

COPY RECEIVED
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TIME: 10:40am
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Board of Selectmen Meeting

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 - 7:00 PM

Zoom Teleconference - Call (646) 558-8656

- Meeting ID: 853 8656 5714

Members Present: Kurt Miller, Trisha Danka, Annmarie Drugonis, Robert VanEgghen, Bob Findley, Chris Bowen, Al Bruno

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Rory Burke, Rich Buturla, Rob Dyer

1. Call meeting to order

First Selectman Kurt Miller called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All stood and recited the Pledge.

3. Public comment

There was no public comment.

4. Approve minutes from June 2, 2020 Regular Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes: Trisha Danka

Seconded by: AnnMarie Drugonis

There was no discussion.

Motion passes 7-0.

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Trisha Danka: yes | Robert Findley: yes | Annmarie Drugonis: yes |
| Kurt Miller: yes | Al Bruno: yes | Robert VanEgghen: yes |
| Chris Bowen: yes | | |

5. Approve minutes from June 9, 2020 special meeting

Motion to approve the minutes: Chris Bowen

Seconded by: AnnMarie Drugonis

There was no discussion.

Motion passes 6-0-1.

Trisha Danka: yes

Robert Findley: abstained

Annmarie Drugonis: yes

Kurt Miller: yes

Al Bruno: yes

Robert VanEgghen: yes

Chris Bowen: yes

6. First Selectman's Report

- Tomorrow starts the next phase of the State of CT's reopening plan, we will be making modifications to our reopening plan as well. The Seymour Public Library from June 17th to June 29th, curbside delivery & drop off will be provided. All staff will be back in the building effective June 29th with hours on Monday through Friday from 10am until 5pm with still only curbside delivery & drop off. The hours are being changed to allow custodial staff to come from the BOE to clean the building and make sure it is safe for the employees. Beginning on July 6th, the front desk, the computer area will be open but will be spread out, patrons will be responsible for cleaning their computer when they leave, and there will be plastic keyboard covers on each keyboard. Curbside pickup will continue to be available for those 65 and older or anyone with a compromised immune system. Limited bathrooms will be available for patrons. The plan will be reevaluated at the end of July to discuss changes based on the current situation.
- For Town Hall; effective June 29th each staff member will be reporting to the building everyday for regular hours. The public will remain limited through appointments only and the front door will continue to be attended. This plan will also be reevaluated at the end of July to discuss changes based on the current situation.
- The Community Center; effective June 29th, each staff member will be reporting to the building everyday for regular hours. The building will be temporarily closed to the public until programming resumes. The recreation staff will be working on outdoor activities and a possible sports camp model to replace our normal camp, details are still being worked out. The Senior Center and Senior Programming will remain closed until we are at a point for those whom are 65 and over to come in safely.
- Police and Department of Public Works will continue to work on their schedules as they have done so throughout the shutdown.
- As of yesterday, June 15th, current year tax collection for Fiscal Year 20 stood at 98.34% in comparison to FY19 we stood at 98.34% at the end of May, so the Town is lagging about 2 weeks behind. However, we are only about \$55,691.49 less than what was collected last year.
- The projected deficit for FY20 is down to 268,000 which is a slight improvement since last meeting. The biggest influence in the deficit is the \$300,000 reimbursement for Chatfield-Lopresti School which was expected to come in before the year ends, but will not be received until late summer or early fall. Had we received this, we would be looking at a small surplus for the year.
- The reported cases of COVID-19 has slowed over the week, the last actual reported case was Thursday. In total there have been 207 reported cases in Town and 41 deaths to date.

7. Discussion and take possible action regarding waiving of bidding process pursuant to Charter §2-268 for failover server cluster

Kurt Miller said that I.T. Director Rob Dyer is here to discuss this topic, and that the reason they are not going out to bid is because it is not a typical bid process. The process is more of providing information to vendors and vendors coming back to us with solutions for our problem. Rob Dyer is going to tell us about the problem, the vendor and the solution, and why it works

best with the Town's long term I.T. plan. Counsel Buturla will explain waiving the bidding process.

