

Town of Seymour
Board of Selectmen
MINUTES

COPY RECEIVED
DATE: 3/27/2019
TIME: 4:11 PM
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

SPECIAL Meeting
Tuesday, March 26, 2019 at 7:00pm
Norma Drummer Room, Seymour Town Hall

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

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Richard Buturla, Jamie Brennan, Rob VanEgghen, Fred Stanek, Jean Falbo, Rory Burke

Item #1 – Call Meeting to order

First Selectman Kurt Miller called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Item #2 – Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone saluted the Flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item #3 – Moment of Silence for Selectwoman Karen Stanek

Everyone observed a moment of silence for Selectwoman Karen Stanek, who has passed away since our last meeting.

Fred Stanek – 22 North Benham Road – Wanted to share some thoughts and reflections that Karen's daughter Courtney spoke at her eulogy: Kare was always advocating for women's rights and taught that it is ok to love and lean on a partner, but we must be able to take care of ourselves. It was not unnoticed that she passed on International Women's Day, and that she was lobbying to change the term "selectman" to "selectperson". Fred thanked everyone in Town for the outpouring of love and support for Karen's family. For your attendance at Karen's wake & funeral Mass, for the many cards and flowers, for the donations to the Karen R. Stanek Memorial Scholarship, and most especially for your prayers. Additionally, thank you for lowering the flags at half-staff in front of Town Hall. Thank you to the members of the Board of Selectmen, Police Department, Board of Education, and everyone at Seymour High School. In parting, Fred reminded everyone that Karen would always advocate for more cutting of trees on Holbrook Road!

Item #4 – Public Comment

Jamie Brennan – 124 Bungay Road – Would like to encourage the Board of Selectmen to provide more legal counsel to the Planning & Zoning meetings. Recently there was an open Public Meeting – problems with the way it was noticed, people were not recognized properly, information that was filed with the Town Clerk was incorrect

Item #5 – Approve Minutes from March 5, 2019 Regular Meeting

Motion to approve Minutes from March 5, 2019 Regular Meeting

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 4 – Yes 0 – No 2 – Abstain

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

Item #6 – Approve Minutes from March 5, 2019 Public Hearing

Motion to approve Minutes from March 5, 2019 Public Hearing

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis Second: Stephan Behuniak

Vote: 4 – Yes 0 – No 2 – Abstain

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

Item #7 – Discussion & Take Possible Action Regarding Selection of Selectman

Motion to appoint Robert VanEgghen as Selectman in the vacancy created by Karen Stanek’s passing. He will be seated at the April 2, 2019 Board of Selectmen Meeting and his term will last until the November election. Fred Stanek noted that Karen would definitely have approved of this selection as she knew and respected and admired Rob as one of her former students.

Motion: Stephan Behuniak Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 6 – Yes 0 – No 0 – Abstain

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

Item #8 – Action in Lieu of Special Town Meeting Regarding a Resolution to appropriate \$495,000 for the Purchase & Installation of Interactive Touch Panels & Related Equipment for the Seymour Public Schools, and Upgrades and Renovations to Various Town Buildings & to Authorize the Issue of Bonds, Notes, Temporary Notes & Other Obligations in an amount not to Exceed \$495,000 to Finance Said Appropriation

There was no quorum at the Special Town Meeting held on March 19, 2019 which was not due to weather conditions. Therefore, the Resolution has been forwarded to the Board of Selectmen for to take action.

Motion to approve above Resolution from the Special Town Meeting as presented.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 6 – Yes 0 – No 0 – Abstain

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

Item #9 – Discussion & Take Possible Action Regarding 2019 National Day of Prayer

First Selectman Kurt Miller read the following letter from Pastor Russell Lesiw:

Dear Mr. Miller,

The National Day of Prayer will be held this year on Thursday, May 2nd, 2019.

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

We would like to observe this day at 12noon at 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 had 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.

Item #12 – Discussion & Take Possible Action Regarding Emery Winslow Tax Incentive Application

Emery Winslow Scale Company is moving their whole operation from Terre Haute, IN to Cogwheel Lane in Seymour. There will be 9 new employees; will be operational before 6/1/19. They are planning on improvements of \$821,232 and have personal property of over \$1 Million. They have provided a financial budget and some backup documentation.

Motion to accept Winslow Scale Company as a potential participant into the Tax Incentive Program. Once their improvements are complete, they would need to have everything reviewed by Town Counsel and the Assessor and then we would make a recommendation as to if they would receive any type of incentive based on their final numbers.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis Second: Trisha Danka
Vote: 6 – Yes 0 – No 0 – Abstain
Trisha Danka – Yes Robert Findley – Yes Annmarie Drugonis - Yes Kurt Miller - Yes
Al Bruno – Yes Stephan Behuniak - Yes

Item #13 – Discussion & Take Possible Action Regarding Ordinances: Section 15-13(c) – Manufacturing Exception

Section 15-13(c) – Manufacturing Exemption

Section 15-13(c) of the Seymour Town Code is hereby repealed and reenacted as amended as follows:

(c) Notwithstanding Subsection (b), effective for the October 1, 2016 Grand List only, the deadline to meet with the Board of Selectmen shall be prior to May 1, 2019, at a regularly scheduled meeting. Such meeting shall be public.

Has gone to the Ordinance Committee and to Public Hearing with no changes requested. This will become effective in 21 days.

Motion to approve the above ordinance as presented

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis Second: Stephan Behuniak
Vote: 6 – Yes 0 – No 0 – Abstain
Trisha Danka – Yes Robert Findley – Yes Annmarie Drugonis - Yes Kurt Miller - Yes
Al Bruno – Yes Stephan Behuniak - Yes

Item #14 – Executive Session (Litigation – Gianotti vs. Town of Seymour)

Motion to enter into executive session (inviting Town Counsel, Richard Buturla and Acting HR Director, Rory Burke) at 7:27pm

Motion: Trisha Danka Second: Al Bruno
Vote: 6 – Yes 0 – No 0 – Abstain
Trisha Danka – Yes Robert Findley – Yes Annmarie Drugonis - Yes Kurt Miller - Yes
Al Bruno – Yes Stephan Behuniak - Yes

Exit Executive Session at 7:40pm and state that no actions or motions were made in Executive Session.

Item #15 – Discussion & Take Possible Action Regarding Gianotti vs. Town of Seymour

Motion to consent to the recommended settlement in the matter of Gianotti vs. Town of Seymour as discussed in Executive Session

Motion: Al Bruno

Second: Robert Findley

Vote: 6 – Yes

0 – No

0 – Abstain

Trisha Danka – Yes

Robert Findley – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis - Yes

Kurt Miller - Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Stephan Behuniak - Yes

Item #16 – Appointments

Appointments March 19, 2019 Board of Selectmen Meeting

Name	Board	Type	Term	Expiration Date	Party
John Duke	Zoning Board of Appeals (Alternate)	Appointment	4 Years	March 19, 2023	R
Kathy Rich	Commission on Aging	Reappointment	2 years	April 2, 2021	R
Christine Aliman	Economic Development Commission	Reappointment	3 Years	April 1, 2022	U
Mike Magut	Board of Ethics	Reappointment	4 Years	March 24, 2023	D
Mike Massie	Recreation Commission	Reappointment	2 Years	April 7, 2021	U
Jamie Yakusewich	Recreation Commission	Reappointment	2 Years	April 18, 2021	R

Motion to approve the above Appointments dated March 19, 2019 as recommended by the First Selectman.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis

Second: Trisha Danka

Vote: 6 – Yes

0 – No

0 – Abstain

Trisha Danka – Yes

Robert Findley – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis - Yes

Kurt Miller - Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Stephan Behuniak - Yes

Item #17 – Tax Refunds/Abatements

Motion to accept Tax Refunds Report dated 3/19/19 from Tax Collector as presented by Sue Boland

Motion: Robert Findley

Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 6 – Yes

0 – No

0 – Abstain

Trisha Danka – Yes

Robert Findley – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis - Yes

Kurt Miller - Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Stephan Behuniak - Yes

Item #18 – Transfers

None

Item #19 – Correspondence

- Received two Letters of Resignation from Frank Conroy. One for his position on the Board of Police Commissioners effective April 1, 2019, and one for his position on the Representative Policy Board of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water District. His current health issues prevent him from continuing to serv on these committees/boards. He has been a tremendous public servant to the Town of Seymour for well over 60 years. He served as First Selectman twice and several other town boards

and committees. Kurt Miller just wanted to take a moment to honor Frank for all of his hard work and dedication to the Town of Seymour.

Item #20 – Public Comment

Jamie Brennan – 124 Bungay Road – Would like to comment again on the P&Z issue on the ordinance changes – they are changing text for the RC-3 District is what’s proposed. Brian Nesteriak, at the last P&Z meeting, cited that it was at least 80% Aquifer Protection District in this RC-3 District. It is being proposed as Economic Development but is being pushed as Multi-Family Apartments Condos. The P&Z Regulations state that the Aquifer Protection Commission (changed to the Conservation Commission – Aquifer Protection) is a regulatory body. Jamie suggested in February to the Board that they take a look at the proposed text changes to get a referral from them. That hasn’t happened. A lot of things going on with this and it needs some attention. Many people spoke and were against the multi-family housing. They wanted Economic Development for tax purposes. But there are some improprieties in the way this is being handled. Looks like it will be set up for appeal.

Item #19– Selectmen’s Public Comment

- Stephan Behuniak – remember Karen Stanek from high school and received her support getting onto this board and have the greatest respect and admiration for her; she cared deeply about public service and inspired and encouraged me in these and I feel very grateful to have been able to serve with her on this board. I will miss her greatly. Similarly, Frank Conroy will also be greatly missed; he touched and inspired me and also many people with his service. Welcome to Rob VanEgghen and look forward to working with you.
- Al Bruno – echoed Stephan’s comments regarding Karen Stanek and thanked Fred Stanek for his comments tonight. Also wanted to welcome Rob VanEgghen.
- Annmarie Drugonis – also echoed Stephan’s comments regarding Karen. She will be greatly missed. We all looked up to her and valued her guidance. Also, congratulations and welcome to Rob VanEgghen. I had the pleasure of working with Frank Conroy on the Board of Selectmen in 2007. He had vast knowledge and have the greatest respect for him and wish him and his family all the best and lots of prayers. Also, congratulations to Lexi Michaud for the logo design for the Seymour Public Schools. Also, congratulations to the Seymour High School Cheerleaders. A few meetings back we had someone from Mission 22 come speak to us about their veteran’s suicide prevention program. There will be a meeting here on Friday (March 29, 2019) @ 7PM in the Norma Drummer Room to get this going - discuss a Valley-wide (Seymour, Ansonia, Derby Shelton, Oxford) event to bring awareness for suicide prevention and to raise money for this desperately needed program for the veterans.
- Bob Findley – it was great to see all the support from the town for Karen’s family; she impacted many people and will be sadly missed. Congratulations and welcome to Rob VanEgghen.
- Trisha Danka – echoed everyone’s comments on missing Karen Stanek and Frank Conroy.
- Richard Buturla – echoed Stephan’s comments on missing Karen and her dedication to Seymour.
- Kurt Miller – signed the contract with Chris Pelosi – he will be starting around April 22, 2019 and is very excited to get started in his new position.

Item #20 – Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:54pm

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis

Second: Trisha Danka

Vote: 6 – Yes

0 – No

0 – Abstain

Trisha Danka – Yes

Robert Findley – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis - Yes

Kurt Miller - Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Stephan Behuniak - Yes

Submitted by:

Monica Dimon

Monica Dimon
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by:

W. Kurt Miller

W. Kurt Miller
First Selectman

