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**MINUTES**  
**Board of Selectpersons**  
**Tuesday, February 17, 2026 – 7:00 PM**  
**Norma Drummer Room – Seymour Town Hall**

**Members Present:** Annmarie Drugonis, Trisha Danka, Phil Wilhelmy, Scott Andrews, Bob Findley, Brianna Girard and Al Bruno

**Others Present:** Town Counsel, Richard Buturla; CAO, Kurt Miller; Girard,

**ITEM #1: Call meeting to order**

First Selectwoman, Annmarie Drugonis, called the meeting to order at 7:05

**ITEM #2: Pledge of Allegiance**

Everyone saluted the flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ITEM #3: Public Comment**

Jeffery Girard, 33 Bungay Terrace, expressed a concern about the curb not being handicapped accessible near the handicap entrance.

Kristen Harmeling 134 Davis Road, member of the Board of Education, thanked Annmarie for speaking on education at the local level. She expressed concern over the proposed flat BOE budget, stating it has never happened before and that schools are operating with bare-bones staffing. She addressed community comments about prior budget cuts, emphasized the need for support from the Board of Selectpersons, and encouraged further discussion. She also reviewed a chart showing the impact of state funding changes and distributed copies.

**ITEM #4: Approval of minutes from the February 3, 2026 Regular Meeting**

Motion to approve minutes from the February 3, 2026 Regular Meeting

Motion: Scott Andrews

Second: Bob Findley

Vote: 7-Yes                      0-No

0-Abstain

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes

Brianna Girard – Yes

Scott Andrews – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Bob Findley – Yes

Phil Wilhelmy – Yes

**ITEM #5: Appointments**

None

**ITEM #6: Tax refunds/abatements**

Motion to approve tax refunds/abatements as presented

Motion: Trisha Danka

Second: Brianna Girard

Vote: 7-Yes                      0-No

0-Abstain

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes

Brianna Girard – Yes

Scott Andrews – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Bob Findley – Yes

Phil Wilhelmy – Yes

**ITEM #7: Correspondence**

- A copy of the organizational chart was presented

**ITEM #8: Discussion and possible action regarding the pay schedule for 2026**

Motion to approve the pay schedule for 2026

Motion: Trisha Danka

Second: Bob Findley

Vote: 7-Yes                      0-No

0-Abstain

Anmarie Drugonis – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes

Brianna Girard – Yes

Scott Andrews – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Bob Findley – Yes

Phil Wilhelmy – Yes

**ITEM #9: Discussion and possible action regarding Tax abatements for qualified members of the Seymour Fire Department and the Seymour Ambulance Association**

Motion to approve the tax abatements for qualified members of the Seymour Fire Department and the Seymour Ambulance Association

Motion: Bob Findley

Second: Trisha

Vote: 6-Yes                      0-No

1-Abstain

Anmarie Drugonis – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes

Brianna Girard – Yes

Scott Andrews – Abstain

Al Bruno – Yes

Bob Findley – Yes

Phil Wilhelmy – Yes

**ITEM #10: Discussion and possible action regarding the potential for dispatch transition for the Seymour Police Department to the Northwest Connecticut Public Safety Communication Center**

First Selectwoman Drugonis expressed her opinion on transitioning to Northwest Connecticut Public Safety Communication Center.

Kurt Miller provided the Board members updated financial information

- Northwest currently handles the emergency dispatch for the Town's EMS and Fire for \$121,344. Adding the 911 direct answer would increase the total cost to \$462,753. The increase would be \$341,409
- As an alternative, the Town could hire civilian dispatchers at a projected cost of \$124,898.74 per employee. The estimate is that the Town would need six (6) employees to cover dispatch at an estimated cost of \$749,392.44. This is \$407,983.44 higher than transitioning to Northwest.
- The cost of three probationary police officers to handle dispatch is \$131,850.40. The cost of three patrol B level officers is \$138,827.55. The cost of three patrol A level officers is \$150,857.02. The total cost, not including overtime, is \$452,571.06. This is \$111,162.06 higher than transitioning to Northwest.
- The discussion continued regarding the mechanics on how the operation will be run. The dark station was addressed during discussion.
- There is a \$300,000 transition grant available from the state.
- There is an approximate 12 month time frame to get everything up and running and in the first year, there is a projected cost of \$113,803 if the program were to go live in March 2027.
- The cost to train all of the patrol officers is approximately \$100,000.
- Discussion continued and the Board would like more information to analyze the proposal. A frequently asked question would be helpful.
- A Town Hall could be scheduled to address residents' questions and concerns.

No Action was taken.

**ITEM #11: Discussion and possible action regarding a potential program for fleet replacement for the Seymour Police Department**

Motion to table as the Board is requesting additional information

Motion: Trisha Danka

Second: Al Bruno

Vote: 7-Yes                      0-No

0-Abstain

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes

Brianna Girard – Yes

Scott Andrews – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Bob Findley – Yes

Phil Wilhelmy – Yes

**ITEM #12: Discussion and possible action regarding a potential NRES Buy-All Solar Project with Johnson Controls**

A representative from Johnson Controls discussed a plan to put a solar project in place. Panels would be placed at four schools and car ports and the power would be exported to the grid and Eversource would provide a quarterly payment to the Town. The contract would be for 20 years. The estimated total cost of the install is \$30,000,000. The Town can capture an immediate \$5,000,000 of positive cash along with positive annual cash flow of \$500,000 for the duration of the contract. There is also the potential to receive an investment tax credit from the federal government.

The Town’s existing solar panels would be moved and repurposed and avoid any state clawback/repayment of approximately \$1.1 million. In order to capture the federal tax credits. The project should start by July 3, 2026.

Motion to authorize the First Selectwoman to enter into a memorandum of understanding with Johnson Controls subject to review and approval by Town Counsel.

Motion: Bob Findley

Second: Scott Findley

Vote: 7-Yes                      0-No

0-Abstain

Annmarie Drugonis – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes

Brianna Girard – Yes

Scott Andrews – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Bob Findley – Yes

Phil Wilhelmy – Yes

**ITEM #13: Discussion and possible action regarding a potential Lien Sale for the WPCA**

Annmarie read the resolution as follows:

**RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE ASSIGNMENT OF SEYMOUR WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY LIENS**

WHEREAS, the Town of Seymour (the "Town") budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1 , 2026 provides for the collection of delinquent taxes; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to and in accordance with Section 22a-506(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes, any unpaid assessment and any interest due to the Town of Seymour Water Pollution Control Authority (the "WPCA") thereon shall constitute a lien upon the real estate (the "WPCA Lien") against which the assessment was levied from the date of such levy; and

WHEREAS, each such WPCA Lien shall take precedence over all other liens and encumbrances except taxes and may be enforced, in accordance with subdivision (2) of Connecticut General Statutes Section 22a-506(b) in the same manner as property tax liens; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 22a-506(b)(2), in the case of one or more WPCA Liens for any unpaid assessment and any interest due thereon, as described in subdivision (1) of this subsection Section 22a-506(b), upon any owner-occupied real estate, no such lien or liens may be foreclosed unless the principal for all such liens upon such owner-occupied real estate exceeds three thousand dollars or three years have elapsed from the date any such WPCA Lien was filed and such lien remains unpaid; and 4927-1668-6988, v. 1

WHEREAS, except as provided in Connecticut General Statutes Section 22a-506(b)(2), any municipality, by resolution of its legislative body, may assign, for consideration, any and all liens filed by the tax collector to secure unpaid sewer assessments as provided under the provisions of Chapter 446k of the Connecticut General Statutes and the consideration received by the municipality shall be negotiated between the municipality and the assignee; and

WHEREAS, in the case of one or more WPCA Liens filed by the Town of Seymour Tax Collector to secure unpaid assessments upon any owner-occupied real estate, no such WPCA Lien or WPCA Liens may be assigned unless the principal for all such liens upon such owner-occupied real estate exceeds three thousand dollars or three years have elapsed from the date any such WPCA lien was filed and such lien remains unpaid, except such restriction shall not apply if a tax or other municipal lien upon such real estate is also assigned; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 12-195h of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Tax Collector of the Town intends to assign WPCA Liens for the purpose of raising much needed revenue for the Town;  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions and requirements of Section 12-195h of the Connecticut General Statutes and Section 22a-506(b), *et seq.* of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Tax Collector of the Town of Seymour is hereby authorized to assign the WPCA Liens in exchange for consideration.

**Motion to approve resolution as read**

**Motion: Al Bruno**

**Second: Bob Findley**

**Vote: 7-Yes                      0-No**

**0-Abstain**

Annamarie Drugonis – Yes

Trisha Danka – Yes

Brianna Girard – Yes

Scott Andrews – Yes

Al Bruno – Yes

Bob Findley – Yes

Phil Wilhelmy – Yes

**ITEM #14: Updates from the Ordinance Subcommittee**

- a) **Review, discussion and possible action**
  - a. **Senior Citizen Tax Incentive**
  - b. **Noise**
  - c. **Disabled Veterans Exemption**
  - d. **Firefighters**
  - e. **Sidewalks**

**Senior Citizen Tax Incentive:** this item was tabled.

**Noise:** no action.

**Disabled Veterans Exemption:** The board will hold a Public Hearing in March.

**Firefighters:** this item was tabled.

**Sidewalks:** this item was tabled.

**ITEM #15: Public Comment**

Cynthia Dion, 18 Carriage Drive – discussed clarifying remarks on the dark station and her experiences in the past in that there is usually an officer in the building.

Kristen Harmeling, 34 Davis Road – discussed the solar project and that it starts with the Board of Selectpersons.

**ITEM #16: Selectperson's public comment**

**Scott** discussed recent correspondence that he read regarding the Board of Education's decision to name the basketball court in honor of a child who passed away last year and commended the Board for doing so. It was noted that the existing policy for naming school grounds and buildings falls under the Board of Selectpersons and that the Board of Education voted to move forward through the appropriate process.

**Bob** addressed recent social media posts concerning the Police Department and encouraged residents to visit the Town website and watch meeting recordings to obtain accurate information.

**Trisha** acknowledged the strong community support for Bungay School and emphasized the continued need to support the Board of Education budget to ensure students have the resources necessary to learn and grow.

**Al** commended the Board of Education for successfully negotiating contracts and prioritizing the needs of students.

**Phil** expressed optimism regarding the improved structure and productivity of recent meetings.

**Brianna** stressed the importance of obtaining information directly from official sources. She noted limited public engagement both online and in person and encouraged residents to attend meetings, ask questions, and stay informed.

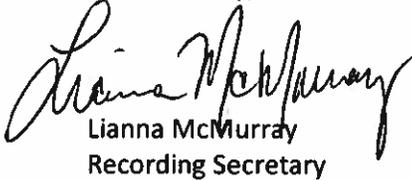
**ITEM #17: Comments from the First Selectwoman**

- Honored school resource officers last week.
- Discussed status of police officers
- Valley Pharmacy's Grand opening today in Seybridge Plaza
- Dunkin is opening in Henny Penny
- She had the opportunity to be speaker at CCM convention. She emphasized the need for more funding for our schools.
- Budget season – budget workshops are every Monday and Wednesday
- Encouraged residents to come to meetings and be vocal
- Discussed social media posts

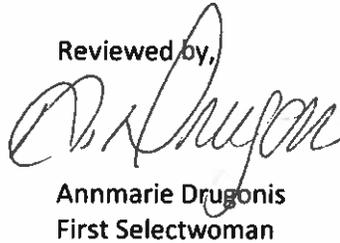
**ITEM #18: Adjournment**

Annmarie Drugonis adjourned the meeting at 9:08 PM

Submitted by,

  
Lianna McMurray  
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,

  
Annmarie Drugonis  
First Selectwoman