

**Town of Seymour ~ Board of Finance
MINUTES
REGULAR Meeting
Tuesday, September 22, 2026 at 7:00pm
Norma Drummer Room – Seymour Town Hall**

Members Present: Mary Kruger, Beverly Kennedy, Bettyann Peck, Andy North, Richard Demko, Kristyn Haniewicz, Tracy Rappa, Alice Levey (alternates).

Members Absent: Robin Andrews (alternate).

Others Present: Jason Vieira, Monica Dimon, Annmarie Drugonis, Dr. Susan Compton, Kristin Bruno

Item #1 – Call Meeting to order

Chairman Richard Demko 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 – Seating of Alternates

Motion to seat Alice Levey for Quinn Levey

Motion: Kristyn Haniewicz Second: Bettyann Peck

Yes: 6

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Item #4 – Public Comment

Dr. Susan Compton – 122 Walnut Street – Superintendent of Schools – just wanted to clarify a misunderstanding that was reflected in the minutes from July 28, 2026. As we go from one budget year to another, sometimes there is a misunderstanding about how things were budgeted for. On page one of the 07/28/26 minutes it says that the Board of Education (BOE) did not pay for shared services. I want to make it clear that the First Selectwoman for the 2024/2025 and 2025/2026 year agreed that the BOE did not need to pay for shared services. In these minutes, it is wondering why the BOE did not pay for shared services. The reason we did not is because we did not need to per the First Selectwoman. I think the misunderstanding was at the end of last year's budget, we were asked if we had any money left or were zeroed out. We were zeroed out. The shared services was included in the Town Budget. In the minutes, it says "the BOE still refuses to pay for shared services." You have our condensed budget for 2026/2027. It does have a line item for shared services. \$196,308.75. I wanted to emphasize that the shared services IS in this year's budget. Last year, we did not have it in the budget because we did not need to.

There IS a signed contract from August of 2022. It states that the BOE will pay 50% of contract and 10% of insurance. We are pleased with shared services. We are a team.

On page 6 of the 07/28/26 and page 12 of the 07/28/26 minutes it also references that the BOE contributed no more towards the HR Director and I.T. Director salaries. This is not strictly true. We did not need to.

As for the Turf Field, I want to say a big "thank you" to the Town of Seymour, First Selectwoman Annmarie Drugonis, Kurt Miller and all of the work that went into the Turf Field. Back when this committee was formed, Ed Strumello and State Representative Nicole Klarides-Ditria had said that the BOE needs to set aside money and so does the Town. I want to clarify that the BOE was not able to set aside money until two years ago. If there was money left over, it would go wherever the Town wanted to put it. The Town had a small account, and the Town did pay for putting the lights on the football field. This was helped with some COVID money. Jason Vieira, Annmarie Drugonis, and Kurt Miller worked it out so that the Field was finished. It looks beautiful and I want to say "thank you".

I just wanted to set the record straight that the BOE is paying for shared services in this year's budget.

Kristin Bruno – 10 MacConnie Court – I just wanted to reiterate what Dr. Compton said. It was in the budgets that the BOF sent to referendum in 2024/2025 and 2025/2026 that the full shared services were included in the Town side of budget as proposed by the First Selectwoman. For the 2026/2027 budget, we have the 50% of shared services in the BOE budget.

Item #5 – Approval of Minutes – July 28, 2026 Regular Meeting

Richard Demko asked if we want to take another look at these minutes.

Jason Vieira said he could look back and verify this. Andy North asked if we can document this in the current minutes as opposed to modifying the 07/28/26 minutes.

Motion to table approval of the July 28, 2026 Regular Meeting pending further investigation

Motion: Bettyann Peck
Motion fails

Second: None

Monica Dimon said that the statements in the minutes were what people actually SAID. That is not to say that those statements were CORRECT. But they were those people's opinions. How can you "correct" that?

After reviewing the July 28, 2026 minutes:

Annmarie Drugonis said that we can say that through discussion it was verified that in the 2025/2026 budget year, at the Summit Meeting, the First Selectwoman said that the Town would take on the FULL shared services expenses. In the 2024/2025 budget year, there was a surplus of \$150,000 and so the First Selectwoman said that the Town would take on the FULL shared services expenses. So the BOE was not responsible for shared services in either of these two budgets.

Jason Vieira does recall that in the 2024/2025 budget year, the First Selectwoman waived the shared services expenses for the BOE. In the 2025/2026 budget year the BOE did have a surplus of around \$150,000 and that money was allocated to the Turf Field. He said he would look up to verify the waiving of the shared services.

Motion to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2026 Regular Meeting.

Motion: Kristyn Haniewicz
Vote: Yes: 4 No: 0

Second: Andy North
Abstain: 3 (Bettyann Peck, Beverly Kennedy, & Richard Demko)

Item #6 – Board Member Resignation

Richard Demko read a letter from Quinn Levey resigning as a member of the Board of Finance. Richard thanked Quinn for his service to the Board.

Motion for Alice Levey to replace Quinn Levey as a member of the Board of Finance

Motion: Bettyann Peck

Second: Mary Krueger

Yes: 6

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Now, we have a vacancy for an Alternate position. Richard Demko put forth John Perry as an Alternate. Andy North talked a bit about John and who he is. We will see him next month. He will stop by Town Hall to be sworn in.

Second: Alice Levey

Abstain: 0

None

Item #8 – Comments from the Finance Director

Fiscal Year 2026

We are working on finalizing reconciliations and have started uploading documents to the Auditor's portal. The auditor has made a preliminary selection of transactions and we have gathered the required documents. The auditor plans to be on site to review these documents.

Fiscal Year 2027

This is a difficult year as the budget did not pass after multiple attempts. As expected the police overtime line item is already approaching the full year's budgeted amount. We will continue working with department heads to closely monitor the budget.

- Every year we are required to have an Audit done. We are using Acavella & Company – a firm out of Shelton. We have used them for the past two years and are happy with their performance. There is a little staff turnover. We are assigned a Manager (instead of just an associate). The partner is very “hands on”. We have had some discussion with him already. The Board of Education is very happy with them also. Dr. Compton said that they are very thorough. Jason said that we have between 35 and 40 bank accounts and a bunch of Special Accounts and Revenue Accounts. Usually he starts with the Board of Education and then does the Town. We have already provided some information to him.
- The Police Overtime line is already at \$110,000. Only \$125,000 was budgeted. Some of this is due to vacancies in the Department. Additionally, there was some unexpected police work necessary in Town.
- Also, there is not much in Contingency or Capital Accounts. We are very diligent about keeping the budget in line. Keeping a close eye on it. It is a VERY tight budget.
- Beverly Kennedy asked if we will have a surplus this year. Jason Vieira said a small one, but yes.
- Jason Vieira said that there was a presentation at the last Board of Selectpersons Meeting on 09/15/26 by the Town Engineer regarding the roads and road conditions in Town. Annmarie Drugonis said that they discussed adding a 3rd question on the ballot in November. The question being “Should the Town of Seymour set aside \$XXX amount to upkeep the roads?” This amount would not be able to but cut or reduced from the budget. Bettyann Peck asked if the engineering costs are included in budgeting the road work. Annmarie said that there is a \$250,000 Grant for this that we have just applied for. Annmarie said that we do now include engineering costs.

Item #9 – Transfer Requests

There is a transfer requested. See below:



EMIL SENGER POST, No. 10
AMERICAN LEGION
P.O. BOX 137
SEYMOUR, CONNECTICUT

To whom it may concern;

The Veterans Graves Committee is requesting an additional \$1000.00 to be added to Acct. No. 525, Veteran Graves- Salary: Regular 410-1950-530-110 to offset the rise in costs to administer these activities. Your immediate attention to this request would be greatly appreciated.

Michael P. Kearney
Committee Chairman

- Richard Demko said the problem is that there is no account listed to transfer FROM. We may need to wait a little while on this. Jason Vieira said that he has two line items - \$3,000 for flags. And the other line item is for the stipend for the veterans putting up the flags. He has used up all the money given for this year. Bettyann Peck said that there is no Transfer sheet. Jason said he is just asking for money to be added to his line items. The assumption is that it would come from Fund Balance. Richard Demko said he is not comfortable taking money from Fund Balance. It is not good practice and is not good financial management. The way forward with this is to table this until we get closer toward the end of the fiscal year and see what we have available at that time.
- Annmarie Drugonis said Mike Kearney presented his request to the Board of Selectpersons. We do understand and are very grateful to our veterans for their service. We suggested that the Cub Scouts or Boy Scouts as a volunteer project giving back to the Community. Mr. Kearney said no, they like to do it themselves. He was also very upset that Dee had ordered flags that were made in China by mistake. He said don't save the money. We don't have \$1,000 to give him. We have people not taking raises. The Police Department is tight; the Public Works Department is going to be tight. It is hard to find \$1,000 to give him when we came up with a plan for him, but he didn't like it. We pay them to raise and lower the flags. How they spend their money is on them. I do appreciate the veterans, but I have a spending freeze on. How can I justify spending this money to others who have needs (expenditures they need) when there was a perfectly good option to have these flags placed by one of the volunteer organizations for no money? We have to go for bonding very soon – we cannot afford to take money from the Fund Balance – it won't look good. The Town paid for 50% of the flags. They used the money for stipend that we gave them for last year. We will need to wait until June and see if funds are available.

Motion to table this transfer until next June to see if the funds are available. The chances of this money being available at that time are very slim.

Motion: Alice Levey

Second: Bettyann Peck

Yes: 7

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Item #10 - Reconciliation of Board of Education Expenses with Town Records as of 08/31/26

Jason Vieira said that he and Sal Bucci are still working through this. Table this item until next month.

Item #11 - New Business

- Mary Kruger asked if we could look into people working for the Town that have their cars registered out of State so they are not paying their car taxes. And people who use their Town vehicles for personal use.

Item #11 – Correspondence

Bettyann Peck had some health issues back in June and received many well-wishes and cards and wanted to say “thank you” – they were very much appreciated!

Item #12 – Public Comment/Discussion

None

Item #13 – Adjournment

Richard Demko adjourned the Meeting at 7:50pm

Submitted by:

Monica Dimon

Recording Secretary