

**Town of Seymour ~ Board of Selectmen
MINUTES**

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 7:00pm

Zoom Teleconference - Call #646-558-8656 – ID# 860 0899 8187

Members Present: Robert Findley, Annmarie Drugonis, Al Bruno, Chris Bowen, Robert VanEgghen, Patrick Lombardi, Trisha Danka

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Bryan LeClerc, Rory Burke, Monica Dimon, Ethan Fry, Paul Bernstein, Kristyn Haniewicz, Jean Falbo-Sosnovich

Item #1 – Call Meeting to order

First Selectwoman Annmarie Drugonis called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

Item #2 – Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone saluted the Flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Everyone participated in a moment of silence for Bill Paecht, who passed away this week.

Item #3 – Public Comment

None

Item #4 – Approve Minutes from March 16, 2021 Regular Meeting

Motion to approve Minutes from March 16, 2021 Regular Meeting

Motion: Robert Findley Second: Trisha Danka

Vote: 7 – Yes

0 – No

0 – Abstain

Trisha Danka – Yes

Robert Findley – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Patrick Lombardi – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Robert VanEgghen – Yes

Chris Bowen – Yes

Item #5 – First Selectwoman's Report

- Happy Birthday to our Town Attorney Bryan LeClerc!
- Budget went to public hearing tonight our mill rate is 34.71. Just a reminder the mill rate is just a multiplier. Some residents' taxes increased, some decreased, some stayed the same. Just because our grand list went up by 8% it does not mean our mill rate goes down 8 mil. A percentage is per cent and a mill rate is per 1,000. Property taxes go up do the reevaluation of a home not because of the budget. 1/3 up, 1/3 down., 1/3 stayed the same. Even despite COVID we did not run a huge deficit, we managed this crisis well. What this budget also included is the unfunded mandates in the Police accountability bill. We had a Zero increase from the State for our ECS (Education Cost Sharing Grant) which means that state gave us no additional money but yet our increase in educational funding went up 2%. We had a rough February, but Public Works handled it very well and we are continuing to invest in the department. Our fundamentals are strong, the debt service and fund balance remain at good levels, we continue to make investments while keeping taxes low.
- We are starting negotiations with Public Works and Clerical Unions
- Quality Data is working with us and the WPCA to improve the functionality of the electronic payment process.

- Thanks to the Seymour Fire, Fire Police, Ambulance, Oxford, Beacon Falls, Derby and Bethany for their help with the fire on Maiden Lane.
- Thank you to Seymour Fire, Fire Police, Ambulance, Oxford, and Hamden for all their help with rescuing Charlie from the cliffs in Little Lauren Line Park. The poor dog was missing for 5 days.
- Moment of Silence for Bill Paecht who was not only an employee in the Town of Seymour, but well known around the baseball and softball fields.
- Thank you, Al Bruno for stepping in to finish our last meeting for me.

Item #6 - Set Annual Town Meeting for Thursday, April 22, 2021 @ 6pm @ Seymour Middle School

Motion to set annual Town Meeting for Thursday, April 22, 2021 @ 6pm @ Seymour Middle School

Motion: Trisha Danka

Second: Pat Lombardi

Vote: 7 – Yes

0 – No

0 – Abstain

Trisha Danka – Yes

Robert Findley – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Patrick Lombardi – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Robert VanEgghen – Yes

Chris Bowen – Yes

Item #7 - Set Budget Referendum for Thursday, May 6, 2021 from 6am – 8pm @ Seymour Community Center

Motion to set annual Budget Referendum for Thursday, May 6, 2021 from 6am – 8pm @ Seymour Community Center

Motion: Trisha Danka

Second: Pat Lombardi

Vote: 7 – Yes

0 – No

0 – Abstain

Trisha Danka – Yes

Robert Findley – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Patrick Lombardi – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Robert VanEgghen – Yes

Chris Bowen – Yes

Item #8 - Set Budget Referendum (if needed) for Thursday, May 20, 2021 from 6am – 8pm @ Seymour Community Center

Motion to set annual Budget Referendum (if needed) for Thursday, May 20, 2021 from 6am – 8pm @ Seymour Community Center

Motion: Chris Bowen

Second: Robert Findley

Vote: 7 – Yes

0 – No

0 – Abstain

Trisha Danka – Yes

Robert Findley – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Patrick Lombardi – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Robert VanEgghen – Yes

Chris Bowen – Yes

Item #9 – Set Budget Referendum (if needed) for Thursday, June 3, 2021 from 6am – 8pm @ Seymour Community Center

Motion to set annual Budget Referendum (if needed) for Thursday, June 3, 2021 from 6am – 8pm @ Seymour Community Center

Motion: Trisha Danka

Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 7 – Yes

0 – No

0 – Abstain

Trisha Danka – Yes

Robert Findley – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Patrick Lombardi – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Robert VanEgghen – Yes

Chris Bowen – Yes

Item #10 – Refer 2 Mead Farm Road Easement to the Planning & Zoning Commission for an 8-24 Referral

Motion to Refer 2 Mead Farm Road Easement to the Planning & Zoning Commission for an 8-24 Referral

Motion: Patrick Lombardi Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 7 – Yes 0 – No 0 – Abstain
Trisha Danka – Yes Robert Findley – Yes Annmarie Drugonis – Yes Patrick Lombardi – Yes
Al Bruno – Yes Robert VanEgghen – Yes Chris Bowen – Yes

Item #11 – Discussion & Take Possible Action Regarding Beacon Falls MOU

Jim Baldwin, Building Inspector, has a Town vehicle to go out on inspections. He also does work for Beacon Falls. This would allow Beacon Falls to share in the insurance, gas, and maintenance costs for the vehicle.

Motion to move this forward

Motion: Chris Bowen Second: Robert Findley

DISCUSSION

- Pat Lombardi wanted to clarify that this means that Beacon Falls will be sharing in the insurance costs. Annmarie said yes. Also, the agreement was drafted by our Town Counsel Bryan LeClerc.

Vote: 7 – Yes 0 – No 0 – Abstain
Trisha Danka – Yes Robert Findley – Yes Annmarie Drugonis – Yes Patrick Lombardi – Yes
Al Bruno – Yes Robert VanEgghen – Yes Chris Bowen – Yes

Item #12 – Executive Session(Acquisition of Interest in Real Property – 6 Colony Street Extension Easement)

Motion to go into Executive Session at 7:14pm – To meet with the Town Attorney to discuss the acquisition of an easement on certain real property and litigation regarding the same. Invited into Executive Session are the members of the Board of Selectmen and Town Counsel, Bryan LeClerc.

Motion: Robert Findley Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 7 – Yes 0 – No 0 – Abstain
Trisha Danka – Yes Robert Findley – Yes Annmarie Drugonis – Yes Patrick Lombardi – Yes
Al Bruno – Yes Robert VanEgghen – Yes Chris Bowen – Yes

Motion to come out of Executive Session at 7:34pm and state that no votes were taken.

Motion: Trisha Danka Second: Robert Findley

Vote: 7 – Yes 0 – No 0 – Abstain
Trisha Danka – Yes Robert Findley – Yes Annmarie Drugonis – Yes Patrick Lombardi – Yes
Al Bruno – Yes Robert VanEgghen – Yes Chris Bowen – Yes

Selectman Lombardi was present in Executive Session, having trouble getting him back. He called in via cell phone.

Item #13 – Discussion & Take Possible Action Regarding 6 Colony Street Extension Easement

Motion to authorize the Town Attorney to proceed with taking of an easement for drainage on real estate located at 6 Colony Street Extension for municipal purposes in connection with the Town Sewerage & Drainage Systems

Motion: Trisha Danka

Second: Chris Bowen

Vote: 7 – Yes

0 – No

0 – Abstain

Trisha Danka – Yes

Robert Findley – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Patrick Lombardi – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Robert VanEgghen – Yes

Chris Bowen – Yes

Item #14 – Appointments**Appointments April 6, 2021 Board of Selectmen Meeting**

Name	Board	Type	Term	Expiration Date
Ryan Luby	EDC	Appointment	3 Years	04/06/2024
Stephanie Koskelowski	EDC	Appointment	3 Years	04/06/2024
Eric Nelson	EDC (Alternate)	Appointment	3 Years	04/06/2024
Dom Violano	EDC (Alternate)	Appointment	3 Years	04/06/2024
Mike Massie	Recreation Commission	Reappointment	2 Years	04/07/2023
Jamie Yakusewich	Recreation Commission	Reappointment	2 Years	04/18/2023
Linda Bellevance	Culture & Arts Commission	Reappointment	3 Years	04/11/2024
Theresa Dunlop	Culture & Arts Commission	Reappointment	3 Years	04/17/2024
Dustin Zrelak	Sustainability Committee	Reappointment	2 Years	04/18/2023
Steve Kulas	Motor Vehicle Hearing Officer	Reappointment	2 Years	05/02/2023

Motion to appoint Ryan Luby to the EDC for a 3-year term expiring 04/06/2024

Motion: Trisha Danka

Second: Patrick Lombardi

Vote: 7 – Yes

0 – No

0 – Abstain

Trisha Danka – Yes

Robert Findley – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Patrick Lombardi – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Robert VanEgghen – Yes

Chris Bowen – Yes

Motion to appoint Stephanie Koskelowski to the EDC for a 3-Year term expiring 04/06/2024

Motion: Trisha Danka

Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 7 – Yes

0 – No

0 – Abstain

Trisha Danka – Yes

Robert Findley – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Patrick Lombardi – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Robert VanEgghen – Yes

Chris Bowen – Yes

Motion to appoint Eric Nelson as an ALTERNATE to the EDC for a 3-year term expiring 04/06/2024

Motion: Robert Findley

Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 7 – Yes 0 – No 0 – Abstain
Trisha Danka – Yes Robert Findley – Yes Annmarie Drugonis – Yes Patrick Lombardi – Yes
Al Bruno – Yes Robert VanEgghen – Yes Chris Bowen – Yes

Motion to appoint Dom Violano as an ALTERNATE to the EDC for a 3-year term expiring 04/06/2024
Motion: Robert Findley Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 7 – Yes 0 – No 0 – Abstain
Trisha Danka – Yes Robert Findley – Yes Annmarie Drugonis – Yes Patrick Lombardi – Yes
Al Bruno – Yes Robert VanEgghen – Yes Chris Bowen – Yes

Motion to re-appoint Mike Massie to the Recreation Commission for a 2-year term expiring 04/07/2023
Motion: Robert Findley Second: Trisha Danka

Vote: 7 – Yes 0 – No 0 – Abstain
Trisha Danka – Yes Robert Findley – Yes Annmarie Drugonis – Yes Patrick Lombardi – Yes
Al Bruno – Yes Robert VanEgghen – Yes Chris Bowen – Yes

Motion to re-appoint Jamie Yakusewich to the Recreation Commission for a 2-year term expiring 04/18/2023
Motion: Robert Findley Second: Trisha Danka

Vote: 7 – Yes 0 – No 0 – Abstain
Trisha Danka – Yes Robert Findley – Yes Annmarie Drugonis – Yes Patrick Lombardi – Yes
Al Bruno – Yes Robert VanEgghen – Yes Chris Bowen – Yes

Motion to re-appoint Linda Bellevance to the Culture & Arts Commission for a 3-year term expiring 04/11/2024
Motion: Chris Bowen Second: Pat Lombardi

Vote: 7 – Yes 0 – No 0 – Abstain
Trisha Danka – Yes Robert Findley – Yes Annmarie Drugonis – Yes Patrick Lombardi – Yes
Al Bruno – Yes Robert VanEgghen – Yes Chris Bowen – Yes

Motion to re-appoint Theresa Dunlop to the Culture & Arts Commission for a 3-year term expiring 04/17/2024
Motion: Robert Findley Second: Chris Bowen

Vote: 7 – Yes 0 – No 0 – Abstain
Trisha Danka – Yes Robert Findley – Yes Annmarie Drugonis – Yes Patrick Lombardi – Yes
Al Bruno – Yes Robert VanEgghen – Yes Chris Bowen – Yes

Motion to re-appoint Dustin Zrelak to the Sustainability Committee for a 2-year term expiring 04/18/2023
Motion: Trisha Danka Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 7 – Yes 0 – No 0 – Abstain
Trisha Danka – Yes Robert Findley – Yes Annmarie Drugonis – Yes Patrick Lombardi – Yes
Al Bruno – Yes Robert VanEgghen – Yes Chris Bowen – Yes

Motion to re-appoint Steve Kulas to be the Motor Vehicle Hearing Officer for a 2-year term expiring 05/02/2023
Motion: Chris Bowen Second: Robert Findley

Vote: 7 – Yes 0 – No 0 – Abstain
Trisha Danka – Yes Robert Findley – Yes Annmarie Drugonis – Yes Patrick Lombardi – Yes
Al Bruno – Yes Robert VanEgghen – Yes Chris Bowen – Yes

Item #15 – Tax Refunds & Abatements

Motion to approve the Tax Refunds & Abatements Reports dated 04/01/21 as presented by Tax Collector Dana Flach

Motion: Trisha Danka

Second: Robert Findley

Vote: 7 – Yes 0 – No 0 – Abstain

Trisha Danka – Yes

Robert Findley – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Patrick Lombardi – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Robert VanEgghen – Yes

Chris Bowen – Yes

Item #16 – Transfers

None

Item #17 – Correspondence

- Check Registers
- Letter from Shaye Roscoe from the Boys & Girls Club thanking us for our donation this year.

Item #18 – Public Comment

None

Item #19 – Selectmen's Public Comment

- Patrick Lombardi – Happy Spring! Please stay cognizant of COVID, don't become complacent. Wash your hands, wear your masks.
- Trisha Danka – Echo what Pat said! Stay safe!
- Chris Bowen
 - I am doing a Fund-Raiser for Mission 22: it is a 2,200 Push-Up Challenge for the month of April – I am asking for \$1 for every pushup – minimum 2,200. This is on my Facebook. Please reach out for more information. Anyone who can donate to get more awareness that would be fantastic.
 - Sincere condolences to the Paecht Family. Bill was an amazing person; he had time for everyone – no matter who you were, how long you were involved. He took a lot of time to talk to me, and I wish I had more time with him. He was a fantastic person.
- Robert Findley
 - Bill Paecht was a very special person, and he will be sadly missed. It is a great loss to the Town.
 - Thank you to the emergency services for rescuing the dog on the hill. They always step up and do a great job!
 - Please be aware that with Spring being here, the kids are out and on bikes. Please slow down, follow the speed limits, and pay attention to kids on bikes and walking.
- Robert VanEgghen
 - Condolences to the Paecht Family. Bill was well-respected and we will miss him.
 - Get your vaccinations!
- Al Bruno
 - Condolences to the Paecht Family. Bill was a great mentor to me. Not only as a fellow Republican and in the Party, but also in the Community. He was involved in Seymour Soccer; he was key in getting the soccer games equal field time. It was all about the kids. He did a lot with Little League and was active in Babe Ruth. He supported all the sports in Town. He was a great leader. I will miss him very much.

- We are all looking forward to Spring Sports. The High School kids will be getting outside playing.
- Get vaccinated! Get out there and get active!
- Good to hear about the rescue of Charlie the dog.
- Things are looking up for the Community.
- Annmarie Drugonis – Wear your masks and stay safe so we can get back to normal!

Item #20 – Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:48pm

Motion: Patrick Lombardi

Second: Robert Findley

Vote: 7 – Yes

0 – No

0 – Abstain

Trisha Danka – Yes

Robert Findley – Yes

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Patrick Lombardi – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Robert VanEgghen – Yes

Chris Bowen – Yes

Submitted by:

Monica Dimon

Monica Dimon

Recording Secretary

Reviewed by:

Annmarie Drugonis

Annmarie Drugonis

First Selectwoman

