

**MINUTES**  
**Board of Selectmen**  
**Tuesday, March 20, 2018 – 7:00PM**  
**Norma Drummer Room – Seymour Town Hall**

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

**Others Present:** Town Counsel, Richard Buturla and Rob VanEgghen.

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

Meeting was called to order by First Selectman, W. Kurt Miller, at 7:05 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 February 20, 2018 regular meeting.**

Motion to approve minutes from February 20, 2018 regular meeting.

Motion: Len Greene, Jr.

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

**ITEM #5: First Selectman's Report.**

- Kurt discussed the budget he presented to the Board of Finance. The budget he presented will keep the mil rate at 36 for the third year in a row. The overall expenses of the town decreased .31%. We are running at \$172,979.00 less for FY 19 than we did for FY 18. Over the last 3 years, the increases to the overall town budget have been .6 in FY 17, .1 in FY 18 and -.31 in FY 19. With the \$2 million cut from the State of Connecticut, FY 20 and 21 will be a challenge. Kurt will be presenting to the board at the next meeting. He would like to set the unencumbered cash reserve at 12% and go through the Capital Plan.

**ITEM #6: Awarding of bid for Citizens' Engine Co. No. 2 roof project.**

Kurt read the following letter from Don Smith, Jr., Town Engineer, to the Permanent Building Committee:

Dear Committee members,

On February 22, 2018, the Town Received four (4) bids for the above referenced project prior to the specified closing time and on a fifth bid, one minute after the closing time, but prior to any bids being opened. After reviewing the bid language, Town Counsel opined that it was in the best interest of the Town to waive this informality in the bid submission and open the bid. See the attached Bid Tabulation sheet for a summary of the bids.

As indicated in the attached tabulation, the low bidder is A Preferred Construction, LLC.

We have reviewed the scope of work with the low bidder and the references they have furnished. Accordingly, it is our opinion that the Town's best interests would be served by awarding the above referenced Project to A Preferred Construction, LLC in the amount of \$76,100.00 (seventy-six thousand one hundred dollars) for the base bid only, subject to posting the necessary Bonds and Insurance certificates.

We trust this information allows the Committee to make an informed decision on this matter.  
Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding this matter.  
Very truly yours, Donald W. Smith, Jr. Consulting Engineer

Motion that the Board of Selectmen award the bid for the Citizens Engine Co. No. 2 re-roofing project to A Preferred Construction, LLC in the amount not to exceed \$76,100.00 as recommended by Don Smith, Consulting Engineer.

Motion: Len Greene, Jr.

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Discussion ensued about warranties, various layers of protection and how the roof project is going to be funded.

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

**ITEM #7: Discussion and take possible action regarding Rise Up Day proclamation.**

Kurt read the following proclamation:

WHEREAS, Bound for Success, Seymour Public School's mentoring program, continues to pair dozens of children with successful members of the community, and

WHEREAS, Rise Up was started in 2015 to serve as a fundraiser to support Bound for Success and is an integral part of the program, and

WHEREAS, Since then, Rise Up continues to bring the entire Seymour community together in a showing of spirit and camaraderie.

WHEREAS, In 2016, the event expanded into Rise Up Day, a district-wide spirit day where students, staff, community members, and their families enjoy a night of singing, dancing, and laughter,

RESOLVED, That the Town of Seymour hereby declares Wednesday, March 21, 2018 to be Rise Up Day to support Bound for Success and its role in strengthening our community,

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and this 7<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2018 caused this seal to be affixed.

W. Kurt Miller

Motion to approve the proclamation as presented.

Motion: Karen Stanek

Second: Al Bruno

Discussion: Rise Up will be held next Wednesday instead of tomorrow because of the impending inclement weather.

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

**ITEM #8: Discussion and take possible action regarding National Day of Prayer.**

Kurt read the following letter from Rev. Russell Lesiw:

Dear Mr. Miller,

The National Day of Prayer will be held this year on Thursday, May 3, 2018.

This is a National Holiday which will be held across our Nation.

We would like to observe this day at 12 noon in Seymour Town Hall.

I will be inviting churches and pastors in our town to participate.

Would it be possible to have this service at the Town Hall as we have in the past?

If so, I would call on you for a brief talk and would you read a proclamation from the Town of Seymour?

Pastors will participate in prayers and a message will be given appropriate for the occasion.

Thank you for all the help you have given us in the past years.

And we have used the Norma Drummer Room.  
Thank you for your cooperation in the past years.  
Sincerely, Rev. Russell Lesiw – Coordinator

Motion that Seymour keep with the tradition with National Day of Prayer and hold a National Day of Prayer Service on Thursday May 3, 2018 at 12:00 PM in the Norma Drummer Room at Seymour Town Hall.

Motion: Len Greene, Jr.

Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

**ITEM #9: Discussion and take possible action regarding streetlight financing.**

Kurt stated that Rory has been working diligently with vendors. He said they are going to borrow the money to pay the \$496,250 for the cost of the streetlights. That money has already been included into the budget. It will be \$120,000 for the cost of electricity as well as the cost of financing for the project.

Kurt read the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town of Seymour has commenced a project to improve municipal lighting throughout Seymour by the installation of LED streetlights and other related improvements; and

WHEREAS, the Town intends to fund the project, in part, by entering into a lease financing transaction;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town is authorized to enter into a lease financing transaction with Municipal Leasing Consultants, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$496,250 for a ten year term; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that W. Kurt Miller, First Selectman, is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents in connection with this transaction on behalf of the Town of Seymour.

Motion to approve the resolution as presented.

Motion: Len Greene, Jr.

Second: Trisha Danka

Discussion: Rory discussed when Eversource will begin work on the lights. Kurt continued to discuss the financing for this project.

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

**ITEM #10: Executive Session (Contract – Administrator’s Union, Contract – opioid retainer)**

Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss Administrator’s Union Contract and Opioid Retainer at 7:23 PM with Town Counsel, Richard Buturla.

Motion: Al Bruno

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Motion to exit executive session at 7:44 PM with no motions or actions taken.

Motion: Len Greene, Jr.

Second: Stephan Behuniak

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

**ITEM #11: Discussion and take possible action regarding administrator's union contract.**

Motion that the Board of Selectmen approve the tentative agreement and corresponding memorandum of agreement between the Town of Seymour and United Public Service Union Employees Local 424 Unit 85 Seymour Supervisors which runs from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2023.

Motion: Len Greene, Jr.

Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 7-Yes                      0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Annamarie Drugonis – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

**ITEM #12: Discussion and take possible action regarding opioid retainer.**

Motion that the Town of Seymour join the City of Waterbury and the City of Bridgeport amongst many communities in a lawsuit against the opioid industry and to authorize the First Selectman to enter into an engagement document retaining the firm of Drubner, Hartley & Hellman, LLC and the firm of Simmons Hanly Conroy, LLC.

Motion: Karen Stanek

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 7-Yes                      0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Annamarie Drugonis – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

**ITEM #13: Appointments.**

Motion to approve the appointments from February 20, 2018 as recommended by the First Selectman.

Motion: Len Greene, Jr.

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 7-Yes                      0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Annamarie Drugonis – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Kathy Rich	Commission on Aging	Reappointment	2 Years	Exp. 4/21/2020
Al Yagovane	Friends of the Broad Street Park Committee	Reappointment	2 Years	Exp. 3/18/2020
Sandy Cass	Friends of the Broad Street Park Committee	Reappointment	2 Years	Exp. 3/18/2020
Tom Lavranchak	Friends of the Broad Street Park Committee	Reappointment	2 Years	Exp. 3/18/2020
Beverley Kennedy	Friends of the Broad Street Park Committee	Reappointment	2 Years	Exp. 3/18/2020
Mike Horbal	Friends of the Broad Street Park Committee	Reappointment	2 Years	Exp. 3/18/2020
Steve Kulas	Conservation Commission	Reappointment	2 Years	Exp. 3/18/2020

Ed Hendricks	EMSOC	Reappointment	2 Years	Exp. 3/15/2020
James Garofolo	Board of Ethics	Reappointment	4 Years	Exp. 3/20/2022
Bruce Baker	Board of Ethics	Reappointment	4 Years	Exp. 3/20/2022
Trish Danka	Strategic Planning Committee	Reappointment	2 Years	Exp. 3/18/2020
Don Smith, Jr.	Strategic Planning Committee	Reappointment	2 Years	Exp. 3/18/2020
Rory Burke	Strategic Planning Committee	Reappointment	2 Years	Exp. 3/18/2020
Kathie Vrlik	Strategic Planning Committee	Reappointment	2 Years	Exp. 3/18/2020

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

Motion to approve the Tax Collectors report of March 20, 2018 as presented.

Motion: Len Greene, Jr.

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 7-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

**ITEM #15: Transfers.**

None.

**ITEM #16: Correspondence.**

- Check register.
- Jeopardy tax collection letter.
- Letter from Housatonic Valley Association thanking the town for continued support.
- Letter from Acting Town Clerk Lianna McMurray discussing the Historic Documents Preservation Grant Program.
- Copy of the email regarding the Strategic Planning Committee for the Board of Education.

**ITEM #17: Public Comment.**

None.

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

Karen Stanek said on March 29<sup>th</sup> between 6:30 P.M. and 8:30 P.M. there is going to be a seminar on the FOI act conducted by Tom Hennick. She thinks that members of boards, committees and commissions, especially new members, should attend. She thinks it will be a great learning opportunity. She stated her concerns with the number of dead trees on Holbrook Road that can fall down and cause an accident. She is concerned about liability to the town.

Annmarie stated that Public Works has been on top of the tree trimming and they are working their way down to it little by little. Public Works has been able to maintain the roads and take the trees down without using outside contractors. They will be looking at Holbrook Road next.

Len Greene, Jr. thanked Rich Kerns, the Board of Education and emergency services for putting on a great school safety forum. He stated he didn’t know there was that good of a system in place. Seymour is doing a great job and this is something we should be proud of.

Al Bruno stated the Public Works budget is almost expended with all of the work they have been doing. The front of the Middle School looks great. They are proactive and will develop a plan to prioritize everything. The school safety seminar was very impressive. Rich Kerns is such a great asset for the Town of Seymour.

Annmarie Drugonis stated Rich Kerns is a blessing to this town. Public Works have been going around trimming trees and fixing pot holes.

Kurt discussed a new machine for pot holes that will be purchased for Public Works next year.

Trisha Danka stated she was really impressed with the attendance for the school safety seminar. It goes to show how members of the community are concerned about the safety of our children in our schools. She is glad that they are getting involved with the opioid retainer. The Pharmaceutical companies intents might not have been to create the epidemic we have throughout the nation but, their greed has really caused the tragedy.

**ITEM #19: Adjournment.**

Motion to adjourn at 8:06 P.M.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 7-Yes                      0-No

W. Kurt Miller – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Stephan Behuniak – Yes

Second: Karen Stanek

0-Abstain

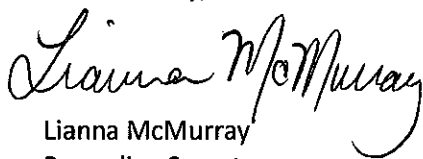
Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Len Greene, Jr. – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes

Submitted by,



Lianna McMurray  
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,



W. Kurt Miller  
First Selectman