

From: Susan Mazurski September 27, 2011 9:34:10 AM
Subject: Board of Selectmen Minutes 09/12/2011 APPROVED
To: SimsburyCT_SelectMin
Cc:

TOWN OF SIMSBURY - BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - SEPTEMBER 12, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:05 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 Dave Ryan, Greg Piecuch, Hiram Peck, Gerry Toner, Tom Cooke, and other interested parties.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance

PRESENTATION -

Proclamation for National Gymnastics Day

Mr. Hensley read the following Proclamation: "WHEREAS , USA Gymnastics and its member clubs across the nation annually celebrate National Gymnastics Day to showcase the sport of gymnastics and to encourage and promote physical fitness among our nation's youth; and

WHEREAS, Gymnastics provides a great foundation for building strength, flexibility and fitness and also for enhancing self-esteem and goal-setting abilities; and

WHEREAS, National Gymnastics Day seeks to promote the value of physical fitness and good nutrition for everyone, regardless of age, gender and ability level, through the 2011 Fitness Program; and,

WHEREAS, On National Gymnastics Day, gymnastics clubs across the United States partner with USA Gymnastics to heighten visibility of the sport and encourage participation at the grassroots level; and,

WHEREAS, National Gymnastics Day aims to serve the greater community good by raising funds for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals to provide comfort and assistance to children who are unable to provide for themselves; and

WHEREAS, Collectively, our nation, our state and USA Gymnastics strive to encourage greatness and achievement in our young people,

WHEREAS, the Gymnastics Training Center of Simsbury is celebrating its 35th anniversary and will kick off the even at 1:00 p.m. on September 17th at Simsmore Square under the excellent leadership of Nancy and Chuck Ford.

RESOLVED, that I, Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman of Simsbury on behalf of the citizens of Simsbury, Connecticut, do hereby proclaim September 17, 2011 as

National Gymnastics Day

Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman

Mr. Ford thanked the Town for their efforts and introduced some gymnasts who did hand stands. They are having a handstand competition for the Guinness World Record.

Elizabeth (Bessie) Spears discussing Ethel Walker Schools' Centennial Year

Ms. Spears said it is her fifth year at Ethel Walker. She said Ms. Walker believed in the talent of young women back in 1911. Their Centennial will be held the weekend of October 1st. Alumni, including Sigourney Weaver will be attending, with about 750+ others attending. Ms. Weaver will be speaking at the Chapel at 11 a.m. Reservations must be made at the head office. Ms. Glassman will be reading a proclamation. There will also be a centennial trail dedication.

PUBLIC AUDIENCE

Joan Coe, 26 Whitcomb Drive spoke about the Board members re-elections and said that people expect more from them. She asked that the Charter Revision Commission add a Town Manager form of government, so residents can vote on what type of government they want.

Ms. Coe asked about financials from the PAC Board and thought the Home Show was a disaster.

Ms. Coe also spoke about the soil being removed at Meadowoods. She feels

this will increase traffic and decrease air quality and wants to make sure testing is done during this process.

Robert Kalechman said he was upset that at the last meeting, Ms. Coe's ending comments were not shown on CPTV. She noted she was given extra time at the end of the meeting for further comments, but they weren't shown and wanted to know why. Ms. Glassman noted that they were in the Board minutes and didn't know why they weren't shown on CPTV.

Mr. Kalechman also asked again about delinquent tax payers. Ms. Glassman noted that they are being charged a late fee and we can't force people to pay their taxes.

Dave Ryan and Greg Piecuch thanked the Chamber for the Septemberfest. They were very pleased with the turnout and the businesses and sponsors who also turned out for this.

Sue Bednarczyk, 119 E. Weatogue spoke about an article in Money Magazine, that the Town is

#39 and she feels we should be between 1-10. The most important things that make number 1 are open space, community buildings, high tech, healthcare, sense of community, etc. She feels this Town should want to achieve top 10 and stop getting rid of open space.

Eric Botell, owner of Hunting Learning Center, said he was pleased with Septemberfest. He feels the businesses are giving back to the community and wish they had more opportunities to do so.

Ms. Wertheimer read three letters she received about Septemberfest and everyone said they were pleased with it and were looking forward to next year.

FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

Ms. Glassman thanked everyone for their observance of the 10th anniversary of 9/11. It was a great ceremony involving everyone.

Ms. Glassman spoke about Hurricane Irene response. She said the last day to register with FEMA is November 3rd for any damage residents sustained. She thanked everyone who helped work through the disaster and shelters. There will be a review of the response on Thursday at 7 am. They will also be discussing how to communicate with residents better if there is a next time.

SELECTMEN ACTIONS

a) Approve Tax Refunds

Mr. Hampton made motion to approved tax refunds in the amount of \$9, 56.32 as requested and approved by the Tax Collector. Mr. Hensley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b) Approve request of J. Eric Conroy to construct two wooden benches and an information sign at the dam on Lake Basile as part of an Eagle Scout Project and refer to the Zoning Commission

Mr. Hensley made motion to approve the construction of two wooden benches and an information sign at the dam on Lake Basile as part of an Eagle Scout Project after being referred to follow Land Use processes. Ms. Wertheimer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

c) Accept gifts to the Town for the specific purpose of creation of Town Center Code Design Guidelines

Ms. Haase made motion to accept the gifts to the Town from Simsbury Main Street Partnership, Hoffman Auto Group, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Lindberg, Mr. & Mrs. Lucker, and Mr. & Mrs. Bailey for the specific purpose of the creation of Town Center Code Design Guidelines with thanks. Ms. Wertheimer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

d) PAC Board update - End of Season Financial report

Mr. Ryan said their fiscal year ends 9/30/11 and they will give a detailed update after that date. Ms. Glassman thanked them for Septemberfest and had a lot of good feedback from that event.

Mr. Ryan gave the Board a list of concerts and attendance, along with income. He said Manhattan Transfer was unable to sell enough tickets to come to Simsbury, but the Connecticut Theater Festival did pay the Town for holding the date.

Mr. Ryan said they worked through the alcohol policy and feel comfortable with it now. The non-alcohol concerts worked well also.

Ms. Glassman said thanked the PAC Board and volunteers for their efforts this year. The Board will go through the final update and hopefully everyone can come up with a future plan for the next seasons to come.

Ms. Glassman also spoke about the "free" tickets for next year that needs to be presented to the Board before approval.

e) Approval of contract with Farmington Valley ARC (FAVARH) to provide services and programming to Simsbury residents with special needs and support services to the department in adapting programs for individuals with special needs

Mr. Hensley made motion to enter into contract with Farmington Valley ARC (FAVARH) to provide services and programming to Simsbury residents with special needs and support services to the department in adapting programs for individuals with special needs for \$4800. Ms. Wertheimer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

f) Tour DeVita Bike Ride - PAC Board request for approval to allow alcohol to be served

Ms. Heavner made motion to approve the PAC Board request to allow alcohol (beer) to be served at the Tour DeVita Bike Ride. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

g) Approval of submittal of Surface Transportation Program (STP-Urban) Grant for Wolcott Road Extension and approval for First Selectman to sign the applications

Mr. Hampton made motion "RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN - WOLCOTT ROAD EXTENSION

WHEREAS, the Capital Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) has requested proposals from municipalities for transportation projects to be funded under the federal Surface Transportation Program (STP-Urban); and,

WHEREAS, the money will be awarded on a competitive basis according to project selection procedures developed by the CRCOG Transportation Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Simsbury is making application to the CRCOG for a transportation project that involves the construction of Wolcott Road Extension from the intersection of Wolcott Road and Route 10, to the intersection of Hoskins and Country Roads; and

WHEREAS, the Town has had several public meetings for its 2007 Plan of Conservation and Development and for a 2011 Simsbury Route 10 Corridor Study; and

WHEREAS, Wolcott Road Extension was identified as an important road project to provide improved east-west traffic flow in north-central Simsbury and to reduce traffic congestion at the intersection of Route 10 and Hoskins Road/Ely Place, and Route 315; and, on Route 315 in the Village of Tariffville.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman of Simsbury, be and hereby is authorized to submit on behalf of the TOWN OF SIMSBURY an Application under the Federal Surface Transportation Program (STP-Urban) for the construction of Wolcott Road Extension.

IN ADDITION, MARY A. GLASSMAN, First Selectman is hereby authorized to enter into such agreements, contracts and execute all documents necessary to said grant with the State of Connecticut.”

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

OTHER BUSINESS

a) Tariffville Post Office Decision for Closure

Ms. Glassman said the Tariffville Post Office will be closed. They Town did send a letter objecting to this closure, but have now received notification that it will be closed. There were many options offered, but not accepted.

Mr. Hampton said he was very disappointed with the process for closing the Post Office as well and said Tariffville hasn't given up yet for different options.

b) Notice of Aquarion Water Company request for rate increase

Ms. Glassman excused herself due to a possible conflict. Mr. Hampton said the Town received notice of their intent to raise their rates. They will send an official letter within 60 days and he suggested that the Board appeal this due to tough economic times for all.

Ms. Glassman returned to the meeting.

c) Water Quality Certification for Meadowood Residential Community

Mr. Peck walked through the Water Quality Certification process at Meadowoods. He went through the State and Town issues. Most important is water and air quality. Mr. Peck said Town staff will be there very often checking to make sure the process is handled properly. Extra precautions will be taken due to the fact that there is a school there. If the air quality monitoring is not good at any point, the process will be shut down immediately. These are licensed haulers moving the materials. The land will also be stabilized for the winter.

d) Town Energy Contract Bid Savings

Ms. Glassman said the saving of \$153,438 was received from Trans Canada for the energy contract.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATION

a) Accept the resignation of Todd S. Burrick (D) as a full member of the Board of Ethics effective August 24, 2011

Ms. Wertheimer made motion to accept the resignation of Todd S. Burrick (D) as a full member of the Board of Ethics effective August 24, 2011 with many thanks. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b) Accept the resignation of Todd S. Burrick (D) as a full member of the Economic Development Commission effective August 24, 2011

Mr. Hampton made motion to accept the resignation of Todd S. Burrick as a full member of the Economic Development Commission effective August 24, 2011

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

a) Regular Meeting Minutes, August 8, 2011

Ms. Haase made motion to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 8, 2011. Ms. Heavner made a correction on page 6, item 5. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed with change.

b) Special Meeting Minutes, August 18, 2011

Mr. Hampton made motion to approve the Special Meeting Minutes, August 18, 2011. Ms. Haase seconded the motion. All were in favor, with Mr. Hensley and Ms. Wertheimer abstaining, and the motion passed.

SELECTMEN LIAISON AND SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Personnel - action to amend the Town of Simsbury EEO Statement and Harassment and Sexual Harassment Policy to include gender identity or expression, in compliance with Connecticut Public Act 11-55

Mr. Hampton made motion to amend the Town of Simsbury EEO Statement and Harassment and Sexual Harassment Policy to include gender identity or

expression, in compliance with Connecticut Public Act 11-55. Ms. Wertheimer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

2. Finance - no report at this time

3. Welfare - no report at this time

4. Public Safety

Mr. Hampton said the Public Safety Team is just great. The command center that was set up during hurricane Irene worked very well and he thanked everyone for their efforts.

Mr. Hampton said there is another Gifford's Green conversation on September 29th at the Simsbury Public Library. All information is on the website.

Mr. Hampton said Simsbury Free Bike is very successful. You can pick up a bike to use while touring Simsbury. There is a link off the Town website for more information.

5. Board of Education

Ms. Heavner handed out a memo from Mickey LeCours-Beck outlining how the Social Service

Department supports the Board of Education. They received \$49,000 in grant money for them.

Ms. Heavner said she met Mr. Kaplan at the last Housing Authority meeting. He was an Eagle Scout who made raised flower beds for the elderly and handicapped residents. This was a great project that works very well for the residents.

Ms. Heaver said she was approached by a student of Simsbury High School who was concerned about crossing the street on West Street. There are no crosswalks there. This will be discussed by the Public Safety Committee at their next meeting. All options will be discussed.

Mr. Hensley said the Gateway Sign Committee has meet several times and said the second sign will go up this fall on Rte. 185 near Princess Lane. This sign will look like the one at the south gateway. They would love feedback from the solar lighting that is on that south sign.

Mr. Hensley said Friday, September 16th is the first football game of the season. He said the field has been painted and dedicated to Dave Holden who has retired. He said he hopes everyone attends the half-time ceremony for Dave.

Ms. Heavner said the High School and Town will be hosting another senior citizen sports night on September 23rd. They will have free dinner at 6pm in Room 172 and then can go to the game at 7 pm. Residents will have to call the Senior Center for reservations.

Mr. Cooke said the Beautification Committee is in need of new members and looking for volunteers.

Ms. Haase congratulated Mr. Hensley for 20 years in business in Simsbury.

Ms. Haase said the Senior Picnic was a great success and a lot of fun for all.

Ms. Heavner made motion to allow another 5 minutes for Public Audience. Mr. Hensley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Ms. Coe said a rep from Noble came to the Water Pollution Control Authority saying that they had to pay \$7000 to remedy sewer back-up issues. These homes are owned by Ensign-Bickford and they should have to maintain the pipes.

Ms. Coe said she feels there is a poor air quality issue in Town offices. She also said the Library is too hot.

Ms. Coe also spoke about the Meadowood issues. She asked the Planning Dept. to send letters to the abutting property owners explaining what is going on there.

Ms. Bednarczyk also spoke about the Meadowood issue. She feels the children should be kept in school and not let out for recess during this soil removal. Ms. Glassman said Dr. Ullman will be informed of everything going on there.

Mr. Kalechman said the Ethics Committee hasn't had a meeting since March and doesn't understand why they are asking for volunteers. They should be holding meetings.

Mr. Kalechman said the PAC Board has worked very hard, but he feels they should be dissolved as they never seem to make enough money to have all of these events. He feels this should be turned over to Gerry Toner and staff.

ADJOURN

Ms. Wertheimer made motion to adjourn at 9:20 p.m. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman