

From: Susan Mazurski March 9, 2011 3:16:08 PM  
Subject: Board of Selectmen Minutes 02/14/2011 BUDGET WORKSHOP  
APPROVED  
To: SimsburyCT\_SelectMin  
Cc:

TOWN OF SIMSBURY - BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 14, 2011

#### CALL TO ORDER

The Budget Workshop Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:06 p.m. in the Main Meeting Room of the Simsbury Town Offices. Present were: First Selectman Mary Glassman; Board members Moira Wertheimer, John Hampton, Lisa Heavner and Robert Hensley. Selectman Gerald Post was absent. Other interested parties in attendance were Thomas Cooke, Sean Kimball, Kevin Kane, Gerry Toner and Richard Sawitzke.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### DISCUSSION

Ms. Glassman began the meeting with the presentation of the Capital Plan and the budget; she explained that the presentation format is new this year, it gives more background into what a CIP is and all the documents can be found on the website. She explained that her staff has reviewed process for developing the CIP, solicited requests from department heads and members of the boards and commissions. The projects were then reviewed with Finance Director in order to stay within a certain percentage. This plan will be presented to the public and sent to Town Meeting if it falls below 2% and to Referendum if above 2%. With regards to a population trend the Town is remaining stable. The Grand List has been very flat four years in a row. With regards to the Ratio of debt service to general expenditures the plan does fall into this 7.1% debt service level. All of the project detail, including explanations for each project, is included.

Kevin Kane, Director of Finance, recommended that the projects be sent to the Board of Finance for their meeting on Thursday, February 17th.

## PUBLIC AUDIENCE

Dwayne Reale, West Simsbury. Mr. Reale expressed concern that the capital budget was high at a time when residents are concerned about cost.

Steve Gillman, President of Simsbury Hockey. Mr. Gillman spoke in favor of the Simsbury Farms project.

Joan Coe, 26 Whitcomb Drive. Mrs. Coe would like to see a plan where the Recreation Dept. takes over the expenses of what is going on at Simsbury Farms and believes it should be self-sufficient.

David Bush, Chairman, Culture Parks & Recreation. Mr. Bush advised the Board that the CP&R Committee fully support the Simsbury Farms renovation proposal. They have seen first hand the condition of the building – 40 years ago it was a treasure, 40 years later it is not. There will be eventual safety risks if things are not taken care of soon. Code upgrades, compliance and safety concerns need to be addressed.

Ms. Glassman asked Gerry Toner, Director of Culture, Parks & Recreation and Richard Sawitzke, Town Engineer and Director of Capital Projects to explain the plans for the improvement of Simsbury Farms and to address the issues raised in public audience.

Gerry Toner spoke about a master plan which identified how to address future needs. The Board of Selectmen previously asked that the original plan be streamlined. The current building which was once seasonal is now year round and much work is needed to bring it up to today's standards. The original plan has been refined to go from \$3.6 to \$2.8 million. The improvements will address issues pertaining to ADA, Energy Star Efficiency, family locker rooms, rink team rooms, improved public use areas and restrooms, a new pool deck, and a new program area the proposed plan basically allows for efficient operation as a year round facility.

Ms. Glassman reminded the Board that the Planning Commission has given favorable opinion on Simsbury Farms and Memorial Pool.

A presentation by Mark Hopper, Architect with Fletcher Thompson, Hartford, CT followed. Mr. Hopper reviewed two options (A and B) and described each to the Board and answered their questions regarding each. Mr. Hopper stated that the roof is beyond its life expectancy, the vertical siding is 40 years old and is showing areas that are deteriorated and rotted and the flashing needs to be replaced. Also, the building was originally seasonal so there is no insulation and the windows are single glazed.

Mr. Hensley commented that there were really three proposals incorporating the proposed work. He feels that the facility has deteriorated to such a point that it is time to do something that will last another 40 years and expressed concern that the final plan include the right elements, such as sufficient locker room facilities to ensure a successful design. Ms. Glassman responded that we need to determine a balance between what we want and what we need. Mr. Toner advised that there would be a drastic reduction in utility costs.

Mr. Hampton made motion to adjourn at 7:08 p.m. Seconded by Ms. Heavner. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary A. Glassman  
First Selectman