

From: Susan Mazurski December 20, 2011 9:36:38 AM
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Cc:

TOWN OF SIMSBURY - BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MINUTES - NOVEMBER 14, 2011

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 Robert Hensley, Lisa Heavner, John Hampton, Moira Wertheimer, and Nancy Haase. Others in attendance included Colleen O'Connor, Hiram Peck, Kevin Kowalski, Jim Clifton and other interested parties.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Haase made motion to amend the agenda to include a Recycling Committee Presentation. Ms. Heavner seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Ms. Haase made motion to amend the agenda to honor Mr. Hensley as this will be his last meeting. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Ms. Glassman said it has been an honor and joy to have Mr. Hensley on the Board of Selectmen. He has worked very actively and compassionately throughout his years on the Board. He has done every job with grace. Ms. Glassman presented Mr. Hensley with a picture of Town Hall.

Mr. Hensley thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve on the Board and work for the residents of Simsbury. He said the Town went through so much during the last several weeks and he was honored to serve.

Mr. Hensley spoke about a poem written by Linda Ellis, "Between the Dashes" which speaks about what goes on in the middle of your life and your accomplishments. He said he felt Ms. Glassman and the Board worked together very, always looking out for the residents. He feels very

fortunate to have worked with everyone on the Board.

Ms. Glassman said Mr. Hensley has made a great impact on the Town and she is sure he will continue to do so.

Lori Ferdinand from the Recycling Committee, announced the 2011 Recycling Awards. She also speaking about Recycling Day.

Ms. Ferdinand thanked the liaison to their committee, John Hampton. She also thanked the Board for helping to finance the Swap Shop, which has been working well.

She said the awards go to Hopmeadow Nursery School, Big Sky, Battiston's and the Farmington Valley Racquet Club who have helped so much with the Nike used shoes program.

Ms. Ferdinand said America Recycles Day is tomorrow, November 15th, where different activities are done all over the country. She is asking everyone to take the pledge where they will learn about recycling options in the community and act on them. Information can be obtained on America Recycles Day.org and the Town of Simsbury.com.

PRESENTATIONS

Status of Gateway Sign on Route 185

Mr. Hensley said the next gateway sign will be placed north of Princess Lane. He said the Committee did receive a Simsbury Land Trust waiver and hope to get approval from the Wetlands Commission. They hope to have the sign placed before the end of the year.

Ms. Wertheimer made motion to endorse the gateway sign and location, north of Princess Lane, as presented by Mr. Hensley. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Hensley said the Beautification Committee will handle the landscaping around the signs. The Beautification Committee is looking for new members.

Proclamation - Pancreatic Cancer - Read by Mr. Hensley

TOWN OF SIMSBURY - PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, over 44,030 people will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer this

year in the United States and over 37,660 will die from the disease; and

WHEREAS, pancreatic cancer is the deadliest cancer and the fourth leading cause of cancer death in the United States, and approximately 550 deaths will occur in Connecticut in 2011, and 76 percent of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first year of their diagnosis and 95 percent of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first five years; and

WHEREAS, there is no cure for pancreatic cancer and there have been no significant improvements in early detection, treatment methods, or survival rates in the last 40 years; and

WHEREAS, when symptoms of pancreatic cancer present themselves, it is usually too late for an optimistic prognosis, and 74% of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first year of their diagnosis while 94% of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first five years; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government invests less money in pancreatic cancer research than it does in any of the other leading cancer killers; and

WHEREAS, the good health and well-being of the residents of Connecticut are enhanced as a direct result of increased awareness about pancreatic cancer and research into early detection, causes, and effective treatments; and

WHEREAS, the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network is the first and only national patient advocacy organization that serves the pancreatic cancer community in Connecticut and nationwide by focusing its efforts on public policy, research funding, patient services, and public awareness and education related to developing effective treatments and a cure for pancreatic cancer; and

WHEREAS, the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network and its affiliates in Connecticut support those patients currently battling pancreatic cancer, as well as to those who have lost their lives to the disease, and are committed to nothing less than a cure.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE KNOWN, that the Town of Simsbury joins with the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut in designating the month of November 2011 as Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month in the State of Connecticut.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have placed my seal and the great seal of the Town of Simsbury.

Dated the 14th day of November, 2011

Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman

Martha Lott, 4 Pennington Drive said she lost her husband to Pancreatic Cancer last year after being a three year survivor.

She said this is the 4th leading type of cancer in the US. There is no cure and no early detection of this type of cancer. She said purple is the pancreatic cancer color and they are working to get sponsors to help work for a cure for this deadly disease.

PUBLIC AUDIENCE

Joan Coe, 26 Whitcomb Drive thanked everyone who worked 24/7 to help the Simsbury community get through the Alfred storm. She hopes input will help things move even better if this type of disaster ever hits again.

Ms. Coe said she hopes that the Charter Revision Commission lets the residents decide what type

of government they want - First Selectman or Town Manager.

Ms. Coe spoke about alleged illegal signs throughout the Town. She would like all of these investigated and a policy made. She would also like alleged illegal concerts looked into.

Drew Brown, Firetown Road spoke about the monumental task of picking up brush after the bad storm. He thanked everyone at the landfill for donating their place, but would like it to remain open for a longer period of time and a lot of people still have a lot of pick-up to do.

Ms. Glassman agreed that the task is monumental and thanked Paine's for opening the landfill for free. She said the deadline is a FEMA regulation. She said they would look at opening the landfill again and what the cost would be.

Sue Bednarczyk, 119 E. Weatogue asked that the Town look into opening up temporary shelters for seniors not having help. Some seniors have no one to look in on them and do need help. She thanked everyone for their time during this disaster.

FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

Ms. Glassman thanked Kevin Kowalski, Fire Marshall for everything that was done for the Town for the last several weeks. She said they are working on some type of public "thank you" for everyone who helped out during these

extreme circumstances.

Ms. Glassman said the Town should be so very grateful for all the dedicated employees and volunteers that worked so hard to help the Town's residents. There are many Town heroes who did such great things to help anyone in Town who needed help. There will be a Committee put together to find a way to thank all who helped.

Ms. Glassman said the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance held a special meeting to expedite the debris pick-up. FEMA's deadline was November 8th for pick-up. She thanked Paine's for the landfill help. She noted that the State will do the pick-up on State Roads.

Ms. Glassman thanked everyone who helped the kids of Simsbury still have a great Halloween even through the disaster. She thanked Simsbury Library, Simsbury Mothers and the Riverview for all of their help. It was such a great event that it will be done again next year.

SELECTMEN ACTIONS

a) Discussion on planning a Thank You Celebration for Storm Alfred First Responders, Town Hall, Social Services, Highway and Public Works employees and Volunteers

Mr. Hensley made motion to table item A until Mr. Kowalski is able to attend. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b) Approve Tax Refunds

Ms. Heavner made motion to approve the tax refunds in the amount of \$8,131.87 as requested and approved by the Tax Collector. Ms. Haase seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

c) Political sign enforcement

No action taken at this time.

a) First Marshall Kowalski joined the meeting. Ms. Glassman thanked him again for training everyone needed for this disaster. She said he was a very committed and dedicated staff member and the Town wants to honor him.

Fire Marshall Kowalski said the thanks goes to a great team of people who all came together to help Simsbury residents. He said the team shined and did everything possible they could to work together to do a great job. It

was an extraordinary effort by all.

He said that there will be a follow-up done to look into what went well and where improvements can be made such as adopting a senior, etc.

State Representative Linda Schofield said she was thankful that everyone worked so hard to keep Simsbury safe during this very bad time. She felt everyone worked very well together for the good of the community. She felt it was a very moving experience and she was very impressed with everyone. Everyone pulling together is what makes this community great.

d) Senior Tax Relief Proposal

No action taken at this time.

e) Approve establishment of special revenue account for the Simsbury Police Department

Mr. Hensley made motion to approve the creation of a special revenue account that will allow the Town to participate in a Federal Highway DUI Safety Program, through the State of CT Department of Transportation with nine surrounding communities that are members of the North Central Regional Teams, of which Simsbury is a partner. Also, approved was \$28,400 being moved from reserves to the newly established special revenue/dispersement account, of which \$21,300 (75%) will be reimbursed through the grant. This needs to be sent to the Board of

Finance for approval also. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

f) Approval of Police Department Sergeant position

Mr. Hampton made motion to approve the addition of an additional sergeant position to the current staff levels with no additional funding. Ms. Wertheimer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

g) Approval and clarification of Water Pollution Control Authority position

Mr. Hensley made motion to allow the Town to put forth an advertisement for a Class III operator instead of a Class I operator as presented by Jim Clifton. Ms. Haase seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

a) Regular Meeting, October 24, 2011

Mr. Hampton made motion to approved the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 24, 2011 as presented. Ms. Haase seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b) Special Meeting, November 3, 2011

Ms. Wertheimer made motion to approve the Special Meeting Minutes of November 3, 2011 as presented. Mr. Hensley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

c) Special Meeting, November 8, 2011

Ms. Heavner made motion to approved the Special Meeting Minutes of November 8, 2011 as presented. 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 - there was a moment of silence for Buzz Holmes and Tom West for their

recent passing. They were great public servants and the Town will miss them.

Ms. Wertheimer asked that the used cell phone collection be put on the website and handed out flyers.

Ms. Haase said that the WPCA signed a scope of work for the sewer hook up fees. She will follow up on this item at a later meeting.

Ms. Haase said the Veteran's Day ceremony was great and thanked Mr. Hampton for all his efforts.

5. Board of Education - Mr. Hensley asked about the schools making up lost time. Ms. Heavner said they would shorten February vacation and add a few days at the end of the year so there are still 5 snow days left.

Ms. Heavner thanked the Board of Education for opening the classrooms for shelters from the storm. They were all well-served and appreciated.

ADJOURN

Mr. Hensley made motion to adjourn at 8:55 p.m. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman