

**TOWN OF SIMSBURY – BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – NOVEMBER 26, 2018**

“Approved”

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; Board members; Cheryl Cook, Sean Askham, Michael Paine, Chris Peterson and Christopher Kelly. Others in attendance included Town Manager Maria Capriola, Deputy Town Manager Melissa Appleby, Finance Director/Treasurer Amy Meriwether, Sarah Nielson from Main Street Partnership, and other interested parties.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC AUDIENCE

Joan Coe, 26 Whitcomb Drive, spoke about the Eno Trust and Eno Farms, a report from the Attorney General's office, Simsbury Volunteer Ambulance and AMR Ambulance response time, and other issues.

Dr. Michael Rinaldi, Pinnacle Mountain Road, spoke about articles in the Wall Street Journal, that he told everyone to read, and tax abatements. He also spoke about the Business Development Incentive Committee, the mil rate, and phase three of the middle school.

Dave Ryan, 20 Westledge Road, said Bob Hensley is now the new Chairman of the Simsbury Performing Arts Center. He also spoke about the tax abatement issue and mixed use development.

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.

SELECTMEN ACTION

a) Tax Refund Requests

Ms. Cook made a motion, effective November 26, 2018, to approve the presented tax refunds in the amount of \$12,040.05, 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) 2018/2019 JAG Local Violent Crime Prevention (VCP) Grant

Mr. Wellman said the Federal Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program provides local police departments with funds to purchase protective gear and other equipment, including technology equipment. This grant award is for \$6,000.

Mr. Paine made a motion, effective November 26, 2018, to apply for and accept the 2018/2019 JAG Local VCP Grant that has been awarded to the Town, and to authorize Town Manager, Maria E. Capriola to execute all

documents related to the grant application and award. Mr. Askham seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

c) Federal FY 2018 State Homeland Security Grant Program

Ms. Capriola said CRCOG provides a grant program for regional projects designed to benefit municipalities. Projects include regional collaboration, CBRNE detection and response, medical response systems, etc.

Mr. Askham made a motion, effective November 26, 2018 to approve the Federal Fiscal Year 2018 State, for regional allocations made through the Region 3 Regional Emergency Planning Team. Furthermore, effective November 26, 2018, to approve the attached resolution that authorizes the Town Manager to execute all documents related to the grant award. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

d) Budget Status Report

Mr. Wellman said staff was asked to report the budget status every quarter now.

Ms. Meriwether went through the General Fund, Simsbury Farms and CRMA. She said the Education Cost Sharing Grant should be coming in at \$6,039,516, which is higher than expected. The Town received \$38,000 as part of its participation in CIRMA's Member's Equity Distribution program. She said Simsbury Farms has had losses many years, but this is being reviewed.

After some discussion, no action was taken at this time.

e) Proposed Revisions to Eno Memorial Hall Facility Use Policy and Fee Schedule

Mr. Wellman said the last update on the Eno Memorial Hall Facility Use Policy was in 2010. Staff has noted a number of challenges within the existing policy and a work group was formed was established to review the policy and fee schedule.

Mr. Kelly made a motion, effective November 26, 2018, to adopt the revisions to the Eno Memorial Hall Facility Use Policy and fee schedule as presented, effective January 1, 2019. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

f) Eversource Energy Temporary Access Permit/Agreement

Mr. Wellman said Eversource has requested a temporary access permit to replace structures supporting existing electrical transmission lines as part of the 1726 Line Structure Replacement Project. The structures are not currently accessible from the existing Eversource right of way. The Town has asked for restricted hours of use from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and that no access be allowed on the weekends with the exception of emergency access.

Mr. Paine made a motion, effective November 26, 2018, to authorize Town Manager Maria E. Capriola to execute a temporary access agreement/permit with Eversource Energy for the purposes of accessing their existing right of way on the east side of Ryan Circle and Hunting Ridge Road on Parcel ID 109 106 000 owned by the Town of Simsbury. The permit will be issued through June 30, 2019. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

g) Proposed Tax Abatement and Fee Waivers, 690 Hopmeadow Street and Proposed Revisions to Business Development Incentive Policy

Mr. Wellman said the Town received an application for business development at the property at 690 Hopmeadow Street will be turned into a Restaurant and five apartments. The applicant is no longer asking for the WPCA waiver. Mr. Wellman showed the total recommended 10-year tax abatement request.

After discussion, Mr. Askham made a motion to table the item on 690 Hopmeadow Street, until further information is received. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Askham made a motion, effective November 26, 2018, to revise the Business Development Incentive Policy as presented with the change in Application Procedures - Step 4. Ms. Cook seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

h) Discussion of 2018-2019 Board of Selectmen Goals

Mr. Wellman said the Town Manager’s office was asked to organize the Board’s priorities by short and long term goals.

Mr. Askham made a motion, effective November 26, 2018, to adopt the 2018-19 Board of Selectmen goals as presented with a change in wording from “not important” to “not ranked.” Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

a) Resignation of Peter Tedone from the Police Commission

Ms. Cook made a motion to accept the resignation of Peter Tedone (R) as a regular member of the Police Commission retroactive to November 15, 2018 with our thanks. Mr. Askham seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

a) Regular Meeting of November 14, 2018

There were no changes to the Regular Meeting Minutes of November 14, 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.

COMMUNICATIONS

- a) Letter from M. Capriola re: American Flag Donation, dated November 13, 2018
- b) Letter from L. George re: FY2020 Budget Financial Support Request for Visitors Center, dated November 13, 2018

Ms. Cook thanked the Simsbury Celebrates Committee for a wonderful event and job well done.

Mr. Wellman said the Board received a letter from the Chamber about the Visitor's Center. At the Board of Selectmen meeting there was no discussion on this project. There was some discussion on having the Tourism Committee look at this issue and to possibly go digital with visitor's information.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a) Pursuant to CGS §1-200(6)(A) concerning the performance review of the Town Manager

Mr. Askham made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to CGS §1-200(6)(A) concerning the performance review of the Town Manager and to include Town Manager Maria E. Capriola at 7:27 p.m. Ms. Cook seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

ADJOURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board of Selectmen members and Town Manager left executive session at 8:50 p.m.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi Radocchio
Clerk