Town of Seymour



1st Quarter 2016

Executive Summary

First Selectman's Office

- Approved new version of 10-Year Strategic Plan
- Hired new Director of Public Works, Anthony DePrimo
- Shopped health insurance and realized significant savings
- Attended US Conference of Mayors in Washington, D.C.
- Participated in Strategic Planning video series with High School students

The first quarter of 2016 saw new beginnings and groundwork being laid for future success. After the departure of the previous Director in October 2015, the Board of Selectmen hired a new Director of Public Works, Anthony DePrimo. He comes to Seymour after a full and accomplished career with the City of Bridgeport where he headed the sanitation department. We are very enthusiastic about his arrival and we expect to see great things from him and the Public Works Department in the coming months.

As the result of changes made over the past several years as well as vigorous negotiation with the Town's unions, we successfully transitioned all municipal employees to two healthcare plans. This allowed us to shop for health plans for the first time in years. As such, the Town was able to realize substantial savings in our healthcare costs, exceeding \$300,000 annually. Because of these savings, we expect to put forward an extremely reasonable budget to the residents of the Town for the next fiscal year.

The Town's strategic planning process began more than two years ago. In March, the Strategic Planning Committee presented the latest version, which is the culmination of more than 30 interviews with local officials and hundreds of hours of work. This plan will serve as the roadmap for the Town across administration to ensure continuity of long term objectives across administrations. The Selectmen reviewed the plan and approved it unanimously.

The last phase of the preparation of the plan involves public outreach, which I encourage all residents to participate in. To get the word out, I teamed up with Seymour High School's marketing class to produce a video series to explain the plan and the planning process to the public. They are available on the Town's YouTube channel and are broadcasting on local public access cable. We are hoping to turn this into a standing collaboration to put the word about local news and initiatives and to develop a media program at the High School. Keep an eye out for public information sessions by checking our website and Facebook pages!

W. Kurt Miller First Selectman

MIKM

Finance

Budget documents completed

Projections

Revenues: \$55,912,619 Expenditures: \$55,797,799 Budgeted: \$55,846,702 Budgeted: \$55,846,702 Variance: \$65,917 Variance: -\$48,903

Total Variance: -\$143,197

Economic Development

- Semi-design submission for Greenway Trail Phase One submitted to ConnDOT project on track to go out to bid in July 2016
- Met with Circuit Breaker Sales Northeast, Inc. to discuss failing retaining wall next to railroad
- Downtown parking lots signs were designed and installed
- Draft copy of CERC feasibility report is complete. Final draft expected in second quarter

Seymour Schools

- Aidan Vrlik, Evan Webb, Ryan Rees, James Rafferty, Clara Behnen & Justin Fabozzi were accepted to the UConn "First Chair" Band Festival in February
- Seymour High School's Debate Team brought home trophies from the Connecticut Debate Association tournament in February
- NEASC evaluation of Seymour High was completed in March
- Board of Education prepared an initial budget with an increase of .82%
- Met with Recreation Department about sharing facilities

Seymour Police Department

- Second canine unit successfully completed mandatory training and are already demonstrating results including apprehending an armed suspect in Shelton and locating lost hikers in Ansonia
- Department is moving forward with Citizen's Academy and Community Outreach Program, in conjunction with the Senior Center
- The SRO has expanded his roles in the schools and the Community Officer has done a great job addressing business owners' concerns downtown
- Detective Nihill conducted a difficult embezzlement investigation that lead to larceny charges being filed against a local priest

Fire Department

- Applied for a Fire Act Grant for new SCBA units
- Valley Chamber of Commerce represented firefighter Steve Culmo as Volunteer of the Year

ResponsesHazMat:1Total Calls:127Service Calls:8Total Fires:22Good Intent Calls:26Accidents:29False Alarms:27

Community Services

- Re-established Commission on Aging meetings
- Met with TEAM, Inc. regarding potential Adult Day Care Program
- Published VOICES programming insert
- Established Sunday religious services transportation
- Community Services website saw more than 800 registrations and received more than \$26,000 in registration fees

Current Programming (Participants)

- Flu Clinic (52)
- 3 Lunch Bunch Events (31)
- Seymour Day at Quassy Park
- 12 Weeks of Bingo (420)
- 3 Casino Trips (139)
- Chair Yoga (57)
- Hatha Yoga (38)
- Karate (16)
- Qigong (56)
- Say Goodnight to Gracie musical (6)

- AARP Drivers Course (3)
- St. Patrick's Day luncheon (36)
- CT Flower Show (8)
- Snow Tubing (7)
- Open Swim (31 Families)
- Swim Lessons (64)
- UConn Women's basketball (12)
- Girls travel basketball (9)
- High school basketball (15)
- Men's over 30 basketball (45)

Canceled Programs (Low Enrollment)

- Speed & agility program
- Amazing acrylic painting 1-2-3
- Branson show extravaganza

- Dodgeball league
- UConn Men's basketball (weather)

Seymour Public Library

Inter-Library Loan program disrupted by State budget cuts

Purchased 5 new computers

Circulation: Total Holdings: 81,443

Adult: 5,387 Computer Sessions: 1,215 Children: 4,880 Registered Users: 6,955

Inter-Library Loan: Program Attendance:

 Borrow:
 1061
 Children:
 99

 Loan:
 578
 Adult:
 160

Human Resources

Hired new Public Works Director

Began assisting Seymour Ambulance with recruiting and hiring of per-diem positions

Tax Collector

Taxes Collected Taxes Outstanding: \$1,054,122.91

January: \$13,489,508.74 Collected To-Date: 97.53%

February: \$1,805,943.24 Back Taxes Owed: \$961,615.66 March: \$395,543.01 Collected Using Card: \$353,393.57

Total Collected: \$15,690,994.99 Percent Using Card: 2.3%

Building Enforcement

Fees Collected Permits Issued

 January:
 \$4,796.26
 January:
 153

 February:
 \$4,456.00
 February:
 45

 March:
 \$92,100.76
 March:
 34

Total: \$101,353.02 Total: 232

Fire Marshal

- Conducted successful "After the Fire" presentation at Seymour High School
- Awarded fire truck rides to winners of third and fourth grade fire prevention poster contest
- Deputy Fire Marshal Willis gave an interview on the Valley Independent Sentinel "Navel Gazing" podcast

Current Projects

- 29 Maple St. Apartment conversion continues.
- 50 Cogwheel Ln. Basement Systems project is ongoing.
- 38 Columbus Ave. Apartment conversions ongoing

- 33 Progress Avenue Basement Systems new 73,000 square foot building plan reviewed
- 600 Derby Avenue Haynes submitted proposal to turn cement plant into retail space

Inspections

New Construction: 9 Fire Code Complaints: 5 **Initial Existing Buildings:** 36 Detail Code Reviews: 4 Re-Inspections: 17 Detail Follow-up Activities: 0 **Underground Tanks:** 3 **Burning Permits:** 0

Blasting Permits: 0

Fires

- Clinton Road car fire investigation remains open
- 26 Union Street Fire Department rescued male resident. Hoarding situation prompted investigation.
- 9 Bungay Road Structure fire and shooting

Town Clerk

- Began preparing for April Presidential primaries, May budget referendums, August primaries and November Presidential election
- Transitioned to electronic birth record processing
- Averaging 300 copies per month from online access

Dog Licenses: 834 Hunting & Fishing Licenses: 195
Marriage Licenses: 13 Recording Income: \$4,356

Assessor

- Finalized revaluation figures
- Prepared 2015 Grand List 6,388 real estate parcels, 830 personal property accounts and 15,258 vehicles
- Prepared for appeals process