

From: Susan Mazurski February 13, 2009 9:57:50 AM  
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To: SimsburyCT\_SelectMin  
Cc:

TOWN OF SIMSBURY  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 26, 2009

#### 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 Moira Wertheimer, Robert Hensley, John Hampton and Michael Long. Absent was Richard Hogan. Others in attendance included: Brandon Robertson, Gerry Toner, Rick Bazzano, Mickey Lecours-Beck, Richard Sawitzke and other interested parties.

#### PUBLIC AUDIENCE

Robert Kalechman, 781 Hopmeadow Street spoke about the alleged corruption in the State of Connecticut. He said the State Representatives are elected to serve the people not to just serve the well connected and to get pet projects done. He feels the Board of Selectmen of Simsbury are here to serve the people also, not just get projects done.

Mr. Kalechman read 18th century statement from Edmund Burke.

Mr. Kalechman asked the Board to vote no on agenda item b as the Tee Box signs will take away from the "green" program. He doesn't feel it is a good thing to advertise on the golf course. He also feels the purchase of the Airport is a poor investment, it isn't needed.

Bill Thomas, President of the Simsbury Flying Club, and Airport manager, said the Airport is a part of the life of Simsbury. He said Federal and State governments are eager to preserve this Airport and invest over one million dollars in Simsbury for its acquisition.

Mr. Thomas also said the plan of development shows that the Airport should be preserved for economic development. The Airport generates enough revenue to reimburse the Town for any tax losses and expenses as long as it

is designed with this in mind.

Mr. Thomas urged the Board to continue the study of the Airport. The goal should be to design the Airport with a zero or minimal budget impact to the Town. Other towns have achieved this goal and so can Simsbury.

Steve Smith, 32 Longview Drive, said the Airport study is right for the Town. This study has been started early which will properly ensure that all options are evaluated. He would like the EDC to consider a larger role in this process and study.

Kevin Crimmins, member of the EDC, urged the Board to refer the draft report to the EDC for their help and discussion. This would create a better understanding of the initiatives.

Ms. Wertheimer read the following PROCLAMATION:

“WHEREAS, diseases of the heart are the nation’s leading cause of death and stroke is the third leading cause of death; and  
WHEREAS, more than 5,300 women in Connecticut die of cardiovascular disease each year; and

WHEREAS, cardiovascular diseases (CVD) are the leading cause of death among women; and

WHEREAS, cardiovascular disease and stroke kills more than 460,000 women in the U.S. every year; more than the next 5 causes of death combined, including all cancers; and

WHEREAS, of every 5 people who die from stroke, about 2 are men and 3 are women; and

WHEREAS, one in every 2.6 deaths in women is from cardiovascular disease (CVD); and

WHEREAS, about 60,000 more women than men have a stroke each year; and

WHEREAS, the American Heart Association is continuing their Go Red For Women movements to encourage women to pay attention to their hearts and help them live longer, stronger lives by reducing their risk for cardiovascular disease;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman, in recognition of the importance of the ongoing fight against heart disease and stroke, do hereby proclaim February 6, 2009 to be

“Wear Red Day for Women”

in Simsbury and urge all citizens to wear red in recognition of family, friends, and neighbors who have suffered from heart disease and as a show of support to fight it. By increasing awareness of the risk factors for this devastating disease and taking actions to reduce them, we can save thousands of lives each year.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause to be affixed the Great Seal of Simsbury, Connecticut this 26th day of January 2009.

Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman.”

#### Presentation - “Keep Simsbury Warm Program”

Ms. Glassman introduced Mickey Lecours-Beck, who would like to remind residents about contributions for different social service programs. The contributions are gratefully appreciated.

Ms. Lecours-Beck said “Keep Simsbury Warm Program” was established three years ago. The Program helps assist people with the rising costs of heating oil. Everyone has to fill out an application and is screened. They must apply for the State’s energy assistance program as well. Confidentiality is their number one goal.

Ms. Lecours-Beck said the applications for assistance are up 50% this year. The deadline for the application is May 1st. There are income guidelines from the State renewal team also. She gave the Board a chart showing how the program works. This is a great program which helps a lot of residents. Contributions are always welcomed. They received over 85 Afghans for the program.

#### First Selectman Reports

Ms. Glassman noted that the first budget workshop will be held on Wednesday, January 28th at 6:30 p.m. in the Main Meeting Room. She said the Department Heads submitted their budget requests. They were asked to come in with 5% reductions in their budgets. Ms. Glassman said the way the budget totals right now, there is an increase of 2.17% or about \$398,000. This would mean a tax increase of 1.35%.

Ms. Glassman said there are several budget workshops with the Board of Finance meeting being held on February 10th at 6 p.m. at Town Hall. They will be looking at a 0-1.25% budget. Notices for all meetings will be posted.

#### ACTION ITEMS

a) Review, discuss and possibly adopt minutes from the Regular Meeting held on January 12, 2009.

Mr. Hampton made motion to adopt the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on January 12, 2009. Mr. Hensley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b) Presentation and possible action regarding proposal from Simsbury Farms Men’s Club for Golf Course Tee Box Signs at Simsbury Farms Golf Course.

Mr. Hensley recused himself from this item.

Gerry Wetjen feels the signs would benefit the golf course with their limited budget. They are looking for ways to produce more revenue for the golf course. Parks and Recreation Committee and Complex Committee have approved the signage.

Mr. Wetjen said the Men's Club has donated \$10,500 in the past four years, but more is needed.

Mr. Hampton asked about an advertising policy. Mr. Toner said there is a draft that is being reviewed. The Board does agree that it is a good idea to help offset expenses to budget items.

After further discussion, Ms. Wertheimer made motion to accept the Simsbury Farms Men's Club, Inc. proposal for Golf Course Tee Box Signs at Simsbury Farms Golf Course as submitted, pending review and adoption of an advertising policy from the Culture, Parks and Recreation Commission, which is to be done as soon as possible. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Hensley returned to the meeting.

c) Review, discuss and possibly authorize the First Selectman to execute a license agreement with Connecticut Theater Festival to use the Simsbury Performing Arts Center between July 23, 2009 and July 26, 2009.

Dave Ryan said that Dean Adams signed an application for the Connecticut Theater Festival "Cirque du soleil" to use the Simsbury Performing Arts Center between July 23 - 26, 2009.

Mr. Ryan said there will be 8-10 tickets given to the Town, not to be used by employees or Town officials. The Town will receive \$10,000 and \$2 per ticket for a maintenance charge.

Ms. Glassman said the Performing Arts Committee did a great job to get "Cirque du soleil" to Town and they are to be commended.

After further discussion, Mr. Hensley made motion to authorize the First Selectman to execute the contract, reviewed by Town Council, with the Connecticut Theater Festival to use the Simsbury Performing Arts Center between July 23, 2009 and July 26, 2009. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

d) Presentation of Draft Feasibility Study for Analysis of Municipal

Purchase of the Simsbury Airport by the Town of Simsbury - September 2008, prepared by Clough Harbour & Associates LLP.

Ms. Glassman said the EDC oversaw the Airport Study and a number of meetings and Public Hearings have been held.

Richard Sawitzke said this was an orderly process prescribed by the FAA. He said the Board now has Phase I of the study. He introduced Paul McDonald of Clough Harbour & Associates, LLP and Darren Macrity from RKG Associates.

Mr. McDonald gave a slide presentation about purchasing the Airport or no longer pursuing the purchase. He spoke about the three parcels of underdeveloped property there as well. He also spoke about the runway length.

He said item b is the only decision that will be made in the future; whether the Town is satisfied with the study and doesn't want to pursue the purchase or the Town does want to pursue the study further.

The best case scenario, if the Town wanted to purchase the airport would be in 2010.

Mr. McDonald said there are copies of the study available in Town Hall and also on the website.

Mr. Macrity spoke about the financial condition and economics in the region. He said if more improvements were done that there would be increased cash flow within 10 years. He showed a report on financial feasibility and risks.

After some discussion, Mr. Hampton made motion to refer the Draft Feasibility Study for Analysis of Municipal Purchase of the Simsbury Airport by the Town of Simsbury to the Economic Development Commission for further review and recommendation on property owner decisions, input from E. Granby and private property interest. Mr. Long seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Sawitzke handed out a summary of items that should be discussed before proceeding with Phase 2.

e) Review, discuss and possibly approve tax refunds requested and recommended by the Tax Collector.

Mr. Hensley made motion to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$828.45 for List 2007 as presented and recommended by the Tax Collector. Mr. Long

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

f) Review, discuss and possibly approve request by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society for the use of Town property for Walk MS 2009.

Mr. Hampton made motion to approve the request by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society for the use of Town property for Walk MS 2009 on Sunday, April 19, 2009. Mr. Hensley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

g) Barndoor Hills Triangle Update - set meeting date of February 12, 2009 to discuss possible uses of property.

Mr. Hensley made motion to hold a public forum on February 12, 2009, at the Library, at 6:00 p.m., for a presentation on the Barndoor Hills Triangle property. Ms. Wertheimer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed. Notices of the meeting will be released to the public.

#### SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Personnel - no report at this time.
- b) Finance - no report at this time.
- c) Welfare - no report at this time.
- d) Public Safety - Mr. Hampton advised that a Public Safety meeting was held on January 22nd. It was noted that the Fire Chief and Safety Officials are urging a campaign of "Numbers Up" on homes so emergency vehicles can find homes. There have also been some glitches in the "Reverse 911" program that are being looked in to.

#### APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

Mr. Long made motion to adopt the following:

- a) Appoint Barbara A. Pettijean as a full member to fill a vacancy on the Board of Ethics with a term to expire 1/1/2011.
- b) Re-appoint Carrie Jan Kramer as a full member of the Aging & Disability Commission with a term to expire 1/1/2013.
- c) Re-appoint Richard Order as a full member of the Board of Ethics with a term to expire on 1/1/2013.
- d) Re-appoint Susan Ersinghaus as a full member of the Human Relations Committee with a term to expire on 1/1/2013.
- e) Re-appoint Eva Hausman as a full member of the Human Relations Committee with a term to expire on 1/1/2013.
- f) Re-appoint Edward Cosgrove as a full member of the Police Commission with a term to expire on 1/1/2013.
- g) Re-appoint Mark Deming as a full member of the Economic Development

Commission with a term to expire on 1/1/2014.

h) Re-appoint Alan Needham as a full member of the Economic Development Commission with a term to expire on 1/1/2014.

I) Re-appoint Patrick Kottas as an alternate on the Conservation Commission with a term to expire on 1/1/2011.

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

#### LIAISON REPORTS

Mr. Hampton said he was working with Tourism to host a Volunteer Expo in March. This showcases non-profit organizations in Town. He will report back on this program.

Mr. Hensley said the Gateway sign meeting will be held on the 9th and also Ethics will meet.

Ms. Glassman said the Charrette Committee is renegotiating with all the proposals at this time. Mr. Peck has applied for the grant. They will report back to the Board in the near future.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Glassman made motion to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:15 p.m. Present in Executive Session was Brandon Robertson, Director of Administrative Services. Mr. Long seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

#### Collective Bargaining Proposed Settlements –

CSEA - Administrative & Professional Supervisor's Town Employee's Association

CSEA - Administrative & Professional Employee's Association

CSEA - Secretarial, Clerical Library Town Employee's Association

#### Pending Claim/Litigation

Stop & Shop v. Town of Simsbury CV-08-4017755S(RTX)

Adjourn from Executive Session-Possible action on items discussed in Executive Session

At 9:51 p.m., Mr. Long made a motion to adjourn from Executive Session. Ms. Wertheimer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the Executive Session was adjourned.

Mr. Hensley made a motion to authorize the First Selectman to execute the three CSEA Agreements noted on the agenda and discussed in Executive Session. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was adopted.

Ms. Wertheimer made a motion approving the settlement of a Pending Claim/Litigation entitled "Stop and Shop v. Town of Simsbury CV-08-4017755S (RTX)" pursuant to the terms recommended by Judge Levine, the presiding judge in the matter. Mr. Long seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was adopted.

Adjourn

Mr. Hensley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 p.m. Mr. Long seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary A. Glassman