

MINUTES
Ordinance Committee
Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 6:30 PM
Norma Drummer Room – Seymour Town Hall

Members Present: Annmarie Drugonis, Trisha Danka, and Phil Wilhelmy

Others Present: Town Counsel, Richard Buturla; Chief Administrative Officer, Kurt Miller and John McKenzie, Blight Enforcement Officer

ITEM #1: Call meeting to order

First Selectwoman, Annmarie Drugonis, called the meeting to order at 6:00 P

ITEM #2: Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone saluted the flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM #3: Public comment

None.

ITEM #4: Discussion and possible action

- a) Refuse and Recycling Container
- b) Right to Farm
- c) Agricultural Committee

- **Refuse and Recycling Container:** The Committee discussed the proposed Refuse and Recycling Container ordinance, including concerns regarding enforcement, fines, and whether an ordinance is necessary. John McKenzie, Blight Enforcement Officer, stated that only three complaints regarding containers had been received over the past two years, two of which were from the same individual. Members questioned how the ordinance would be enforced and discussed potential issues such as delayed garbage collection.

Trisha Danka expressed opposition to the proposed ordinance. Annmarie Drugonis suggested that, rather than adopting an ordinance, reminders could be sent to residents encouraging them to remove containers in a timely manner and ensure they do not block sidewalks. McKenzie noted that the draft ordinance was developed through discussions between himself and Drugonis.

- **Right to Farm:** The Committee discussed adopting Connecticut General Statutes § 19a-341 regarding the Right to Farm. Annmarie Drugonis suggested incorporating the state statute into the Town's ordinances, while Trisha Danka recommended language stating that the Town of Seymour adopts the statute, including any future amendments, rather than duplicating its full text.

Phil Wilhelmy questioned the need to adopt an existing state statute locally. Trisha explained that doing so would provide clarity for local farms and establish that the Town follows state law regarding Right to Farm. Attorney Richard Buturla will research the matter and prepare draft language for the Committee's consideration.

- **Agricultural Committee:** The Committee discussed the proposed creation of an Agricultural Committee, which had previously been introduced at a Board of Selectpersons meeting. Annmarie Drugonis explained that the idea was prompted in part by local students attending agricultural high schools who expressed interest in such a committee. She would like to see a mix of members, including local farmers and members of the younger generation who are at least 18 years old.

Phil Wilhelmy suggested considering fewer members due to the difficulty of finding volunteers to serve on Town boards and committees. Trisha Danka expressed support for further consideration, particularly the opportunity to involve younger residents, but questioned how youth participation and age requirements would work at the committee level. The Committee agreed to further review the proposal and revisit the discussion in October.

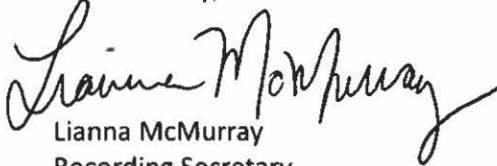
ITEM #5: Public comment

A resident briefly expressed concern that the proposed changes could make matters more difficult for residents and create additional financial stress.

ITEM #6: Adjournment

First Selectwoman Drugonis adjourned the meeting at 6:56PM

Submitted by,


Lianna McMurray
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,


Annmarie Drugonis
First Selectwoman