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**Town of Seymour
Board of Finance**

Minutes

**Special Meeting / Budget Workshop 7
Monday, February 28, 2011 at 7pm
Auditorium, Seymour Middle School**

Members Present: Robert Koskelowski, Bill Paecht, Peter Jezierny, Bill Sawicki, Jay Hatfield, John Stelma (Alternate) and Michelle Walsh

Others Present: Paul Roy, Nicole Klarides-Ditria, Marianne Mascolo, Richard Belden, Christine Syriac, Frank Loda, Kristen Bruno, Al Bruno, Allison Cunningham, Mort Conlan, Mark Krauchick, Marsha Schuck, Amy Dunlop, Lisa Cheney, Maria Keeler, Ed Schuck, Christine Pelletier, Ilene Faustich, Rhonda Geffert, Jennifer Magri, Jara Ciocca, Allison Brett, Mark Krauchick, Theresa Dunlop, and Cindy Dion

Item #1 – Call Meeting to order

The Chairman, Robert Koskelowski, called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

Item #2 – Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone saluted the Flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item #3 – Appointment of Alternates if needed

Motion to appoint John Stelma for Kristen Harmeling.

Motion: Bill Paecht

Second: Bill Sawicki

Yes: 6

No: 0

0: Abstain

Item #4 – Public Comment

Cindy Dion, 18 Carriage Drive: Concerned that some parents may not have been able to attend due to children sporting events. Does not feel Board of Finance is listening to the people. Supports Board of Education but not the Board of Finance.

Theresa Dunlop, 13 Highland Street: Supports the proposed budget. The state and federal standards are increasing the money that is needed for the children. Asked to put budget to people as is.

Mark Krauchick, 28 Humphrey Street: (Custodian for Schools) Supports the proposed budget. Buildings need repair and patching is not going to work. Need commercial products and not consumer products, the right products save money in the long run.

Allison Brett, 11 Stanley Drive: Her child received help from tutors and these programs were cut last year. Would like the budget brought to people as is.

Jara Ciocca, 52 Hull Road: Supports Budget. Children need continuity in programs and staff, our schools have struggled with this.

Jennifer Magri, 16 Union Street: No one wants to pay more taxes, but the education of youth is a sound investment. A parent of 5 believes BOE is a dedicated group and technology is necessary. Supports budget.

Rhonda Geffert, 26 Shari Drive: Supports budget. The last 8 years has not seen a budget for the kids and not one year has the budget been as presented. Made time to come here, asks everyone to make time to vote.

Ilene Faustich, 33 Davis Road: Has one child in the middle school and feels receives a good education even with cuts. Believes cuts are due to a referendum voting system. Supports budget.

Christine Pelletier, 4 Fawn Hollow Drive: Supports budget. Asks to remain positive and have respect for volunteers and workers. Encourages town to find funds through economic development and not through increased taxes.

Ed Schuck, 7 Country Club Road: Resident for 40 years doesn't like taxes but supports budget. Feels losing a sense of community, supports all aspects of the community, seniors, kids, etc...

Maria Keeler, 5 Fawn Hollow Drive: Supports budget. It is important to have an educated student body.

Lisa Cheney, 869 South Main Street: A teacher who is concerned with items being stripped away and the disappointment in the children with the threat of removals. Supports budget.

Amy Dunlop, 4 Cross Bridge Lane: Believes everyone there is in support of the budget, asks for a chance to bring it to the public.

Marsha Schuck, 7 Country Club Road: She is on a fixed income and supports the budget.

Mark Krauchick, 28 Humphrey Street: (2nd comment) Children ages 8-18 average 7 ½ hours of technology usage per day, it is foolish not to invest in this for the kids. Supports budget.

Item #5 – Budget Discussions (workshop 7), take possible action

Marianne Mascolo presented information regarding proposed plans for the 2011-2012 budget year.

Member of the public asked where Seymour ranks in per pupil expenditures in the state? Rick Belden will have the information for the BOF March 9, 2011 meeting.

Item #6 – Public Comment

Mort Conlan, 73 Brookfield Road: Disappointed the referendum vote on February 22 did not pass even with no education in it. Asks the BOF to explain the thinking behind the budget and provide reasons. Supports budget as is.

Al Bruno, 10 Mac Connie Court: Professional development and technology are important for children. The proposed World Language teacher in the middle school is important; most towns have them in elementary schools. Supports budget as is.

Allison Cunningham, 2 Hillside Ave: Teacher asking to please think of the children when putting the budget forward.

Kristen Bruno, 10 Mac Connie Court: Teachers and kids have sacrificed, what has been requested is appropriate. Supports budget.

Frank Loda, 27 Osprey Drive: Meeting will be on TV cable 10 on Thursday March 3, 2011 at 8pm. Also can watch tape of full meeting on www.yogi8.net

Item #7 – Adjournment

Motion to adjourn

Motion: Jay Hatfield

Second: Bill Paecht

Yes: 7

No: 0

0: Abstain

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm.

Submitted by:

Michelle Walsh
Board of Finance