

**Town of Seymour ~ Board of Selectmen
MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at 7:00pm
Norma Drummer Room – Seymour Town Hall**

COPY RECEIVED
DATE: 6/8/21
TIME: 4:00pm
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

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

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Bryan LeClerc, Rory Burke, Monica Dimon, Alex Danka, Paul Satkowski, Lucy McConalogue, Fred Stanek, Angela McKirryher, Sgt. Brian Perkins, Essay winners for the Memorial Day Parade essay and their families.

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.

Item #3 – Public Comment

None

Item #4 – Approve Minutes from May 4, 2021 Regular Meeting

Motion to approve Minutes from May 4, 2021 Regular Meeting

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 Add to the Agenda – Presentation of Memorial Day Essay Award Winners

Motion: Pat Lombardi 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

Presentation of Memorial Day Essay Award Winners

- Annmarie Drugonis congratulated all the Essay Winners from Chatfield/LoPresti School, Bungay School, and the Middle School!
- Alex Danka and Fred Stanek presented the awards to the winners: Kiera Glifford, Emma Nesteriak, and Miley Saucier from Bungay School. Thomas Halligan, Kiely Umstead, and Joseph LaValley from Chatfield/LoPresti School. Payton McDaniel and Ariel Zedek from Seymour Middle School. Also, congratulations to our Grand Marshal, Angela McKirryher and Sgt. Brian Perkins.
- Mr. Harvey Catlin said that this contest is for Grade 4 through Grade 8 and the entrants wrote about “What Memorial Day Means to My Family and Me”. We had some STELLAR entries this year, as usual. We do this so that the students can understand this is not just a day off, but that the importance of this day is

understood. These entries show that our students do understand. Fred Stanek complimented Mr. Catlin on taking the initiative to conduct this essay contest each year with the students – he does an outstanding job! As a member of the Board of Education and Master of Ceremonies of the Parade, I would like to congratulate not only the students who won awards, but ALL the students who participated. The essays were outstanding, and I think this was a great job and a great service to our country and our community.

- Lucy McConlogue presented an award to Police Chief Paul Satkowski, who will be retiring this year. This is for all his years of dedicated service to the community. He has been here for every parade we have had. He is always there for us. Lucy said it is an honor to present this to you. You have done so much in so many areas in the community. I'm very proud of you, and it is an honor to present this to you. Chief Satkowski thanked everyone for the award and recognition. He said it is not a one-man show, it is a team effort with everyone in the community – all the departments, all the people who come to work every day and put the uniform on. All the departments. From the custodians to the fire department, EMS – to have an event and keep everyone safe. I've been fortunate over the last 14 years to be part of these plans. But it is a group effort. Thank you again for the award and congratulations to all the winners!

Item #5 – First Selectwoman's Report

- Thank you to Mike Kearney and the members of the American Legion for the dedication to our fallen war heroes. It was great to see Selectman Bowen there.
- Congratulations to all the Essay Contest winners!
- Congratulations to the *Glass Source* on 18 Bank Street – they expanded into the Wildflour Bakery storefront.
- I had discussions last week with the owners of Seymour Lumber and Seymour Specialty Wire Properties. They are looking at potential buyers for these properties.
- Road work has started for this year. We are working with the Town Engineer to provide updates to the residents. We sent out letters to the residents of all the streets being paved. We will do that going forward also.
- I met with David Keyser about Seymour Avenue. We are discussing to try to apply for a Small Cities Grant to help the Seymour Housing Authority replace laterals in front of the houses. This came out of our discussion to pave Seymour Avenue. The laterals are not owned by the Town, but by the homeowners. We are trying to get the Grant to help the homeowners pay for this. We will not pave Seymour Avenue until the laterals are done.
- We are in ongoing contract negotiations with the Clerical and Public Works Unions.
- All our Town Buildings are open to the public and back to regular working hours.
- We are working with the library. They have a staffing shortage.
- Public Works is working on what can be done to reduce the goose droppings on Broad Street Park and the Community Center.
- Farmers Market is being held every Tuesday at the Community Center from 12pm-6pm.
- There is a Safe Sitters Course being held at the Seymour EMS on June 12th from 8am to 4pm.
- Reminder that June is Dog Licensing Month. Town Clerks Office is open so you can come down and pay in person, or mail it in. You can also come down on June 12th from 8am to 1pm and pay in person.
- After the Budget Referendum, we received feedback and we have decided to do a "Code Red" call for all budget referendums and votes. We will announce it as a Public Service Announcement.
- Hurricane season starts today June 1st and runs until November 30th.

Item #6 - Discuss & Take Possible Action Regarding Abandonment of a Drainage Easement @ 2 Mead Farms Road

- Annmarie Drugonis said that this was given to us in the beginning of May, and we sent to the Planning & Zoning Committee for their approval. Annmarie read the following notice from the Planning & Zoning

Commission:

RECORD OF DECISION

Notice is hereby given that the Seymour Planning and Zoning Commission at its regular meeting held on Thursday May 13, 2021 1. APPROVED the CGS 8-24 referral for abandonment of a drainage easement located at 2 Mead Farm Road.

Motion to approve the abandonment of drainage easement @ 2 Mead Farm Road per the decision of the Planning & Zoning Commission

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 #7 - Discussion & Take Possible Action Regarding the Thule Assignment & Assumption of Fixed Assessment Agreement

Annmarie Drugonis said that this is in your packet. Two years ago, Larry Janesky came to us and wanted to put on an addition. Now Thule is taking on the tax responsibility for 16 Progress Drive instead of Basement Systems.

Motion to approve Thule sign the Assignment & Assumption of Fixed Asset Agreement to assume the tax responsibility for 16 Progress Drive

Motion: Robert VanEgghen

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 Add to the Agenda – Discussion & Take Possible Action on Awarding the Bid for Sidewalks for Woodside Avenue

Motion: Robert Findley

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

Discussion & Take Possible Action on Awarding the Bid for Sidewalks for Woodside Avenue

- Annmarie Drugonis said that in front of you is a letter from the Town Engineer recommending the bid. This project is funded by a DOT Connectivity Grant. The idea is to fill in gaps in existing sidewalks. This will extend some sidewalks on Route 67 towards Oxford. This Grant is not to replace sidewalks. This is to fill gaps & put in sidewalks if needed.
- B&B Engineering is the selected bidder by the Town Engineer, Bryan Nesteriak.

Motion to award the bid for sidewalks on Woodside Avenue to B&B Engineering and to authorize the First Selectwoman to execute an agreement pending Town Counsel review and approval.

Motion: Robert Findley

Second: Al Bruno

DISCUSSION:

- Trisha Danka asked if there is anything that would have repercussions for us not taking the lowest bidder? Bryan LeClerc said that we should take the lowest QUALIFIED bidder. We will, of course, go over the contract.
- Patrick Lombardi asked if they have done any other work with the Town? Do we have any recommendations from previous work? Rob VanEgghen said he has had personal POSITIVE experience with them. Robert Findley said he has heard good things about them.
- Chris Bowen said this is the first time we are seeing this and would like more time to review in the future..

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 - Discussion & Take Possible Action Regarding the Brycer Fire Compliance Software Agreement

- Annmarie Drugonis said that the Agreement in front of you is a revised agreement given to us by Town Counsel.

Motion to approve the Brycer Fire Compliance Software Agreement as presented.

Motion: Robert VanEgghen Second: Robert Findley

Rescinded this motion after discussion

DISCUSSION:

- Robert VanEgghen asked if this was a final document? There are many typos on this document. This is again something that we just received tonight and need more time to review. Apparently, this is not the latest revision that we have here.

Motion to table a decision until the next meeting

Motion: Robert Findley 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

Item #9 – Discussion & Take Possible Action Regarding Town Planner Agreement

Motion to approve the Town Planner Agreement for 18 hours per week as presented

Motion: Patrick Lombardi Second: Robert Findley

DISCUSSION:

- Chris Bowen asked if this was for new services. Annmarie Drugonis said no, this is for a renewal with increased hours.

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 – Discussion & Take Possible Action Regarding the Senior Citizens Tax Program

Annmarie Drugonis said that there are 229 applicants eligible. We have \$50,000 in this line item in the budget. The Tax Assessor recommends a \$215 benefit for each eligible applicant with 100% ownership (or life use) of the property. Applicants with a % of ownership will receive that % of benefit.

Motion to approve the list of applicants for the Senior Citizens Tax Program as presented

Motion: Trisha Danka Second: Robert VanEgghen

DISCUSSION:

- Is this a change from previous years? Rory Burke said that there are 17 more applicants this year.

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 – Set Special Town Meeting for Tuesday, June 15th @6:45pm in the Norma Drummer Room @ Seymour Town Hall Regarding a Supplemental Appropriation (Transfer Control #5)

- Annmarie Drugonis said that Transfer Control #5 was approved by the Board of Finance and the Board of Selectmen, but per the Charter, anything over \$100,000 needs to go to a Town Meeting. This was for payment of a Heart & Hypertension Workers Compensation Claim. We could not have anticipated this cost ahead of time.

Motion to Set Special Town Meeting for Tuesday, June 15th @6:45pm in the Norma Drummer Room @ Seymour Town Hall Regarding a Supplemental Appropriation (Transfer Control #5)

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

Item #12 – Appointments

Appointments June 1, 2021 Board of Selectmen Meeting

Name	Board	Type	Term	Expiration Date
Mike Dion	Parks Commission	Appointment	2 Years	6/1/2023
Lee Heller	Catchment Area 5	Reappointment	2 Years	6/1/2023

Motion to appoint Mike Dion to the Parks Commission for a 2-year term expiring 6/1/2023

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 Lee Heller to the Catchment Area 5 for a 2-year term expiring 6/1/2023

Motion: Trisha Danka Second: Chris Bowen

DISCUSSION:

- We will ask Lee Heller to attend the next meeting to ask what he does. What are the duties of Catchment Area 5? No one in attendance know the answer to this.

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 Add to the Agenda – Discussion & Take Possible Action Regarding Painting Piers Under Route 8
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

Discussion & Take Possible Action Regarding Painting Piers Under Route 8

- Robert VanEgghen said he has some artist friends. They wanted to get involved in doing something in Seymour. We would like to paint some murals under Route 8. We should form a Committee to do this and other areas in Seymour where we can do some painting. Annmarie Drugonis said that we do have approval from the DOT. They would need to approve the drawings, of course. Maybe we could have pictures of the factories, the Fish Bypass, or our schools?
- The Seymour Beautification Committee will consist of: Robert VanEgghen (Chairman), Robert Findley, and Al Bruno.

Item #13 – Tax Refunds & Abatements

Motion to approve the Tax Refunds & Abatements Reports from Tax Collector Dana Flach dated May 18, 2021 and June 1, 2021

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

Item #14 – Transfers

Town of Seymour Transfer Request

DEPARTMENTAL TRANSFER REQUEST

FY 2020 - 2021

Control # _____
Data 5/5/21

DEPARTMENT:

DPW

AUTHORIZED PERSON:

Anthony Daprimo - Director of Public Works

AMOUNT REQUESTED:

\$ 48,746.69

	<u>ACCOUNT NUMBERS</u>		<u>ACCOUNT NUMBERS</u>	
ACC. LINE ITEM TITLE	FROM	AMOUNT	TO	AMOUNT
gasoline	100.430.3110.570.626	\$ 24,373.35		
Contingency	100.410.1950.530.872	\$ 24,373.34		
Snow plowing materials			100.430.3110.570.422	\$ 20,454.67
overtime snow plowing			100.430.3110.570.131	\$ 16,577.83
Seasonal employees			100.430.3110.570.115	\$ 2,036.58
Seasonal employees			100.430.3110.570.115	\$ 6,000.00
overtime			100.430.3110.570.130	\$ 1,677.61
overtime			100.430.3110.570.130	\$ 2,000.00
Total		\$ 48,746.69		\$ 48,746.69

PLEASE GIVE DETAILED EXPLANATION (attach separate sheet if necessary)

Transfer to cover snow plowing materials (\$20,454.67) and overtime (\$16,577.83). Transfer will cover overtime deficit (2,036.58) and seasonal employee deficit (\$1,677.61). There is a need for a seasonal employee for the rest of the year at \$600/wk for 10 weeks. Additional overtime is needed for rest of year for possible emergency cleanups.

- Annmarie Drugonis said that these lines are always hard to predict what is needed. This year although we didn't have a lot of snow, we did have a lot of ice.
- Patrick Lombardi said that his only concern was that \$24,000 was taken out of gasoline for the Public Works Department (the other \$24,000 was from Contingency) leaving them with a balance of only about \$25,000. Tony was comfortable with this. Trisha Danka said that this is only until end of June.

Motion to approve Transfer Control #6 as presented

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

Town of Seymour Transfer Request

DEPARTMENTAL TRANSFER REQUEST

FY 2020 - 2021

Control #
Date

5/28/2

DEPARTMENT:

Parks

AUTHORIZED PERSON:

Anthony Caserta

AMOUNT REQUESTED:

\$ 4,436.00

ACC. LINE ITEM TITLE	ACCOUNT NUMBERS		ACCOUNT NUMBERS	
	FROM	AMOUNT	TO	AMOUNT
Janitorial	100.450.5220.635.510	\$ 3,000.00		
General Supplies	100.450.5220.635.610	\$ 1,436.00		
Rental Toilets			100.450.5220.635.442	\$ 4,436.00
		<u>\$ 4,436.00</u>		<u>\$ 4,436.00</u>

PLEASE GIVE DETAILED EXPLANATION (attach separate sheet if necessary)
Rentals for May and June

Motion to approve Transfer Control #7 as presented

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

Item #15 – Correspondence

- Check Registers

Item #16 – Public Comment

None

Item #17 – Selectmen's Public Comment

- Chris Bowen –
 - I was honored to participate in my first Memorial Day with the American Legion. I joined just before the pandemic hit. I served on an aircraft carrier. I was blessed not to have been in active combat. Being able to support my brothers & sisters & shipmates in any way I can is a critical goal for me.
 - I also wanted address the vandalism – I realize that my words will not reach the target audience (the teenagers). I just want to ask these people “WHY” – what are you getting out of this? What are you trying to tell us? Because I firmly believe people are not malicious enough to damage things just for the sake of damaging things. So, when these people are caught, I would like to pull them aside and ask what they hope to accomplish and what can we as a Community do to help you find a more positive way to express what you're trying to express. There has to be a better answer. There has to be a better way to handle this. It really bothers me.
- Robert VanEgghen – We are getting a little more sleep – 4 ½ month healthy baby boy.
 - To think of the sacrifices that people have made with their service so that we can argue politics. Thankfully everyone has been washing hands, etc. and it was wonderful to have that day of remembrance and see everyone out there, not deterred by the rain, it makes me very proud. At least we are able to be here together in person.

- Al Bruno –
 - I hope everyone had a relaxing, reflective Memorial Day weekend. I was speaking with my Dad yesterday. He grew up when many of his friends went to Vietnam and didn't come back. It was good to hear those stories. There are folks who have really sacrificed for what we have in this country.
 - Congratulations to our Boys & Girls Track Teams – they did very well at NVL's last weekend! I'm excited to see the kids out there competing. I know the baseball & softball teams are also competing and doing well. We've persevered through the pandemic and hopefully can have a somewhat normal summer.
- Trisha Danka
 - Congratulations and thanks to all the Essay Contest winners & participants. Thank you to Mr. Harvey Catlin for giving the kids an opportunity to think about and reflect on Memorial Day – and not have it be just another day off
 - My heartfelt thanks to all of the men and women who have served and fallen. They have given us the rights that we have today. I don't think we recognize how fortunate we all are!
- Robert Findley –
 - I wanted to thank Mr. Catlin. He has been a great influence on the kids and doing this for many years to help them understand what Memorial Day is all about.
 - Today I attended a funeral for someone who died from COVID so it's still out there. Get vaccinated!
 - Today I happened to be on the side of my yard and witnessed a great interaction. Some kids were playing basketball across the street. A cop car drove by, recognized one of the kids and drove into the driveway. The kids stopped playing, came over and were talking with the cop in his car. This is a POSITIVE interaction with the Seymour Police & the Community.
 - Good Luck and Congratulations to Seymour Softball – they won their first State game today!
- Patrick Lombardi –
 - It is great to see engagement with the young kids & police.
 - It is disappointing to see someone go to the Skate Park and ruin something that, to me, looked fabulous. I remember when the Skate Park was in the parking lot where the Fish Ladder was. We have made a lot of new ground with it and hopefully with the cameras and police presence we can eliminate this. It's too bad that we have to ask the Valley Arts Council to come back again. I hope it doesn't happen again in the future. I appreciate your efforts on the Seymour Beautification Committee!
- Anmmarie Drugonis –
 - We will have the First Responders Awareness Picnic on June 12th at 1pm. That goes for the firefighters, ambulance, police department, public works, Board of Education custodial staff, Town Offices custodial staff. These are the people who cleaned the offices, took people with COVID to the hospital. This is our way of saying "Thank you" to them.
 - In speaking with Trisha Danka about the Parade, and the Sikhs have done a lot for this Community – they are out there at all the parades handing out ice cream and always there if we need them. They are a wonderful group of people and it was brought to my attention that they were afraid to march in the Parade with everything that was going on (internationally). I just want everyone in this Town to know that we will not stand for that. I told Alex to tell Pareet if any of the Sikhs want to march in any of the parades or any event that they are more than welcome to march with us (Board of Selectmen). We stand together as one. Seymour is one strong Town, and we are here for everybody!

Item #18 – Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:04pm

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

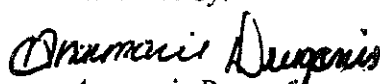
Submitted by:



Monica Dimon

Recording Secretary

Reviewed by:



Annmarie Drugonis

First Selectwoman