

Town of Seymour



4th Quarter 2015 Executive Summary

First Selectman's Office

- Library roof and Community Center boiler replaced
- 2015 roadwork completed with additional \$700,000 available for spring
- Seymour/Oxford Food Bank moved to Community Center
- Strand Theater parking lot reorganized to pick up 15 additional spaces
- Seymour High School's artificial turf field completed
- Inter-service worker's compensation fund established
- \$60,000 budget surplus for prior year
- Financing secured for Rimmon Street reconstruction and Greenway Trail phase 1

The final quarter of 2015 saw serious reinvestment in municipal assets that will benefit the community for years to come. Town buildings, which have long been neglected, are quickly becoming a priority. The roof on the library was replaced in order to stop water damage, which it had been sustaining for years. Likewise, the Community Center received a new boiler that is significantly more efficient and will require much less maintenance.

Outside of Town buildings, we invested heavily in other infrastructure throughout town. Much of the quarter was spent finishing up the 2014 road program that began in the summer. In total, we repaved more than 40 roads, exceeding the total for the past 10 years combined. We utilized new techniques to stretch money and will revisit the roads in the Spring to ensure they withstood the winter. Because of our conservative approach, we have an additional \$700,000 to spend in the spring.

We invested in other resources throughout Seymour as well. We found the Seymour/Oxford Food Bank a new home in the basement of the Community Center with the help of the Katherine Matthies Foundation. Parking has long been a problem in our downtown. While it has not been resolved, we were able to add 15 spots in the Strand Theater lot by reorganizing it. In October, a ribbon cutting ceremony was held for the new artificial turf field at the High School, made possible by a \$1.895 million grant from the State.

We also made significant strides administratively. The Board of Education ended the previous fiscal year with a large deficit in their Worker's Compensation fund. We were able to cover the deficit and retain a \$60,000 surplus for the year, but established an inter-service fund to ensure the issue won't reoccur. We completed financing for several upcoming projects including the reconstruction of Rimmon Street, the construction of phase I of Seymour's Greenway Trail and the purchase of a bucket truck that will allow our Public Works Department to perform work previously contracted out.



W. Kurt Miller
First Selectman

Finance

- 2015 audited financial statements completed
- 2nd CAFR completed
- Budget process began

Projections

Revenues:	\$33,090,118	Expenditures:	\$33,551,323
Budgeted:	\$55,846,702	Budgeted:	\$55,846,702
Variance:	-\$206,184	Variance:	\$62,987

Variance due to car tax mill rate cap and State budget cutbacks.

Variance due to holding off on vacuum truck purchase and fewer referendums.

Total Variance: -\$143,197

Economic Development

- Completed work on forthcoming CERC feasibility study
- Completed work on forthcoming downtown parking directional signs

Seymour Schools

- Seymour High School's Electrathon teams placed first and second in the expert class of the CT Electrathon Race at Lime Rock Raceway in October
- 2 High school students received letters of commendation from the National Merit Scholarship Program – Justin Fabozzi & Julia Pietruszka
- 8th grader Basilla Stevens collected 276 turkeys for the Seymour/Oxford Food Bank & Spooner House
- 1,759 non-perishable food items were collected by the Middle School Student Council during their Thanksgiving meal drive
- Received second security grant

Seymour Police Department

- A second canine unit was approved by the Board of Police Commissioners and Officer Matt Butler was selected as the handler
- Community Officer John Harkins and Records Secretary Caroline Spaulding were both instrumental in the success of the Police Department's food and toy drives.

Fire Department

- New boat unit is in service and members of both the Fire Department and Police Department are being trained

Responses			
Total Calls:	119	Accidents:	34
Total Fires:	20	HazMat:	11
Vehicle:	4	Service Calls:	11
Structure:	3	Good Intent Calls:	19
Cooking:	3	False Alarms:	24

Community Services

- Hired part-time Recreation Program Manager – Zack Philippas
- Children's basketball program started with 330 children participating
- 2 adult basketball programs were launched
- 266 new accounts were created on Community Services website

Current Programming (Participants)

- Flu Clinic (52)
- 3 Lunch Bunch Events (46)
- Seymour Day at Quassy Park
- Legislative Office Hours (20)
- Pre-school Sports Mania (13)
- Tennis (8)
- 10 Weeks of Bingo (350)
- Broadway Masters Musical (14)
- Holiday Gala (43)
- Hot Dog Lunch & Bingo (36)
- Lunch & Learn – Storm Preparedness (43)
- 2 Casino Trips (97)
- Woodbury Commons Shopping Trip (13)
- Chair Yoga (67)
- Hatha Yoga (38)
- Karate (16)
- Zumba (49)
- Qigong (56)
- Understanding Medicare Seminar (12)
- Radio City Music Hall Trip (54)

Canceled Programs (Low Enrollment)

- Children's Jewelry Making
- Mommy & Me Class
- Puppetry
- Wizards School of Magic
- Drums Alive

Seymour Public Library

- Held 57th anniversary celebration with 90+ patrons in attendance

- Programming room flooring installed

Circulation:		Total Holdings:	82,341
Adult:	5,494	Computer Sessions:	1,430
Children:	4,853	Registered Users:	7035
Inter-Library Loan:		Program Attendance:	
Borrow:	1062	Children:	456
Loan:	764	Adult:	295

Human Resources

- Began interviews for new Director of Public Works
- Hired new Assistant Custodian
- Finalized inter-service fund for Worker's Compensation in conjunction with the Board of Education
- Conducted annual healthcare audit

Tax Collector

Taxes Collected		Taxes Outstanding:	\$16,533,398.83
October:	\$368,822.35	Collected To-Date:	61.28%
November:	\$245,077.53	Back Taxes Owed:	\$1,295,227.39
December:	\$3,039,652.73	Collected Using Card:	\$128,011.55
Total Collected:	\$3,653,552.61	Percent Using Card:	3.5

Building Enforcement

Fees Collected		Permits Issued	
October:	\$35,989.46	October:	63
November:	\$9,054.12	November:	66
December:	\$43,984.26	December:	58
Total:	\$89,027.84	Total:	185

Fire Marshal

- Participated in statewide disaster drill with other emergency departments
- Deputy Fire Marshal Willis obtained 2 grants totaling \$4,000 to run a presentation at the High School

Current Projects

- 30 Great Hill Rd. - Total Sports Academy continues to expand
- 16 Klarides Village – Basement renovation for American Pie & Pub complete

- 29 Maple St. – Apartment conversion continues.
- 50 Cogwheel Ln. – New building project, related to Basement Systems. Structural steel is being erected
- 38 Columbus Ave. - 5-story apartment building's plans have been reviewed. Will be started in Q1 2016
- 20 Pine St. - Seymour/Oxford Food Bank transition project completed.

Inspections

New Construction:	27	Fire Code Complaints:	9
Initial Existing Buildings:	14	Detail Code Reviews:	0
Re-Inspections:	17	Detail Follow-up Activities:	4
Underground Tanks:	0	Burning Permits:	4
Blasting Permits:	1		

Fires

- Clinton Road – car fire continues to be investigated in conjunction with the ATF, State Fire Marshal and Seymour, Woodbridge & Ansonia Police Departments
- 144 Maple Street – incendiary fire involving a juvenile
- 2 Ajello's Farm Road – small exterior fire – cause unknown
- 716 Derby Avenue – small accidental electrical fire in grease machine in the basement
- 45 Squantuck Road – accidental electrical fire due to delivery truck pulling down house's service wires

Town Clerk

- Prepared various reports to the State and worked with campaigns to ensure proper paperwork filed
- Gathered \$2,795 for the Richard R. Pearson Memorial Fund, issuing \$140 Christmas checks to 23 Seymour servicemen and women.
- Averaged 200 copies per month from online record access

Dog Licenses:	810	Recording Income:	\$3,952
Marriage Licenses:	110	Absentee Ballots Issued:	88
Hunting & Fishing Licenses:	602		

Assessor

- Processed 170 Renters Rebate applications
- Mailed 850 personal property declarations
- worked with Vision Government Solutions on 2015 revaluation