

From: Susan Mazurski February 26, 2010 12:52:04 PM  
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Cc:

TOWN OF SIMSBURY - BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - FEBRUARY 8, 2010

A. 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 John Hampton, Robert Hensley, Lisa Heavner and Tom Herlihy (who arrived at 7:10 p.m.). Absent was Moira Wertheimer. Others in attendance included: Sara Nielsen, Tom Roy, Colleen O'Connor, Hiram Peck, State Representative Linda Schofield, Bonnie Therrien, and other interested parties.

B. Pledge of Allegiance - Boy Scouts

Ms. Glassman introduced Scout Master Ed Novak and Pack 174 who led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Glassman said the Board and Town are thankful for all the Boy Scouts do.

C. Proclamation - Boy Scout Day

Mr. Hampton read the following Proclamation: "BOY SCOUT DAY PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, THE Boy Scouts of America, a volunteer organization, was incorporated by Chicago publisher William D. Boyce on February 8, 1910, after learning of the Scouting movement during a visit to London; and

WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts of America today is the largest youth service organization in America, with nearly 3 million members learning responsible citizenship, character development, and self-reliance through participation in a wide range of outdoor activities, educational programs and career-oriented programs in partnership with community organizations; and

WHEREAS, for nearly a century, the BAS has helped build the future leaders of this country by combining educational activities and lifelong values with fun. The Boy Scouts of America believes - and, through nearly a century of experience, knows- that helping youth is a key to building a

more conscientious, responsible, and productive society; and

WHEREAS, currently more than 215 young boys are enrolled as Cub Scouts in Simsbury Pack 76, Pack 174, Pack 175 and Pack 276, and;

WHEREAS, currently more than 215 young men between the age of 11 to 18 years old are Boy Scouts in Simsbury Troop 76, Troop 174 and Troop 175 where they are active participants in our community; and

WHEREAS, adult members of the community volunteers selflessly serve young people in their communities through the organizations chartered by the Boy Scouts of America to use the program; and

WHEREAS, a core value of the Boy Scouts of America is citizenship and service to others; therefore, be it,

RESOLVED, that I, Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman of Simsbury on behalf of the citizens of Simsbury, Connecticut, do hereby recognize the impact of this great organization and the importance of its 100 years of service to the citizens of this community and communities across America, and proudly proclaim February 8, 2010 as

Boy Scout Day in Simsbury

Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman

D. First Selectman's Report -

Simsbury' National Recognition - National Historic Trust - Sarah Nielsen

Ms. Glassman said The National Trust for Historic Preservation has named Simsbury as one of its Dozen Distinctive Destinations for 2010. She said this is through the hard work of the Simsbury Main Street Partnership Program. This is the first time that any Connecticut town has been designated in the national program's 10-year history.

Ms. Glassman said the trust will run a national competition to determine which of the 12 designations will be cited as the "2010 Fan Favorite". She wants everyone to vote, as many times as possible, to make Simsbury the favorite. You can vote at [www.PreservationNation.org](http://www.PreservationNation.org).

Ms. Glassman said the Board has been hard at work doing the budget. There have been a number of workshops already. She will present her budget to the Board on February 15th.

Ms. Glassman said the Town has received a \$93,000 grant for upgrading the

Town Hall lights and saving energy.

Ms. Glassman said the 10th Citizens Police Academy will begin on February 11, 2010 with a full class of citizens taking the course. There is a waiting list for the next session already.

E. Presentations:

1) Development Rights Award - \$350,000 - Christensen Farm

Ms. Glassman said the Town had to work very hard with Representative Linda Schofield to finally get the \$350,000 grant.

Ms. Glassman presented Ms. Schofield with the check for \$350,000 for the Town and thanked her for all her hard work to receive this grant.

Ms. Schofield said it was a long haul to finally get this grant for the Town. After some discussion, Ms. Heavner made motion to put the Christensen Farm and Hall property discussions on the next agenda for further review. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. Four were in favor,

with Mr. Herlihy voting no, so the motion passed.

Ms. Nielson thanked the Board, Linda Schofield, Senator Dodd and others who helped market Simsbury. Rich Correa and Anita Mielert presented the Board with a plaque for the Distinctive Designation Award.

2) Pavement Management Program - Tom Roy

Mr. Roy introduced Tony Gara from Beta Group. Mr. Roy said the Town has worked hard this past year on road maintenance with their pavement management plan.

Mr. Gara said they use a Microsoft accessed based program for this plan. They were able to establish roadway inventory, do field inspections, plan for capital improvements, and form systematic maintenance programs. The program is not finalized yet, but is in final draft.

Mr. Roy said they need to properly fund the program in order to keep up with road maintenance.

3) PAD Zoning Regulations - Hiram Peck

Mr. Peck said the PAD Zoning Regulations will also be discussed with the Board, Chamber and public on Friday in the Library. There will be a Public Hearing on March 15th for public comment on this plan. He went through the

changes with the Board. Mr. Peck said they hope to get Code Studio back this month or early next month to go over the plan as well. They also want the Land Use Commissions and Main Street involved in this plan.

#### F. Public Audience

John Lucker, 88 Blue Ridge Drive said he did agree that the PAD is inconsistent with the Town Center language. He would also like to have a Land Use attorney to look at the new regulations. He is afraid this could become another River Oaks.

His further comments are attached. He is concerned that the Zoning Commission is rushing to develop the PAD amendment. He also spoke about Mark Greenberg of Goshen, who has been formally endorsed for US Congress by Selectmen Moira Wertheimer and Robert Hensley.

Robert Kalechman, 971 Hopmeadow Street would like February 19th declared a special day for the men and women who fought 65 years ago on the Island of Iwo Jima. He read a poem called "A Soldier Died Today".

Joan Coe, 26 Whitcomb Drive said she has asked for many years to have the issue of Town Manager put on the agenda, but to this date, it has not been done. She spoke about employees freezing salaries, while receiving a merit raise.

Ms. Coe is also concerned about salt on roads instead of sand and how they affect the aquifer and wells in Town. She feels these areas need to be tested.

Ms. Coe also spoke about water problems at the Library and water/heating issues. All of her comments can be read on [Simsbury.com/forum](http://Simsbury.com/forum).

#### G. Hearings - None.

#### H. Selectmen Actions:

##### 1. Ordinances, Resolutions and Appointments for Action -

a. Acceptance of Resignations from Boards and Commissions - None

b. Appointments - Review, discuss and possibly approve continuation of Board/ Commission Re-authorization for 30 days

Ms. Heavner made motion: Resolved, that pursuant to Chapter IV, Section 403, of the Charter of the Town of Simsbury, entitled Board of Selectmen, General Powers and Duties, the Board of Selectmen, at this meeting of

February 8, 2010, hereby re-authorizes the special and temporary boards and commissions for another 30 days. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. Four were in favor, with Mr. Herlihy absent from this vote, and the motion passed.

2. Unfinished Business - None

3. Other Business -

a. Review, discuss and possible approve Tax refunds

Mr. Hensley made motion to approve tax refund requests in the amount of \$454.85 for the list of 2007 and \$73,989.93 for the list of 2008. Ms. Heavner seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b. Review, discuss and possibly approve changes to the Tax Abatement Policy

Mr. Peck said more things need to be done on this policy. They need more outreach and public relations going forward. Mr. Peck proposed that they put in the ability to put together agreements for special projects and that the process to go through that is not a long process, but putting variable percentages and times for specific projects. There needs to be flexibility.

After further discussion, Mr. Peck will provide more information and this issue will be discussed on further agendas. Ms. Glassman asked that all questions be sent to Mr. Peck before the next meeting.

c. Review, discuss and possibly approve use of Eno Hall - Remembering the Holocaust

Mr. Hampton made motion to grant permission for the Farmington Valley Jewish Congregation to hold a multi-denominational remembrance of the holocaust on April 10th and April 11th at Eno Memorial Hall. Mr. Herlihy seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

d. Review, discuss and possibly approve the Emergency Operations Center Grant - Replacement of Tower

Mr. Herlihy made motion to authorize the First Selectman, Mary A. Glassman, to sign the State's Emergency Management and Homeland Security Grant for the replacement of the EOC tower and town-wide communications enhancement for emergencies purpose. Mr. Hensley seconded the motion. All were in

favor and the motion passed.

f. Review, discuss and possibly accept a Gift Donation - Stop and Shop Supermarkets - Social Services Department

Mr. Herlihy made motion to accept \$5,837.40 from Simsbury Stop & Shop to go towards the Social Service Department's food and clothing programs, with heartfelt thanks for their generosity. Ms. Heavner seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

g. Review, discuss and possibly approve the use of Simsbury Landfill/Recycling Area - Selling of Girl Scout cookies

Mr. Herlihy made motion to allow the Simsbury Girl Scout Council to set-up a Girl Scout cookie booth on March 6, 13, 20, and 27 at the Simsbury Landfill/Recycling Center from 8 am to 1 pm. Ms. Heavner seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

h. Review, discuss and possibly approve the Designation of Watercourses as Wild and Scenic - Conservation Commission

Mr. Hampton made motion to endorse the Conservation Commissions recommendation to the Lower Farmington River and the Salmon Brook as wild and scenic designations, which will allow the Town to protect and enhance these outstanding resource values. Ms. Heavner seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

4. Bids - None

5. Ordinances, Resolutions and Appointments for Introduction - None

6. Acceptance of Minutes -

a. January 25, 2010 - Regular Meeting

Mr. Herlihy made motion to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen of January 25, 2010. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b. January 25, 2010 - Budget Workshop

Mr. Hampton made motion to approve the minutes of the Budget Workshop of the Board of Selectmen on January 25, 2010 with corrections on pages 1, 2 and 3. Mr. Herlihy seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

c. January 26, 2010 - Budget Workshop

Mr. Herlihy made motion to approve the minutes of the Budget Workshop of the Board of Selectmen on January 26, 2010 with correction on page 3. Ms. Heavner seconded the motion. All were in favor, with Mr. Hampton abstaining, and the motion passed.

d. January 30, 2010 - Budget Workshop

Mr. Herlihy made motion to approve the minutes of the Budget Workshop of the Board of Selectmen on January 30, 2010. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

H. Selectmen Liaison and Sub-Committee Reports -

1. Personnel

Mr. Hensley said the Personnel Sub-Committee held their first meeting of the year prior to this meeting. They reviewed their role, bullet points and attendance at conferences by employees.

Mr. Hensley said that Jim Clifton wants to upgrade a position to Assistant Superintendent of the Water Pollution Control. This will be put on the next agenda. Also the bonus compensation program will be further looked at.

2. Finance - no report at this time.

3. Welfare - no report at this time.

4. Public Safety - Mr. Hampton said they will be planning their emergency exercise for the Spring.

5. Board of Education - No report at this time.

Mr. Hampton said Tourism is holding their Volunteer Expo on April 28th at Eno Memorial Hall.

Hopefully, this will be another huge success.

Mr. Hampton said he and Ms. Heavner went to the Tariffville Pot Luck Dinner, which was a great event. They were discussing a possible playhouse.

Mr. Hampton said the Farmington River Watershed is holding a fundraiser on

February 21st at 3:00 p.m. at the Old Well on Tariffville Road.

Mr. Hampton said the Community Farm received a grant. They are also holding classes this summer. For more information, their website is [Communityfarmofsimsbury.org](http://Communityfarmofsimsbury.org).

Mr. Herlihy made motion to amend the agenda to add personnel salary discussions in Executive Session. Mr. Hensley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

I. Executive Session - Pending Litigation - Tax Appeal - Executive Risk vs. Town of Simsbury and Personnel salary discussion

Mr. Herlihy made motion to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss pending litigation, Tax Appeal and personnel salary discussions at 9:10 p.m. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Hensley; seconded by Mr. Hampton to come out of Executive Session at 9:31 p.m. All were in favor and the motion passed.

A motion was made by Ms. Heavner to settle the Executive Risk Indemnity vs. The Town of Simsbury tax appeal, as outlined in the stipulation for judgement dated February 4, 2010 from Atty. DeCrescenzo. All were in favor and the motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Hampton, seconded by Ms. Heavner to settle the outstanding grievance with the CESA Union – Secretaries for retroactive wages. All were in favor and the motion passed.

A motion was made by Ms. Heavner; seconded by Mr. Herlihy to adjourn at 9:32 p.m. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman