

**Simsbury Board of Finance  
TOWN OF SIMSBURY  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at 5:45 P.M.  
Simsbury Town Hall - Main Meeting Room  
933 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, Connecticut**

**PRESENT:** Lisa Heavner, Derek Peterson, Robert Pomeroy, Kevin Prell, Linda Schofield

**ALSO PRESENT:** Melissa Appleby, Deputy Town Manager; Sean Askham, BOS; Nick Boulter, Chief, Simsbury Police Department; Maria Capriola, Town Manager; Cheryl Cook, BOS; Matthew Curtis, Schools Superintendent; Mike Glidden, Director of Planning and Community Development; Burke LaClair, Schools Business Manager; Amy Meriwether, Director of Finance/Treasurer; Chris Peterson, BOS; Tom Roy, Director of Public Works; Tom Tyburski, Recreation Director; Tara Willerup, BOE Chair; and other interested parties.

**1. Call to Order - Establish Quorum**

Chairman Pomeroy called the meeting to order at 5:47 P.M.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Approval of Minutes - March 12, 2019**

**MOTION: Mr. Prell made a motion to approve the March 12, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes. Ms. Heavner seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.**

**4. Board of Selectmen 2019/2020 Proposed Operating and Capital Budget Presentation & Board of Finance Discussion**

Mr. Askham presented the FY 2019/2020 Board of Selectmen Approved Budget in a slide presentation. He began by noting the BOS Priorities, including Public Safety, Infrastructure, Quality of Life, Financial Management, Economic Development, Recreation, Library, and Senior and Social Services. He provided a budget overview, including a \$23,788,622 Town operating budget, an increase of \$3,269,195 or 4.75%. Budget drivers include a debt service increase of \$859,718 or 21.2% and a health insurance increase of \$601,861 or 23.5%. He noted budget drivers include contractual salary increases, MS4 Stormwater Requirements, previously under budgeted items and Culture, Parks and Recreation. Further, he noted FY19/20 budgeting changes including budgeted true cost of shared services with BOE and budgeted true cost of other services. Next, he noted FY19/20 service changes, including BOS recommended service enhancements and BOS recommended service reductions. Questions and discussion followed regarding the Simsbury Farms budget and consolidating the department into the General Fund. Discussion followed. Mr. Pomeroy noted the Board is not accepting the recommendation that the Parks and Recreation budget be moved until the full facilities review and analysis is completed. It was agreed a subcommittee should be reconvened to look into the Special Revenue Fund. Mr. Pomeroy began discussion on other changes in the operating budget,

including police overtime. Chief Boulter explained the driving factors for overtime. Discussion followed. After there were no further questions it was noted a year-over-year comparison is needed for clarification. Ms. Heavner and Mr. Pomeroy thanked Ms. Meriwether and Ms. Capriola. The Board asked for a five-minute break. After reconvening discussion began on net grand list growth, health insurance, economic development, bond pavement management and cash to capital. Mr. Askham then resumed his presentation by noting FY19/20 Capital and CNR, including focusing on investment in existing infrastructure, noting this is the second consecutive year bond funds are not used for Town capital projects, noting cash for capital and CNR contribution remains level funded, and the development of a six-year CNR plan. Questions and discussion followed. Mr. Askham noted FY19/20 Capital Fund Projects in the areas of Public Works; General Management; Culture, Parks and Recreation; and Sewer. Questions and discussion followed. Next, Mr. Askham presented FY19/20 CNR Fund Projects in the areas of Public Works; Culture, Parks and Recreation; Police; General Government; Sewer; and Library. Discussion followed. Mr. Askham noted population trends and development trends, including residential development, commercial projects and potential development. Questions, discussion and guidance followed.

#### **5. Referral of Board of Selectmen, Board of Education & Capital Budgets to Public Hearing**

**MOTION: Ms. Schofield made a motion to move forward the current budgets as adopted by the two boards with the exception that the Board of Finance is asking them to change their assumption on health insurance to Scenario 4. Mr. Prell seconded the motion. Ms. Heavner opposed the motion. The motion passed.**

#### **6. Fiscal Year 2018/2019 Board of Selectmen Budget Items**

- Simsbury 350th Anniversary

Ms. Capriola noted the Town has received a request from the Simsbury 350th Anniversary Committee to assist in funding activities related to the Simsbury 350th Anniversary celebration activities. The amount being requested is \$35,000. The Board of Selectmen would like to request an additional appropriation in the FY18/19 budget to support the request. Ms. Cook provided further detail and answered questions from the Board.

**MOTION: Ms. Schofield made a motion to deny the request to approve an additional appropriation to the FY18/19 budget in the amount of \$35,000 to support the Simsbury 350th Anniversary Committee. Mr. Pomeroy seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.**

- Shared Services Study

Ms. Capriola noted the BOS discussed cost savings initiatives as part of its budget development. One area of interest was the idea of shared services with the BOE and the potential savings impact on the Town's budget. The BOS would like to request an additional appropriation in the FY18/19 budget for \$50,000 to have a shared services study performed. Discussion followed and the Board asked that the BOS come back with a detailed proposal.

**MOTION: Mr. Prell made a motion to move to Public Hearing the FY19/20 Board of Selectmen Budget at \$23,881,616, the Board of Education Budget at \$71,851,648, with the additional provision that Simsbury Farms be pulled out of the General Fund and put back into the Special Revenue Fund. Ms. Schofield seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.**

**7. Adjourn**

**MOTION: Ms. Heavner, Mr. Peterson second, to adjourn at 10:10 P.M.; unanimously approved**

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Haberlin  
Commission Clerk