

**Town of Seymour
Board of Selectmen
Minutes**

**Regular Meeting
Tuesday, December 4, 2018 at 7:00pm
Norma Drummer Room, Seymour Town Hall**

Members Present: Trisha Danka, Robert Findley, Annmarie Drugonis, Kurt Miller, Al Bruno, Karen Stanek, and Stephan Behuniak

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Rory Burke, Bryan LeClerc, Fred Stanek

Item #1 – Call Meeting to order

First Selectman Kurt Miller called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

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 November 20, 2018 Meeting

Motion to approve Minutes from November 20, 2018 Meeting

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 6 – Yes 0 – No 1 – Abstain

Trisha Danka – Yes Robert Findley - Yes Annmarie Drugonis - Yes Kurt Miller - Yes
Al Bruno – Yes Karen Stanek – Abstain Stephan Behuniak - Yes

Item #5 – First Selectman's Report

- The Wendy's site project is all approved; has passed all boards; should begin in the next month or so. Just waiting on the final transfer from the owner to Wendy's corporate. The opening of the restaurant is scheduled for late spring. This is a corporate owned, not franchised, facility. There will be no blasting.
- The Thule & Basement Systems building (80 sq.ft. building) is still set for Spring 2019. There is a meeting tomorrow – more information to come.
- P&S Paving issue on North Main Street – has come to some tentative agreement – taking effect in June – they will be coming before the appropriate boards to get permits.
- Jim Baldwin is largely responsible for facilitating both the Wendy's and Thule & Basement Systems projects. Any money we spent re-organizing his department was well spent!
- The Tri-Town Plaza demolition permit went out yesterday. The fencing & begin interior demolition begins tomorrow. Demolition should take about two months. There will be an article in the New Haven Register tomorrow.

Item #6 – Discussion & Take Possible Action Regarding Naveen Madivala Proclamation

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** The Boy Scouts of America is a wonderful organization that shapes young men of character and conviction through community service and education, and
- WHEREAS,** Attainment of the rank of Eagle Scout represents a significant achievement involving the learning of crucial skills and the completion of a comprehensive project in the community, and
- WHEREAS,** Naveen Madivala is an accomplished Scout who has completed 29 merit badges and held several leadership positions within the Scouts including Junior Assistant Scoutmaster and Senior Patrol Leader, and
- WHEREAS,** He successfully achieved the rank of Eagle Scout by planning & executing a project in which he built a 500-foot prayer walkway composed of over 125 tons of gravel at the Chinmaya Saraswathi Center in Orange, then be it therefore
- RESOLVED,** That I, W. Kurt Miller, First Selectman of Seymour, Connecticut do hereby proclaim Sunday, November 24th the day of Naveen's Eagle Court of Honor, to be a day of recognition and congratulation in the Town of Seymour.

Motion to approve the above proclamation

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis

Second: Karen Stanek

Vote: 7 – Yes 0 – No 0 – Abstain

Trisha Danko – Yes

Robert Findley - Yes

Annmarie Drugonis - Yes

Kurt Miller - Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Stephan Behuniak - Yes

Item #7 – Presentation & Discussion with Strategic Planning Committee

They will not be presenting tonight. Presentation & discussion will take place at the next meeting.

Item #8 – Discussion & Take Possible Action Regarding Charter Revision

Bryan LeClerc passed out handouts of the charter: old charter, charter as proposed by committee with amendments, and the revised charter. The committee met for about a year before coming up with the revisions. There were 8 questions on the ballot in November. Only 3 questions were approved.

Here are the results:

- 1) Shall the Town Charter be amended to change the following:
 - (1) Specify the method of appointment of Deputy Registrar of Voters,
 - (2) Reduce the size of the Board of Library Directors from seven to five,
 - (3) Limit the number of members for all appointed boards to five members,
 - (4) Provide for the legal notices to be posted on the Town website,
 - (5) Elimination of the positions of Captain and Lieutenant in the Police

Department,

(6) Increase the amount of special appropriation requiring a Town meeting to \$100,000?

3,279 YES — 2,921 NO

2) Shall the Town Charter be amended to replace the elected Board of Planning & Zoning with an appointed Planning & Zoning Commission?

2,296 YES — **4,067 NO**

3) Shall the Town Charter be amended to increase the term of the First Selectman from two to four years and to set term limits for the First Selectman?

3,148 YES — **3,330 NO**

4) Shall the Town Charter be amended to change the budget process, including the elimination of the Annual Town Meeting so that the budget will go directly to referendum?

1,989 YES — **4,392 NO**

5) Shall the Town Charter be amended to combine the Town and Board of Education vote at the referendum?

3,153 YES — **3,169 NO**

6) Shall the Town Charter be amended to correct grammar, spelling, terminology, statutory references, outdated provisions of the Town Charter, renumber sections, and make other and technical changes as recommended by the Charter Revision Commission?

5,270 YES — 1,095 NO

7) Shall the Board of Selectmen undertake a study regarding the establishment of a Town Manager form of government?

3,030 YES — **3,275 NO**

8) Shall the Town Charter be amended to set term limits for all elected boards?

5,279 YES – 1,160 NO

DISCUSSION:

- We can re-visit question 7 – it almost passed.
- Question 8 passed (term limits on boards), but Question 3 did not (First Selectman's term).
- Bob Findley asked about getting the information on these questions out there for the public. Bryan LeClerc said that the information was on the website and podcasts.
- Question 3 should maybe be broken down into two separate questions.
- Kurt Miller asked how long until we can form the next Charter Revision Committee. Bryan LeClerc said we can start now and form the commission. We can suggest items for them to look at, but ultimately, they can discuss whatever they want.
- Bryan LeClerc suggested we wait until the next election in November to put questions on the ballot. It is too hard to get the needed voter turnout to have a special election. We need 15% electorate voting in favor with a 20-30% turnout. Kurt Miller suggested we wait until the 2020 election.
- Bryan LeClerc said that the Commission discussed term limits at length. They discussed how long a term, how long between terms, how many terms.
- We can form an Advisory Committee to study the Town Manager form of government in depth.
- Karen Stanek asked who has the authority to call a meeting of the Board of Selectmen? There are meeting dates set up annually for two meetings/month for the year. Any two members can call an emergency meeting if needed (as long as at least 4 members show up).
- Kurt Miller said that the appointed boards should be limited to 5 members; after their terms expire, the extra members will be terminated so the board will have 5 members.
- Kurt Miller asked how quickly we want to form the next Charter Revision Committee? Do we want to form a committee, or should we make the recommendations ourselves? At the next meeting we will appoint a committee and look at specific items to recommend.
- The Charter Revision Committee is an appointed board – we can have more than 5 members. We will work with the chairs of the boards to find out who on the boards is or isn't attending meetings. Karen Stanek said that the people volunteering or appointed to boards have a responsibility to attend meetings. Rory will get a letter out to the chairmen asking who would like to remain on the boards and who attends/doesn't attend meetings.
- Many thanks to Bryan LeClerc for all his hard work on the Charter Revisions!

Item #9 – Appointments

Appointments December 4, 2018 Board of Selectmen Meeting

Name	Board	Type	Term	Expiration Date	Party
John Hatfield	Conservation Commission	Reappointment	4 Years	12/31/2022	R
Priscilla Altorelli	Culture & Arts Commission	Reappointment	3 Years	12/15/2021	U
Pat Lombardi	Economic Development Commission	Reappointment	3 Years	12/15/2021	R
Gary Popielasz	Parks Commission	Reappointment	2 Years	12/17/2020	R
Bryan Ryan	South Central Regional Council Board of Directors	Reappointment	1 Year	12/15/2019	U
Paula Chapla	Zoning Board of Appeals	Reappointment	4 Years	12/17/2022	R

Motion to approve above John Hatfield re-appointment as indicated above

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis

Second: Karen Stanek

Vote: 7 – Yes

0 – No

0 – Abstain

Trisha Danka – Yes

Robert Findley - Yes

Annmarie Drugonis - Yes

Kurt Miller - Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Stephan Behuniak - Yes

Motion to approve above Gary Popielasz re-appointment as indicated above

Motion: Stephan Behuniak

Second: Bob Findley

Vote: 7 – Yes

0 – No

0 – Abstain

Trisha Danka – Yes

Robert Findley - Yes

Annmarie Drugonis - Yes

Kurt Miller - Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Stephan Behuniak - Yes

Motion to approve above Bryan Ryan re-appointment as indicated above

Motion: Stephan Behuniak

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 7 – Yes

0 – No

0 – Abstain

Trisha Danka – Yes

Robert Findley - Yes

Annmarie Drugonis - Yes

Kurt Miller - Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Stephan Behuniak - Yes

Motion to approve above Paula Chapla re-appointment as indicated above

Motion: Bob Findley

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Note: Jim Baldwin says this department (Zoning Board of Appeals) has been VERY efficient!

Vote: 7 – Yes

0 – No

0 – Abstain

Trisha Danka – Yes

Robert Findley - Yes

Annmarie Drugonis - Yes

Kurt Miller - Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Stephan Behuniak - Yes

Motion to approve above Priscilla Altorelli re-appointment as indicated above

Motion: Stephan Behuniak

Second: Trisha Danka

Note: ONLY the Boards in the Charter are subject to the 5-person limit. Not the appointed boards.

Vote: 7 – Yes

0 – No

0 – Abstain

Trisha Danka – Yes

Robert Findley - Yes

Annmarie Drugonis - Yes

Kurt Miller - Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Stephan Behuniak - Yes

Stephan Behuniak asked if the Parades Committee falls under the 5-person limit. Bryan LeClerc said it does not because it is not in the Carter.

The re-appointment for Pat Lombardi to the EDC cannot be voted on because the EDC is already over their limit number of members.

Item #10 – Tax Refunds/Abatements

Motion to approve attached Tax Refunds Report from Tax Collector as presented by Sue Boland

Motion: Trisha Danka

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 7 – Yes

0 – No

0 – Abstain

Trisha Danka – Yes

Robert Findley - Yes

Annmarie Drugonis - Yes

Kurt Miller - Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Stephan Behuniak - Yes

Item #11 – Transfers

None

Item #12 – Correspondence

- Check register was attached
- Invitation from Police Department to their Annual Holiday Luncheon on 12/21/18 from 12-2pm in the 2nd floor training room

Item #13 – Public Comment

Christopher Bowen – 26 Birchwood Road – wanted to advise us that the 7th member recommended for the EDC could not accept and wanted to recommend Karen Robinson for the position.

Item #14– Selectmen’s Public Comment

- Stephan Behuniak – none
- Karen Stanek – said the Christmas Parade was amazing! Especially the involvement of all the children! Kurt Miller added that the sleigh was broken – we will work on getting it fixed for Santa.
- Al Bruno – none
- Annmarie Drugonis – echoed praise of the Christmas Parade and all the children involved! Also, the Pop Warner Cheerleaders performed today at Walt Disney World in Florida – no word yet on if they placed!
- Robert Findley – the First Saturday and Christmas Parade were fabulous! Maybe next time just move the cars from Main Street.
- Trisha Danka – sorry missed the Christmas Parade. Raised concerns about the Seymour Hight School pool: the temperature has been VERY cold; there have been complaints that the locker room garbage has been there a while. Kurt Miller will have the Board of Education look into these issues.
- Fred Stanek – Thanked Bob Lang for his 47 years on the Christmas Parade Committee. He will be missed but will still be available in an advisory capacity.

Item #15 – Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:53pm

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis

Second: Karen Stanek

Vote: 7 – Yes

0 – No

0 – Abstain

Trisha Danka – Yes

Robert Findley - Yes

Annmarie Drugonis - Yes

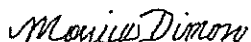
Kurt Miller - Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Karen Stanek – Yes

Stephan Behuniak - Yes

Submitted by:



Monica Dimon
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by:



W. Kurt Miller
First Selectman