

**TOWN OF SIMSBURY – BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES – JANUARY 22, 2018**

“Subject to Approval”

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CALL TO ORDER

The Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 5:05 p.m. in the Main Meeting Room of the Simsbury Town Offices. Present were: First Selectmen Eric Wellman; Board members Chris Peterson, Cheryl Cook, Christopher Kelly, Michael Paine and Sean Askham. Others in attendance including Sean Kimball, Interim Town Manager; Melissa Appleby, Deputy Town Manager; Attorney DeCrescenzo, Bob Carr, Environmental Consultant; James Rabbitt, Director of Planning and Community Development; Attorney Jesse Langer and other interested parties.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC AUDIENCE

Mr. and Mrs. Pazzato, 16 County Road, said they are in favor of an appeal, but are not sure if it will be successful. They are advocating for more of a buffer on some of County Road.

Kris Barnett, 15 Ox Yoke said she is also in favor of an appeal, but feels the project will alter the character of the community.

Linda Low, 8 Kilbourne Road, said she was in favor of an appeal. She also has concerns about soil and water testing.

Mike Flammini, 3 Kilbourne Farms, wants to keep options open and is in favor of an appeal as well.

Ed Wrobel, 100 Hoskins, said he is in favor of an appeal and would like continual water testing from both public and private sources.

Stacy McMahan, 6 Kilbourne, is also in favor of an appeal, but has other concerns including water contamination.

Steven Sutton, 45 Berkshire Way, said this project will change the character of the community and he is also in favor of an appeal.

Rob Parisi said he wants to maintain language and wants to give the Town more options. He is also in favor of an appeal.

John Marckfell, 10 County Road, had concerns about property values especially with direct abutters. He is concerned about fencing and an access road.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

a) Pursuant to CGS§1-200(6)(B) to discuss matters concerning the Deepwater Wind Proposed Solar Project

Mr. Askham made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss matters concerning the Deepwater Wind Proposed Solar Project pursuant to CGS§1-200(6)(B) at 5:25 p.m. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

ADJOURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Askham made a motion to adjourn from Executive Session at 6:17 p.m. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Wellman said the developer of the Deepwater Wind Proposed Solar Project reached out to him to set-up a meeting. Mr. Wellman said he sat down with the CEO, our Interim Town Manager and our two attorneys. He felt the meeting was very productive. The discussion included giving our concerns about public health before, during and after the construction process, removing the 54 acre field south of Hoskins Road, providing appropriate screening that works well with the natural landscape, developing and funding a comprehensive decommission plan, preservation of the historic barns on the property and an option for the Town to obtain development rights after the project it decommissioned.

Mr. Wellman said the developer did show a willingness to work with the Town and has already agreed to some items such as testing abutters wells before and after the construction, creating walking paths, raising the fencing, etc.

Ms. Cook made a motion to instruct our Attorney to appeal the Connecticut Siting Council decision on the Tobacco Valley Solar Project. Mr. Askham seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Askham made a motion to instruct our Attorney to take any related action including, but not limited to, filing a motion to stay. Ms. Cook seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Askham made a motion to instruct our Interim Town Manager to recommend funding sources for a supplemental appropriation to fund the appeal with an initial estimate of \$100,000.

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

ADJOURN

Mr. Askham made a motion to adjourn from the Special Meeting at 6:30 p.m. Ms. Cook seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi Radocchio
Clerk