

From: Susan Mazurski                      October 26, 2010 4:02:19 PM  
Subject: Board of Selectmen Minutes 09/27/2010 APPROVED  
To: SimsburyCT\_SelectMin  
Cc:

TOWN OF SIMSBURY - BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - SEPTEMBER 27, 2010

Call to Order

The Regular 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 Gerald Post, Moira Wertheimer, John Hampton, Lisa Heavner and Robert Hensley. Others in attendance included Paul Henault, Greg Piecuch, Tom Roy, Chief Ingvertsen, Colleen O'Connor and other interested parties.

Mr. Roy said three employees of the Highway Department, Tony Amaral, Erik Davis, and Don Bordonaro were awarded the UConn Technology Transfer Station Creative Solutions Award. This award recognizes public employees that come up with creative solutions to safety or cost initiatives.

Mr. Amaral and Mr. Bordonaro showed a slide of the plate compactor that they created and explained how much easier it is to use now. He said the best part was being able to share the information with other towns. They also created a welding organizer, which also won recognition.

Mr. Roy said that two years ago they also won this award. He said the attitude has always been great there. Ms. Glassman congratulated them on the award and said the Town is very fortunate that they have such great staff here.

Chief Ingvertsen introduced two Sargeants who recently were promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. Lieutenant Nicholas Boulter, a Town employee for 12 years, will now take over the Administrative and Support services area.

Chief Ingvertsen also introduced Lieutenant Fred Sifodaskalaskis, a Police Department member for 14 years, who will now take over the Patrol and Communications Division.

Chief Ingvertsen also gave everyone an update on the condition of Officer Milton Saaveda, who was in a motor vehicle accident. He said he was now

home recuperating. He has gone for some further testing and is bruised and sore, but he should be back soon.

#### First Selectman's Report

Ms. Glassman said the Hartford Courant had a listing of vacant store fronts in towns and Simsbury was reported at the lowest rate. She congratulated the Chamber, Town staff, EDC, and all of the volunteers and residents for supporting locally.

Ms. Glassman also noted that the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities is having their annual convention on October 6th. She said this is a good forum for networking with other areas

across the state on different issues in Town.

#### Public Audience

Joseph Loewy, Executive Director of the Housing Authority, recommended the unanimous approval of Ron Zappile as a member of the Aging & Disability Commission. He said he has personal knowledge of Mr. Zappile and he shows fine support, caring and devotion for his mom and the other residents of the Virginia Connelly Residence. Mr. Zappile has been a resident for over 30 years and has volunteered for the Town also.

Mr. Loewy also spoke about Mr. Roy's recommendation of Imagineers as professional property managers for six Town residential properties. He said they are a premier management firm in the state, who have a lot of supervisory experience. He agrees with Mr. Roy's recommendation.

Jeff Tindall, Chairman of the Simsbury Democratic Town Committee, said there was a signed petition that was filed with the Town Clerk today. He said they are doing this as they feel the voters have the right to decide who sits on the Board of Selectmen. He said this petition is not about any one person, just their rights. This is not a situation the Democratic Party created or instigated, but it is about the process.

Robert Kalechman, Hopmeadow Street, spoke about first amendment rights. He said this includes the right to petition and feels that no one should have been told to get off Town property when they were asking people to sign petitions. It is their right to do so.

Sue Bednarczyk, 119 E. Weatogue spoke about the Charrette again and she was told that this document was going to the Commissions before the people and she doesn't understand why. This document needs to go to the public first. This should be done the Democratic way.

Karen Cortes, 17 Rosewood, acting Democratic Registrar of Voters, said the cost of running a special election is approximately \$12,000. She feels her right to vote is worth this.

Tom Rechen, Chairman, Simsbury Republican Town Commission, feels this is a great political gambit and feels the Democratic Party really wants to control the Board of Selectmen. He said the Town has been ruled by the Town Charter and having a special election is not in the best interest of the people. There has never been a special election in the Town, especially for Board of Selectmen. The Board members are up for election every two years. He'd like everyone to step back and see the bigger picture and stay with the rule of the Town not the State.

Joan Coe, 26 Whitcomb Drive said she feels everyone is being self-serving and non-democratic. If past practice was the rule of law, women still wouldn't be able to vote.

Ms. Coe said she filed a complaint after she was told to leave after soliciting signatures at the

Women's Club Arts & Craft Fair. The police agreed she had the right to get signatures and was returned to the Fair.

Ms. Coe said the "Fly Over" at the Simsbury Airport is getting too big for this space. There isn't enough parking for the event and the event should be moved elsewhere.

Ms. Coe spoke again about the Community Farms of Simsbury and she suggested a contest be set up on what to do with the 9 acres of Town property that was made for the poor of Simsbury.

Linda Johnson, 48 Musket Trail said she is in favor of the Board of Selectmen placing on the next agenda a discussion on a Special Election of the Board of Selectmen. There is a lot of misunderstanding and there needs to be open discussion on this issue.

Tim Ellsworth, 116 E. Weatogue feels the Democratic Town Committee is disrespecting the Town Charter with the petition for the Board of Selectmen.

Mike Rinaldi, 32 Pinnacle Mountain Road said he was extremely disappointed about all this mess with the Selectmen issue. The Board of Selectmen are expected to do what is best for the people of the Town, this is why they are elected. This petition makes no sense and isn't good for the Town.

This is Simsbury and we should all work together for the best of Simsbury.

Steven Lombardi 36 Munson Drive spoke about the defined benefits and defined contribution plans presentation. He didn't feel this presentation was totally correct. He feels the Board should follow through and fix the plans so there will be no worries in the future.

Mike Paine, 72 Holcomb Street, was very upset that his name has been slandered by some. He is highly insulted about the discussion on what happened when someone went to the landfill to have petitions signed. He asked her to leave for safety sake. Mr. Paine said they have a policy there for safety. Once the person read the policy a place was set up for the person to have petitions signed.

Ms. Glassman asked that Mr. Paine give the Board a copy of the policy there. She did receive a complaint and feels it is important for the Board to have a policy so they can review it and would also like the Town Attorney to look at it for comments.

#### Selectmen Actions

##### a) Approve Tax Refunds

Mr. Hampton made motion to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$13,378.61 for the period September 7, 2010 - September 21, 2010 as requested and recommended by the Tax Collector.

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

##### b) Request for use of Iron Horse Boulevard for Jim Calhoun Cancer Challenge Ride and Walk, Saturday, June 11, 2011

Ms. Heavner made motion to approve the use of Iron Horse Boulevard for the Jim Calhoun Cancer Challenge Ride and Walk, Saturday, June 11, 2011 with the understanding the graduation is not set at this time and may be held on June 10th or 12th, 2011. Mr. Post seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

##### c) Discussion of Town's Pension Plan

Ms. Glassman informed the audience that there was a Special Meeting before this Regular Meeting on the pension issues.

She said the Board will be asked to take action on two issues tonight. She

said that there was recommendation from the Pension Committee. She said the Committee would like more guidance on their Committee and the help of an investment consultant.

After some discussion, it was decided that the Board would move forward with two members of the Finance Board, Board of Education and Board of Selectmen to be on the Pension Committee and to have an RFP drawn up. Ms. Glassman said she would appreciate it if any questions or ideas could be sent to the Board before the next meeting. This will help the process move forward.

No action taken at this time.

#### d) Discussion of status of Town Rental Properties

Ms. Glassman thanked the First Church for their \$10,000 donation and all of the volunteers who helped renovate the rental properties. She said three firms answered the RFP for a management firm to handle these properties.

Ms. Glassman said Imagineers of Hartford were the ones recommended by Tom Roy. This all needs to be worked out and policies need to be made. This issue will be discussed in a few months.

No action was taken at this time.

#### Appointments and Resignations

a) Accept the resignation of Kevin Schultz (R) as a full member of the Pension Committee effective August 24, 2010

Mr. Hampton made motion to accept the resignation of Kevin Schultz as a full member of the Pension Committee effective August 24, 2010 with the Board's appreciation and thanks. Ms. Heavner seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b) Recommend the appointment of Thomas Doran (R) as an alternate member of the Zoning Commission replacing the vacancy left by Robert Pomeroy with an expiration date of December 2, 2013

Ms. Heavner made motion to appoint Thomas Doran as an alternate member of the Zoning Commission replacing the vacancy left by Robert Pomeroy with an expiration date of December 2, 2013. Ms. Wertheimer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

c) Recommend the appointment of Ronald P. Zappile (R) as a full member of the Aging & Disability Commission replacing the vacancy left by Ann Walters

Thompson with an expiration date of January 1, 2011

Ms. Wertheimer made motion to appoint Ronald P. Zappile as a full member of the Aging & Disabilities Commission replacing the vacancy left by Ann Walters Thompson with an expiration date of January 1, 2011. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

#### ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

##### a. September 13, 2010 Regular Minutes

Ms. Wertheimer made motion to approve the regular minutes of September 13, 2010. Mr. Hensley made a correction on page 4 (count was 3 to 3 not 2 to 3). Mr. Hampton 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

Ms. Heavner said the Social Services Department recently completed the rebate program and helped 120 households. She said that the back to school program assisted 185 children totally \$11,000. She said 100% of the funds were donated through Social Services.

Ms. Heavner said the Youth Advisory held a No Phone Zone event at the High School and over 100 students signed.

Mr. Hensley said that Main Street and the Farmers Market had a Culinary Arts competition on Thursday and it was very interesting. They had to prepare meals with food sold at the Farmer's Market. It was great to see everyone working together. Simsbury won best salad.

Mr. Hampton reminded the Veterans that they have until September 30th to see if they qualify for the tax exemption program.

Mr. Post made motion to amend the agenda to include another 10 minutes of Public Audience.

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

Ms. Coe commended the man who recommended there be public audience at the Board of Finance meetings. Mr. Henault was not in favor of this.

Ms. Coe spoke again about the Eno Farms rental units. She finds it very surprising that there are no applications for someone from Simsbury there.

Ms. Coe spoke about suing the Town over a "Safety Issue" at the Town dump. Soliciting is not a safety issue there.

Mr. Kalechman said he was rebutting comments made about the petitions. He feels the Charter

is constitutional for this Town.

Mr. Rinaldi said the pension fund presentation wasn't accurate. He said taxes depend on the risk the Board takes with the money paid to employees. He doesn't want any risk at all. He wants deferred compensation for all new employees.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

Bank of America vs. Town of Simsbury

Mr. Hampton made motion to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss the Bank of America vs. the Town of Simsbury at 8:54 p.m. Mr. Hensley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Hensley made motion to adjourn from Executive Session at 8:57 p.m.. Ms. Heavner seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Ms. Heavner made motion to approve the Stipulation for Judgment in connection with the tax appeal of the Bank of America. Mr. Hensley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Hensley made motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. Ms. Wertheimer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary A. Glassman