

MINUTES
Board of Selectmen
Tuesday, February 6, 2018 – 7:00PM
Norma Drummer Room – Seymour Town Hall

Members Present: W. Kurt Miller, Al Bruno, Stephan Behuniak, Karen Stanek and Trisha Danka.

Members Absent: Annmarie Drugonis and Len Greene, Jr.

Others Present: Town Counsel, Brian LeClerc; Rob Dyer, Judy Simpson, Tom Bennett and Fred Stanek.

ITEM #1: Call meeting to order.

Meeting was called to order by First Selectman, W. Kurt Miller, at 7:01 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 January 16, 2018 regular meeting.

Motion to approve minutes from January 16, 2018 regular meeting.

Motion: Karen Stanek Second: Stephan Behuniak

Vote: 5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes Stephan Behuniak – Yes Karen Stanek – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes Al Bruno – Yes

ITEM #5: First Selectman's Report.

- The deficit has been closed at \$197,000. I feel confident that we will be able to close the revenue shortfall gap by the end of the year. The main concern is \$270 million deficit and the impact it will have on next fiscal year's budget. The Governor has come out with some projections. The Governor is saying our ECS funds will be approximately \$8.8 million and that is \$1.4 million below what we should be getting based on the original budget. Tomorrow is the first day of the short session. The Governor will give his state of the state tomorrow at noon whether the chamber is full or empty. I plan to be in Hartford tomorrow if it doesn't snow.

ITEM #6: Discussion and take possible action regarding wetlands ordinance.

The Ordinance Committee has been working on updating some ordinances dealing specifically with Inland Wetlands.

Motion to move the recommended Inland Wetlands ordinance to the Ordinance Committee as recommended by the Inland Wetlands commission.

Motion: Trisha Danka Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes Stephan Behuniak – Yes Karen Stanek – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes Al Bruno – Yes

ITEM #7: Discussion and take possible action regarding Culture & Arts downtown holiday lighting request.

The Culture & Arts Commission were pleased with the downtown Christmas festivities with the exception of the lights. They were wondering if they can get electricity in the lamps.

Kurt stated every light would have to be changed. There is an issue with the trees and they need to be pulled up and the wiring needs to be fixed. Billy Jarvis is looking into running wire up the poles. Judy asked if that would be on both Main Street and Bank Street and the response was that it depends on the trees and where they are located.

Judy asked if, in the future, the town crew can help them too. Kurt already spoke with Tony DePrimo and he will help with whatever is needed.

Judy asked if she could start taking the proper steps with the state to get the mural under Route 8 by the greenway. Kurt stated there is no issue with taking the steps but the board would like to see what the mural would look like.

Judy said that their ideas for the mural would be a sea life scene or a troll's scene. She has to send a rough sketch to the state with a letter. The mural will be high up and it would be painted by a company out of Hartford.

None of the board members have an issue with a mural going there. Al suggested staying with a sea life theme. Judy will send the board members a sketch for them to look over.

Motion to go out of order to Item #10: Discussion and take possible action regarding resident petition for city water and sewer for Country Club Drive and Fairway Lane.

Motion: Stephan Behuniak

Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 5-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

ITEM #10: Discussion and take possible action regarding resident petition for city water and sewer for Country Club Drive and Fairway Lane.

Kurt stated that some residents of Country Club Drive and Fairway Lane have reached out to him about potentially putting in city water and sewer on their roads. These houses are getting to the point now where the useful lives of their septic systems are coming to an end. They have reached out to see about the possibility and the process that it would take to get that done. The first thing they needed to do is get a petition put together for everyone on each of the streets. He already had conversation with Annmarie who is on the WPCA board and they will look into costs, etc. Kurt is in favor of the project. They had talked about doing road work in that area and would like this project looked at before the road work starts which is on the schedule for next year.

Trisha asked if the petition consisted of the majority of the residents. Tom Bennett, a resident of Fairway Lane, said that it consists of approximately 70% of the neighbors. There are a lot of water pressure issues in the area as well as other issues.

Kurt stated once they start to run water up there, hydrants can be installed too.

Al asked about the cost to the town.

Kurt stated there would be no cost to the town and the primary burden of cost would be on the residents. There would be an assessment put on each house which would be done through WPCA. The town would assist with legal fees and engineering. Kurt said the cost of road repairs would be covered by the town and not a burden to the residents.

Karen wants to make sure that this is crystal clear that this could be an expensive venture.

Kurt stated the WPCA can put together an informational meeting.

Tom, as well as, the other neighbors would like to know what the cost will be before any agreement is made on the project.

Motion to refer the petition from the 18 residents of Country Club Drive and Fairway Lane on their request for city sewer/city water to the WPCA.

Motion: Trisha Danka

Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 5-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

ITEM #8: Discussion from Technology Director.

Rob Dyer stated when he first started with the town he created a 5 year plan and completed it in two years. When he first came to the town everything was all over the place and there were many different methods of doing things. One of the big things he tried to do was get the infrastructure piece done which entails running fiber wire to all of the town buildings. Once that was done, everything fell into place. The Town was able to piggy back on the schools purchasing power and get camera systems and access control systems in town buildings. He used the fiber network for the simulcasting for fire and EMS. He stated he is proud of what they have accomplished but there is still more work to be done. He will be focusing on consolidating the tech line items. He plans to put together a plan for putting the computers in various departments on a rotating replacement plan.

A company reached out to him asking if the schools were interested in putting in wireless links. He explained what this means. He took one of the antennas, put it at high school and aimed it at the press box on the football field which gives them internet access. He put a second link at the fish bypass. Instead of paying Comcast, they are going to utilize the connection that they have. The ground work is laid to put cameras along the walkway and greenway.

Rob is going to run a fiber wire from the Board of Education to the Naugatuck Valley Health District building and allow them onto the town's internet connection. He also purchased a new firewall. This new firewall will allow us to consolidate to one internet connection. It is a large upgrade in bandwidth and will save the town \$6,000 a year.

Al asked about the rotating schedule for the new computers. Rob's goal is to upgrade the computers every five years. Kurt stated that Rob is able to tailor the computer a little better. Some people now have tablets. He stated the merger between the town and Board of Education to shared services has been a great partnership. Software isn't purchased without Rob's approval.

ITEM #9: Discussion and take possible action regarding debt service transfer fund.

Kurt discussed the possible creation of a Debt Service Transfer Fund. This approach has been approved by the auditors.

Kurt read the following:

There is hereby created within the financial accounts of the Town of Seymour a fund known as a "Debt Service Fund." The purpose of said fund is to account for accumulations of resources in connection with the payment of principal and interest maturing in future years.

Motion that the Board of Selectmen move the Debt Service Transfer Fund Ordinance language to the Ordinance Committee for review and recommendation.

Motion: Stephan Behuniak

Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 5-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Motion to go out of order to Item #12: Appointments.

Motion: Al Bruno

Second: Trisha Danka

Vote: 5-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

ITEM #12: Appointments.

Motion to approve the appointments from February 6, 2018 as recommended by the First Selectman.

Motion: Al Bruno

Second: Stephan Behuniak

Vote: 5-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Brian LeClerc discussed the confusion with the vacant spot on the Board of Finance.

Bryan Nesteriak	NVCOG Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC)	Appointment	2 Years	Exp. 2/6/2020
Kwame Dunbar	Board of Finance (Alternate)	Appointment	Until next election	Exp. 12/3/2019
Kristyn Hanewicz	Board of Finance	Appointment	Until next election	Exp. 12/3/2019
Mary McNelis	Valley Transit District	Appointment	2 years	Exp. 2/6/2020

ITEM #13: Tax Refunds/Abatements.

Motion to approve the Tax Collectors report dated February 2, 2018 as presented by the Tax Collector.

Motion: Stephan Behuniak

Second: Trisha Danka

Vote: 5-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

ITEM #14: Transfers.

Motion to approve Transfer Control #2 requested by Public Works Director in the amount of \$50,000.00

From: Contingency

To: Snow Plowing

Motion: Karen Stanek

Second: Trisha Danka

Discussion: This was signed off by the Chair of the Board of Public Works. This will now go to the Board of Finance for approval.

Vote: 5-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

ITEM #15: Correspondence.

- Check registers.
- Letter form the Fire Marshal, Paul Wetowitz, regarding Grants from the CT Fair Plain.
- Resignation letter from Joey Ortiz from the Sustainability Committee.
- Legal opinion letter from Richard Buturla regarding the replacement of the Town Clerk. Susan DeBarber is leaving at the end of the month. Kurt has the authority to replace the Town Clerk but he will still bring it to the Board for approval. There will be an acting Town Clerk for the time being to allow time for the process to be done correctly.

ITEM #16: Public Comment.

Fred Stanek, 22 North Benham Road, suggested the board consider combining the positions of Economic Development Director and Town Planner to create a new full time position. This person would maintain contact with all of the land use boards and assist them. He believes this will benefit the town. Bob Looker has done a terrific job as Town Planner for the Town of Seymour.

ITEM #17: Selectmen’s Public Comment.

Karen Stanek stated she is looking forward to warmer days coming so Public Works can have a chance to repair the many roads that have been damaged.

Kurt stated over 800 potholes have been repaired so far this year. Kurt met with Tony this morning regarding purchasing specific equipment down the road that will allow Public Works to make its own asphalt.

Al Bruno commended Public Works on doing a great job with the storms. They will have a lot of work in the spring but he has confidence that they will do a good job.

Trisha Danka feels that Rob has done a terrific job with the technology. She thinks that it is important and appreciated to have the Board of Education and municipal services working together to combine services where needed. Southbury continues to call the Strategic Planning Committee to go over what they did for the business summit. It is a terrific commendation to see how far they have come in their planning stages.

Kurt said that they are moving ahead with the plan that has been discussed on bringing all land use and enforcement officers together. He expects at the next meeting they will have a final draft. There will be a Full time person that will be handling all of the land use and planning issues. This person will help the developers and residents through each step. Jim Baldwin will accept that position. We will have someone here full time. He had hoped to meet with the Economic Development Commission but they cancelled their meeting due to lack of quorum. He thinks we need to have a full time presence at town hall. Public Works will be providing more assistance to the schools. This will free up custodians so they can do more work on the inside of the buildings.

ITEM #11: Executive Session (Contract negotiation – Administrator’s contract)

Motion to enter into Executive Session at 8:11 PM with Town Counsel, Brian LeClerc.

Motion: Stephan Behuniak	Second: Al Bruno	
Vote: 5-Yes	0-No	0-Abstain
W. Kurt Miller – Yes	Stephan Behuniak – Yes	Karen Stanek – Yes
Trisha Danka – Yes	Al Bruno – Yes	

The board came out of Executive Session at 9:14 PM with no motions or actions taken.

ITEM #18: Adjournment.

Motion to adjourn at 9:15 P.M.

Motion: Karen Stanek	Second: Al Bruno	
Vote: 5-Yes	0-No	0-Abstain
W. Kurt Miller – Yes	Stephan Behuniak – Yes	Karen Stanek – Yes
Trisha Danka – Yes	Al Bruno – Yes	

Submitted by,


Lianna McMurray
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,


W. Kurt Miller
First Selectman