# TOWN OF SIMSBURY - BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - SEPTEMBER 10, 2012

#### CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:03 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 and Nancy Haase. Absent was Moira Wertheimer. Others in attendance included Tom Cooke, Sean Kimball, Mary Ann Harris Susan Bullock and other interested members.

# PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

# PUBLIC AUDIENCE

Joan Coe, 26 Whitcomb Drive, said the elected officials were elected to represent the people. There have been concerns about public rhetoric at Board of Selectmen meetings and she said the people have the right to challenge the actions of the representatives. Policies effective lives and pocketbooks of the people and should require accountability.

Ms. Coe said this Board didn't pass the revised Charter over to the people for a vote. This is failed leadership.

Ms. Coe said the concerns of the people are just noted in the minutes, but never answered by the Board. There is always special treatment for special organized groups.

Ms. Coe spoke again about the Performing Arts Board. There is never any accountability or reporting on this Board. The taxpayers never know how much they pay for this Board. The consultant report said the venue is not effectively utilized. She feels the Town should not be in the Performing Arts business.

Robert Kalechman, 971 Hopmeadow Street, is asking that the Democratic opponent who is running for State House 16th District, resign from this Board as he really can't properly represent the people of Simsbury while running for another office.

Mr. Kalechman said he doesn't like what is going on here and things need to be changed.

# **PRESENTATION**

\* Proclamation - Leukemia, Lymphoma & Myeloma Awareness Month

Mr. Hampton read the following Proclamation:

TOWN OF SIMSBURY

**PROCLAMATION** 

Leukemia, Lymphoma & Myeloma Awareness Month

WHEREAS, blood cancers currently afflict more than 1,012,533 Americans with an estimated 140,310 new cases diagnosed each year, and

WHEREAS, leukemia, lymphoma and myeloma will kill an estimated 53,000 people in the United States this year, and

WHEREAS, The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS), through voluntary contributions, is dedicated to finding cures for these diseases through research efforts and the support for those that suffer from them, and

WHEREAS, LLS maintains an office in Wilton and Meriden to support patients with these diseases and their family members in the State of Connecticut, and

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut is similarly committed to the eradication of these diseases and supports the treatment of its citizens that suffer from them, and

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut encourages private efforts to enhance research funding and education programs that address these diseases,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Simsbury joins with LLS in designating the month of September 2012 as Leukemia, Lymphoma & Myeloma Awareness Month to enhance the understanding of blood related cancers and to encourage participation in voluntary activities to support education programs and the funding of research programs to find a cure for them.

Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman

\* Proclamation - Constitution Week

Ms. Heavner read the following Proclamation:

### TOWN OF SIMSBURY

#### **PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, September 17, 2012, Constitution Day, marks the 225th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the United States of America, and;

WHEREAS, We the People did ordain and establish a Constitution for the United States of America to secure the blessings of liberty for ourselves and our posterity; and

WHEREAS, it is important that all citizens fully understand the provisions, principles and meaning of the Constitution, so they can support, preserve and defend it against encroachment; and

WHEREAS, the President and the Congress of the United States have designated September 17th through 23rd as Constitution Week; and

WHEREAS, Constitution Week provides the opportunity for all Americans to learn about and to reflect upon the rights and privileges of citizenship and its responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, the people of the Town of Simsbury do enjoy the blessings of liberty, the guarantees of the Bill of Rights, equal protection of the law under the Constitution, and the freedoms derived from it.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE KNOWN, I, Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman of the Town of Simsbury, do hereby proclaim September 17-23, 2012 as CONSTITUTION WEEK

And invite every citizen and institution to join in the national commemoration.

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

Dated the 10th day of September, 2012.

Mary A. Glassman
First Selectman

Government Finance Officers Association Certificate of Achievement Award to Mary Ann Harris

Ms. Glassman said Mary Ann Harris, Finance Director, has received the Government Finance Officers Association Award for fiscal year ended June 30, 2011.

Ms. Glassman said Mary Ann is already proceeding with next year's capital improvement plan and budget information. More information will be coming up soon.

#### FIRST SELECTMEN'S REPORT

Ms. Glassman congratulated Septemberfest volunteers, businesses, residents, visitors, etc. for a great event. It was a wonderful success. The entertainment and food was also great. She also thanked the Performing Arts Center Board for their planning and execution of this great event. The Board hasn't received the final figures on this event, but the report should be out soon.

Ms. Glassman also thanked the Police Dept., Social Services, and Parks & Recreation for the Senior Picnic. There were 210 seniors in attendance, which included dancing.

Ms. Glassman congratulated the Gifford Pinchot Event. There was a PBS documentary on the life of Gifford Pinchot, who was born in Simsbury. There were over 400 people at this event.

There was a 3 minute recess.

# **SELECTMEN ACTIONS**

# a) Approve Tax Refunds

Mr. Hampton made motion to approve Tax Refunds in the amount of \$90,493.23 as reviewed and approved by the Tax Collector. Mr. Askham seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b) Approve a resolution regarding authorization to submit a Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) Grant for an Economic Implementation and Marketing Acton study

Ms. Heavner made motion:

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

At its Regular Meeting of August 13, 2012 the Board of Selectmen voted to authorize you to submit and application for a Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) Grant for an Economic Implementation and Marketing Action Study.

RESOLVED, that Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman of Simsbury be and is hereby authorized to submit on behalf of the Town of Simsbury, an Application under the Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) for 2013.

In addition, Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman is hereby authorized to enter into such agreement and contracts and execute all documents necessary to said grant within the State of Connecticut.

Resolution approved on September 10, 2012.

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

c) Approve the request of the Finance Director to set up a separate special revenue fund for donations and expenses for Simsbury Celebrates

Mr. Askham made motion to approve the request of the Finance Director to set-up a separate special revenue fund for donations and expenses and transfer the balance from Simsbury Celebrates General Fund Liability account. Ms. Haase seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

d) Approve the request of the Finance Director to set-up a separate special revenue fund for donations and expenses for Police Community Services

Ms. Heavner made motion to approve the request of the Finance Director to set-up a separate Special Revenue Fund for donations and expenses and transfer the balance from the Police Community Services General Fund Liability account. Mr. Askham seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

e) Approve the request of Aaron Goldstein to paint the street names on all intersections of the Farmington Valley Greenway within Simsbury as part of his Eagle Scout Project

Mr. Askham made motion to approve the request of Aaron Goldstein to paint the street names on all intersections of the Farmington Valley Greenway within Simsbury. This would be part of an Eagle Scout project and would be consistent with the marking on the trail in the neighboring towns. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

f) Accept the gift of approximately 5 acres of land for Open Space on Riverside Road

Mr. Askham made motion to accept as a gift of approximately 5 acres of land for Open Space on Riverside Road - rear land- Map H-11, Block 107, lot 39 after review by Planning and other Commissions and Town Council for approval. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

g) Approve the request of the Dravet Foundation to hold a fund-raising walk on Iron Horse Boulevard on Sunday, October 7, 2012 and use of the Bandshell

Ms. Haase made motion to approve the request of the Dravet Foundation to hold a fund-raising walk on Iron Horse Boulevard on Sunday, October 7, 2012 and use of the

bandshell. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

a) Acknowledge the 2012 annual financial contribution to the Town of Simsbury from The Westminster School in the amount of \$99,000.00.

Ms. Glassman announced that the Town received a check for \$99,000.00 from Westminster School. She said the school has continuously sent the Town a check for \$99,000.00 since 1999.

#### APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

a) Accept the resignation of Peter Stempien as a full member of the Zoning Board of Appeals effective September 1, 2012 and as a full member of the Hartford Area Cable Television Advisory Council (HACTAC) effective September 1, 2012

Mr. Askham made motion to accept the resignation of Peter Stempien, with many thanks, as a full member of the Zoning Board of Appeals effective September 1, 2012 and as a full member of the Hartford Area Cable Television Advisory Council (HACTAC) effective September 1, 2012. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b) Accept the resignation of Tegan Blackburn as an alternate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals effective September 5, 2012 and approve the appointment of Tegan Blackburn as a full member of the Zoning Board of Appeals replacing the vacancy of Peter Stempien.

Mr. Hampton made motion to accept the resignation of Tegan Blackburn as an alternate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals effective September 5, 2012 and approve the appointment of Tegan Blackburn as a full member of the Zoning Board of Appeals replacing the vacancy of Peter Stempien. Ms. Haase seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

To approve the appointment of Jackie Battos as an alternate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals replacing the vacancy of Tegan Blackburn

Ms. Haase made motion to approve the appointment of Jackie Battos as an alternate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals replacing the vacancy of Tegan Blackburn. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

# ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

a) Regular Meeting of July 23, 2012

Mr. Askham made motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 23, 2012. Ms. Haase seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b) Special Meeting - Budget Workshop - February 28, 2012

Mr. Askham made motion to approve the Special Budget Workshop Meeting minutes of February 28, 2012. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

#### SELECTMEN LIAISON AND SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

# 1. Personnel

- a) Adopt the recommendation of the Pension Sub-Committee that the Town of Simsbury implement an "open architecture" approach to its pension investments as recommended by Fiduciary Investment Advisors (FIA) and Authorize the First Selectman to terminate and/or enter into contracts as necessary to implement FIA's recommendations
- Mr. Hampton made motion to adopt the recommendation of the Pension Sub-Committee that the Town of Simsbury implement an "open architecture" approach to its pension investments as recommended by Fiduciary Investment Advisors (the Town's pension investment advisors) as described in FIA's Diagnostic Summary Review of the Town Pension Proposals dated August 2012; and authorize the First Selectman to terminate and/or enter into contracts as necessary to implement FIA's recommendations. Ms. Haase seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- b) Approve the proposed job description and salary grade revisions for the newly created position of Senior Center Assistant
- Mr. Askham made motion to approve the proposed job description and salary grade revisions for the newly created position of Senior Center Assistant. Ms. Haase seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- c) Approve revised job description and salary grade for the positions of Library Technical Assistant and Library Business Resource Center Coordinator; and establish a job description and pay grade for the position of Library Technician
- Mr. Hampton made motion to revise the job description and salary grade for the positions of Library Technical Assistant and Library Business Resource Center Coordinator; and establish a job description and pay grade for the position of Library Technician. Ms. Haase seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- d) Approve the proposed Tentative Agreement between the Town of Simsbury and The Simsbury Administrative & Professional Supervisors' Town Employees Association

CSEA Service Employees International Union Local 2001 and authorize the First Selectman to execute the collective bargaining agreement as modified

Mr. Hampton made motion to approve the proposed Tentative Agreement between the Town of Simsbury and The Simsbury Administrative & Professional Supervisors' Town Employees Association CSEA, Service Employees International Union Local 2001 and authorize the First Selectman to execute the collective bargaining agreement as modified. Mr. Askham seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

e) Approve the proposed tentative agreement between the Town of Simsbury and the Dispatchers Union (UE Local 222, CILU/CIPU, CILU Local #41) resolving 2010-2011 wage re-opener

Mr. Hampton made motion to approve the Tentative Agreement as follows:

RE-OPENER AGREEMENT 2010-2011 BETWEEN THE TOWN OF SIMSBURY AND UE LOCAL 222, CILU,CIPU,CILU LOCAL #41

WHEREAS, the Town of Simsbury ("the Town") and UE Local 222, CILU/CIPU, CILU Local #41 ("the Union") are parties (collectively, "the parties") to a collective bargaining agreement ("the Agreement") which was effective on July 1, 2008 and which expired on June 30, 2011; and

WHEREAS, Article 13, Section 1 of the Agreement provides that "the parties agree that rates of pay for the July 1, 2010- June 30, 2011 year of this agreement shall be subject to wage re-opener negotiations that shall commence January 2011, and any negotiated wage improvements shall be retroactive to July 1, 2012," and

WHEREAS, the parties have negotiated in good faith and reached an agreement concerning wage rates for the 2010-2011 fiscal year;

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties agree as follows:

1. Pursuant to an agreement reached between the negotiators for the parties on July 19, 2012, effective and retroactive July 1,2010 the wage rates of pay for all bargaining unit employees shall be increased by 2.00%.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have caused their names to be signed to this instrument on the 10th day of September, 2012, said date to be deemed the signed or execution date.

FOR THE TOWN

FOR THE UNION

# Marianne Zebedeo President CILU Local #41

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

f) Authorize the First Selectman's office to amend the 457 Deferred Compensation plan to allow active employees to borrow against savings

After discussion, it was decided that more information was needed before this approval could be made. Therefore, no action was taken.

- 2. Finance no report at this time.
- 3. Welfare no report at this time.
- 4. Public Safety Mr. Hampton said the Public Safety Sub-Committee will meet on September 20th at 7 am.
- Mr. Hampton said the Tariffville Village Association will be holding a special meeting on September 12th at 7 p.m. at the Trinity Church to discuss ideas for the old Post Office building.
- Mr. Hampton said the Wild & Scenic Report was completed and they are now in the public comment portion, which will end on Oct. 17th. This is a great study and he thanked everyone who worked on it. There is also a website for comments.
- Ms. Heavner said the Economic Development Commission said the State Legislature passed a tax credit given the employers who hire the disabled up to \$10,000. This money has to be applied for through the Department of Labor website.
- 5. Board of Education Ms. Heavner said they will be hold their sports night and pizza dinner on October 5th at the High School. Residents will be able to meet the football Coach, Principal, and new Athletic Director.
- Ms. Heavner said there was a ribbon cutting last week for the West Street Project, which is a great accomplishment.
- Mr. Askham said that the Septemberfest was a great event and that the Performing Arts Board is working on their report.
- Mr. Askham said there was a meeting of the Eno Farms Sub-Committee and they ware continuing work on this process.
- 6. WPCA Liaison Report Ms. Haase said the Sub-Committee met and made unanimous recommendation that apartments and condos under 1200 sq. ft. receive a 30% reduction in the FCC charge. For apartments and condos that are 1200 to 2000

sq. ft. would receive 80% reduction in the FCC charge. This will go to the full committee for their vote and then to a Public Hearing.

Ms. Glassman handed out copies of the full report for the Board. They are also available to the public.

Mr. Askham made motion to allow an additional 3minutes of public audience. Ms. Haase seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Joan Coe showed two pictures about agendas being placed in mailboxes. There was also campaign literature placed in mailboxes. This is against the law and the postmaster should be paid for this mail.

Ms. Coe said the Tariffville gazebo has gotten a facelift with a new brick walkway. Once again money has been spent while the tennis courts area is in need of repair.

Ms. Coe feels the Town should now take control of the Eno Farms Complex for the poor of Simsbury. There are now going to be 10 vacancies.

Ms. Coe is very concerned about The Hartford moving from Simsbury. She wants to make sure that the Town is reviewing the 6-year capital improvement schedule to reduce expenditures.

Mr. Kalechman noted that Democrats reduced union wages, insurance and pension and he doesn't feel this is right.

He also wanted to know why the Town is not settling the police union contract. He feels arbitration is not acceptable.

Mr. Kalechman also asked if allowing the Boy Scouts to do different jobs in Town takes away jobs from Public Works employees.

#### ADJOURN

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

Respectfully submitted,

Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman