

From: Susan Mazurski February 28, 2012 11:10:39 AM  
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To: SimsburyCT\_SelectMin  
Cc:

TOWN OF SIMSBURY - BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 15, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

A Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:10 p.m in the Main Meeting Room of the Simsbury Town Offices. Present were: First Selectman Mary Glassman; Board members Sean Askham, Lisa Heavner, John Hampton, Moira Wertheimer and Nancy Haase. Others in attendance included State Representative Linda Schofield, Chuck Howard, Gerry Toner, Sean Kimball, Mary Ann Harris, Mickey Lecours-Beck, Attorney Bob DeCrescenzo and other interested parties.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS

Presentation of check in the amount of \$14, 447.53 to the Simsbury Social Services Department from the Simsbury Junior Women's Club

Allison Schmidt and Kathleen Schuster from the Simsbury Women's Club said they go out and perform community services for the Town and also raise money to give back to the Town. They held a "Luminary Night" to help raise money to help the Town. They also applied for a grant through the Ensign-Bickford Foundation and are now proud to donate \$14,447.53 to the Keep Simsbury Warm Program.

Ms. Lecours-Beck said this donation will affect the lives of many Simsbury residents who are struggling. She said the Junior Women's Club has been a friend to Simsbury for many years and have also been a great service to the Community. She thanked them on behalf of everyone in Simsbury.

Announcement of Art Walk Simsbury! event to benefit Simsbury ABC House on May 19, 2012; State Representative Linda Schofield and Alyssa Cunningham,

ABC House President

State Representative Schofield said Ms. Cunningham couldn't attend due to her pregnancy. She explained the poster in the Main Meeting Room was to let everyone show what art means to them.

Ms. Schofield said she has worked with many organizations in Town to develop this Art Walk. These local artists will be selling their works and 10% of the sales will go to ABC House. The Art Walk will be held on May 19, 2012 from 11 - 5 with 20 locations around town. There are over 60 artists involved in this walk. The local sponsors include: Ensign-Bickford, The Hartford Financial Services Co., CL & P, Landmark Partners, Robert Hensley & Associates, Paines Inc., Landworks Partners, and the Keystone Companies. Children's activities will be held at Boy Scout Hall. The Bicycle Sculpture will be unveiled at the ABC House. Volunteers are still

needed for ABC House and this event. The event is free to the public. The ABC House is entirely funded by donations and they are always welcome.

Ms. Schofield said the ABC House (A Better Chance) has been in Simsbury for 39 years. They bring bright, teenage boys from disadvantaged school districts to the brick house across from Andy's Supermarket. They live there for the four years of high school for a better chance at a good education. Then they move on to college. There are 70+ graduates of this program already.

Announcement of National Bicycle Awareness Month for May and scheduled Simsbury activities, Simsbury Bicycle representatives Ann Marie Potter and Pattie Jacobus

Steve Mitchell thanked the 150 volunteers who helped to clean up 27 miles of trails, 10 days after the storm. He said approximately 5,000 trees fell during this disaster, which is just amazing.

Ms. Potter showed everyone the two banners - one is Simsbury Free Bike and the other is Everybody Rides which are non-profit programs. She also handed out a calendar for "Bike Walk Simsbury!" May is Bike Month.

Ms. Potter said a lot of people brought to Simsbury for all kinds of different bike events from all over. Everyone seems quite impressed with what Simsbury has to offer for the bikers. They introduced "Simsbury Free Bike" last year and they were able to put 153 "butts on bikes".

Ms. Potter said there was a meeting in December to work on initiatives such as a Bike /Walk Vision Statement, 3-5 year Bike /Walk business plan,

exploring a signage program with Tom Roy, putting up bike racks, and more safety measures and more awareness for bikers and drivers. She thanked all of the volunteers, especially Steve Mitchell, and all of the Board and staff for their continued help.

Ms. Potter said there are six distribution centers for “free biking” Fitzgerald’s, Bidwells, Nevins, Riverside Golf, Town Hall, and The Simsbury Inn (customers only). There are many activities in May. May 19th will be a sculpture unveiling at ABC House. May 6th is Bike to Simsbury Day where all biking clubs are being asked to converge at Iron House at noon for networking, food, entertainment, etc.

Ms. Glassman spoke about celebrating art in Simsbury. She said Ms. Potter volunteered to coordinate “What Art Means to You” and there are cards and crayons here for everyone to draw what art means to you. All of the art will be displayed at Bushnell Park.

#### PUBLIC AUDIENCE

Joann Nylan, 8 Horseshoe Circle and Lisa Neary of 18 Winterset spoke about the need to repair and extend the sidewalk on Owens Brook Blvd up to Firetown Road. This sidewalk offers a

great connection to the downtown area and the bike path. This sidewalk is in very bad shape and really needs desperate repair. Ms. Glassman said this issue is included in the Capital Improvement Plan.

Joan Coe, 26 Whitcomb Drive said she was very disappointed with the Charter Revision Commission who decided not look further into a Town Management form of government. This should be a choice for the residents of Simsbury.

Ms. Coe spoke about salary increases for two employees, which she doesn’t feel is in process of keeping with Town practices.

Ms. Coe spoke about the a labor attorney being hired to negotiate the Police and Highway contracts. She is very concerned about this.

Ms. Coe wanted to know why Town employees can’t receive direct e-mails. They go through a centralized location and she doesn’t feel this is appropriate. She also wants a line item for “Correspondence” on every agenda as she feels the Board does get letters from the public.

Robert Kalechman, 971 Hopmeadow Street feels the Board should have ipads and Town cell phones so the residents can reach them at anytime. Ms. Glassman noted that all e-mails go through the Board of Education servers, but they are not screened by Town staff.

Mr. Kalechman spoke about giving/selling drinks at different events in Town. He doesn't feel the Board should promote drinking.

Mr. Kalechman reminded the Board that all public meetings should have time for public audience.

Mr. Kalechman spoke about taxes. He feels these are desperate times and no one can afford to pay more in taxes.

Sue Bednarczyk, 119 E. Weatogue spoke again about Land Use Planning. She watched a Zoning Commission meeting on TV where they called the PAD form based zoning. She said this is not

form based zoning according to many legal opinions. She suggested that everyone listen to this tape to see what is going on. Ms. Glassman said she would forward her concerns to Town Council.

#### FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT - Presentation of 2012-2013 Budget

Ms. Glassman said she was honored to work with the Department Heads on the budget. She said the proposed budget is increased by 0.33%. There are some increases in insurances as well as equipment increasing communications with residents during emergencies, an added senior lunch

program, and adding 3 hrs. for the Library. Ms. Glassman said the Performing Arts Center is now being included in the Town budget.

Ms. Glassman said this budget would be significantly higher if it wasn't for the great volunteers and donations to the community.

Ms. Glassman said the budget workshops will start February 27th and all information is on the Town website.

#### SELECTMEN ACTIONS

a) Acceptance of notification of Connecticut Housing Finance Authority of intent to sell Eno Farms

Ms. Glassman recused herself and turned the meeting over to Mr. Hampton.

Mr. Hampton said the Board received correspondence from CHFA that they were going to sell Eno Farms subject to the ground lease of the Town.

Moir Hadden-Walker, from CHFA, explained that they are the owners of the building and common area at Eno Farms. They are the lessee under a 99 year

ground lease to the Town of Simsbury.

Ms. Hadden-Walker explained the process of the lease and the sale of the property.

Attorney DeCrescenzo highlighted some of the features of the ground lease between the Town and CIL Housing, Inc.. CHFA is the successor to CIL Housing by virtue of the foreclosure. CHFA is now the title holder.

Attorney DeCrescenzo assured everyone that this will always be housing for low-moderate income residents.

After further discussion, no action was taken. Ms. Glassman returned to the meeting.

b) Approval of Art Walk Simsbury! Benefitting ABC House on May 19, 2012 including use and waiver of the fee for Boy Scout Hall

Mr. Hampton made motion to approve Art Walk Simsbury! benefiting ABC House on May 19, 2012 including use and waiver of the fee for Boy Scout Hall. Ms. Haase seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

c) Accept a financial donation from the Simsbury Junior Women's Club in the amount of \$14,447.53 for the Keep Simsbury Warm Program, the Simsbury Food Closet and Cheese

Day

Ms. Haase made motion to accept the donation of \$14,447.53 from the Simsbury Junior Women's Club to the Simsbury Social Services Department. Ms. Wertheimer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

d) Accept donations of up to \$6,000 each from the Simsbury Soccer Club and Simsbury Youth Lacrosse toward the purchase of a new field lining machine for use by Culture, Parks and Recreation

Mr. Hampton made motion to accept donations of up to \$6,000 each from the Simsbury Soccer Club and Simsbury Youth Lacrosse toward the purchase of a new field lining machine for use by the Culture, Parks and Recreation Department for maintenance of the Town's athletic fields. Ms. Heavner seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

e) Approve Tax Refunds

Ms. Heavner made motion to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$52,679.36,

for 2009 and 2010, as requested and approved by the Tax Collector. Ms. Haase seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

f) Approving entering into a contract with the CT DECD for a supplemental CLG Grant, Community Investment Act, State Historic Preservation Office

Ms. Wertheimer made the following motion:

RESOLUTION for  
Historic Preservation Enhancement Grant  
Application

WHEREAS, Supplemental Certified Local Government Grants in a White House initiative

developed in cooperation with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the Department of the Interior, and other Federal agencies; and is administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior and;

WHEREAS, Supplemental Certified Local Government Grants offer a new type of funding from the Community Investment Act to support local historic preservation programs to communities with the Certified Local Government designation from the National Parks Service; and

WHEREAS, a Historic Resource Survey is an example of a historic preservation program providing archival research, fieldwork and photography of historic properties in the town; and

WHEREAS, The Town of Simsbury has resolved to support a Supplemental Certified Local

Government Grant by vote of this Board of Selectmen on February 15, 2012, based on its inclusion in the Certified Local Government in Federal Historic Preservation Program; and now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town of Simsbury will accept this grant if awarded, and will remain committed to this project through its completion.

Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman  
February 15, 2012

Ms. Haase seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

g) Request from Simsbury Land Trust for permission to clear trail from Town Forest Road to Tulmeadow Farm on Town of Simsbury Land - Don Rieger

Mr. Hampton made motion: Whereas Simsbury Land Trust maintains a hiking trail across Tulmeadow Farm and the Tulmeadow Farm woodlot, a property the development rights for which have been acquired by the Town and the land trust;

Whereas there exists an informal trail across town land, connecting the woodlot trail to Town Forest Road;

Whereas the land trust has proposed to formalize that trail in order to provide an inviting hiking connection between Town Forest and the Farmington River Trail Greenway on the south and Tulmeadow Farm and the West Mountain Trails Greenway to the north;

Whereas the land trust has proposed to relocate the southernmost roughly five hundred feet of the existing trail such that it will be moved a few yards, but not more than fifty feet, away from the Town's property line and routed somewhat more centrally through the woodland corridor and

Whereas the land trust's proposal has been referred to the Planning Commission and the Open Space Committee, both of which have recommended approval,

Be it resolved that Simsbury Land Trust be permitted to formalize the trail, while working with Town staff, to reroute its southernmost part more centrally through the woodland corridor, to blaze it, to provide it routine maintenance, and, if desired to post explanatory signs.

Adopted by the Simsbury Board of Selectmen at its meeting February 15, 2012.

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

h) Request from Simsbury Land Trust to preserve George Hall Farm and purchase Pharos Farm from the Town of Simsbury

Ms. Heavner made motion to refer this item to the Planning Commission for further review. Ms. Haase seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

#### APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

Clarification of appointments to the Conservation Commission-Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency; the Culture, Parks and Recreation Commission; the Public Building Committee and the Water Pollution Control Authority, as set forth in Attachment A, to provide for 4 year terms as

required by the Town of Simsbury's Charter

Mr. Askham made motion to clarify the appointments of the Conservation Commission-Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency; the Culture, Parks and Recreation Commission; the Public Building Committee and the Water Pollution Control Authority, as set forth in the Attachment A, to provide for 4 year terms as required by the Town of Simsbury's Charter. Ms. Haase seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Amend the appointment of Victor Bible, III to the Aging & Disability Commission to reflect that he is an Alternate Member and not a Regular Member

Ms. Haase made motion to amend the appointment of Victor Bible, III to the Aging & Disability Commission to reflect that he is an Alternate Member and not a Regular Member. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Town Clerk confirmation of Polling Locations

Ms. Keily gave the Board a report about the State Statute about polling machines. The report is broken down by parties. She feels this will be phased out soon due to the change in technology.

Ms. Glassman noted that there are increases in the budget due to the number of primaries this year. Ms. Keily said there are more voters becoming registered also.

#### ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

a) Special Joint Meeting with PAC Board on January 23, 2012

Mr. Hampton made motion to approve the minutes of the Special Joint Meeting with the PAC Board on January 23, 2012. Mr. Askham seconded the motion. There was a correction of spelling on page 4. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b) Regular meeting minutes of January 23, 2012

Mr. Hampton made motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 23, 2012. Ms. Wertheimer seconded the motion. There were several corrections made. All were in favor and the motion passed.



## SELECTMEN LIAISON AND SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Personnel - no report at this time
  2. Finance - no report at this time
  3. Welfare - no report at this time
  4. Public Safety - Mr. Hampton said there was a meeting Thursday, February 16th at 8:30 am in the EOC, to discuss post-storm reports. Mr. Hampton thanked the Police Chief and Nick Boulter for installing a traffic calming device for Winthrop Street in Tariffville.
  5. Board of Education - Ms. Heavner said there was another sports night for seniors at the end of January.
- Ms. Heavner also said that Social Services has extended the deadline for applications for the energy assistance program to May 1st. For information, please contact Social Services at 860-658-3283.
- Mr. Heavner also noted that the Board of Education budget was increased by 1.78 %. All information is on the Town website.

## ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Discuss negotiations with Ethel Walker School Parcel 2B open space purchase

Ms. Wertheimer made motion to adjourn to executive session at 9:25 p.m.  
Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman