

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; Board members; Sean Askham, Chery Cook, Michael Paine, Chris Peterson and Christopher Kelly. Others in attendance included Town Manager Maria Capriola, Deputy Town Manager Melissa Appleby, Assistant Town Planner Michael Glidden, and other interested parties.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC AUDIENCE

Helen Peterson, 20 Longview Drive, spoke in favor of the proposed Old Growth Network Designation for Belden Forest.

Diane Nash, 5 Merrywood Lane, spoke in favor of the proposed Old Growth Network Designation for Belden Forest.

Joan Coe, 26 Whitcomb Drive, spoke about the vaping epidemic impacting school age children as well as pill addiction and distribution within the school system, volunteerism and delivery of services by Simsbury Volunteer Ambulance and the way neighboring towns contract with AMR (American Medical Response) for ambulance services, the Simsbury Farms Golf Course and other matters.

Pat Weisbrich, 3 Lenora Drive, spoke about her property, and an Eversource transmission line easement that is attached to her property. Ms. Weisbrich discussed history with Eversource, as well as the relationship between property owners and Eversource. The purpose of her presentation was to alert the town to what is happening with the removal of trees on her property.

PRESENTATION

a) Simsbury 350th Committee Presentation

Steven Antonio, Chair of 350th Committee, presented to the Board, the proposed plans for the anniversary celebration for informational purposes. Mr. Antonio gave a brief overview and presented an organizational chart, Partner Groups and Fiscal Partner (Simsbury Main Street Partnership), committees involved in the planning, activities planned, and ideas for fundraising. Mr. Askham and Ms. Cook asked questions regarding the anticipated budget.

Sarah Nielsen, Executive Director of Main Street Partnership, also spoke about the financial needs and budget for the celebration, as well as requests that will be made in future meetings for use of the Performing Arts Center.

b) Trail of Thanks Presentation

Joe Buda gave presentation to the Board about the proposed Trail of Thanks. Mr. Buda described the Trail of Thanks, which is a historically themed outdoor public attraction focusing on Simsbury's ancient history. Proposed locations were discussed, as well as the benefits, which include increased tourism. Mr. Buda showed what would be featured on the sites and the locations of proposed stops and timetable of completion. The emphasis would be on Native American history.

FIRST SELECTMAN’S REPORT

First Selectman, Wellman, reviewed his First Selectman’s report.

TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT

Town Manager, Capriola, reviewed her Town Manager’s report.

Mr. Askham made a motion to add Proposed Appointments and Reappointments to various Appointed Committees and Boards to the agenda. Ms. Cook seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

SELECTMEN ACTION

a) Tax Refund Requests

Ms. Cook made a motion, effective January 14, 2019 to approve the presented tax refunds in the amount of \$8,923.48 and to authorize Town Manager, Maria E. Capriola, to execute the tax refunds. Mr. Askham seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b) Proposed Donation from Garrity Asphalt Reclaiming, Inc.

Mr. Askham made a motion, effective January 14, 2019, to accept a donation from Garrity Asphalt Reclaiming, Inc. in the amount of \$5,000 for the purpose of supporting Simsbury Community and Social Services Department programs that assist residents in need. Ms. Cook seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

c) Proposed Revisions to Naming Rights Policy and Naming of Simsbury Public Library Program Room 2 and New Program Room

Mr. Askham made a motion effective January 14, 2019 to revise the Naming Rights Policy as presented. Motion was seconded by Mr. Kelly. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Kelly made a motion, effective January 14, 2019, to approve naming Library Program Room 2 the Weatogue Room and naming the new Program Room, anticipated to be completed in May 2019, the Tariffville Room. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

d) Proposed Revisions to Circulation Assistant Job Description and Job Title

Ms. Cook made a motion, effective January 14, 2019, to approve the proposed modifications to the job description and to change the job title for the Circulation Assistant position to the Library Services Assistant (Adult Department) as presented. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

e) Proposed Amendment to all Culture, Parks, and Recreation Fee Schedules

Mr. Askham made a motion, effective January 14, 2019, to accept the proposed language regarding special promotions and discounts as an amendment to all Culture, Parks and Recreation fee schedules. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

f) Old-Growth Forest Network Designation for Belden Forest

Mr. Paine made a motion, to refer consideration of the Old-Growth Forest Network Designation for Belden Forest to the Conservation Commission. The purpose of this referral is to seek the Commission’s viewpoint on designating Belden Forest as an Old-Growth Forest. A referral response is respectfully requested prior to January 28, 2019. Mr. Peterson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

g) Discussion Regarding Sale and Distribution of Tobacco/Nicotine/Vaping Products

The Board discussed the dangers of vaping. Statistics were shared regarding delivery of nicotine and marijuana and the amount delivered per cartridge. Board members expressed concerns. Mr. Wellman asked if the Board would support the First Selectman signing a letter, drafted by the Farmington Valley Collaborative, advocating for state legislation to raise the minimum age to purchase vaping products from the current age of 18 to a proposed age of 21.

Ms. Cook made a motion, effective January 14, 2019 to authorize First Selectman Eric Wellman to sign the attached letter on behalf of the Board and the Town. Mr. Askham seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

a) Proposed Appointment to the Simsbury Board of Education

Mr. Askham made a motion, effective January 14, 2019 to appoint Brian M. Watson (R) as a regular member of the Board of Education, with a term expiring December 2, 2019. Ms. Cook seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed

b) Resignation of Lori Feldman from the Economic Development Commission

Mr. Peterson made a motion, to accept the resignation of Lori Feldman (D) as a member of the Economic Development Commission retroactive to December 27, 2018. Ms. Cook seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

c) Proposed Appointments and Reappointments to Various Appointed Committees and Boards

Reappointments:

- **Aging and Disability:** Mr. Kelly made a motion, effective January 14, 2019 to appoint the following people as presented:
 - Mary S. Fleet (R) as a regular member with a term expiring January 1, 2023
 - Anne Erickson (R) as a regular member with a term expiring January 1, 2023
 - Susan Krinsky (R) as a regular member with a term expiring January 1, 2023
 - Edward LaMontagne (U) as a regular member with a term expiring January 1, 2023

Motion was seconded by Mr. Paine. All were in favor and the motion passed.

- **Board of Ethics:** Ms. Cook made a motion, effective January 14, 2019 to appoint the following people as presented:
 - Andrew Brazier, Jr (R) as a regular member with a term expiring January 1, 2023

- Lynn Raccio (U) as a regular member with a term expiring January 1, 2023

Motion was seconded by Mr. Peterson. All were in favor and the motion passed.

- **Historic District:** Ms. Cook made a motion, effective January 14, 2019 to appoint Mark Nyquist (R) as an alternate member with a term expiring January 1, 2024. Motion was seconded by Mr. Peterson. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Appointments:

- **Board of Ethics:** Ms. Cook made a motion to appoint Gary Kevorkian (R) as a regular member with a term expiring January 1, 2021. Motion was seconded by Mr. Paine. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- **Building Code Board of Appeals:** Mr. Paine made a motion to appoint Todd Thode (R) as a regular member with a term expiring January 1, 2022. Motion was seconded by Ms. Cook. All were in favor and the motion passed.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

a) Regular Meeting of December 17, 2108

There were no changes to the minutes for the Regular Meeting of December 17, 2018, and, therefore, the minutes were adopted.

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** – no report at this time.

Ms. Cook thanked everyone who participated in the Community for Care program on January 9, 2019.

COMMUNICATIONS

- a) **Memo from R. Newton, re: Try Simsbury Updated Approval Conditions, dated January 2, 2019** – Mr. Askham thanked staff for following up on the matter regarding the river height, and encouraged a continued focus on river depth and safe environment for the race.
- b) **Memo from M. Capriola, re: Golf Course Restaurant Contract Extension, dated January 3, 2019**
- c) **Memo from M. Capriola, re: Anticipated Budget Increases for the Farmington Valley Health District, dated January 7, 2019**
- d) **Memo from M. Capriola, re: Tax Abatement for Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Personnel, dated January 10, 2019**
- e) **FY17/18 Annual Report**

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

Mr. Askham made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session including Town Manager Maria Capriola, Deputy Town Manager Melissa Appleby, and Attorney Jonathan Zellner at 7:25 p.m. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

ADJOURN

Mr. Askham made a motion to adjourn from Executive Session. Mr. Paine seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Executive Session adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Mr. Askham made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Paine seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Rathbun
Clerk