

MINUTES
Special Board of Selectman
Wednesday, February 4, 2009 @ 7:30 PM
Norma Drummer Room/Seymour Town Hall

Members present: First Selectman, Robert J. Koskelowski, Annmarie Drugonis, Roberta King, John Putorti, John Conroy, Jr., Paul Roy, and Town Counsel, George Temple.
Members not present: Frank Conroy, Jr.
Others present: Frank Loda

- The First Selectman opened the meeting at 7:30 PM.
- Everyone saluted the Flag and stated the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion to approve the minutes from the Board of Selectmen meeting on 1/20/09

Motion: John Conroy, Jr.

Second: Paul Roy

Vote: 5-Yes (First Selectman, Robert J. Kosekelowski, Annmarie Drugonis, John Putorti, John Conroy, Jr., and Paul Roy) 0-No 1-Abstain (Roberta King) 0-Disqualify.

First Selectman's Report:

- Gave an update on the winter storms and so far Public Works has been out 15 times this winter. Currently the Town has spent approximately \$220,000 so far.
- The First Selectman discussed Governor Rell's budget and some of his concerns. He has sent a letter asking for clarification on Governor Rell's budget and will get back to the Board at a later date.

Public Comment:

None

Item # 1 – Set Public Hearing for Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics for Tuesday February 17, 2009 @ 7:00 PM.

Motion to Set Public Hearing for Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics for Tuesday February 17, 2009 @ 7:00 PM in the Norma Drummer Room/Seymour Town Hall.

Motion: John Putorti

Second: Roberta King

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Item # 2 – Approval of Grant Application for the Town Clerks Office for the State Library Public Records for \$5,000.00.

Motion of the Approval of Grant Application for the Town Clerks Office for the State Library Public Records for \$5,000.00.

Motion: John Conroy, Jr.

Second: Roberta King

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Item # 3 – Parking area easement at 98 Bank Street.

Motion to approve Town Counsel, George Temple to meet with Mike Horbal to legally move easement and to put on land records.

Motion: John Conroy, Jr.

Second: Paul Roy

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

Item # 4 – Update on Haddad Road.

The First Selectman met with the Water Company and the Water Company is going to put a guard rail up. The First Selectman asked this to be a wire guard rail due to the road being so narrow that during the winter months the snow plows can plow the snow through the rail not to narrow the road. This will be done from Woodbridge through Seymour and will be done by May. The Town will also add signage.

Item # 5 – Economic Development Director Report.

Economic Development Director John Criscuolo thanked the Board for their confidence in him. He explained that he would come into Town Hall on evenings and weekends. John always remained in contact with developers along with being in contact with Nancy the Economic Development Secretary. John explained that Nancy had been to all training classes, she has met with all the developers and has maintained a relationship with them, she has contributed to every packet sent out to every developer, and was running the department in his absence. John explained that the Economic Development Department had sent out a Questionnaire to the Towns residents and out of 7,000 Questionnaires 2,000 were returned. The Questionnaire response showed the Economic Development Department has been on the right track with the direction the Town should go. The following is some of the responses in the Questionnaire.

- Residents would like to see a clothing store come to Town
- To fill Tri-Town Plaza
- Family style restaurants
- Continue to development along Rt. 8, 34, & 67
- A grocery store
- Arts & crafts
- Book store
- Electronics store

John explained the problems with filling and selling of some of the locations has to do with the turn of the Real Estate market. The land owners have to market the property and realize a property is only worth what someone is willing to pay for it. John also updated the Board on some of the problems he faced with trying to work with the owner of Tri Town plaza. Some of the demands coming from the land owner, the Town could not meet and after a while communication started to break down. These demands made were self serving and were not beneficial to the Town. There have been several realtors involved in working with the owner and we were working along with the realtors and we do know potential businesses have been brought to the owner and for what ever reason had fallen through. John also sent the previous realtor a list of potential business that would be interested in going into Tri Town Plaza but now that listing has ended he will have to start all over with the new Realtor. The idea that this property is somehow useless or can't be filled is ridiculous. We have seen the former Caldor, Bradlees, and Kmart plazas and they have all transformed except for Tri Town Plaza and the fact that this plaza is not

filled does not fall on the Town but on the land owner. In closing John expressed his desire to have the Economic Directors position filled as the department has come so far and he does not want to see these contacts lost. In closing the First Selectman thanked John for all he had done and would take his recommendations into consideration. No action taken.

Item # 6 – Discussion of 2007/2008 Audit.

Discussion of the Audit, page 26 of Statement Revenues, Expenditures and other Financing Year Ended June 30 2008.

No action taken.

Item # 7 – Discussion of Town Counsel Fee's (Town Charter, Sec. 10.17)

The First Selectman discussed the Town Counsel Fee's with the Board. Tony Caserta went into the Archives to locate Town Counsel bills going back to the last two previous administrations. For the Democratic administration only the last two years of bills could be located at this time. With that in mind Tony Caserta added those two years which averaged \$121,500. The previous administration Town Counsel bills averaged \$122,000 over four years while our current Town Counsel bills averaged \$69,000. The Board discussed the need to have Town Counsel at every Board of Selectman meeting. In going through Attorney Temple's bills one error was detected and corrected but also there were times where Attorney Temple attended Board of Selectman meetings and didn't bill the Town and was not compensated for this. The Town has saved a lot of money on court cases by using Attorney Temple. At the next Board of Selectmen meeting the Board will discuss the need to have Town Counsel, George Temple attend Board of Selectmen meetings. The First Selectman recommends having Attorney Temple attend Town meetings.

No action taken

Item # 8 – Town Buildings Custodian's pickup truck.

The First Selectman discussed the need for the Town Custodians to have a new/used pick up truck and the most cost effective way to do this would be to exchange the First Selectman's Town vehicle for the former Assistant Fire Marshals pick up truck. The cost for this would be \$ 2,000.00 for transfer of lights etc.

No action taken.

Item # 9 – Discussion and possible action Capital Projects 2009/2010.

No capital projects recommended for 2009/2010. The only capitol project is for approximately \$11,319 that is the only item going to be in capitol projects lease vehicle for Fire Chief put under capitol projects.

Under contingency fund recommendation is for \$100,000.

Item # 10 – Appointments.

Motion to appoint Lisa Andrzejewski to Recreation Commission for a 2-year term expiring on 11/16/10.

Motion: John Putorti

Second: Paul Roy

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

Motion to re-appoint Mary Reyher to Culture & Arts Commission for a 3-year term expiring 1/12/12.

Motion: John Conroy, Jr.

Second: Roberta King

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to re-appoint Bill Paecht to Parks Commission for a 2-year term expiring on 2/25/11.

Motion: John Putorti

Second: John Conroy, Jr.

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to re-appoint Bill Paecht to Planning & Zoning Commission for a 2-year term expiring on 2/3/11.

Motion: Paul Roy

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Item # 11 – Transfers.

Motion to approve \$ 40,000.00 transfer from Contingency account #1-001-410-1950-530-872 into Snow Plowing – Overtime account # 1-001-430-3110-570-131 in the amount of \$ 20,000.00 and into Snow Plowing – Materials account # 1-001-430-3110-570-422 in the amount of \$ 20,000.00. Transfer is for emergency funds for snow plowing, overtime and materials. Usual number of snow and ice storms has produced a shortage of budgeted funds.

Motion to approve transfer and refer to the Board of Finance.

Motion: Roberta King

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Item # 12 – Tax Refunds/Abatements.

Motion to approve Tax Refunds in the amount of \$15,163.23.

Motion: John Putorti

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Item # 13 – Correspondence.

13a: Check Register

Item # 14 – Other Business

None.

Item # 15 – Public Comment.

Suggestion was made on Item # 9 and the Board of Selectmen revisited Item # 9.

Motion to go back to Item # 9 to take action on Capitol Projects 2009/2010.

Motion: John Putorti

Second: Paul Roy

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Recommend motion made that the Board of Selectmen do not submit moneys for Capitol Projects at this time \$ 11,319 for lease purchase of Fire Chiefs vehicle purchase last year.

Motion: John Conroy, Jr.

Second: John Putorti

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

Item # 16 – Selectmen’s Public Comment.

Paul Roy presented to the Board an email mail from Theresa Conroy, State Representative for 105th District. The form is from CCEF Seeks Potential Host Sites for Small Wind Turbines. To promote, develop and invest in clean energy. They are looking for public sites such as schools. Proposals would need to be submitted by February 6, 2009. The Board discussed the possible benefits for something like this in the future that this being presented on Feb 4, 2009 didn’t give time for research nor would allow time to prepare a proposal.

No action taken.

Item # 17 – Executive Session (Contract Negotiations – 16 & 17 Maiden Lane)

Motion to go into Executive Session for Contract Negotiations – 16 & 17 Maiden Lane including Town Counsel, George Temple at 8:40 PM.

Motion: John Conroy, Jr.

Second: Annmarie Drugonis

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

Motion to come out of Executive Session @ 8:56 PM with no motions or action taken.

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis

Second: Roberta King

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

Item # 18 – Adjournment.

Motion to Adjourn @ 8:56 PM

Motion: Annmarie Drugonis

Second: Roberta King

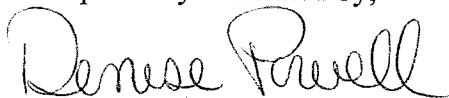
Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

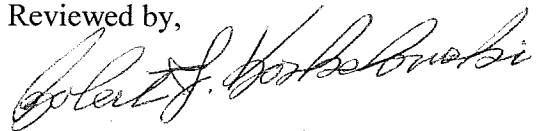
0-Disqualify

Respectfully submitted by,



Denise Powell
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,



Robert J. Koskelowski,
First Selectman