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SIMSBURY BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Main Meeting Room – Simsbury Town Hall – 933 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury Regular Meeting – February 24, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC AUDIENCE

PRESENTATIONS

- a) Town Manager's Proposed FY 20/21 Budget
- b) FY18/19 CAFR

FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

SELECTMEN ACTION

- a) Tax Refund Requests
- b) Designation of Code Enforcement Officer and Wetlands Officer
- c) MIRA Statement of Interest
- d) Proposed Anti-Harassment Policy

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

- a) Simsbury 350th Committee Appointments
- b) Proposed Reappointments and Resignations for Technology Task Force
- c) Appointment of Melissa Brett to the Hometown Heroes Committee

REVIEW OF MINUTES

a) Regular Meeting of February 10, 2020

SELECTMEN LIAISON AND SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Personnel
- b) Finance
- c) Welfare
- d) Public Safety
- e) Board of Education



COMMUNICATIONS

- a) Revisions to Parks and Recreation Department Refund & Transfer Procedures
- b) Administrative Approvals for Public Gathering Permits
- c) ED-626 Form from Ericka
- d) Memo from E. Wellman RE: Canoe/Kayak Rentals, dated February 24, 2020
- e) Update to Pesticide Preemption Communication, dated February 13, 2020 and January 30, 2020
- f) COST 2020 Legislative Priorities

EXECUTIVE SESSION

a) Pursuant to CGS §1-200(6)(B) concerning Pending Claims and Litigation – Martin v. Simsbury

ADJOURN



BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AGENDA SUBMISSION FORM

1. Title of Submission:

Town Manager's Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Proposed

Budget

2. Date of Board Meeting:

February 24, 2020

3. Individual or Entity Making the Submission:

Maria E. Capriola, Town Manager; Melissa Appleby, Deputy Town Manager; Amy Meriwether, Finance Director Maria E. Capriola

4. Action Requested of the Board of Selectmen:

This item is informational; no action is needed at this meeting.

5. Summary of Submission:

A presentation will be given at the February 24, 2020 meeting regarding the Town Manager's FY 20/21 proposed operating and capital budgets. Budget books will be distributed that evening.

An in-depth budget workshop has been scheduled for Saturday, March 7th. By Charter the Board of Selectmen must forward a recommended budget to the Board of Finance no later than March 31st. The Board of Selectmen is scheduled to take up the matter of budget adoption on March 9th. If an additional meeting is needed for budget consideration, I would recommend a special meeting be held on March 11th. The Board of Selectmen is scheduled to present its adopted budget to the Board of Finance on March 17th.

I would like to thank and commend Amy Meriwether, Melissa Appleby, and the leadership team for their dedicated and hard work in assisting with budget development.

6. Financial Impact:

Details of the financial impact of the Town Manager's FY 20/21 proposed operating and capital budgets will be covered during the presentation.

7. <u>Description of Documents Included with Submission</u>:

None



BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AGENDA SUBMISSION FORM

1. <u>Title of Submission:</u>

FY18/19 Comprehensive Financial Audit

2. <u>Date of Board Meeting:</u>

February 24, 2020

3. Individual or Entity Making the Submission:

Maria E. Capriola, Town Manager; Amy N. Meriwether, Finance Director/Treasurer

4. Action Requested of the Board of Selectmen:

No action is needed. This item is informational only. The Board of Finance reviewed these materials at their February 18, 2020 meeting.

5. Summary of Submission:

The Town's annual financial audit has been completed by the audit firm, BlumShapiro, for the year ended June 30, 2019. BlumShapiro issued an unmodified "clean" opinion on the Town of Simsbury's financial statements. Financial statement highlights are noted below along with the corresponding financial report pages numbers for reference:

General Fund

- Fund balance = \$17,109,547, an increase of \$315,434 from prior year Page 18
- Unassigned fund balance = \$16,460,519, 16.70% of general fund operating expenditures Page 16
- Budgetary revenues came in at \$571,033 in excess of budget Page 72
- Budgetary expenditures came in at \$5,341 less than budget Page 74
- Tax collections were 99.40% for the current year grand list Page 116

Capital Projects Fund

- Fund balance = \$5,476,831, an increase of \$6,133,126 due to the FY19 bond issuance – Page 18

<u>Internal Service Fund – Page 101</u>

- Medical Net position increased from (\$122,695) to \$1,482,407. The insolvency
 of this fund was identified during the FY20 budget process and corrected via a
 transfer into the fund of \$1,400,000.
- Dental Net position increased from \$378,948 to \$427,420.

Fiduciary Funds

- Pension Trust Fund Net position increased from \$64,094,279 to \$66,393,375 –
 Page 104
- Pension Liability \$19,925,597, 76.92% funded Page 50

- OPEB Trust Fund Net position increased from \$15,414,275 to \$16,703,500 –
 Page 104
- OPEB Liability \$6,051,733, 73.41% Funded Page 60

In relationship with the annual audit, BlumShapiro has put together a letter of management advisory comments:

 Capital Asset Reporting – There is no indication of assets purchased with grant funds, the current year accumulated depreciation did not include the depreciation on the additions from a prior year, construction in progress information should be maintained and updated annually, and capital assets are being maintained on a stand-alone Excel spreadsheet.

Management Response: The Town has purchased a new accounting system, Munis, which includes a capital asset module. Implementation is currently underway and expected to be completed by October 2020. In addition, the Town is currently in the recruitment process for an accountant for the finance department. The accountant will be responsible for maintaining and inventorying all capital assets. Segregation of duties will be incorporated to have the accountant prepare the reports and finance director will review the reports.

2. Fraud Risk Assessment – Auditors recommend the Town and Board of Education have a Fraud Risk Assessment performed.

Management Response: The funding request for a Fraud Risk Assessment was made during the FY20 budget process. It has been included in the approved capital plan.

3. Accounting Procedures Manual – Auditors recommend the Town and Board of Education develop a comprehensive accounting procedures manual for their finance offices.

Management Response: The Town has started to accumulate al current relevant written procedures/instructions into one common subdirectory. The majority of procedures will change with the current implementation of the new Munis accounting system. Once implementation has been completed, procedures for the Town and Board of Education will mirror each other, and one manual for both entities created.

4. Positive Pay – The Town should consider implementing a Positive Pay System with the bank.

Management Response: Implementation of the new accounting system, Munis, will incorporate Positive Pay.

BlumShapiro also performed additional required audits over Federal and State grants received by the Town. Both audits of Federal and State funding received unmodified "clean" opinions. There were no material weaknesses or significant deficiencies identified related to the State Single Audit. There was one significant deficiency identified related to the Federal Single Audit. Federal grant requirements were updated

to include the federal procurement practices into the Town/Board of Education purchasing policies. While the Town policy was updated, the Board of Education policy was not. The Board of Education policy has since been updated and ready for review by their policy committee in the Spring.

The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, Federal Single Audit Report and State Single Audit Report can be found at https://www.simsbury-ct.gov/finance/pages/comprehensive-annual-financial-reports

6. Financial Impact:

None

7. Description of Documents Included with Submission:

- a) Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (https://www.simsbury-ct.gov/sites/simsburyct/files/uploads/comprehensive_annual_financial_report.pdf)
- b) Federal Single Audit Report (https://www.simsbury-ct.gov/sites/simsburyct/files/uploads/federal_single_audit_report.pdf)
- c) State Single Audit Report (https://www.simsbury-ct.gov/sites/simsburyct/files/uploads/state_single_audit_report.pdf)
- d) Audit Communication Letter
- e) Management Advisory Letter



BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AGENDA SUBMISSION FORM

1. Title of Submission:

Tax Refund Requests

2. Date of Board Meeting:

February 24, 2020

3. <u>Individual or Entity Making the Submission</u>:

Maria E. Capriola, Town Manager; Colleen O'Connor, Tax Collector

maria E. Capciola

4. Action Requested of the Board of Selectmen:

If the Board of Selectmen supports approving the tax refunds as presented, the following motion is in order:

Move, effective February 24, 2020 to approve the presented tax refunds in the amount of \$52,177.28, and to authorize Town Manager, Maria E. Capriola, to execute the tax refunds.

5. Summary of Submission:

Tax refunds need to be issued from time to time for motor vehicles, real property, and personal property. Some of the most common reasons tax refunds need to be issued for motor vehicles include: sale of the vehicle; the vehicle is destroyed; the vehicle is donated; the owner has moved out of state; or, the owner has successfully appealed the taxes. Real estate refunds are typically due to the fact that during the sale or refinancing of a property, both a bank and an attorney's office have paid taxes owed, resulting in an overpayment to the Town. Overpayments of personal property taxes are rare; often overpayments of personal property are due to a person or entity forgetting that they paid in full in July, then also sending the January installment.

In a legal opinion from the Town Attorney dated May 22, 2001, he stated that CGS §12-129 "requires that all applications for tax refunds be referred to the Board (of Selectmen) for their consideration and action." Once approved by the Board of Selectmen, the Town Manager will sign off on tax refund applications. As a reminder, the Tax Collector's Office is responsible for collecting revenue for the Fire District pursuant to Special Act #264 of the Legislature in 1945. However, tax refunds for the Fire District are not under the jurisdiction of nor approved by the Board of Selectmen and are therefore not included in the requested tax refunds presented.

6. Financial Impact:

The aggregate amount of all tax refunds as presented is \$52,177.28. The attachment dated February 24, 2020 has a detailed listing of all requested tax refunds.

7. Description of Documents Included with Submission:

a) Requested Tax Refunds, dated February 24, 2020

REQUESTED TAX REFUNDS FEBRUARY 24, 2020

	BILL NUMBER	TAX	INTEREST	TOTAL
Liet 2047				
List 2017	17-03-59337	COAAA		CO44 47
Jones Tiffany R	17-03-59337	\$344.17		\$344.17
Total 2017		\$344.17	\$0.00	\$344.17
10tai 2017		ψ5-1-17	ψ0.00	ψ54.17
List 2018				
Dave, Santosh	18-01-01884	\$1,027.23		\$1,027.23
Grist Mill Partners LLC	18-01-03169	\$31,348.80		\$31,348.80
Helitzer, Jonathan	18-01-03413	\$295.03		\$295.03
Kavanah Sheila A	18-01-03969	\$194.12		\$194.12
Kedala, Samuel	18-01-03994	\$2,523.39		\$2,523.39
Malakhov Yelena	18-01-04883	\$250.00		\$250.00
Mckay Robert B	18-01-05166	\$12.95		\$12.95
Wells Fargo (Norton, Michael)	18-01-05794	\$2,640.39		\$2,640.39
McCue Mrtg (Parker, Heather)	18-01-06069	\$349.34		\$349.34
Rogus, Joseph	18-01-06907	\$169.92		\$169.92
Wells Fargo (Wismar)	18-01-07626	\$4,624.32		\$4,624.32
McCue Mrtg (Snow, Steven)	18-01-07654	\$889.33		\$889.33
Wells Fargo (Staskiewicz)	18-01-07781	\$3,295.55		\$3,295.55
Vayda Neil	18-01-08344	\$90.00		\$90.00
Caputo Kathleen	18-03-52639	\$419.48		\$419.48
Honda Lease Trust	18-03-58172	\$250.79		\$250.79
Honda Lease Trust	18-03-58288	\$134.91		\$134.91
Honda Lease Trust	18-03-58311	\$361.37		\$361.37
Honda Lease Trust	18-03-58334	\$256.01		\$256.01
JP Morgan Chase Bank	18-03-59171	\$263.22		\$263.22
JP Morgan Chase Bank	18-03-59334	\$131.74		\$131.74
Preisser Peter	18-03-64988	\$125.02		\$125.02
Toyota Lease Trust	18-03-68643	\$404.78		\$404.78
VW Credit Leasing Ltd	18-03-69601	\$117.26		\$117.26
VW Credit Leasing Ltd	18-03-69602	\$251.91		\$251.91
VW Credit Leasing Ltd	18-03-69633	\$427.88		\$427.88
VW Credit Leasing Ltd	18-03-69660	\$153.98		\$153.98
Daimler Trust	18-04-80740	\$788.39		\$788.39
Lyons Shannon	18-04-82013	\$36.00		\$36.00
T / 100/0		A54 000 44	20.00	\$54.000.44
Total 2018		\$51,833.11	\$0.00	\$51,833.11
TOTAL 2017		\$344.17	\$0.00	\$344.17
TOTAL 2018		\$51,833.11	\$0.00	\$51,833.11
		-	·	•
TOTAL ALL YEARS		\$52,177.28	\$0.00	\$52,177.28



BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AGENDA SUBMISSION FORM

1. Title of Submission:

Designation of Code Enforcement Officer and

Wetlands Officer

2. Date of Board Meeting:

February 24, 2020

3. Individual or Entity Making the Submission:

Maria E. Capriola, Town Manager Maria E. Capriola

4. Action Requested of the Board of Selectmen:

If the Board of Selectmen supports the proposed retroactive designations, the following motion is in order:

Move, retroactive to February 10, 2020 to designate Thomas Hazel as an Assistant Conservation, Inland Wetlands Officer and as the Code Enforcement Officer. These designations shall remain in effect until rescinded or Mr. Hazel's separation from service, whichever comes first.

5. Summary of Submission:

Pursuant to the Charter, the Board of Selectmen should appoint a Conservation, Inland Wetlands Officer and Code Enforcement (Compliance) Officer; with the staffing transition in the Planning Department this has not yet occurred for our recent hire Thomas Hazel. Statute requires land use agencies to designate an IWA Officer and Zoning Agent, which has occurred. Job descriptions approved by the Board of Selectmen in fall 2018 designate the Assistant Town Planner as the IWA Officer and the Code Compliance Officer as the Zoning Agent. Staff in the Planning Department provides back-up to one another on wetlands and zoning matters. Staff in the Planning Department is authorized by the Town Manager to enforce numerous ordinances, which has occurred.

Thomas Hazel recently joined Simsbury after working as the Inland Wetlands Agent for Windsor for over 5 years. Prior to that Tom was the Code Enforcement Officer for Windham for 2 years. Tom has his Bachelor's Degree in Natural Resource Management and Engineering from UConn and is working to gain his CAZEO Certification. Tom is also a member of the CT Association of Wetland Scientists and the CT Association of Conservation and Inland Wetlands.

Director Mike Glidden continues to also serve as back-up for wetlands and zoning matters as designated at the August 12, 2019 Board of Selectmen meeting.

6. Financial Impact: None

7. <u>Description of Documents Included with Submission</u>:



BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AGENDA SUBMISSION FORM

1. Title of Submission:

MIRA Statement of Interest

2. Date of Board Meeting:

February 24, 2020

3. Individual or Entity Making the Submission:

Maria E. Capriola, Town Manager; Tom Roy, Director of Public Works

4. Action Requested of the Board of Selectmen:

MIRA has requested our input into the redevelopment of the South Meadow Facilities through the Non-Binding Statement of Interest. This document asks the Town if we are in agreement with two specific questions:

<u>Item #1</u>: Conceptual agreement to the \$145/ton tip fee with no cost for recyclables and an annual COLA, and;

<u>Item #2</u>: Conceptual agreement for a 30-year commitment of waste with no optout provisions.

The Board may vote to support both of these items, one and not the other or to reject both options. Possible board actions include:

Option A – Support of both items #1 and #2:

Adopt a resolution to allow the Town Manager to enter into a Non-Binding Statement of Interest for participation in the 30-year program for the redevelopment of the waste-to-energy plant at MIRA with a tip fee of \$145/ton for MSW with an annual COLA increase and no-fee for recyclables. If the Board of Selectmen wishes to proceed with Option A, the following motion is in order:

Move, effective February 24, 2020, to authorize Town Manager Maria Capriola to execute the non-binding statement of interest stating Simsbury's desire to participate in the 30-year program for the redevelopment of the waste-to-energy plant at MIRA with a tip fee of \$145/ton for MSW with an annual COLA increase and no fee for recyclables.

Option B – Support for item #2 only:

Reject item #1 for a redevelopment project that would be supported with a \$145/ton tip fee for MSW and no cost for recycling.

Adopt a resolution supporting item #2 to allow the Town Manager to enter into a Non-Binding Statement of Interest for participation in the 30-year program with no

opt-out provisions. Additionally, staff recommends sending a letter that would detail the Board's questions and concerns; a draft of that letter is attached.

If the Board of Selectmen wishes to proceed with Option B, the following motions are in order:

Move, effective February 24, 2020, to reject the proposed project supported by the \$145/ton tip fee for MSW and no cost for recycling. Further move to authorize Town Manager Maria Capriola to enter into a non-binding statement of interest for participation in the 30-year program with no opt-out. Further move to authorize the Town Manager and Director of Public Works to send the prepared correspondence to MIRA.

Option C – Reject both item #1 and #2:

Reject the request from MIRA for support of the proposed redevelopment of the waste-to-energy plant, with or without additional commentary. If the Board of Selectmen wishes to proceed with Option C, the following motion is in order:

Move, effective February 24, 2020, to authorize Town Manager Maria Capriola to send correspondence rejecting the request from MIRA for support of the proposed redevelopment of the waste-to-energy plant.

5. Summary of Submission:

MIRA has been directed by the Connecticut legislature to redevelop the South Meadows (formerly the Mid-Connecticut project) waste-to-energy (WTE) and recycling facility. These facilities are responsible for approximately one-third of the state municipal solid waste (MSW) and recycling and have surpassed their design life, making them unreliable. The redevelopment of the WTE and recycling facilities will have an all-in cost of \$330 million dollars.

CTDEEP selected Sacyr Rooney Recovery Team as the chosen redeveloper and after considerable investigation into the current facility, Sacyr Rooney believes the tip fee for MSW will need to be \$145/ton with no cost for recyclables in order for the project to be viable. This \$145/ton fee would include an annual increase for COLA and any changes in state or federal laws that would impact operations of the facility. The final 30-year Municipal Service Agreements with Towns will not allow for an opt-out provision.

In 2017, Simsbury entered into a long-term Tier 1 contract with MIRA, where our current tip fee is \$83/ton with no cost for recyclables. It is anticipated that the tip fee will rise to \$87.85/ton for FY21.

MIRA is requesting that Simsbury enter into a "Non-Binding Informational Statement of Interest" (attached) that would support the feasibility of moving forward with the redevelopment project as currently planned by Sacyr Rooney.

MIRA is investigating several options to lower this tip fee to be more competitive with the open market pricing in Connecticut, with an approximate cost of \$95/ton. The options being investigated include:

- 1. Having the State of Connecticut issue General Obligation Bonds for the renovation and refurbishment of the publicly-owned facility.
- 2. Establishing a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) where Eversource and United Illuminating would be required to purchase the power generated from the plant at a rate of \$0.11/kWh. MIRA is currently selling all electricity produced at the facility at a wholesale market price of \$0.04/kWh.
 - a) An alternate to this option would be to allow municipalities to enter into a PPA with MIRA using a virtual net meeting concept (similar to off-site solar arrays), where the municipalities would purchase energy directly from MIRA. A version of this concept was presented to the state legislature in the past and was not supported by Eversource: ultimately, it failed to be enacted.
- 3. Enacting a law and/or regulation restricting or taxing the export of MSW out of state this option would not lower the tip fee and would eliminate out of state competition, thereby making tip fees in the range of \$145/ton market rate for Connecticut.

If the majority of communities in the region choose not to support this redevelopment project, the agreement between MIRA and Sacyr Rooney will be dissolved. MIRA may then be forced to conduct their own RFP for the redevelopment of the WTE and recycling facilities and include options for out of state disposal of MSW. Alternatively, towns or trash haulers may select disposal services on the open commercial market, either in state or possibly out of state.

Since our last Board meeting, the Connecticut General Assembly has a proposed House Bill (House Bill #54) that would authorize the issuance of bonds for the improvements to the MIRA facility. Staff will monitor this matter.

6. Financial Impact:

Simsbury, as a subscription trash service community, has a level of protection from the impact of the future increase in tip fees, when compared with other communities. The direct impact to the Town will be from the increases to our cost for trash removal from our facilities. Our residents will be subject to increases in their trash collection fees. The tip fee is only a portion of the total cost for trash removal, as the transportation of the waste is also part of the fee.

The proposed tip fee of \$145/ton, compared to the anticipated tip fee of \$87.85/ton, is an increase of \$57.15/ton.

7. <u>Description of Documents Included with Submission:</u>

- a) Letter from T. Kirk, President and CEO of MIRA dated January 27, 2020
- b) MIRA's Non-Binding Informational Statement of Interest
- c) Draft Letter from Town to MIRA, Addressing Questions and Concerns with the Proposal



200 CORPORATE PLACE Suite 202 ● Rocky Hill ● CONNECTICUT ● 06067 ● TELEPHONE (860) 757-7700 FAX (860) 757-7740

January 27, 2020

Ms. Maria Capriola Town Manager, Town of Simsbury 933 Hopmeadow Street Simsbury, CT 06071-0308

Dear Ms. Capriola:

As you know, MIRA has been directed by the CT legislature to redevelop the South Meadows waste-to-energy (WTE) and recycling facilities. These facilities provide approximately one-third of Connecticut's recycling and municipal solid waste (MSW) disposal. Both facilities require extensive refurbishment to maintain the publicly owned and operated, environmentally preferred disposal options for another 30 years. Simply stated, we depend on these facilities for in-state processing and disposal of solid waste and waste diversion.

The redevelopment of the WTE, consisting of a comprehensive renovation, update and overhaul of the facility, together with redevelopment of the recycling facility to include more advanced and efficient recycling processing equipment, is projected to have an aggregate, all-in cost of \$330 million. This is substantially less than the costs for construction of a new waste-to-energy facility of similar capacity, and provides for a more modern and efficient technology. In addition, the redevelopment plan provides for the later addition of a state-of-the-art, mechanical/biological waste system which will further advance the State's solid waste management diversion goals.⁴⁸

MIRA now must determine the next steps for the project, whether new Municipal Services Agreements are feasible and if a full agreement can be developed with Sacyr Rooney Recovery Team, which was selected by the CT DEEP as the preferred redeveloper. To move forward, MIRA would like to understand whether you, our customer, would support this redevelopment based upon certain terms that are necessary to support and bond the project. Fundamentally, MIRA is seeking to gauge your interest in participating in this project.

While MIRA is gauging municipal interest in continuation and redevelopment of the South Meadows project, MIRA also intends to pursue, with the legislature, various potential supplemental revenue streams to reduce the proposed tip fee, which, absent this support, shows a very substantial increase when compared to today's fee. MIRA certainly recognizes the necessity to deliver a project that is economically viable, price competitive, and consistent with the State's goals of providing in-State disposal options satisfactory to its municipal customers.

⁴⁸ Further information about the Project is found at MIRA's website at: http://www.ctmira.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/CSWS-Redevelopment2nd-final-1-8-20-Read-Only.pdf

Therefore, we would greatly appreciate a minute of your time to complete the attached form and return it to MIRA as a **non-binding "Statement of Interest" on or before February 28, 2020**. If you have any questions, I would be pleased to explain further and meet with you, and/or other of your municipal officials at your convenience.

Thank you for your attention to this important Public initiative.

Sincerely,

Thomas D. Kirk

President and CEO

Thomas a Kil

Non-Binding Informational Statement of Interest

1. Tip Fee of \$145/ton MSW. Beginning in FY 2025, a maximum tip fee would be set at \$145.00/ton. This fee provides for a \$0/ton recycling fee and a single uniform MSW tipping fee regardless of the town's preferred disposal location (transfer stations or WTE facility). A tipping fee which includes the cost of recycling and the "socialized" costs of transfer station and/or direct haul are consistent with MIRA's present project operations. For planning purposes, this approach is assumed to continue in the redeveloped project. The MSW tip fee would be adjusted annually based upon a COLA or a change in law (if any) or other exceptional MIRA-assumed risk (not covered by insurance). It may also be adjusted downward based upon the actual cost established in an annual budget and to assure the operation is nonprofit and priced at the net cost of service. However, a force majeure event could cause an increase in the tip fee for a given year or period of time.

Conceptual agreement wire participation? Yes	th these terms No	and poten	tial interes	t in proj	ect
If no, what terms would b	e satisfactory	?			
·					
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			

2. <u>A 30-year agreement</u>. A 30-year commitment of waste, with no opt out provisions, is necessary to support public bonding by MIRA. (This

is the same term and condition agreed to by 70 municipalities when the original Mid Connecticut WTE project was developed in 1988.)

Conceptual agreement with these terms an participation? Yes No	d potential interest in project
If no, why not?	
-	
Any other comments or questions:	
Town/City of	
By:	
Title:	
Printed name:	
Date:	
Return to: Materials Innovation and Recyc	ling Authority
200 Corporate Place, Suite 202	
Rocky Hill, CT 06067 ATT: Thomas D. Kirk	



933 HOPMEADOW STREET ~ SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

Maria E. Capriola - Town Manager

February 25, 2020

Thomas D. Kirk, President MIRA 200 Corporate Place Suite 202 Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Re: Redevelopment of South Meadows Facilities - Statement of Interest

Dear Thomas D. Kirk:

The Simsbury Board of Selectmen voted on MIRA's Non-Binding, Statement of Interest on February 24, 2020:

The vote was against supporting the terms of item #1 conceptual agreement of \$145/ton and \$0 for recycling with a COLA and "socialized" transfer station fees; and in favor of further exploring item #2 the 30-year commitment of waste with no opt-out agreement.

Simsbury is highly supportive of the mission of MIRA as a strong example of the power of regionalism, through your continued commitment to the environmentally responsible management of our MSW and recycling. However, we have a fiscal responsibility to our residents and find it irresponsible to support a tip fee that far exceeds the current and potential future open market fees.

Simsbury would be supportive of a long-term agreement, provided we have better assurances and understanding of the reporting and controls for the net-cost of operation of this new venture between MIRA and SACYR-Rooney. How does this model differ from the current MIRA model for establishing the cost of operation tip fees? Will the tip fee actually be based on the net-cost of operations, with the \$145/ton + COLA tip fee serving as a maximum fee?

The Connecticut General Assembly currently has a proposed House Bill No. 54 that would authorize the issuance of Bonds for the improvements to the MIRA facility. Assuming this bill passes, how will this impact the commitments and tip fees proposed for the South Meadows Redevelopment? If required, we would be happy to assist with advocating for state bond fund for this important regional initiative.

If new technologies are developed or if the recycling market has a substantial rebound, how will the proposed MIRA/SACYR-Rooney partnership share the benefits with the participating communities?

Simsbury is very interested in supporting MIRA as you pursue alternatives to keep our tip fees reasonable for the region. We would be like to offer our support and commitment to the regional model for MSW and recycling. Please let me know if there are any steps I or my Board can take to help facilitate a better outcome for this redevelopment project. We would like to keep an open dialogue, as we all have a vested interest in this regional issue.

Thank you,

Maria Capriola, MPA Town Manager Thomas J. Roy, PE Director of Public Works

cc: Eric Wellman, First Selectman Sean Askham, Deputy First Selectman



BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AGENDA SUBMISSION FORM

1. Title of Submission:

Proposed Anti-Harassment Policy

2. <u>Date of Board Meeting</u>:

February 24, 2020

3. Individual or Entity Making the Submission:

Maria E. Capriola, Town Manager; Melissa A.J. Appleby, Deputy Town Manager; Eric Gomes, Employee Benefits & Human Resources Coordinator

Maria E. Capriola

4. Action Requested of the Board of Selectmen:

If the Board of Selectmen supports adopting the Anti-Harassment Policy, the following motion is in order:

Move, effective February 24, 2020 to adopt the Anti-Harassment Policy as presented.

5. Summary of Submission:

Pursuant to Section 2 of the Town's Personnel Rules and Regulations, administrative and personnel policies are adopted by resolution of the Board of Selectmen and the Town Manager is responsible for execution and implementation.

As you may know, staff in the Town Manager's Office has been working on creating a draft Anti-Harassment policy. This policy has been reviewed by the leadership team, the Town's General Counsel, and the Town's Labor Counsel.

The Personnel Sub-Committee reviewed the draft policy at their meeting on February 13, 2020 and voted to forward the policy to the full Board of Selectmen for review and consideration.

If adopted, this policy will be made available to Town employees and the general public and included in our policies index.

6. Financial Impact:

None

7. <u>Description of Documents Included with Submission:</u>

a) Draft Anti-Harassment Policy



933 HOPMEADOW STREET ~ SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

TOWN OF SIMSBURY Anti-Harassment Policy Property of Selectmen on [month] [day] [year]

Adopted by the Board of Selectmen on [month] [day], [year]

1. Purpose

The Town of Simsbury (Town) is committed to providing and maintaining a work environment that is free from harassment and in which everyone is treated with respect and dignity. The Town strictly prohibits all forms of unlawful harassment. This includes, but is not limited to, harassment based on a person's race, religion, age, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, genetic information, national origin, ancestry, military service, veteran status, or disability. All Town officials and employees are expected to comply with this policy. The principles and complaint procedures set forth in this policy apply to all other forms of harassment, including sexual harassment involving employees, vendors, citizens, or residents.

The Town of Simsbury will not tolerate a hostile work environment or any kind of unlawful harassment. Anyone who engages in such conduct will be subject to discipline up to and including immediate discharge. All staff are responsible for ensuring that the workplace is free of harassment.

2. Prohibited Conduct

The Town of Simsbury will not tolerate harassment as defined in this policy by anyone, including any supervisor, co-worker, vendor, citizen or resident, whether in the workplace, at assignments outside the workplace, or at Town-sponsored (social) functions.

3. Effective Date

This policy shall be effective immediately and shall remain in effect until revised or rescinded.

4. Definitions

- A. "Sexual harassment" is a form of sex discrimination, and is prohibited by both state and federal law (see C.G.S. § 46a-60(a)(8) and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964). "Sexual harassment" is any unwelcome sexual advance, request for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature where:
 - 1. Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of a person's employment;
 - 2. Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for an employment decision affecting the person; or
 - 3. Such conduct interferes with a person's work performance or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive working environment.

Harassment can involve people of the same or the opposite gender.

B. "Harassment" is unwarranted and unwanted verbal or nonverbal conduct which threatens, intimidates, or unduly aggravates or insults another person based upon a protected classification, where such conduct has the purpose or effect of creating an offensive, intimidating, degrading or hostile environment, or interferes with or adversely affects a person's work performance.

Harassment does not include the conduct or actions of supervisors intended to provide employee discipline, such as deficiency notices, performance evaluations, oral warnings, reprimands or other supervisory actions intended to promote positive performance and/or discourage negative behavior or performance.

5. Examples of Harassment

While it is not possible to list all circumstances that may constitute harassment, the following are some examples of conduct which, if unwelcome, may constitute harassment depending on the totality of the circumstances including the severity of the conduct and its pervasiveness.

A. Examples of Sexual Harassment

- a. Unwanted sexual advances and explicit sexual proposals;
- Demands for sexual favors in exchange for favorable treatment or continued employment;
- Suggestive comments, sexually oriented teasing or practical jokes;
- Foul or obscene body language or gestures;
- Display of printed or visual material that is foul, obscene or offensive;
- Sending or viewing jokes, pictures or other information by e-mail or the internet where the information is sexually-explicit, or where it ridicules a person's ethnicity, religion, sexual-orientation or other unchangeable characteristics; or
- Physical contact, such as touching, patting, pinching or brushing against another's body.

B. Examples of Other Forms of Unlawful Harassment

- Jokes about ethnicity, religious beliefs or practices, accents or gender-specific traits;
- Repeated, unscheduled demands for attention and time regarding matters of a non-urgent nature that interfere with an employee's ability to perform his or her routine job duties in a timely and effective manner;
- Any communication or action that would reasonably be considered demeaning, rude or inflammatory or otherwise incites anger, hurt, fear or embarrassment in the receiver of the communication or action;
- Unwanted questions or comments pertaining to any aspect of an employee's person or personal life; or
- Unwanted contact or communication at an employee's home or in public when an employee is off duty. Examples of unwanted contact may include but are

not limited to: calling an employee at their personal cell phone or land line; emailing an employee at their personal email address; and physically approaching and/or criticizing employees about work matters when the employee is off duty.

6. Reporting Harassment

- **A. Victims of Harassment.** If you believe that you are being harassed, you should clearly and promptly tell the offender that you want them to stop the behavior. If for any reason you do not wish to address the offender directly or if you are not successful in ending the harassment, you should immediately report the harassment to any one of the following people:
 - Your Supervisor, Manager, or Department Head; or
 - The Human Resources Coordinator; or
 - The Deputy Town Manager; or
 - The Town Manager

If an employee believes they are being harassed by any person identified in the reporting structure above, they should report the alleged behavior to another person identified in the reporting structure above.

If the employee has reason to believe that their supervisor or manager may be involved with the alleged harassment, the employee shall notify their Department Head, HR Coordinator, Deputy Town Manager or Town Manager directly.

If the employee has reason to believe that their Department Head may be involved with the alleged harassment, the employee shall notify the HR Coordinator, Deputy Town Manager or Town Manager directly.

Reports of alleged harassment against the Town Manager should be directed to the HR Coordinator or Deputy Town Manager; the HR Coordinator or Deputy Town Manager will notify the Personnel Sub-Committee promptly.

Any employee who believes that he or she has been harassed in the workplace in violation of this policy may also file a complaint with the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities, Capitol Region Office, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, CT 06031. (TELEPHONE NUMBER 860-566-7710; TDD NUMBER 860-566-7710) and/or the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Boston Area Office, One Congress Street, Boston, MA 02114 (TELEPHONE NUMBER 617-565-2300; TDD NUMBER 617-565-3204). State of Connecticut law requires that a formal written complaint be filed with the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities within 300 days of the date when the alleged harassment occurred. Remedies for sexual harassment include cease and desist orders, back pay, compensatory damages, hiring, promotion or reinstatement.

B. Employees Who Witness Harassment. Any employee who witnesses harassment or becomes aware that another employee has been subjected to prohibited

harassment is urged to immediately report the conduct to one of the individuals listed above.

C. Supervisors and Managers. Any supervisor or manager who receives a complaint about harassment, retaliation or who believes that someone is engaging in conduct that may be prohibited must immediately report it to the Human Resources Coordinator, Town Manager or Deputy Town Manager. Ignoring such conduct is not acceptable and may subject the supervisor or manager to disciplinary action.

7. No Retaliation

The Town strictly forbids retaliation against employees who report harassment or who participate in internal or external investigations of harassment. The Town will not engage in any such retaliation nor will it permit employees to do so. The Town will not tolerate retaliatory citizen behavior/actions towards employees whom have reported harassment or participated in a harassment investigation. All employees shall report all instances of retaliation to one of the individuals listed in section 6.A of this policy.

8. Investigating Complaints

The Town's policy is to take all complaints and reports of harassment seriously. All complaints and reports will be investigated promptly, impartially and discreetly. Once a complaint is received, an investigation will be undertaken promptly and all necessary steps taken to resolve the problem. Employees have a duty and are obligated to participate in investigations when asked. Investigation of such matters will usually entail conferring with involved parties and any named or apparent witnesses. Where investigation confirms that harassment has occurred, the Town will promptly take corrective action. Discipline up to and including discharge from Town service, banning from Town facilities or property, or legal action may be implemented by the Town after all parties have had a chance to present evidence, and to rebut the claims made against him or her. In all cases, including those in which a harassment complaint is made against someone who is not a town official or employee, every effort will be made to ensure that the principles of due process of law are afforded to every person. In this context, depending on the circumstances, due process includes, but is not limited to, the right to sufficient notice of the claims, the right to counsel at the individual's expense, and the opportunity to rebut the allegations of the complaint in the presence of an impartial decision maker.

9. False Reports

Disciplinary action may be imposed if the Town determines that a false complaint was made under this policy.



BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AGENDA SUBMISSION FORM

1. <u>Title of Submission:</u>

Simsbury 350th Committee Appointments

2. Date of Board Meeting:

February 24, 2020

3. Individual or Entity Making the Submission:

Maria Capriola, Town Manager; Lisa Karim; Library Director; Tom Tyburski, Culture Parks & Recreation Director; Cheryl Cook, Co-Chair of the Simsbury 350 Committee; Kris Barnett, Co-chair 350th Anniversary Committee

maria E. Capuiola

4. Action Requested of the Board of Selectmen:

If the Board of Selectmen accepts the appointment of Nancy Grandin to replace Jean Sumner on the 350th Anniversary Committee, the following motion is in order:

Move effective February 24, 2020, to appoint Nancy Grandin (D) to replace Jean Sumner on the 350th Anniversary Committee and to convert the membership slot for the Simsbury Woman's Club to a community member slot.

Additionally, if the Board of Selectmen is in favor of expanding the amount of committee members from 18 to 19 and appointing Joseph Campolieta, the following motion is in order:

Move, effective February 24, 2020, to increase the number of membership slots on the Simsbury 350th Committee by one community member slot, for a total of 19 members. Further move to appoint Joseph Campolieta (D) to the Simsbury 350th Committee.

5. Summary of Submission:

Ms. Grandin and Mr. Campolieta have been very active providing assistance for the 350th Anniversary Opening Ceremony, and are members of the Subcommittee.

The Simsbury Woman's Club is in the process of dissolving and, its representative Jean Sumner has (sadly) passed away. This creates a vacancy on the Committee, which currently consists of 18 membership slots.

6. Financial Impact:

None

7. Description of Documents Included with Submission:

None



BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AGENDA SUBMISSION FORM

1. <u>Title of Submission:</u>

Proposed Re-Appointments and Resignations for

Technology Task Force

2. Date of Board Meeting:

February 24, 2020

3. Individual or Entity Making the Submission:

Maria E. Capriola, Town Manager; Melissa Appleby, Deputy Town Manager

4. Action Requested of the Board of Selectmen:

If the Board of Selectmen supports the Personnel Sub-Committee's proposed reappointments and resignations for the Technology Task Force, the following motions are in order:

Re-Appointments:

Move, effective February 24, 2020 to re-appoint Michael Doyle (R) as a Regular Member of the Technology Task Force with a term expiring December 6, 2021.

Move, effective February 24, 2020 to re-appoint Evan Marks (U) as a Regular Member of the Technology Task Force with a term expiring December 6, 2021.

Move, effective February 24, 2020 to re-appoint Elizabeth Peterson (R) as a Regular Member of the Technology Task Force with a term expiring December 6, 2021.

Move, effective February 24, 2020 to re-appoint Harald Bender (U) as a Regular Member of the Technology Task Force with a term expiring December 6, 2021.

Move, effective February 24, 2020 to re-appoint Paul Kelley (R) as a Regular Member of the Technology Task Force with a term expiring December 6, 2021.

Move, effective February 24, 2020 to re-appoint Ramon Rosati (D) as a Regular Member of the Technology Task Force with a term expiring December 6, 2021.

Move, effective February 24, 2020 to re-appoint John Jahne (U) as a Regular Member of the Technology Task Force with a term expiring December 6, 2021.

Move, effective February 24, 2020 to re-appoint William Rucci (U) as a Regular Member of the Technology Task Force with a term expiring December 6, 2021.

Resignations:

Move, effective February 24, 2020 to accept the resignation of Lawrence DiSciacca (D) as a Regular Member of the Technology Task Force.

Move, effective February 24, 2020 to accept the resignation of Mark Orenstein (D) as a Regular Member of the Technology Task Force.

Move, effective February 24, 2020 to accept the resignation of Jeremy Wallman (U) as a Regular Member of the Technology Task Force.

5. <u>Summary of Submission:</u>

The Personnel Sub-Committee recommended these re-appointments and resignations at their February 13, 2020 meeting.

6. Financial Impact:

None

7. <u>Description of Documents Included with Submission:</u>

None



BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AGENDA SUBMISSION FORM

1. Title of Submission:

Appointment of Melissa Brett to the Hometown

Heroes Committee

2. Date of Board Meeting:

February 24, 2020

3. Individual or Entity Making the Submission:

Eric Wellman, First Selectman; Maria Capriola, Town Manager

Maria E. Capciola

4. Action Requested of the Board of Selectmen:

If the Board of Selectmen accepts the appointment of Melissa Brett to the Hometown Heroes Committee, the following motion is in order:

Move, effective February 24, 2020, to appoint Melissa Brett (R) to the Hometown Heroes Committee, representing the business community.

5. Summary of Submission:

Ms. Brett is being recommended by the First Selectman and Town Manager for appointment to the Hometown Heroes Committee to replace Thomas Horan. Mr. Horan has stated that he enjoyed his time on the Committee but thinks it is time to give someone new the honor of being on the Committee. Mr. Horan represented the membership slot reserved for someone from the business community.

Ms. Brett is a co-owner of Welden Hardware, and would represent the business community on the Committee.

Pursuant to the Hometown Heroes Policy adopted March 26, 2018, the membership of this Committee shall be recommended by the First Selectman and the Town Manager to the Board of Selectmen. The Board of Selectmen is the appointing authority.

6. Financial Impact:

None

7. <u>Description of Documents Included with Submission:</u>

None

Page | 1

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Meeting Room of the Simsbury Town Offices. Present were: First Selectman Eric Wellman; Deputy First Selectman Sean Askham; Board members Wendy Mackstutis; Michael Paine, Jackie Battos, and Chris Peterson. Others in attendance included Town Manager Maria E. Capriola; Deputy Town Manager Melissa Appleby, Parks and Recreation Director Tom Tyburski; Public Works Director Tom Roy; Chairman of Aging and Disability Commission Ed LaMontagne; Engineer Jeff Shea and other interested parties.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING

a) Small Cities Program Application

Mr. Wellman said the Housing Authority is interested in applying for a Small Cities Grant to pay for some of their capital projects and, therefore, a Public Hearing needs to take place.

Mr. LaMontagne said the intent of the 2020 Small Cities Grant would be for the Owen J. Murphy Apartments and would include replacing the exterior doors and windows with energy efficient doors and windows. He said they would also like to install lever handles and replace the main electrical panel, pole lighting in roadway, install a generator at the Community Building, to install walk-in showers, etc.

Kent Lewis, Principal, Housing Authority, will be helping with the grant application. He said the residents will be staying in their apartments while the work is being done. These improvements are for the health and safety of the community. The construction will probably take place within 6-9 months.

Cheryl Cook, 15 Newbury Court, Vice Chair of the Board of Commissioners of Housing Authority, said these projects are very important, not a luxury for these residents. This is the only place that provides for low housing, which is State funded.

After no further comments, Mr. Askham made a motion to close the Public Hearing at 6:10 p.m. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

PUBLIC AUDIENCE

Joan Coe, 26 Whitcomb Drive, spoke about the last Board of Selectmen meeting and the Conservation Commission, the Police Chief, FOI requests, the Police Department and Union, labor issues, tax payer issues, and other items.

Diane Nash, 5 Merrywood, spoke about concerns she has about Open Space and Parks and Recreation. She said there are many unintended consequences to the giveaway/sale of pieces of open space such as lawsuits by neighbors in the area.

"Draft" Page | 2

Ms. Nash said there is an Executive Session tonight about the sale and purchase of Open Space. This should not be considered without the full public disclosure and input of residents. She feels the percentage of open space gives Simsbury its unique look and feel.

Lynn Steamer, 13 Surrey Circle, spoke about banning plastic straws from Simsbury's Restaurants. She wants this done to improve the environment and feels this should be done here.

PRESENTATIONS

a) MIRA Statement of Interest

Mr. Wellman said MIRA is looking into redeveloping its waste to energy facility, which is beyond its useful life. They are looking for Towns to issue a non-binding commitment of interest. There is no action needed tonight.

Mr. Paine excused himself from the Board and will answer any questions, if needed, on this issue.

Mr. Roy said MIRA has come to member towns with a \$330,000,000 request for upgrades on their facilities. They are also looking to upgrade their recycling facilities and a long term solution for food waste. He said Simsbury is currently paying \$83/ton with no cost for recyclables and estimates on the 2020 tip fee are \$87.85 per ton.

Mr. Roy and Mr. Paine went through a lot of information Mr. Roy said MIRA is asking for a non-binding Statement of Interest. He said the maximum tip fee for would be set at \$145/ton beginning FY 2025. The MSW tip fee would be adjusted annually based upon a COLA or change in law, if any, or other exceptional MIRA assumed risk.

After a lot of discussion, there will be more information given at the next Board meeting and no action was taken.

Mr. Paine rejoined the meeting.

b) 2020 Census Proclamation

Mr. Wellman encouraged everyone be counted on the census as it is very important.

Mr. Askham made a motion, effective February 10, 2020, to authorize First Selectman Eric Wellman to issue a Proclamation in support of the U.S. 2020 Census. Mr. Mackstutis seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Wellman, First Selectman, reviewed his First Selectman's report.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Ms. Capriola, Town Manager, reviewed her Town Manager's Report.

Page | 3

SELECTMEN ACTION

a) Tax Refund Requests

Mr. Mackstutis made a motion, effective February 10, 2020, to approve the presented tax refunds in the amount of \$31,158.14, and to authorize Town Manager, Maria E. Capriola, to execute the tax refunds. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b) Simsbury 350th Anniversary Gala

Ms. Cook said the 350th Committee would like to have a Gala to culminate all of the 350th celebrations. The tentative date is November 13th. This would be to thank all of the people who made the 350th so special. The event will be co-sponsored by the Rotary Club. They will be handling ticket sales and volunteers, etc. If they use the grand ballroom, it would be a \$4,000 deposit.

Mr. Askham made a motion, effective February 10, 2020, to authorize Town Manager, Maria E. Capriola, to execute the proposed contract with the Riverview for the Simsbury 350th Anniversary Gala. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

c) Acceptance of Sponsorship of the 350th Anniversary Celebration Events

Mr. Wellman said the 350th Anniversary Celebration Committee has be soliciting sponsorships to support their events.

Ms. Battos made a motion, effective February 10, 2020, to accept \$13,350 from Vincent Funeral Home as sponsorship of the 350th Anniversary celebration events. Mr. Askham seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

d) Small Cities Program Application

Mr. Paine made a motion, effective February 10, 2020, to authorize Town Manager, Maria E. Capriola to execute any and all application materials for the 2020 Small Cities program on behalf of the Town of Simsbury, and, should the Town be awarded a Small Cities Grant, authorize Ms. Capriola to execute any and all documents related to the program implementation. Further move to designate Town Manager, Maria E. Capriola as the Environmental Certifying Officer for this program. Ms. Mackstutis seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

e) Resolution to Authorize Town Manager to Sign Small Cities Documents and serve as Environmental Review Officer

Mr. Paine made a motion, effective February 10, 2020, to adopt the attached resolution authorizing the Town Manager to file an application for the Connecticut Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program, and authorizing the Town Manager to act as the signatory and authorized representative for the Town on all relevant documentation. Ms. Mackstutis seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Page 4

f) Public Gathering Permit – Darius Rucker Concert at the PAC

Missy DiNunno, Executive Director of the PAC, said they entered into a three year contract with Trantolo and Trantolo Law to bring in concerts to benefit the Boys and Girls Club of Hartford. They are very happy to be in partnership with us.

Mr. Askham made a motion, effective February 10, 2020, to approve the public gathering application for the Darius Rucker concert and to authorize the issuance of the public gathering permit with the condition that SMPAC coordinate with representatives of the Fire District concerning placement of temporary structures along the eastern edge of the facility. Ms. Mackstutis seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

g) 2020 Distracted Driving High Visibility Enforcement Grant

Mr. Wellman said the Police Department is applying for this Grant.

Mr. Paine made a motion, effective February 10, 2020, to submit the 2020 Distracted Driving High Visibility Enforcement Grant application and to authorize Maria E. Capriola, Town Manager, to execute the grant application. In the event that the grant is awarded, to accept the 2020 Distracted Driving High Visibility Enforcement Grant award and to authorize Town Manager, Maria E. Capriola, to execute all documents related to the grant award. Ms. Mackstutis seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

h) Draft Debt Management Policy

Mr. Wellman said the Board had a draft of the Debt Management Policy. He said there was a work-group that met on this policy.

Mr. Askham said the group resolved the questions and they aren't trying to do anything different. This is a more definitive Policy. The Boards will be well-served by this policy.

Mr. Askham made a motion, effective February 10, 2020, to adopt the Debit Management Policy as presented. Ms. Battos seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

a) Appointment of Mark William Freeman to the Zoning Board of Appeals

Ms. Battos made a motion, effective February 10, 2020, to appoint Mark William Freeman (R) as a Regular Member of Zoning Board of Appeals with a term expiring December 6, 2021, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Diane Madigan. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

a) Regular Meeting of January 27, 2020

Ms. Mackstutis made a motion – Page 5 last paragraph – last line: add multiple in front of designations. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Page | 5

SELECTMEN LIAISON AND SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) **Personnel** no report at this time.
- **b)** Finance no report at this time.
- c) Welfare no report at this time.
- d) Public Safety no report at this time.
- e) **Board of Education** Ms. Mackstutis said Ensign was at the meeting and they said they did a Stem Grant for \$10,000 for 3 years for students in Town. They also have a Task Force to help present their plans for the Grants. Ms. Battos asked everyone to fill out their survey so they can get more data on the schools. Mr. Wellman said they are also doing neighborhood meeting, dates on their website, and you can learn their process.

Ms. Mackstutis said she saw Hair Spray and it was a well-diversified cast and great show.

COMMUNICATIONS

a) Welcome to the National W & S River System Letter

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a) Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes section 1-200(6)(D), Sale and Purchase of Land Open Space
- b) Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes section 1-200(6)(B), Pending Claims and Connecticut General Statutes section 1-200(6)(E), Attorney Client Privileged document not subject to disclosure 45 Old Farms Road
- c) Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes section 1-200(6)(B), Pending Claims and Connecticut General Statutes section 1-200(6)(E), Attorney Client Privileged document not subject to disclosure-15 Carriage Drive

Mr. Askham made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 1-200(6)(D) sale and purchase of Open Space; Section 1-200(6)(B) pending claims; Section 1-200(6)(E) Attorney Client Privilege; Section 1-200(6)(B) Pending Claims; and Section 1-200(6)(E) 15 Carriage Drive and to include Attorney Robert DeCrescenzo, Town Manager Maria E. Capriola, Deputy Town Manager Melissa Appleby, Culture, Parks and Recreation Director Tom Tyburski, Planning Director Mike Glidden and Town Engineer Jeff Shea, at 7:55 p.m. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Askham made a motion to adjourn the executive session at 8:45pm. Mr. Wellman seconded the motion. All were in favor and it passed unanimously.

ADJOURN

Mr. Askham made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:45pm. Mr. Wellman seconded the motion. All were in favor and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi Radocchio Clerk



933 HOPMEADOW STREET ~ SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

Maria E. Capriola - Town Manager

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Selectmen

From: Maria E. Capriola, Town Manager

Cc: Tom Tyburski, Director of Culture, Parks and Recreation

Date: February 24, 2020

Subject: Revisions to Parks and Recreation Department Refund & Transfer Procedures

Culture, Parks and Recreation staff initiated a review of our refund and transfer procedures; the revised is attached. A primary goal of the revisions is to be more customer service oriented. The new procedures allow for increased flexibility and a more practical approach to authorizing refunds when it comes to cancellations. An example of this is when there is a cancellation in a program that has a waitlist.

Attorney DeCrescenzo reviewed this matter and does not believe that the procedures need approval by the Board of Selectmen due to them being a departmental operating procedure.

I have reviewed the recommendations by staff and have approved and finalized the new Parks and Recreation Department Refund & Transfer Procedures. They are included in your packet this evening for informational purposes.



933 HOPMEADOW STREET ~ SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

TOWN OF SIMSBURY Culture, Parks and Recreation Department Refund & Transfer Procedures

Revised January 30, 2020

Refunds or credits will be given in the following situations:

- 1. If a program is cancelled by the Simsbury Parks & Recreation Department, a full refund will be issued.
- 2. Refunds in the form of an account credit or check (minus a \$10 processing fee) will be issued if you cancel out of a program a minimum of two weeks prior to the program start date. For requests less than two weeks but more than one week prior to the program start date, a refund (minus a \$10 processing fee) is possible if your space can be filled by someone on the affected program's waitlist. Unfortunately we cannot honor requests for refunds made less than one week prior to the program's start date.
- 3. In the event of an injury or illness of the program participant less than one week before a program begins, a full refund will be processed if accompanied by a doctor's note stating that the participant cannot participate due injury/illness during the dates of the program. A Doctor's note must be received within two weeks of the absence, and the refund will be prorated for missed days. This only applies to the injured participant, and not any siblings who may also be registered in the same program.
- 4. Bus trips and special events and tickets are only refundable if your seat/space can be filled by someone on a waitlist. If you are considering a refund request of this type please allow us adequate time to contact our waitlist. Merchandise and passes are non-refundable, but exceptions due to exigent circumstances may be made by the Town Manager.
- 5. Transfers You may transfer into another session of the **same** program, without penalty, if done so a minimum of one week prior to the program start date and if there is space in the desired session. You may transfer into a **different** program, without penalty, if the request is made at least two weeks prior to the start date of the original program.

Refunds may be issued in the following two ways:

1. A credit on your account at Simsbury Parks & Recreation, which will remain indefinitely and may be used toward any future activities with the department.

Telephone (860) 658-3200

2.	A refund check sent to the address on file with your Simsbury Parks & Recreation account. Checks will be processed and sent from the Town of Simsbury's Finance					
	Department. Please allow 3-4 weeks for processing.					



933 HOPMEADOW STREET ~ SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

Maria E. Capriola - Town Manager

MEMORANDUM

To:

Board of Selectmen

From:

Maria Capriola, Town Manager Maira Capriola

Cc:

Mike Glidden, Director of Planning and Community Development; Tom Tyburski,

Director of Culture, Parks and Recreation; Nick Boulter, Chief of Police

Date:

February 24, 2020

Subject:

Administrative Approvals of Public Gathering Permits

This memo is to inform the Board of Selectmen of the public gathering permits that I have approved for the Performing Arts Center (PAC). As you may recall, we recently switched to a method for public gathering permits submitted by the PAC that gives the Town Manager the ability to approve public gathering permits for events that have been approved by the Board of Selectmen in prior years as long as there are no substantial changes from the previous applications.

There is a Committee of staff from the Planning Department, Police Department, Fire District, Culture, Parks and Recreation, Public Works, and the Farmington Valley Health District that reviews all applications to ensure compliance and safety measures are addressed prior to approval. Following completion of that process, the following public gathering permits have been recently approved by me:

Name of Event	Date	Type	
25 th Annual River Run	April 26,2020	Race	
MS Walk	May 31, 2020	Walk/race	
Try Athlon	May 3, 2020	Race **	
Mainly Marathon	June 9, 2020	Race	
Hartford Marathon	June 6, 2020	Race	

^{**} The event is approved with condition that river heights are reviewed prior to event. **

Should you have any questions or concerns about one of the applications listed above, please contact me so I can reach out to staff to help answer those questions.



STATE OF CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE

ED-626

(Under Section 9-238a this form is to be filed with the Secretary of the State during the first week in February, and a duplicate copy is to be filed with officials required to provide voting machines for your municipality under Section 9-238.)

To the Secretary of the State:

Notification of Number of Electors and Number of Polling Places

Notice is hereby given of the following information as required by Section 9-238a of the CGS.

USE ONLY FIGURES FROM THE ACTIVE REGISTRY LIST

Voting District Number	Total Republican	Total Democratic	Total Minor Parties	Total Unaffiliated	Total No. Names On Registry List	Total No. Voting Machines(excluding spares)	Total Number of Spare Machines
1	1,832	1,997	76	2,508	6,413	2	0
2	1,765	2,108	105	2,437	6,415	2	0
3	1,658	1,729	85	2,058	5,530	2	0
4	837	1,271	58	1,400	3,566	2	0
TOTALS	6,092	7,105	324	8,403	21,924	8	0

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_	(Signat	ure of town Clerk	Dutt	Town	of Simsbury			

From: CAROLYN RYAN [mailto:CRYAN@CCM-CT.ORG] On Behalf Of JOSEPH DELONG

Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2020 1:03 PM

Subject: Pesticide Preemption

Good afternoon everyone,

At Tuesday's Legislative Committee meeting there was discussion concerning potential legislation being introduced that would appeal Connecticut's current law on pesticide preemption. CCM's Public Policy and Advocacy Department forwarded a letter on January 13th from BYOCT advocating this position.

Following the distribution of the BYOCT correspondence, The CT Coalition for Safe and Healthy Communities sent a letter expressing their opposition viewpoint on the issue.

Over the past couple weeks I have received feedback from a number of communities expressing divided views on the subject. These viewpoints have not fallen along any particular political ideology or municipal demographics. This seems to be an issue that a core group of our members feel passionately about one way or the other.

For your convenience, I have attached both letters to this email for your review and consideration. Please review these letters and if this issue evolves CCM will add it to our agenda for discussion at the March meeting of the Legislative Committee.

Best,

Joe

Joe DeLong

Executive Director & CEO

Connecticut Conference of Municipalities
545 Long Wharf Dr.

New Haven, CT 06511
203-498-3000
jdelong@ccm-ct.org

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Connecticut Coalition for Safe and Healthy Communities

CT Association of Schools - CT Interscholastic Athletic Conference - CT Association of School Business Officials
CT Association of Athletic Directors - CT Farm Bureau Association - CT Nursery & Landscape Association
CT Recreation & Parks Association - CT Tree Wardens Association - CT Association of Public School Superintendents
CT State Golf Association - CT School Buildings & Grounds Association
CT Landscape Architects Association - CT Association of Privately Owned Public Golf Courses
CT Association of Golf Course Superintendents - CT Grounds Keepers Association - CT Pest Control Association
CT Tree Protection Association - CT Environment Council

January 30, 2020

Connecticut Conference of Municipalities Attn: Joe Delong, Executive Director & CEO 545 Long Wharf Drive, 8th Floor New Haven, CT 06511

Dear Mr. Delong:

Your organization recently forwarded a letter from the Bring Your Own Connecticut (BYOCT) to municipal leaders that seeks to garner support for repealing Chapter 441 of the Connecticut General Statutes which gives the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) the authority to regulate pesticides statewide. The letter encourages municipal leadership to work to overturn Connecticut's longstanding pesticide preemption law. CCM's email forwarding this letter, stated that your organization has "historically advocated for local control and greater flexibility for the appropriate application of pesticides".

The nearly twenty member organizations of the Connecticut Coalition for Safe and Healthy Communities disagree with your presumed support of repealing pesticide preemption in Connecticut. We were also surprised to see such a reversal in CCM's policy position on this issue.

Repealing preemption would result in a patchwork of regulation, jeopardizing public health and safety, making it impossible to test and certify applicators statewide. Uniform pesticide regulation is a statewide public interest, not a local interest. Having town by town regulations will inhibit the ability to effectively and safely control harmful pests. The unintended outcome can be an increase in disease carrying insects such as deadly mosquitos, ticks, bed bugs and harmful pests such as Emerald Ash Borer and Gypsy Moths. Noxious and invasive weeds, such as phragmites and Japanese knotweed, may also increase. A repeal would further hamper small towns from regionalizing grounds maintenance and pesticide services. All of this would result in a negative impact on our health, infrastructure, and our environment. This would interfere with effective and efficient state and federal regulatory systems that have been in place for decades.

Furthermore, municipalities do not have the ability to regulate pesticides. They lack the staff, financial resources, and scientific expertise to regulate pesticides, DEEP has these resources.

The uniform regulation and use of pesticides are important to the well-being of Connecticut's citizens. We encourage you to support maintaining Connecticut's state pesticide preemption.

Representatives from our coalition would like to meet with you as soon as possible to discuss CCM's position on this important issue moving forward. Please reach out to Erica Fearn at efearn@ctenvironmentalcouncil.org to schedule a meeting.

Regards,

Connecticut Coalition for Safe and Healthy Communities

CC: Ron Thomas, Deputy Director, CCM - rthomas@ccm-ct.org
Brian O'Connor, Director of Public Policy, CCM - boconnor@ccm-ct.org



933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

Eric S. Wellman - First Selectman

To: Board of Selectmen

CC: Maria Capriola, Melissa Appleby, Mike Glidden

Date: February 24, 2020 Subject: Canoe/Kayak Rentals

Over the past couple of years, I have been approached by at least three people who operate Canoe/Kayak rental companies, who have expressed interest in being able to offer tours and/or rentals on the Farmington River in Simsbury. Their requests are to be able to launch and/or disembark from two areas in particular: the lot near the Pinchot Sycamore and the new park, Hopbrook Landing. One local operator recently expressed interest in renting canoes and kayaks at Hopbrook Landing during specific weekends in the summer. I have spoken with a couple of our neighboring municipalities who currently license a set number of tour operators and feel that it has worked successfully. Staff has informed me that if we were to move forward with such an arrangement, we would need to obtain permits at the state and federal level, a process that would likely not be complete until the 2021 season.

I would like to gauge the Board of Selectmen's interest in pursuing the necessary state and federal sign-offs that would ultimately allow the Town to license a set number of operators to launch and/or disembark from specific points along the Farmington River in Simsbury. At this point I am not prescriptive about what form this would take; whether it would be tours, rentals, or some combination. I am personally supportive of creating a legal path for canoe/kayak companies. It's an opportunity to enhance the quality of life for our residents by offering greater access to the Farmington River and recreation. Further, it has the potential to support local businesses by attracting more people to Hopbrook Landing.

If the Board is supportive of expanding opportunities for passive recreation along the Farmington River in Simsbury, we can ask staff to pursue the necessary state and federal approvals needed to move forward.



2020 Legislative Priorities

- Immediately adopt a bond package that provides level funding for Town Aid Road, the Local Capital Improvement Program (LoCIP), Grants for Municipal Projects, and other critical municipal grant programs;
- Provide towns with more predictable revenue streams and greater fiscal stability by (1) releasing municipal aid on time; (2) rejecting efforts to shift teachers' pension costs to towns; (3) providing towns with the tools to control education spending; (4) continuing to prohibit midyear cuts in municipal funding; and (5) rejecting efforts to enact or expand property tax exemptions or caps;
- Address public safety concerns by assisting towns in removing dead and decaying trees along local roads and other public areas;
- Strengthen economic development opportunities in small towns by (1) enhancing Internet connectivity and reliability by expanding access to high-speed broadband networks in all communities and facilitating the deployment of 5G technology; (2) supporting continued funding for the Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP); (3) investing in critical local infrastructure and historic preservation; and (4) promoting tourism throughout Connecticut;
- Assist towns in complying with environmental mandates, including stormwater management, recycling and solid waste management; and
- Provide towns with meaningful relief from unfunded mandates, including prevailing wage requirements, and refrain from adopting any new unfunded mandates.

















Founded in 1975, COST is the state's only organization dedicated exclusively to representing the interests of Connecticut's smaller towns at the state Capitol. COST marshals the collective talent, experience, and vision of municipal leaders to help shape public policies in ways that help Connecticut's smaller communities control property tax levels and provide critical services to residents.

Connecticut Council of Small Towns (COST)

1245 Farmington Ave., 101, West Hartford, CT 06107

Tel. 860-676-0770; www.ctcost.org



PROVIDE TOWNS WITH THE TOOLS TO MANAGE LOCAL BUDGETS

- Continue to prohibit midyear reductions or other lapses in municipal funding which undermine local budgets and the delivery of critical services;
- Reject efforts to shift teachers' pension costs to municipalities, which have had no role in managing pension funds or in deferring contributions that have resulted in millions of dollars in unfunded pension liabilities;
- 3) Provide towns with greater authority to manage local budgets and respond to changes in municipal funding by: a) providing towns with greater flexibility to reduce education spending under the Municipal Budget Requirement (MBR); and b) Allowing towns to reopen collective bargaining agreements to negotiate savings if education aid is reduced by a significant percentage or changes are needed to facilitate consolidation/shared services agreements;
- Establish an irrebuttable presumption that a municipality's budget reserve of 15% or less is not available to pay the costs of any item subject to municipal binding arbitration;
- Refrain from adopting any new or expanded property tax exemptions or caps which shift a greater burden onto homeowners; and
- 6) Provide towns with stable, alternative revenue sources, such as authorizing towns to charge a fee for tax exempt properties equal to the services provided for police, fire, emergency services and roads.

REVITALIZE LOCAL ECONOMIES & SUPPORT INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT

- Support investment in local infrastructure by prioritizing the release of funding for the Town Aid Road, the Local Bridge program, the Local Capital Improvement Program (LoCIP), and the Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program (LOTCIP);
- Support continued funding for the Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) to help strengthen local economies;
- Remove regulatory barriers to sanitary sewer extension projects needed to support housing and economic development;
- Eliminate burdensome training requirements associated with the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant program;
- Enhance Internet connectivity and reliability by expanding access to high speed broadband networks in all communities and facilitating the deployment of 5G technology;
- Enhance opportunities to revitalize communities by expanding the Historic Preservation Tax Credit and brownfields remediation programs; and
- 7) Create a sustainable source of funding to support tourism in Connecticut.

ENACT MEANINGFUL MANDATE RELIEF

- Refrain from adopting any new or expanded unfunded mandates that drive up the cost of local government;
- Ensure that the Office of Fiscal Analysis seeks input from COST and other municipal organizations in determining



- the fiscal impact of a legislative proposal on municipalities;
- Provide towns with greater flexibility to reduce education spending under the Minimum Budget Requirement (MBR);
- 4) Assist towns in complying with the MS4 Stormwater General Permit by reducing burdensome paperwork requirements, providing towns with greater flexibility to meet requirements, and targeting grants and training to assist towns in compliance;
- 5) Eliminate the requirement that towns publish legal notices in newspapers and allow towns to post such notices on their municipal websites, consistent with state courts and state agencies.
- 6) Reduce construction costs for municipal projects by a) increasing the \$50,000 project threshold for municipal set aside requirements: b) revising the prevailing wage threshold for municipal public works renovation projects to \$500,000; and c) exempting donated labor/services from the prevailing wage laws;
- Exempt school districts that receive less than 3% in ECS grants from certain state educational mandates; and
- 8) Enact modest changes to binding arbitration laws to reduce costs for property taxpayers, including allowing parties to mutually agree to have their case heard by a single neutral arbitrator randomly appointed from a panel of neutral arbitrators by the State Board of Mediation.

FACILITATE THE USE OF COST-EFFECTIVE REGIONAL/SHARED SERVICES PROGRAMS

- 1) Ensure that there is a mechanism to address collective bargaining issues that undermine regional consolidation efforts or shared services agreements, including providing that consolidation/regionalization efforts are not a mandatory subject of collective bargaining;
- Assist municipalities in facilitating the regional consolidation of services, such as 911 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), to achieve savings and improve capability by addressing statutory and other barriers to consolidation;
- Reject efforts to modify E-911 funding by capping regional PSAP subsidies, which will undermine efforts to consolidate PSAPs;
- Reject efforts to force the consolidation of services/programs without first performing a comprehensive costbenefit analysis;
- 5) Restore funding for the Intertown
 Capital Equipment program and
 Regional Performance Incentive
 Program, which supports regional/
 shared services programs; and
- Continue to support the delivery of regional/shared services programs through the Councils of Government (COGs).



SUPPORT FAIR SHARE EDUCATION FUNDING

- Reaffirm the state's constitutional obligation to fund education for all students; and
- 2) Assist towns in managing special education costs by a) exploring options to allow municipalities to participate in a special education predictable cost cooperative; b) authorizing Regional Education Service Centers to provide increased special education services to school districts; c) lowering the reimbursement threshold; d) shifting the burden of proof in special education hearings from the school district to the claimant, consistent with federal standards; and e) requiring the state to pay 100% of the costs of special education for severe-needs students.

ASSIST REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN CONTROLLING EDUCATION COSTS

- Require, rather than allow, regional school districts to establish finance boards consisting of representatives from member towns to provide input on local budget issues;
- Allow the use of a five-year rolling average for determining Average Daily Membership in regional schools for purposes of calculating member town allocation; and
- Provide towns in regional school districts with greater oversight of collective bargaining agreements by requiring that such agreements be approved by each local governing body.

PROMOTE SAVINGS & EFFICIENCIES IN EDUCATION

- Provide towns with greater authority to manage local budgets and respond to changes in municipal funding by: a) providing towns with greater flexibility to reduce education spending under the Municipal Budget Requirement (MBR); and b) Allowing towns to reopen collective bargaining agreements to negotiate savings if education aid is reduced by a significant percentage or changes are needed to facilitate consolidation/shared services agreements;
- Ensure that local and regional boards of education are required to adhere to the requirements of the Uniform Chart of Accounts to provide municipal officials and taxpayers with greater transparency regarding education spending and the ability to compare spending levels across categories;
- Require each local board of education to use, and comply with, all purchasing procedures used by the municipality where the board is located, regardless of any conflicting special act, municipal charter, or home rule ordinance;
- Prohibit boards of education from hiring any administrative personnel for positions which are not included in the proposed and adopted budget without town concurrence; and
- 5) Provide incentives to ensure that municipalities and boards of education work together to consolidate noneducational expenditures/functions to improve efficiencies and reduce costs.



STRENGTHEN PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY IN OUR COMMUNITIES

- Protect the viability of the Resident State Trooper program and expand efforts to allow towns to share Resident State Troopers or partner with other local law enforcement agencies;
- Assist towns in funding, sharing equipment, and securing contractors to remove dead or decaying trees along local roads and other areas;
- Strengthen criminal laws to address car thefts and break-ins by juveniles;
- Continue to support programs to address opioid abuse, including establishing an Office of Alcohol and Drug Policy;
- Reject efforts to force consolidation of local and regional health districts and impose fees on towns to fund consolidation;
- Ensure that there are adequate resources to support training for volunteer first responders; and
- 7) Continue to assist communities affected by crumbling foundations by extending the life of the Captive insurance organization, providing additional funds for testing and remediation, including testing of municipal and school buildings.

ASSIST TOWNS IN MEETING ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS

Assist towns in complying with the MS4
 Stormwater General Permit by reducing burdensome paperwork requirements, providing towns with greater flexibility to meet requirements, and targeting grants and training to assist towns in compliance;

- 2) Address concerns regarding increasing municipal recycling costs by increasing the bottle deposit fee;
- Reduce the impact of road salt and deicing chemicals on water supplies and equipment by encouraging Green Snow Pro training and certification which adheres to Best Management Practices; and
- 4) Require the state Department of Energy & Environmental Protection to provide potable water to residents whose private wells have been impaired due to road salt and deicing chemicals.

ASSIST TOWNS IN ADDRESSING HOUSING NEEDS

- Develop guidelines to assist municipalities in complying with existing affordable housing planning requirements;
- Provide towns with greater flexibility in meeting the state's affordable housing goals; and
- Remove regulatory barriers for sanitary sewer extension projects needed to support housing and economic development.