

From: Susan Mazurski March 25, 2009 9:24:39 AM
Subject: Board of Selectmen Minutes 03/09/2009
To: SimsburyCT_SelectMin
Cc:

TOWN OF SIMSBURY
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 9, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:04 p.m. in the Main Meeting Room of the Simsbury Town Offices. Present were: First Selectman Mary Glassman; Board members Moira Wertheimer, Robert Hensley, John Hampton, Michael Long and Richard Hogan. Others in attendance included Brandon Robertson, Sarah Floroski and other interested parties.

PROCLAMATION

Ms. Wertheimer read the following Proclamation:

“WHEREAS, Wednesday, March 11, 2009, marks the 96th anniversary of Girl Scouts of the USA, founded by Juliette Gordon Low in 1912 in Savannah, Georgia; and,

WHEREAS, throughout its long and distinguished history, Girl Scouting has helped build millions of girls and women of courage, confidence and character; and,

WHEREAS, through dedication, time and talent of volunteers of different backgrounds, abilities and areas of expertise, the Girl Scout organization thrives for girls in so many settings, and

WHEREAS, through Girl Scouting’s unique leadership development program, girls define leadership by making the world a better place by discovering, connecting and taking action in their communities; and

WHEREAS, Girl Scouting takes an active role in increasing girls’ awareness of the opportunities available to them today in math, science, sports, technology, health and fields that can expand their horizons; and

WHEREAS, more than 3.7 million Girl Scout members nationwide will be celebrating 96 years of this American tradition, with nearly 50 million women who grew up participating in Girl Scouting and exemplify the impact of this amazing Movement;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mary A. Glassman, by virtue of the authority vested in me as First Selectman of Simsbury, do hereby applaud the commitment Girl Scouts has made to America's girls and proudly proclaim the week of March 8 - 15, 2009 as

Girl Scouts Make The World A Better Place Week.

Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman

PUBLIC AUDIENCE

Mr. Kalechman, 971 Hopmeadow Street said he doesn't feel the license for selling wine and beer at the Simsbury Farms Complex is appropriate. He feels this is inconsiderate of children and wildlife in the area and this agreement should be stopped.

Mr. Kalechman asked why there is a proposal for a five year contract with the Simsbury Music Festival and the Symphony. He doesn't feel this conforms to the Town Charter. He also asked about a wine and beer provision and free tickets.

Mr. Kalechman would also like to know why Public Works and Parks and Recreation are doing work over there and taxpayers are footing the bill. He also asked about their budget and report they submitted.

Kirsten Griebel asked for more information on the Town Farm Dairy project. She is supportive of it and knows RFP's went out for agricultural usage.

Ms. Glassman said there is a growing interest in community farming, but no one has stepped forward to organize it yet.

Joan Coe, 26 Whitcomb Drive spoke again about a Town Manager form of government. She wants a Charter Revision Commission formed for this change.

Ms. Coe spoke about the golf course maintenance barn and building. She said the "alcohol road" is full of mud and incomplete. She showed pictures of the buildings.

Ms. Coe said the Simsbury Airport is a politically motivated project and

feels there is a need for a Town Manager form of government now.

Ms. Coe also spoke about the Eno Farms Affordable Housing lawsuit and wants to know who is going to pay the money back.

All of Ms. Coe's comments can be read on Simsbury.com/forum.

FIRST SELECTMEN REPORTS - CAPITAL PROJECTS

Ms. Glassman said the Library project is 96% complete. The doors need to be addressed as well as the roof ice melting. She said Tootin' Hills roof project will be completed this summer. They are looking into using solar panels on the roof.

Ms. Glassman said the Tariffville School project is about 32% completed. This project is still on time.

Ms. Glassman said the Sanitary Sewer project will be completed late this spring. The South Pump Station project is going out to bid.

Ms. Glassman said Eno Memorial Hall should be complete by spring. They are working with Main Street Partnership under a grant.

Ms. Glassman said Street scape is out to bid and the understanding with the DOT is that this may be moving forward in the spring.

Ms. Glassman said they are waiting for a grant to complete the Simsbury Farms Access Road. The Simsbury Farms Recreation needs complex report is going before the Public Building Committee tonight. There will be further information after that meeting.

Ms. Glassman said the Fire Town Road Bridge is going out to bid. She said there is a management plan for paving.

Ms. Glassman said the Airport Study has been referred to the E.D.C. They have been directed to contact the owners to see if they want to participate in this study or not.

PRESENTATION

Ms. Glassman said the Gateway Sign committee has worked very hard on the "Welcome to Simsbury signs."

Mr. Hensley thanked everyone who participated in this project. It is a lot more complicated than it seems and there was a lot of learning to be done.

Sarah Floroski gave a presentation about the signs they are recommending.

They have been approved by the Design Review Board and Main Street Partnership Design Committee. She showed the five signs and how they would look where they are to be placed. She said they have applied to the Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act so private donations will get tax credits.

Mr. Hensley said they received \$10,000 from the State and they will go out to bid the signs again. They also have a local contractor who will do all the sites for no cost. Also, the Beautification Club and Garden Club agreed to handle some landscaping around these signs.

Mr. Hampton made motion to adopt recommendations from the Gateway Sign Committee numbers 1 - 8 in Section 9 of their manual. Mr. Hogan seconded the motion. Five were in favor, with Mr. Long abstaining. Therefore, the motion passed.

ACTION ITEMS

a) Review, discuss and possibly approve minutes of the Regular Meeting - February 23, 2009.

Ms. Wertheimer made motion to approve the minutes of the February 23, 2009 meeting with a correction on page 1 - public audience - Joan Coe said some of the Selectmen made promises and page 6 I) - Mr. Hampton. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. Four were in favor with Mr. Long and Mr. Hogan abstaining. Therefore, the motion passed.

b) Review, discuss and possibly approve a five year license agreement with the Hartford Symphony Orchestra for the Talcott Mountain Music Festival.

Greg Piecuch said this contract was unanimously approved by the Performing Arts Board and Town Council.

Ms. Glassman thanked the Performing Arts Board for their hard work. She is thrilled that this is a five year contract so the Symphony has a summer home.

There was some discussion on free tickets. There is a policy on complimentary tickets in this contract. Ms. Glassman noted that the Rotary Club donated \$10,000 to the Performing Arts Center. She said the ultimate goal is to have the Performing Arts Center be self-sustaining.

Mr. Piecuch said there is a financial report for the public to review. Mr. Hensley said there was an interest for years to have a long-term agreement with the Symphony and now we have it. Their brochures will be on the website as well.

After further discussion, Mr. Hampton made motion to approve a five year license agreement with the Hartford Symphony Orchestra for the Talcott Mountain Music Festival. Mr. Hensley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

c) FY 2009-2010 BUDGET

Review, discuss and possibly take action regarding FY 2009-2010 Operating Budget, Special Revenue Funds and Capital Non-Recurring Expenditures Fund as recommended by the Director of Finance as follows:

Proposed FY 2009-2010 Operating Budget

Ms. Glassman thanked the Board for their hard work on this budget. She said that Simsbury is one of the first towns where employees have made concessions. This shows their dedication to the Town of Simsbury and its taxpayers, and their dedication is appreciated.

Ms. Glassman said the give-backs of the non-union employees saves \$83,111. The Police Union saves \$118,760; the Dispatchers save \$14,820; the Public Works employees saved \$85,000; and CSEA saved \$124,774.

Ms. Glassman said the budget will be posted on the website as well as the information from the State. She said there is a slight change in the budget, which now totals \$17,775,739.

Mr. Long said the Personnel Sub-Committee met tonight to discuss a part-time Library clerk being paid the same as a full time clerk. This was approved by the Personnel Sub-Committee.

Mr. Long made motion to approve the 2009-2010 Operating Budget in the amount of \$17,775,739. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Ms. Glassman will report this decision to the Board of Finance.

Proposed Special Revenue Funds - Sewer Use Fund

Ms. Wertheimer made motion to approve the Sewer Use Fund 2009/10 operating budget in the amount of \$3,170,630, as presented. Mr. Hensley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Proposed Special Revenue Funds - Animal Control Fund

Mr. Hensley made motion to approve the 2009/10 Animal Control Fund operating budget in the amount of \$76,231. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Proposed Special Revenue Funds - Simsbury Farms Fund

Mr. Hampton made motion to approve the 2009/10 Simsbury Farms Fund operating budget in the amount of \$1,794,249. Mr. Hensley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Proposed Capital & Non-Recurring Expenditures Fund Budget

Mr. Long made motion to approve the Capital & Non-Recurring budget in the amount of \$526,341 to include an appropriation for Highway - Paving Management in the amount of \$161,341 for the LOCIP reimbursement grant. Mr. Hensley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

d) Review, discuss and possibly approve a request for a transfer from reserves in the amount of \$10,000 as requested by the Chief of Police to be reimbursed by a 2009 Emergency Management Performance Grant.

Mr. Hogan made motion to approve the request for a transfer from reserves in the amount of \$10,000 as requested by the Chief of Police to be reimbursed by a 2009 Emergency Management Performance Grant. Ms. Wertheimer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

e) Review, discuss and possibly schedule a public hearing to receive public comment regarding a proposed amendment to Chapter 158 of the Town Code of Ordinances entitled

Zoning Regulations, as recommended by the Zoning Commission to increase fees for zoning violations.

Ms. Glassman said this would change the fine amount from a \$150 straight fine to \$150 fine per day fine. This was unanimously approved by the Zoning Commission.

Mr. Hampton made motion to schedule a Public Hearing at the next Board of Selectmen meeting on March 23, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Wertheimer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

f) Review, discuss and possibly approve a request by Representative Linda Schofield to use Town Hall Parking Lot on April 18th as a staging area for "Litter Lugging Day"

Mr. Long made motion to approve the use of the Town Hall Parking Lot on

April 18, 2009 as a staging area for "Litter Lugging Day." Mr. Hensley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

g) Review, discuss and possibly approve Tax Refunds as requested and recommended by the Tax Collector.

Ms. Wertheimer made motion to approve Tax Refunds in the amount of \$2,550.45 as requested and recommended by the Tax Collector. Mr. Hensley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

REPORT

Town Farm Status Report

Ms. Glassman said the Open Space Committee has recommended that the Town have conversations with John Miller for the west side of Town Farm. There has been a lot of discussion about the east side between Ethel Walker and the Open Space Committee about community farming. There has been no real entity to come to take on the responsibility of the farming concept. After further discussion, Ms. Glassman said there is still a lot of work to be done and there will be further updates presented to the Board.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Personnel

Review, discuss and possibly approve position description for a Part-Time Library Clerk at the Library Technology Center.

Mr. Long said this position is funded by a grant.

Mr. Hensley made motion to approve the position description for a part-time Library Clerk at the Library Technology Center as presented. Mr. Long seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b) Finance - No report at this time.

c) Welfare - No report at this time.

d) Public Safety - No report at this time.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

Review, discuss and possibly appoint Peter Kellogg to the Board of Ethics to fill an unaffiliated vacancy.

Mr. Hampton made motion to appoint Peter Kellogg to the Board of Ethics to fill an unaffiliated vacancy. Ms. Wertheimer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

LIAISON REPORTS

Mr. Hampton thanked the Gifford Green Conversation and Ethel Walker School for the great discussion on farm based education.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hensley made motion to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. Ms. Wertheimer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary A. Glassman