

MINUTES
Board of Selectpersons
Special Meeting
Wednesday, October 8, 2025 – 7:00 PM
Norma Drummer Room – Seymour Town Hall

Members Present: Annmarie Drugonis, Al Bruno, Theresa Conroy, Scott Andrews and Fred Stanek (7:37 PM)

Members Absent: Trisha Danka, Robert Findley

Others Present: Town Counsel, Richard Buturla; CAO, Kurt Miller; Matt Alterio, Dustin Leo, John McKenzie, Jim Baldwin

ITEM #1: Call meeting to order

First Selectwoman, Annmarie Drugonis, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

ITEM #2: Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone saluted the flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM #3: Public Comment

Matt Alterio (63 Tibbets Road), owner of several local businesses, raised multiple town issues. He questioned a tree job funded by LOCiP, noting that projects over \$25,000 must go out to bid per the Town Charter, and requested proof of public and legal notices and the work scope. He also discussed a discontinued paper road crossing his property near Little Laurel Park, suggesting it be officially discontinued and noting he previously offered a land swap to improve parking. Additionally, he expressed disagreement with the town hiring individuals who then work as subcontractors and asked about municipal employee spouse benefits.

ITEM #4: Approval of minutes from the September 16, 2025 Regular Meeting

- Motion to approve the September 16, 2025 Regular Meeting minutes

Motion: Al Bruno

Second: Theresa Conroy

Vote: 4-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Scott Andrews – Yes

Theresa Conroy – Yes

ITEM #5: Discussion with Dustin Leo regarding potential community fundraising event

Dustin Leo presented his proposed community fundraiser, "Photographs for Childhood Cancer," explaining that it aims to support children diagnosed with cancer. He showcased his photos and described how they could be purchased in 5x7 or 8x10 sizes.

ITEM #6: Discussion with the Ordinance Subcommittee and possible action

a) 100% Disabled, Permanent and Total Veterans Exemption

Annmarie discussed a letter from the Interim Assessor regarding an act concerning a property tax exemption for veterans who are permanently and totally disabled based on a disability rating of one hundred per cent.

- Motion to move to the Ordinance Subcommittee

Motion: Al Bruno Second: Scott Andrews

Discussion: The discussion focused on the 2024 tax abatement and whether it was mandatory or optional. Bryan LeClerc clarified that the veterans' exemption is mandatory but originally applied only to dwellings, not the land beneath them. He outlined new options from a recent public act: extending the exemption to up to two acres of land, continuing the exemption for surviving spouses, and allowing Gold Star spouses to choose between programs. Theresa requested data from the Tax Assessor on the potential cost to the town and what is currently being removed from the tax rolls.

Vote: 4-Yes	0-No	0-Abstain
Annmarie Drugonis – Yes		Al Bruno – Yes
Scott Andrews – Yes		Theresa Conroy – Yes

ITEM #7: Discussion and possible action regarding the purchase and sales agreement between the Town of Seymour and Health Real Estate Holdings, LLC for the property at 311 Roosevelt Drive

This piece of property is the boat ramp across from Newport Academy. By purchasing this property, it will allow the Fire Department to put their boat in the river in the Spring time and allow them to take it out for any rescues that there are.

- Motion to move forward.

Motion: Al Bruno Second: Scott Andrews

Discussion: The property, assessed at \$20,700, was discussed as a potential purchase (in that amount.) Theresa questioned why the town wasn't using its existing small riverfront parcel at Roosevelt Drive, but Annmarie explained that boats can't access the river there. Theresa also asked about 285 Roosevelt Drive, and Scott noted that the property would be valuable for the fire department's use.

Vote: 4-Yes	0-No	0-Abstain
Annmarie Drugonis – Yes		Al Bruno – Yes
Scott Andrews – Yes		Theresa Conroy – Yes

ITEM #8: Discussion and possible action regarding the use of LOCiP funds for the removal of Hazardous Trees as recommended by the Seymour Tree Warden

The board discussed using budgeted money for tree removal and hazardous tree removal versus using LOCiP funds. Kurt explained they never have enough money in the line item. The Tree warden may have plans for that budgeted money. Theresa asked to see plans for the budgeted monies for the trees.

- Motion to table Item #8 Discussion and possible action regarding the use of LOCiP funds for the removal of Hazardous Trees as recommended by the Seymour Tree Warden

Motion: Fred Stanek Second: Theresa Conroy

Vote: 2-Yes	3-No	0-Abstain
Annmarie Drugonis – No		Al Bruno – No
Scott Andrews – No		Theresa Conroy – Yes Fred Stanek – Yes

Discussion: Scott suggested that if the proper process was already followed, the town should move forward with approval immediately rather than waiting at least two more weeks, recommending a vote to approve instead of tabling.

- Motion to approve the use of LOCiP funds for the removal of Hazardous Trees as recommended by the Seymour Tree Warden pending confirmation that the proper process was followed

Motion: Al Bruno

Second: Scott Andrews

Vote: 5-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Scott Andrews – Yes

Theresa Conroy – Yes

Fred Stanek – Yes

ITEM #9: Discussion and possible action regarding the blight issue at 11 William Lane

a. Resident requested to be heard by the Board

Blight Officer John McKenzie reported multiple blight citations for 11 William Lane, owned by Wanda Perez.

- First offense (Jan–Apr 2025): woodpile on sidewalk — \$4,700 fine.
- Second offense (Aug–Sept 2025): overgrowth, garbage, and unregistered vehicles — \$3,500 fine.
- The second offense hasn't gone to a hearing.

Wanda apologized, explaining she was out of the country and unaware of the issues until July. She requested a waiver due to hardship and her lack of knowledge. There was confusion about her mailing address (PO Box 55474 vs 55475), raising questions about whether she received proper notice.

John confirmed the property has been clean since Sept 25, 2025, and verified Wanda's tax payments are current.

The board discussed verifying the address issue before deciding whether to cap or waive the fines.

- Motion to table Item #9: discussion and possible action regarding the blight issue at 11 William Lane to the next meeting in October

Motion: Fred Stanek

Second: Theresa Conroy

Vote: 5-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Scott Andrews – Yes

Theresa Conroy – Yes

Fred Stanek – Yes

ITEM #10: Discussion and possible action regarding the initial Tax Incentive application request from PL Associates, LLC for property at 35 Cogwheel Lane

Theresa commented that the proposal is still too preliminary and expressed concerns regarding the application.

- ITEM #11: Transfers.**

ITEM #12: Appointments.

ITEM #13: Tax refunds/abatements.

- ITEM #14: Correspondence.**

ITEM #15: Public Comment.

James Amidon (109 Maple Street) commented on the discussion regarding 11 William Lane, noting that the blight enforcement policy allows 10 days for correction. He stated that, based on the figures mentioned, it appears an additional \$1,000 may have been applied to the fine in error.

ITEM #16: Select person's Public Comments.

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the rental fees. Fred added that the Board of Education earns little profit from rentals since most funds go toward required services like police, fire, EMS, and custodians.

Theresa also asked about the Tri-Town settlement, which totaled \$37,000, and requested a cost breakdown of the lawsuit. She inquired about the \$3 million from Haynes and whether the Economic Development Commission is pursuing funding. Annmarie said the EDC is working on Metro-North and local business development.

Theresa asked about progress at the old Seymour Lumber site, and Annmarie said they're coordinating with the DOT. She also asked about Hoadley Pond, and Annmarie said it is in the states hands and Chris Edwards is pursuing grant funding.

Theresa concluded by reminding residents to vote in the Bungay School Referendum and spoke in support of it.

Fred spoke in favor of the Bungay School Referendum tomorrow and urged residents to get out and vote.

Al stated the Pumpkin Festival was a great turnout this year. He encouraged everyone to get out and vote in the Bungay School Referendum tomorrow and spoke in favor of it.

Scott spoke in favor of the Bungay School Referendum. He spoke about the Blessing Pantry Fair on October 18th at Trinity Church.

ITEM #17: Comments from the First Selectwoman.

Annmarie discussed the following:

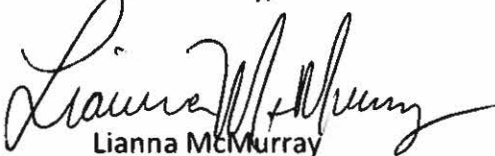
- Bungay Road construction update
- Eversource and Comcast have finished moving their wires onto the new utility poles and next up is Crown Castle. Once they are done, Frontier can move their wires. Projected to finish in the area by November. By April, they are hoping to be done with whole project.
- Finance Department is working on the 2025 Audit.
- Library – request was sent out for gutters for the Library. The gutters are copper.
- Human Resources – an offer of employment was submitted for the Housing Code Enforcement. The labor position at Public Works – received applications and interviews will happen shortly. Hoping for them to start before winter. Still recruiting for an Assessor.
- Police Department- still short 6 officers. Three officers are in the Academy. One will be going in December and two will be going in April. The police department just received their Level 3 Accreditation.
- State of Connecticut DOT has agreed to do a study on Maple Street and Warren Street.
- Planning & Zoning will be holding a meeting tomorrow night to vote on a condo development on Maple Street and Moss Street. They approved the project on Cogwheel and 67 in the residential area with approximately 54 units.

- Rte. 67 & Smith Street- condos construction is underway.
- Update on Housing Code Enforcement position.
- Several high end homes being built in the range of 1-1.5 million that comes out to \$11,000 in permit fees. Building department and land use have been very successful in collecting the fees
- Newport academy is fully online.
- Sabo's Auto Body had a total renovation.
- Public Works – bulk pickup is over for the year. They are working on cleaning walnut street drainage and paving (funded by LOCiP). Working on Union Cemetery Fence replacement (funded by grant money). They working on completing and painting all the stop bars and crosswalks, do not enter, stop ahead signage throughout town. They replaced a rotted guardrail at town hall. Banners.
- Bungay School Referendum tomorrow - 6
- Election day voting – November 4, 2025 – Because construction is being done, Registrar of voters moved voting from Bungay School to the Community center to make it easier for the voters.
- Community center – 745 members currently. Working with schools to share gyms and are looking at adult education.
- October 11th is dedication of mural on broad street and main street
- October 12th is Citizens Engine New England Style Breakfast and roller skating at the Community Center later on that night
- October 18th is the drive in movie
- October 20th – November 2nd is Early Voting at Town Hall
- October 25th is downtown trick or treating and later that night is Trick or Trunk at the High School
- Papers for withdrawal for the Tri-Town against the Town of Seymour

ITEM #18: Adjournment.

Annmarie Drugonis adjourned the meeting at 8:45 PM

Submitted by,



Lianna McMurray
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,



Annmarie Drugonis
First Selectwoman