Rob Dyer said the process for this started a few months ago, but when COVID-19 hit, it became more difficult to get in touch with vendors. One of the more pressing issues is that we are coming to the end of our Fiscal Year, and at this time, we must either renew our maintenance agreements with our current infrastructure (servers when hard drives goes down) or find a new server cluster. The Seymour Public Schools have been on a failover cluster since 2010. Dyer has come before the board 3 or 4 times about the ability for fault tolerance, cyber security, and the ability to recover from a disaster situation. The schools have had the capability of instead of having a computer on a desk or a physical server, there is virtualization and high density failover cluster, which means instead of all the eggs being in one basket, there are virtual instances of that server, so if something were to happen to the physical computer, you have built in tolerance and another piece of the server would take over the workload.

The Town does not have this, and because the technology that the Seymour Public Schools agreed to in Chatfield-LoPresti project about 10 years ago, it is coming to its end of life. It is cost prohibitive to keep this going. The goal is to bring a new failover cluster to the schools, as well as bringing it to the Town.

There are 2 different solutions, which are 2 different technologies.

1. Nutanix (SHI)
 - A 3 tier solution, which is a storage area network with servers that are storing your data on those servers.
 -
2. Nimble (Digital Back Office)
 - The other is HCI (HyperConverse Infrastructure) where the information and the server are in one physical box. HCI is new technology but it is more expensive, although in the quote given to us, there is 5 years of tech support included. It ends up being the cheaper of the two options.
 - However, with HCI there is one physical box in one physical building, the other option gives us 2 sites, which means one at the High School and one at the Police Department. We can do that with HCI but it will be double the cost right now. This helps further the goal of merging the schools and the Town's servers together.

Rob said that Seymour has been recognized a few times as a leader in cybersecurity, and this is our next step moving forward in terms of infrastructure.

Kurt Miller asked what our proposed savings is projected to be if we do this.

Rob Dyer said it's hard to anticipate a hard drive failure, but there are a few subscription services we pay for that will go away, such as the police department emails, because of this. He can estimate that in the long run it will be a net positive savings.

Bob Findley asked about the Nutanix, there is no redundancy on this but it would do periodic backups, would we have to manage that ourselves?

Rob Dyer said that it does have failover capability, if the Nutanix box loses a hard drive there is redundancy within the box itself. Where there is not redundancy, is if the box itself catches on fire or is destroyed there are issues.

Findley asked if there was a service contract with the Nimble system.

Dyer said there is a 5 year service contract with both Nimble and Nutanix.

Chris Bowen asked if we went with the Nutanix box would we be having direct replicas or load balancing?

Dyer said no load balancing, but they are sized for our current work loads, plus an extra 30% capability. That is on the first site and the second site will be used for replication, so there is 0 downtime.

Bowen asked how much additional bandwidth would be used for this.

Dyer said it uses quite a bit more, however, it will have 0 impact on us because of the future proof planning we put into the network.

Bowen asked as these are file servers, he knows that there are gigabyte plans, is there flexibility if we go over it?

Dyer said that essentially we are building our own cloud storage area. Since it is not something we are renting, there are no fees for going over and it is sized for 30% over what our current capacity is.

Bowen asked if everything for the second plan would be a definite police department and high school would be the two spots for the boxes?

Dyer said that the police department is probably a smart site because it is the Emergency Management center with battery backup. The high school is the second place to consider because it is the hub of the Town's internet access and it has its own generator and power system. He will include the Town's Emergency Management people in this decision.

Bowen asked in that case, if the 2 spots were the police station and the high school, the server A would always be the one in use and then server B would be the back up? And would they alternate.

Dyer said one would be the backup yes and they would not alternate unless they needed to, for maintenance for example. From the users perspective, they would not even notice if the servers were switched.

Rich Buturla said in order to avoid the competitive bidding process in this situation, 2-268 of the Seymour Town code, provides certain exemptions. One of them is 2-268E-1; Moneys available in the budget; it would require the vote of at least 4 members to determine that it was needed by the Town for a proper purpose (which it is), that the need is emergent in nature to such a degree that the time required for advertising and competitive bidding would impose a substantial hardship upon the Town (and Rob's description seems to fit this perfectly). The July 1 date is looming, and there were difficulties due to the COVID pandemic, and because of all of this, he would suggest that this is all in accordance to the 2-286E-1 Seymour Town Code.

Kurt Miller asked for a motion that we award the quote from Digital Back Office for the HPE Nimble Server Hardware, as presented by I.T. Director Rob. Dyer in the amount of \$121,995 and wave the bidding process pursuant of Town Code Section 2-268 as advised by Town Counsel Buturla.

Motioned by: Bob Findley

Seconded by: Chris Bowen

Discussion:

Chris Bowen said that the second site (option HPE Nimble Server) is huge, no one can anticipate catastrophes and at this price, it is great.

Motion passes 7-0.

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Trisha Danka: yes | Robert Findley: yes | Annmarie Drugonis: yes |
| Kurt Miller: yes | Al Bruno: yes | Robert VanEgghen: yes |
| Chris Bowen: yes | | |

8. Appointments

Kurt Miller asked for a motion to approve the appointments dated June 6th, 2020.

Paul Behuniak to the Lake Housatonic Authority for a 3 year term ending on 6/17/23.

Steve Kulas to the Ordinance Hearing Officer position for a 2 year term ending on 6/30/22.

Motion by: Chris Bowen

Seconded by: Annmarie Drugonis

Motion passes 7-0.

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Trisha Danka: yes | Robert Findley: yes | Annmarie Drugonis: yes |
| Kurt Miller: yes | Al Bruno: yes | Robert VanEgghen: yes |
| Chris Bowen: yes | | |

9. Tax Refunds/Abatements

Kurt Miller asked for a motion to approve the Tax Collectors Report submitted June 11th, 2020 as submitted by Susan Boland.

Motioned by: Annmarie Drugonis

Seconded by: Trisha Danka

Motion passes 7-0.

Trisha Danka: yes
 Kurt Miller: yes
 Chris Bowen: yes

Robert Findley: yes
 Al Bruno: yes

Annmarie Drugonis: yes
 Robert VanEgghen: yes

10. Transfers

No transfers.

11. Correspondence

- Check Registers
- Breakdown of Governor's Executive Orders XX by Rich Buturla
- Department of Public Health and Heart Health Association has designated Seymour a Heart Safe Community. Credit for that goes to Kyle Kelley and Seymour Ambulance whom worked very hard.

12. Public Comment

No public comment.

13. Selectmen's Public Comments

Trisha Danka: Everyone stay well.

Chris Bowen: Be safe.

Annmarie Drugonis: Seymour DPW has their own Facebook page now, people can comment which is good. If there are any questions it's manned, and they are very quick with getting back to people. WPCA is meeting on the 18th for their budget.

Kurt Miller: WPCA is a public meeting, if anyone wants to listen in. Their budget numbers do not make sense so he will be sending a list of questions over to them.

Al Bruno: thank you to the Naugatuck Valley Health Department for the COVID updates, it has been great to watch the curb get flattened. I hope people in Seymour stay vigilant and dont have a second wave come in the future. The Food Banks are reaching out for assistance, so there is a food drive coming up at the Seymour Oxford Food Bank, it will be this Friday and Saturday at Stop & Shop, anyone can help volunteer, just contact Mary or Tara at the Rec Dept. at the Community Center.

Kurt Miller: The Local Sikhs are doing a mask drive at the community center, anyone can come to that. They are also buying lunch for all our First Responders, police, fire and EMT which is great and we always appreciate that.

Rob VanEgghen: Father's Day is coming up, please make a donation to A Chance to Shine CT in honor of someone who been a great father figure to you. They are aiming for \$100,000 and are currently at \$95,000 and since they are wrapping up this weekend it would be great to get some donations.

Bob Findley: Made it out to some of the businesses/ restaurants for their soft opening. It is really great to see everyone following the rules and being cautious. It's great to see owners enforcing rules too.

14. Adjournment

Motion to adjournment by: Chris Bowen

Seconded by: Annmarie Drugonis

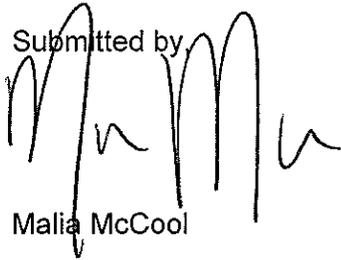
Motion passes 7-0.

Trisha Danka: yes
Kurt Miller: yes
Chris Bowen: yes

Robert Findley: yes
Al Bruno: yes

Annmarie Drugonis: yes
Robert VanEgghen: yes

Submitted by,



Malia McCool

Approved by,



Kurt Miller