

COPY RECEIVED
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TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

MINUTES
Board of Selectmen
Wednesday, December 20, 2017 – 7:00PM
Norma Drummer Room – Seymour Town Hall

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

Others Present: Town Counsel, Richard Buturla; Don Smith, Kathie Vrluke, Bruce Baker and Corey Marchetti.

ITEM #1: Call meeting to order.

Meeting was called to order by First Selectman, W. Kurt Miller, at 7:03 P.M.

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 December 5, 2017 regular meeting.

Motion to approve minutes from December 5, 2017 regular meeting.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis

Second: Len Greene, Jr.

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

1-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Trisha Danka – Abstain

ITEM #5: First Selectman's Report.

- Update of our budget numbers as they currently stand:
 - As of today, the Town of Seymour has been cut \$1,931,611.00. We have taken steps to close that shortfall. The shortfall is down to \$289,752.00. We signed off on all of the bond restructuring yesterday. That brought an additional \$610,000.00 of revenue to the town. The legislature will be going back into session after the first of the year. There is a projected \$208,000,000.00 shortfall in the budget and the Governor has recommended a cut of \$100,000,000.00 to municipalities. Based on previous formulas, that could be anywhere from \$600,000.00-\$800,000.00 in additional cuts to the Town of Seymour. Our deficit might increase to up to \$1,000,000.00. We will be working on worst case scenarios. The reality is that the cuts are going to carry through to the next fiscal year for the state. The projections of money we received with the budget that was produced are completely out the window. We have shortfalls in Fiscal Year 19 budget depending on the scenario we use. Anywhere from \$500,000-\$1.7 million. We will come up with different scenarios and we will present in January.

ITEM #6: Discussion with Strategic Planning Committee.

Don Smith passed out the Ten-Year Strategic Plan. He is the Vice Chairman of the Strategic Planning Committee. He introduced the rest of the members as well. He recognized and thanked Jen Magri, Dr. Jeff and former members for their service and help in making the plan.

The Strategic Planning Committee was established in November of 2013. The committee has developed the 10-Year strategic Plan that has produced many benefits to date. Most notably, increasing and maintaining the bond rating while other communities have been downgraded; establishment of an OPEB trust account; stabilization of our long term finances which has allowed us to absorb significant reduction in state aid without adverse tax consequences. The town has received another certificate of achievement for financial reporting this year, for the third year in a row.

Don discussed the highlights of the plan. The Communication Committee have given our plan a new look and gave it a better read. They updated and consolidated the contents of the plan. They met with the First Selectman, received his updates and will incorporate them in the next revision. They have also met with the Board of Education and they are now preparing a 3-Year strategic plan for the inclusion of this plan. The committee is also working with Rob Dyer to keep the technology section of the plan up to date. At this point the plan is essentially complete; they will be transitioning to maintaining and updating the plan. They will be looking into making the planning process sustainable. They will continue semiannual updates with the First Selectman. They will be communicating the plan to the public in various ways. Due to the state's financial condition, they will be meeting with the towns financial attorneys on recommendations on how to update the fund balance in the plan. They will be interviewing the town historian and any other department heads they have missed.

Len asked what the Strategic Planning Committee has been doing with regard to regionalization. He stated he is curious to see what the group thought about those concepts moving forward with budget constriction.

Don stated there is a section in the plan regarding regionalization. They suggested sharing services where possible. He explained the new look to the plan as follows: everything in gold is for the community sections, everything in green is for the financial sections and everything in blue is for local government sections.

Kurt stated at the last presentation with S&P, they looked back on the 10-Year Strategic Plan. He stated it is a good thing to have to show the progress Seymour is making. It is a great tool for the town to have.

Trisha stated this team has worked very hard and very well together. She is extremely happy to see the town employees working together to consolidate services between the Board of Education and the town. When the municipal part of the plan is done, the selectmen will vote to incorporate it as a formal document for the town.

Kurt doesn't think there would be an issue doing the same for the Board of Education. He suggested having everyone look over the 10-Year Strategic Plan. It will be put on the agenda for the second meeting in January (the 16th) to formally adopt the plan. He thanked the members for their hard work and effort.

ITEM #7: Appointments.

Motion to appoint Tom Eighmie to the Board of Fire Commissioners for three (3) years expiring on December 20, 2020.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis	Second: Len Greene, Jr.
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No	0-Abstain
W. Kurt Miller – Yes	Al Bruno –Yes
Stephan Behuniak – Yes	Len Greene, Jr. – Yes
Trisha Danka – Yes	Annmarie Drugonis – Yes
	Karen Stanek – Yes

Motion to reappoint Nafis & Young as the WPCA Engineers for a term of two (2) years expiring on December 3, 2019.

Motion: Len Greene, Jr.	Second: Annmarie Drugonis
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No	0-Abstain
W. Kurt Miller – Yes	Al Bruno –Yes
Stephan Behuniak – Yes	Len Greene, Jr. – Yes
Trisha Danka – Yes	Annmarie Drugonis – Yes
	Karen Stanek – Yes

ITEM #8: Tax Refunds/Abatements.

Motion to accept the Tax Collectors report as presented.

Motion: Stephan Behuniak	Second: Len Greene, Jr.
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No	0-Abstain
W. Kurt Miller – Yes	Al Bruno –Yes
	Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes
Trisha Danka – Yes

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

ITEM #9: Transfers.

Kurt read the following email from Rob Dyer regarding Next Gen Firewall.

Hi Kurt,

We recently had a network security audit performed by Advanced Corporate Networking. They put Palo Alto's next generation firewall behind our current firewall (this means that anything picked up by the Palo Alto was missed by our current Firewall and let through). The results of this security audit were both typical and frightening. They are typical because we although we are using the current gold standard "Cisco Adaptive Security Appliance" it is old technology and unable to keep up with the evolving threats that have recently taken Equifax, Target Corp, and many other big names by surprise. The newer generation firewalls such as Palo Alto's solution are connected to a cloud server that is constantly updating the threat database in real time. In addition it inspects actual traffic and makes sure that the traffic is legitimate before allowing it through (greatly improving security over the current model of port based security). Our current solution only receives updates randomly every year or two and only when we manually apply them.

Although there is a cost associated with implementing this new firewall upfront as well as on a subscription basis, I believe the recurring cost can be offset by eliminating the town's separate connection to the internet and instead integrating the town with the school's existing internet connection.

Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Thanks, Rob

Kurt stated the reoccurring costs that we will see each year between the Town and the Board of Education is \$8,000.00. The Town will be able to eliminate internet connect and will be able to jump onto the Board of Education. This will save us approximately \$5,000.00 per year. The net cost to the Town will be \$2,600 - \$2,700 a year. The speed on the town side will be improved 10 times. He explained how the new software would work. The only concern would be during testing days at the schools. If this is approved by the Board of Finance, Rob will have everything up and running by January.

Motion to approve Control #1 in the amount of \$30,300.

From: Fund balance
To: \$20,400 in Software
\$9,900 in Hardware.

Motion: Trisha Danka

Second: Len Greene, Jr.

Vote: 7-Yes 0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes
Stephan Behuniak – Yes
Trisha Danka – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes
Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Anmarie Drugonis – Yes
Karen Stanek – Yes

ITEM #10: Correspondence.

- Check registers
- Letter from great hill hose:

Dear Selectman Miller,

During the recent December meeting of the Great Hill Hose Company, Thomas Eighmie of 50 Laurel Lane was selected for appointment to the Board of Fire Commissioners. This position up for re-appointment is currently held by Dan Zaniewski.

Thank you, Jeff Cronin

ITEM #11: Public Comment.

None.

ITEM #123: Selectmen's Public Comment.

Stephan Behuniak commended the Fire Department on a job well done with getting all the popcorn balls out. It was a pleasure to attend the Great Hill Hose Company holiday party last night. It was a great time all around. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Karen Stanek thanked the firemen for passing out the treats for the kids. She noticed that on the anniversary day of the Newtown events not all flags around town on town buildings were at half-staff.

Kurt stated the Governor gives the order. The American Legion takes care of all the flags for town buildings. If a building was missed, it must have been a small oversight.

Karen asked about the status of repainting the road lines yellow where they are pink, blue and red.

Annmarie stated it was brought up at the Board of Public Works meeting and the lines should have been repainted on Mountain Road. They are looking at ways to apply reflective flags or striping over the pink, blue and red lines. They can't restripe the lines yet because of the weather.

Karen asked for a moment of silence for Pauline Lounsbury who was a reporter for the Sentinel. She covered everything for the town. Karen found out she passed away about a month ago.

Everyone rose and gave a moment of silence.

Len Greene, Jr. wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Al Bruno said the Middle School kids and staff put on a great winter concert. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Annmarie Drugonis stated the firemen went out on Saturday to deliver Christmas presents to the kids whose parents signed up. She wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Trisha Danka stated she had the opportunity and pleasure to attend the Great Hill Hose Company's holiday dinner last night. She was much appreciative that they invited the board members. Earlier in the month she represented the Board of Selectmen at the Land Trust fireworks. She wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Kurt Miller wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He also welcomed Trisha aboard.

ITEM #13: Adjournment.

Motion to adjourn at 7:36 P.M.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 7-Yes 0-No

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes

Second: Karen Stanek

0-Abstain

Al Bruno – Yes

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Submitted by,



Lianna McMurray
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,



W. Kurt Miller
First Selectman