seeking a waiver of Town Ordinance 11-2 for the sale of beer and wine only.

Citizen's Engine Co. #2 will carry all applicable insurances along with necessary security and protection provided by the Seymour Police Department.

The Board of Selectmen's consideration for a waiver would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely, Todd Andrews, Chairman

Motion that the Board of Selectmen accepts the request from Citizen's Engine Co. #2 for the waiving of Town Ordinance of 11-2 for the ability to provide sale of beer and wine only at French Memorial Park on Thursday, July 13th thru Saturday, July 15th for their 'Old Fashion Town Carnival'.

Motion: Stephan Behuniak

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Karen Stanek brought up a possible caveat regarding having alcohol on the French Memorial Park property. She stated when the French family gave the property over to the Town of Seymour the caveat included no alcohol could be sold on the premises.

**Amendment of the motion to include 'pending the review of the deed and ordinance regarding selling alcohol on the French Memorial Park property and giving the First Selectman the ability to move forward without bringing forward to the Board of Selectmen.'*

Motion: Stephan Behuniak

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

ITEM #8: Discussion and take possible action regarding potential ordinance changes.

- a) Discussion and take possible action regarding historic landmark preservation ordinance.
 - a. The language was initially sufficient as presented by Marion O'Keefe, Town Historian.
- b) Discussion and take possible action regarding Communications Commission ordinance.
 - a. Recommendations with what the new Public Safety Communications Commission will entail.
- c) Discussion and take possible action regarding Emergency Management Director Ordinance.
 - a. Changing a good amount of the language from the old civil preparedness to emergency management.

Motion to set Public Hearing for Tuesday, June 20th at 6:30 PM in the Norma Drummer Room to allow public comment and discussion with regard to the following ordinances: Historic Landmark Preservation Ordinance, Communications Commission Ordinance and Emergency Management Director Ordinance.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis

Second: Len Greene, Jr.

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

ITEM #9: Discussion and take possible action regarding CARES agreement.

Kurt discussed the letter from Deb Ice who is the president of CARES, Inc.

CARES is asking to continue their lease their agreement with the Town of Seymour for the property located at 115 Silvermine Road.

Motion that the Town of Seymour continue the agreement for one more year commencing July 1st, 2017 ending June 30, 2018 with Coco's Animal Rescue Efforts of Seymour, Inc. for use of the town facility at 115 Silvermine Road.

Motion: Len Greene, Jr.

Second: Stephan Behuniak

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Annamarie Drugonis – Yes

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

ITEM #10: Discussion and take possible action regarding Public Works recommendation for filling open positions.

Kurt read the following memo:

I ask the Board of Selectmen to approve the recommendation of the Public Works Hiring Subcommittee to offer Labor Grade employment to the following people:

- James M. Feeney
- William Brown
- Augusto Regalado
- Paolo Staffieri

Start date to be determined by the Director of Public Works depending on positive results of all required background checks.

Sincerely, W. Kurt Miller

Motion that the Town of Seymour offer employment opportunity for labor grade positions in Public Works to James M. Feeney, William Brown, Augusto Regalado and Paolo Staffieri.

Motion: Al Bruno

Second: Karen Stanek

Vote: 5-Yes

0-No

1-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Annamarie Drugonis – Yes

Len Greene, Jr. – Abstain

Karen Stanek – Yes

ITEM #11: Discussion and take possible action regarding Town Homeowners program.

Kurt read the following letter from the Assessor’s Office:

This is to inform you that we have 247 applicants eligible for the Town Homeowners Program. The Town has approved a line item of \$50,000.00 for the program. The recommendation of this office is that the applicants be granted a benefit of \$200.00 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 percent of ownership.

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

Thank you.

Priscilla Altorelli

Motion that the Board of Selectmen set the Town Homeowners program grant at \$200.00 for those who have 100% ownership or have life use of the property and for those having ownership of less than 100% have the benefit prorated by their percent of ownership as recommended by the Assessor’s Office.

Motion: Stephan Behuniak

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Annamarie Drugonis – Yes

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

ITEM #12: Executive Session (Labor – clerk’s union contract, public works union contract, supervisor’s union contract)

Motion to add to enter into executive session to discuss clerk’s union contract, public works union contract and the supervisor’s union contract at 7:49 PM with Town Labor Counsel, Warren Holcomb.

Motion: Al Bruno

Second: Len Greene, Jr.

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Annamarie Drugonis – Yes

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Motion to exit executive session with no motions or actions taken at 8:12 PM.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis

Second: Len Greene, Jr.

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain
W. Kurt Miller – Yes Al Bruno – Yes Stephan Behuniak – Yes
Annmarie Drugonis – Yes Len Greene, Jr. – Yes Karen Stanek – Yes

ITEM #13: Discussion and take possible action regarding clerk’s union contract.

Motion that the Board of Selectmen ratify the Town Hall employees union LOCAL 1303-240 Council 4 AFSCME contract as presented by Town Labor Counsel, Warren Holcomb

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

ITEM #14: Discussion and take possible action regarding public works union contract.

Motion that the Town of Seymour ratify the agreement between town and Seymour Public Works Employee union LOCAL 1303-24 Council 4 AFSCME as presented by Town Labor Counsel, Warren Holcomb

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

ITEM #15: Discussion and take possible action regarding administrator’s union contract.

Motion that the Board of Selectmen ratify the amendment to the agreement between Town of Seymour and UPSEU LOCAL 424 Unit 85 Seymour Supervisor’s union as presented by Town Labor Counsel, Warren Holcomb.

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

ITEM #16: Appointments.

Motion to appoint Bob Newton to the Commission on Aging for a term of two (2) years expiring on June 6, 2019.

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

Motion to reappoint Lee Heller to the Catchment Area 5 for a term of two (2) years expiring on June 7, 2019.

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

Motion to reappoint Paul Behuniak to the Lake Housatonic Authority for a term of three (3) years expiring on June 6, 2020.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis Second: Al Bruno
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain
W. Kurt Miller – Yes Al Bruno – Yes Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Annamarie Drugonis – Yes

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

ITEM #17: Tax Refunds/Abatements.

Motion to accept the Tax Collectors report as presented.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis

Second: Len Greene, Jr.

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Annamarie Drugonis – Yes

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

ITEM #18: Transfers.

None.

ITEM #19: Correspondence.

- Check register.
- Email from the Tax Collector, Dana Flach, regarding the winner of the New Haven County Tax Collectors' Association, Jacob Hunnicutt. Jacob also won the First Selectman's scholarship.
- Letter from Housatonic Valley Association thanking the town for their \$750.00 annual donation.
- Kurt read the following resignation letter from Liz Conrad:

Dear Kurt,

I would like to inform you that I am retiring from my position as Deputy Town Clerk with the Town of Seymour, effective June 30, 2017.

I have enjoyed working for the town of the past 16 years and appreciate the support provided to me during my tenure. Thank you so much for all you have done for me.

While I look forward to enjoying my retirement, I will miss working for the town.

If I can be of any assistance during this transition, please let me know.

Sincerely, Elizabeth Conrad

- Note from The Assessor, Joe Kuziak
 - I wish to advise you that during the month of May 2017, the Assessor's Office has generated approximately \$60,000.00 in additional taxes to be collected in July 2017.
- Email that was sent to Kurt and Mike Marcinek, Chairman of the Permanent Building Committee, from Wayne Natzel letting them know of his resignation from the Permanent Building Committee.
- Memo from Kurt to payroll and the Finance Director, Doug Thomas discussing budgeted salary increases that are non-union and non-contractual.
- Letter from the Assistant Fire Chief, Doug Zaniewski, regarding the ordinances for the Emergency Management and Communications Commissions.

ITEM #20: Public Comment.

None.

ITEM #21: Selectmen's Public Comments.

Stephan Behuniak congratulated the Seymour High School Boys track team for their best ever finish at the state open.

Kurt stated there are 4 or 5 athletes that qualify for nationals and Coach Tom Lennon is raising money to send them.

Karen Stanek congratulated Alex Danka on the very well run Memorial Day Parade. She congratulated Mike Kearny for the Veteran's Ceremony on Monday at Post 10. She complimented Kurt on speaking very well and affectionately about the veterans. She complimented Judy Simpson and her committee on Founders' Day. They did a great job and it seemed like people enjoyed themselves. I would like to request that Fred Messorre appear at our next meeting. I have some important questions I would like answered.

Kurt asked the board if there were any department heads that the board would like to see at their upcoming meetings. He asked if they would like more in depth quarterly reports. He asked if they would like him to randomly select a department head and put one on the agenda.

Karen stated she would like to know how much economic development has incurred under the grand list.

Kurt stated that they already have that broken down and can provide that for the board. We will request attendance from Tony DePrimo at our June 20th meeting.

Al Bruno stated the Memorial Day Parade was a fantastic event. Alex Danka did a great job leading and it was well executed.

Annmarie enjoyed walking in the parade. She acknowledged a job well done to the Culture & Arts Commission. They have wonderful ideas. She stated she is impressed with their enthusiasm and is looking forward to what they have going on next.

Kurt asked Attorney Fred Stanek if there was a caveat regarding the sale of alcohol at French Memorial Park.

Attorney Fred Stanek stated he does not know off the top of his head and will look into it.

ITEM #22: Adjournment.

Motion to adjourn at 8:34 PM.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Second: Karen Stanek

0-Abstain

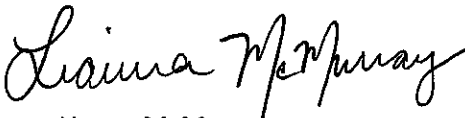
Al Bruno – Yes

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Submitted by,



Lianna McMurray
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,



W. Kurt Miller
First Selectman