

TOWN OF SIMSBURY
BOARD OF SELECTMEN - REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 28, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Meeting Room of the Simsbury Town Offices. Present were: First Selectman Mary Glassman; Board members Nancy Haase, Moira Wertheimer, John Hampton, Lisa Heavner and Robert Hensley. Others in attendance included Colleen O'Connor, Gerry Toner, Tom Roy, Hiram Peck, Thomas Cooke, Senator Kevin Witkos, State Representative Linda Schofield and other interested parties.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Glassman introduced some girls from Girl Scout Troop 66379, who led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS

Proclamation - Autism Awareness Week - Shannon Knall

John Hampton read the following Proclamation:

" Autism Awareness

WHEREAS, Autism is a complex neurobiological disorder that typically lasts throughout a person's lifetime. It is part of a group of disorders known as autism spectrum disorders (ASD), and;

WHEREAS, 1 in 110 children is diagnosed with autism; 1 in 67 boys is on the autism spectrum and 62 children are diagnosed per day, a new case is diagnosed almost every 20 minutes, and;

WHEREAS, more children will be diagnosed with autism this year than with AIDS, diabetes and cancer combined, and;

WHEREAS, 1 in 88 military families will have a child who is diagnosed with autism; and

WHEREAS, autism is the fastest-growing serious development disability in the United States, costing the nation over \$100 billion per year, a figure expected to double in the next decade, and

autism receives less than 3% of the research funding of many less prevalent childhood diseases; and

WHEREAS, there is no medical detection or cure for autism.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE KNOWN, that the Town of Simsbury joins with Autism Speaks in designating the month of April 2011 as Autism Awareness Month to enhance the understanding of Autism and to encourage participation in voluntary activities to support education programs and the funding of research programs to find a cure. The Town of Simsbury

will participate by placing a blue light at Eno Memorial Hall.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have placed my seal and the great seal of the Town of Simsbury,

Dated the 28th day of March 2011.

Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman

Ms. Glassman thanked Shannon Knall for all hard work with the fight against Autism. Ms. Knall thanked the Board for recognizing April as Autism Awareness Month. She, herself, has an autistic child. She said funding and research is so helpful to their cause, but community awareness and support are critical as well. Ms. Glassman said that on Friday, April 1st the Town will put a blue light & puzzle piece at Eno Memorial Hall and she presented Ms. Knall with a gift from the Town.

Legislative Update - Senator Kevin Witkos and State Representative Linda Schofield

Senator Witkos gave the Board an update on the Legislative budget progress. After going through his package, he said that Simsbury should be getting \$62,000 this year. He also gave the Board his cell phone number incase they have any other questions. Ms. Glassman asked about the Town budget and Senator Witkos said they should stay flat funded this year.

State Representative Schofield also said the budget funding would be flat. She said not to count on getting any new money. There are some new taxes in the budget that they are looking at, but they just don't seem workable.

State Representative Schofield also noted that April 9th is Litter Lugging Day, and they are asking for volunteers to help clean-up the streets. Also, Mike Paine offered to have a free collection at Town Hall for electronics.

Route 10 Corridor Study Update - Hiram Peck

Ms. Glassman said there was meeting last Thursday where they went through how the traffic study was to be done. This will included Zoning & Economic Development. We are now at

85% total building out and they will be looking at building out 100%. All information will be on the website.

Mr. Peck said the Committee and Consultant are in total agreement with what needs to be done and how the process will work. They will be held to their contract. They study probably won't be completed until September. Mr. Peck said there are a number of alternatives to look at. With regard to the analysis of what the traffic impact will be on Zoning, it will be made clear, looking at current zoning regulations and then looking at the zoning in the new plan of development. All meeting are public meetings and if there are any questions, you can go to the CCROG website or

call Mr. Peck.

FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

Ms. Glassman said the Workmen's Compensation & Liability Carrier said the Town will receive an equity distribution of \$17,164 for the auto coverage, and \$7,642 for Workmen's Comp coverage and the Board of Ed will get \$5,729 for their Workmen's Comp.

Ms. Glassman thanked the Town employees for coming up with ways to give back to the community. They raised money for different events for Special Olympics, our troops overseas, etc.

Ms. Glassman said the Capital Region of Council are preparing a preparedness program which will help residents prepare for emergencies. The contract was awarded to CNNP from Washington.

PUBLIC AUDIENCE

Robert Kalechman, 971 Hopmeadow Street read a quote from Ben Franklin. He also said that Gerry Brooks is known as "the pits".

Mr. Kalechman said all he hears are buzz words about the Rte. 10 corridor study. He feels we need sidewalks, lighting, sewers, etc. and not another study costing \$200,000.

Mr. Kalechman said the people on Sandhurst Road have his sympathy. He also inquired about the same person the people on that Road are asking about. He finally went to FOA for information. He feels this is a "Good old boys system".

Joan Coe, 26 Whitcomb Drive, spoke again about the Finance Director moving due to bullying of his son at school. She feels it was a great lose for the Town. She feels a Town Management form of government is needed in Simsbury.

Ms. Coe showed a picture of the barn at the triangle. She spoke about the tar paper and feels this building is a fire hazzard.

Ms. Coe also spoke about a cell tower for Simsbury. All of her comments can be read on www.Simsbury.com.

Ms. Glassman noted that \$10,000 for the barn was deleted from the budget.

Sue Benarczyk, 119 E. Weatogue Street talked again about land use planning. She feels there needs to be a delicate balance between the center study and ends of Town. She said Development and the Charrette have to work together.

Don Tuller, 661 Farms Village Road, spoke about the wood burning furnace ordinance. He said the current statute requires a 200' set back from any other residents. That precludes them from being installed on many lots in Simsbury. He encouraged the Board to not process with the ordinance as he doesn't feel there is a need for it. Wood is a renewable resource and believes the Statute takes care of the issue.

Tom Brown, 30 Sand Hill Road, said 16 Sand Hill is not Industrial or Business property. He can't believe that the Town allows dumping of materials there. This is fraud against the residents. He also complained about the Town Attorney giving an opinion to a resident.

Ms. Glassman said she appreciated him filing a complaint and all information will be discussed at the April 27th meeting.

SELECTMEN ACTIONS

a) Approve Tax Refunds

Mr. Hensley made motion to approve the tax refunds totaling \$1338.31 as presented and approved by the Tax Collector. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b) Approve the retention of Fiduciary Investment Advisors, LLC as an investment consultant to the Town of Simsbury for the purpose of providing advice to the Town of Simsbury and the Board of Education with respect to their retirement plans for employees

Mr. Hampton made motion to approve the retention of Fiduciary Investment Advisors, LLC as investment consultant to the Town of Simsbury for the purpose advice to the Town of Simsbury and the Board of Education with respect to their retirement plans for employees. Ms. Haase seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

c) Review and approve the Certified Resolution for receipt of the POCD grant in the amount of \$12,000 applied for in 2008 from the Office of Policy and Management

Mr. Hensley made motion to approve the attached Certified Resolution for receipt of POCD grant applied for in 2008 from OPM. We applied for \$20,000. Grant to be awarded upon certain verification; \$12,000. Ms. Heavner seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

d) Review and Consider setting a public hearing on a draft wood burning furnace ordinance

Mr. Hampton made motion to set a public hearing for the next Board of Selectmen meeting on April 11, 2011 to discuss a draft wood burning furnace ordinance. Mr. Hensley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

e) Authorize the First Selectman to enter into a marketing agreement with Direct Energy with a one-year term that will allow Direct Energy to provide a low cost electrical generation rate to town residents. Prior to execution of the agreement a full review will be completed by the Town Attorney

After discussion, Mr. Hampton made motion to table this discussion and refer this item to the Clean Energy Task Force. More information is also needed for the Board of Selectmen. Ms. Heavner seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

f) Accept a grant from the CT DEP Lawn Equipment Exchange Fund (LEEF) in the amount of \$9,005

Mr. Hensley made motion to accept the grant from CT DEP Law Equipment Exchange Fund in the amount of \$9,005. Ms. Heavner seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

g) Accept the donation from the Simsbury Farms Men's Club of a set of greens rollers valued at \$5,900

Mr. Hampton made motion to approve a gift from the Simsbury Men's Golf Club of a set of greens rollers, valued at \$5,900. The rollers will assist Golf Course Superintendent Mike

Wallace in the maintenance of the greens at the Simsbury Farms Golf Course. Ms. Wertheimer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

h) Approve the request of the Simsbury Rotary Club to hold the annual River Run on

Sunday, May 1, 2011 on Iron Horse Blvd. and use of the bandshell

Mr. Hensley made motion to approve the request of the Simsbury Rotary Club to hold their annual River Run on Sunday, May 1, 2011 on Iron Horse Blvd and use of the bandshell. Ms. Haase seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

i) Approve the request of the Simsbury Lion's Club to hold their Journey for Sight fundraiser on Iron Horse Blvd and utilize an area adjacent to the bandshell for a 10 x 10 foot tent to serve refreshments to participants on May 7, 2011

Mr. Hensley made motion to approve the request of the Simsbury Lion's Club to hold their Journey for Sight fundraiser on Iron Horse Blvd. and to utilize an area adjacent to the bandshell for a 10 x 10 foot tent to serve refreshments to participants on May 7, 2011. Ms. Haase seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed

j) Review of 6 Year Capital Improvement Plan

The Board authorized Ms. Heavner and Mr. Hensley to work with the Board of Education on the six year plan and return to the Board of Selectmen with recommendations.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

a) Accept the resignation of Nancy Haase(R) as a full member of the Zoning Board of Appeals effective March 1, 2011

Ms. Heavner made motion to accept the resignation of Nancy Haase as a full member of the Zoning Board of Appeals effective March 1, 2011. Mr. Hensley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b) Accept the resignation of Nancy Haase(R) as a full member of the Economic Development Commission effective March 1, 2011

Ms. Heavner made motion to accept the resignation of Nancy Haase as a full member of the Economic Development Commission effective March 1, 2011. Mr. Hensley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

c) Approve the appointment of Andrew Markowski (R) as a full member of the Economic

Development Commission replacing the vacancy of Nancy Haase with an expiration date of January 1, 2012

Ms. Wertheimer made motion to approve the appointment of Andrew Markowski as a full member of the Economic Development Commission replacing the vacancy of Nancy Haase with an expiration date of January 1, 2010. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion . All were in favor and the motion passed.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

a) Regular Meeting, March 14, 2011

Mr. Hensley made motion to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 14, 2011. There were two corrections on page 9. Ms. Haase seconded the motion. 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

No report at this time

5. Board of Education

No report at this time

Mr. Hampton said there will be a public hearing on April 5th at Trinity Church in Tariffville on the Post Office future.

Mr. Hampton said there will be kayak races on April 9th

Mr. Hampton said the 3rd Annual Volunteer Expo will be held on April 28th, and community services are all sold out.

Mr. Hampton said Aging & Disability is still receiving nominations for the 2011 Senior Service Award. The deadline for nominations is April 1st.

Ms. Heavner thanked the Simsbury Police Officers who helped her with her flat tire.

Ms. Heavner said last week the High School welcomed Veterans to meet with Juniors to share their experiences in the 40's & 50's.

Mr. Hensley said last Friday was the 1st Annual Police Ball at Riverview. It was a great evening and RiverView did a wonderful job.

Mr. Hensley said Vince Kennedy did an air brush program for the seniors. He now has a teacher and they will try to teach air brushing.

Mr. Hensley said there was a fundraiser for the flower bridge at the new Red Stone Pub. It was also a very nice event.

Mr. Hensley also asked about who to speak to about maintenance of the playground on Iron Horse Blvd. Ms. Glassman said he should speak to Gerry Toner.

Ms. Haase also mentioned the White Water Triple Crown Event and said volunteers are needed. This is a great event and no experience is needed.

Ms. Wertheimer made motion to amend the agenda to add additional time for public audience. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed

Mr. Kalechman said he considers Simsbury the cradle of the US Constitution. He said the Constitution guarantees that anyone can speak freely. He read part of the CT State Constitution.

He feels that the Energy discussion should be further investigated. Not everything that is cheaper is better. He feels the Town shouldn't be in the energy business, just give the information to the people and let them decide what to do on their own.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hensley made motion to adjourn at 9:10 p.m. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman