

**TOWN OF SIMSBURY – BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – DECEMBER 17, 2018**

“Approved”

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**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; Director of Public Works Tom Roy; Director of Culture, Parks and Recreation Tom Tyburski and other interested parties.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Kelly made a motion to add discussion and possible action on a request for a contract extension on the Simsbury Senior/Community Center Grant Contract as item d. Mr. Askham seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**PUBLIC AUDIENCE**

Joan Coe, 26 Whitcomb Drive, spoke about the proposed development at the former Ensign House and a tax abatement, the Simsbury Golf Course and other issues.

**PRESENTATION**

**a) Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan**

Mr. Wellman said the Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan will be used to guide active transportation planning in Simsbury for the next ten years.

Mr. Roy introduced Marcy Miller, Senior Project Manager, Associate, Fitzgerald and Halliday, Inc., who will help him with this presentation. Mr. Roy said this plan will build on what Simsbury has already worked so hard on for a pedestrian and bicycle friendly community.

Mr. Roy and Ms. Miller went through the presentation explaining the community findings and needs as well as the recommendations for moving forward. There has to be a balance between pedestrians and bicyclist to make all of this work.

**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 December 17, 2018 to approve the presented tax refunds in the amount of \$5,948.83 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 Hartford Foundation for Public Giving**

Ms. Cook made a motion, effective December 17, 2018, to accept a donation from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving in the amount \$4,000 for the purpose of supporting the Simsbury Community and Social Services Department food program with our thanks. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**c) Proposed Donation from Garrity Asphalt Reclaiming**

Mr. Askham made a motion, effective December 17, 2018, to accept a donation from Garrity Asphalt Reclaiming, Inc. in the amount of \$2,500 for the purpose of supporting Simsbury Community and Social Services Department programs that assist residents in need with our thanks. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**d) Request for Contract Extension, Simsbury Senior/Community Center Grant Contract #128-NF-03 14Dss6002FQ**

Ms. Capriola said the Town had received a grant on the Senior/Community Center project and there is a balance on this grant. They would like to use this balance to help with other projects at Eno and the extension to the Grant will allow this to be done until September 30, 2019. The State Bond Commission needs to approve the reprogramming and repurposing of the grant.

Mr. Wellman made a motion, effective December 17, 2018, to authorize Town Manager Maria E. Capriola to execute the Contract Amendment 2 from the State of Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS) to be in effect from January 1, 2014 to September 30, 2019; further move, effective December 17, 2018, to approve the attached resolution that authorizes the Town Manager to enter into contracts with the State of Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS) on behalf of the Town of Simsbury; and further move, effective December 17, 2018, to authorize the Town Manager to execute the State of Connecticut Ethics Form 1, 5 and 7 on behalf of the Town of Simsbury. Ms. Cook seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**e) Proposed Public Gathering Permit – Try Simsbury**

Mr. Wellman said the Try Simsbury event will be held on May 4, 2019. The event will feature the triathlon along with a new option for a duathlon this year. After discussion, there will be a new condition covering river depth in the permit.

Mr. Kelly made a motion, effective December 17, 2018 to approve the public gathering application for the 2019 Try Simsbury event, with the condition of river depth, and to authorize the issuance of the public gathering permit. Mr. Askham seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**f) Proposed Public Gathering Permit – Iron Horse Half-Marathon**

Mr. Wellman said this event will feature a half marathon, 5 k and 10k road race, which starts and finishes on Iron Horse Boulevard.

Ms. Cook made a motion, effective December 17, 2018 to approve the public gathering permit application for the 2019 Iron Horse Half Marathon Road Race event as presented and to authorize the issuance of the public gathering permit. Mr. Askham seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**g) Proposed Public Gathering Permit – Beach Boys Charity Concert**

Mr. Wellman said the Beach Boys Charity Concert will benefit the Boys and Girls Club and is scheduled for August 17, 2019. There will be a fireworks display after the concert.

Mr. Paine made a motion, effective December 17, 2018 to approve the public gathering application for the Beach Boys Charity Concert as presented and to authorize the issuance of the public gathering permit. Ms. Cook seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**h) Proposed 2019 Simsbury Farms Golf Course Fee Schedule**

Mr. Tyburski said the significant change to the fee schedule would be not having resident / non-resident fees anymore. This is very common with other private courses. They are hoping this will increase season passes every year.

Mr. Paine made a motion, effective December 17, 2018 to approve the 2019 fee schedule for the Simsbury Farms Golf Course as presented. Ms. Cook seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**i) Proposed Tax Abatement and Fee Waivers, 690 Hopmeadow Street**

Mr. Wellman said the new owners of the Ensign Mansion are doing extensive renovations there and have asked for a 10 year tax abatement along with a 50% waiver of some fees on this project.

There was a lot of discussion on the abatement and cap issue. The Board was very grateful with the care that is being taken on this historic property, but they also need to take care of the taxpayers.

Mr. Peterson made a motion, effective December 17, 2018 to approve the requested 10 year tax abatement at the percentages presented below, with a maximum total abatement cap of \$540,000. Further move to waive 50% of the cost of the construction, HVAC equipment, plumbing, electrical, fire sprinkler, and demolition permit fees incurred by the property owners. Further move to authorize the Town Manager and Town Attorney to negotiate an agreement reflective of this resolution. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion. Mr. Wellman, Mr. Peterson, Ms. Cook, Mr. Kelly and Mr. Paine were in favor with Mr. Askham opposing the motion. Therefore, the motion passed.

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

Mr. Wellman said Hartford is the only municipality to pass an ordinance that has increased the age of purchasing tobacco products from 18 to 21. They hope this will help keep tobacco products out of schools and help keep younger people away from the products.

After a lot of discussion on the tobacco issue, no action was taken at this time.

**APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS**

**a) Proposed Appointment of Friends of Simsbury Farms Board Members**

Ms. Cook made a motion, effective January 1, 2019 to appoint then members to the Friends of Simsbury Farms, Board of Directors as presented with terms expiring December 31, 2020:

Mark Deming, Arthur Emmons, Ronald Patterson, Thomas Cross, Paul Simeon, Robert Ellis, Cindy Franklin, Gerry Toner, Kelly Kearney, and Jeff Sunblade.

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

**b) Proposed Appointment of Peter Van Loon to the Business Development Incentive Committee**

Ms. Cook made a motion, effective December 17, 2018 to appoint Peter Van Loon (D) to the Business Development Incentive Committee for the Economic Development Commission membership slot, with a term expiring August 13, 2020. Mr. Peterson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**c) Proposed Appointment of Donald Eaton to the Conservation Commission/Inland Wetlands Agency**

Mr. Paine made a motion, effective December 17, 2018 to appoint Donald Eaton (R) as a regular member of the Conservation Commission with a term expiring January 1, 2020. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**d) Proposed Appointment of Terrence Fogarty to the Police Commission**

Ms. Cook made a motion, effective December 17, 2018 to appoint Terrence Fogarty (R) as a regular member to the Police Commission with an expiration date of January 1, 2019. Mr. Askham seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Ms. Cook made a motion, effective December 17, 2018 to appoint Terrence Fogarty (R) as a regular member to the Police Commission for a full four year term beginning on January 1, 2019 and expiring on January 1, 2023. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**e) Proposed Appointment of David Johnson to the Board of Assessment Appeals**

Mr. Paine made a motion, effective December 17, 2018 to appoint David Johnson (U) as an alternate member to the Board of Assessment Appeals with a term expiring December 6, 2021. Mr. Askham seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

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**f) Proposed Expansion of Library Building Committee Membership and Appointment of Mark Orenstein to the Library Building Committee**

Mr. Kelly made a motion, effective December 17, 2018 to approve the expansion of membership slots for the Library Building Committee from ten members to eleven members by adding one additional slot for a current Library Board of Trustee or Library Friends member. Ms. Cook seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Kelly made a motion, effective December 17, 2018 to appoint Mark Orenstein (D) as a regular member of the Library Building Committee. Ms. Cook seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**g) Resignation of Joyce Howard from the Tourism Committee**

Ms. Cook made a motion to accept the resignation of Joyce Howard (R) as a regular member of the Tourism Committee retroactive to November 27, 2018 with our thanks. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**h) Resignation of Robert Heagney from the Open Space Committee**

Mr. Askham made a motion to accept the resignation of Robert Heagney (R) as a member of the Open Space Committee retroactive to December 11, 2018 with our thanks. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**i) Proposed Appointment of Timothy Walczak to the Open Space Committee**

Ms. Cook made a motion, effective December 17, 2018 to appoint Timothy Walczak (R) as an at-large member of the Open Space Committee with a term expiring December 2, 2109. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**REVIEW OF MINUTES**

**a) Regular Meeting of November 26, 2108**

There were no changes to the Regular Meeting of November 26, 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 worked on the Century Santa event. It was the most moving experience for all.

They would like to make it an annual event.

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Ms. Cook said the next Community for Care program will be held on January 9, 2019 and it will highlight vaping, drugs, etc.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

- a) Letter from N. Mason re: Donation to SCTV's Operation Budget, dated November 24, 2018**
- b) Memorandum from M. Capriola re: Economic Development Commission Appointments, dated December 12, 2018**

Ms. Capriola said the Economic Development Commission appointed members to key roles, including chair and vice chair. They also recommended Peter Van Loon to be the representative on the Business Development Incentive Committee.

- c) Correspondence from M. Capriola and N. Boulter re: Police Uniform Change, dated December 4 & 13, 2018**

Ms. Capriola said the color and style of Police uniforms will be changed. The gray uniforms are becoming less available and very expensive. Therefore, the uniforms will be navy blue, which is a standard color. They will be testing the uniforms before purchasing. There will be campaign on the new uniforms so residents can get used to the change. Notice will also be posted on the Town's website.

**ADJOURN**

Mr. Askham made a motion to adjourn at 8:18 p.m. Ms. Cook seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi Radocchio  
Clerk