

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:00p.m. in the Main Meeting Room of Town Hall. Present were: First Selectman Wendy Mackstutis; Deputy First Selectman Amber Abbuhl; Board members: Eric Wellman, Sean Askham, Heather Goetz and Chris Peterson (via Zoom). Others in attendance included Town Manager Maria E. Capriola; Deputy Town Manager Melissa Appleby; Chairman of the Library Board of Trustees Kathleen Miller; Town Engineer/Public Works Director Tom Roy; Library Director Lisa Karim; and other interested parties.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC AUDIENCE

- Participants can address the Board of Selectmen in person at the meeting
- Email townmanager@simsbury-ct.gov by noon Monday April 25, 2022 to register to address the Board of Selectmen live through Zoom
- Written comments can be emailed to townmanager@simsbury-ct.gov. Written comments will not be read into the record, but will be forwarded to all Selectmen via email

Joan Coe, 26 Whitcomb Drive, spoke about a point of order at the last Board meeting, the Town Manager, town employee issues, filling open positions in a timely manner, employee performances, FOI requests, alcohol at PAC events, police radio system issues, etc.

Mary Glassman thanked the Board for their consideration of the supplemental appropriation request from Simsbury Community Media for capital improvements. She thanked all the volunteers, donors and Town for their funding. She said their vision covers more programming including sports and meetings. These improvements will help the studio and will help their mission become realized.

PRESENTATION

a) Simsbury Public Library Strategic Plan

Kathleen Miller, Chairman of the Library Board of Trustees, said they update their strategic plan every 5 years. She said the process is challenging, but they have a great committee to work with. The Library is committed to all ages and groups. She went through the Library's vision and mission and reviewed the four goals that emerged from the plan. She said she is extremely proud of the Library.

FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

The First Selectman, Wendy Mackstutis, reviewed her First Selectman's report.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

The Town Manager, Maria E. Capriola, reviewed her Town Manager's report.

SELECTMEN LIAISON AND SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

- a) **Personnel** – Ms. Mackstutis said they had a meeting last week and they will be updating the employee handbook.
- b) **Finance** – there was no report at this time.
- c) **Public Safety** – there was no report at this time.
- d) **Board of Education** – there was no report at this time.

Ms. Abbuhl spoke about a Senior Center newsletter. If people would like more information they can contact the Senior Center.

Mr. Peterson said the Clean-up last Saturday was a great success. Next year more information needs to get out about this event so more people can help out.

SELECTMEN ACTION

a) Draft Correspondence Regarding S. B. 131, Contract Terms for the Pricing of and Access to EBooks for Libraries

Ms. Capriola said that S.B.131 is a proposed bill in the State legislature this session that would set equitable contract terms for access and pricing of Ebooks for Libraries. Ms. Karim also provided background information on this topic.

Mr. Wellman made a motion, effective April 25, 2022, to approve the presented correspondence supporting S. B. 131 and to authorize Town Manager, Maria E. Capriola, to send the letter on behalf of the Board of Selectmen. Ms. Abbuhl seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b) Draft Correspondence from Board of Selectmen regarding Outdoor Dining

Ms. Capriola said the Board of Selectmen already extended the fee waiver for outdoor dining for businesses. They received comments on what did and didn't work. The Board wants to send correspondence to the Zoning Commission indicating their support of this extension and any future efforts made to support the businesses with outdoor dining.

Mr. Askham made a motion, effective April 25, 2022, to approve the presented memo regarding outdoor dining regulations and processes to the Zoning Commission and to authorize Town Manager, Maria E. Capriola, to send the memo on behalf of the Board of Selectmen. Ms. Abbuhl seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

c) Tax Refund Requests

Mr. Askham made a motion, effective April 25, 2022, to approve the requested tax refunds in the amount of \$370.41 and to authorize Town Manager, Maria E. Capriola to execute the tax refunds. Ms. Abbuhl seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

d) Grant application to The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving to Support the Food Program

Ms. Capriola said this grant now requires an application to receive the grant for our food programs.

Ms. Abbuhl made a motion, effective April 25, 2022, to submit a grant application to The Hartford Foundation’s Basic Human Needs Program and to authorize Town Manager, Maria E. Capriola, to execute the grant appeal.

In the even the grant is awarded, the following motion is in order:

Move to accept the grant and authorize Town Manager, Maria E. Capriola, to execute all documents related to the grant award. Ms. Goetz seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

e) FY 2023 Historic Document Preservation Grant Program

Ms. Capriola said this is an annual program provided by the State, in the amount of \$7500. The Town Clerk prepared a grant application that would put birth records into archival binders to preserve them.

Mr. Wellman made a motion, effective April 25, 2022, to submit the FY 2023 Historic Documents Preservation Grant Application and to authorize Town Manager, Maria E. Capriola to designate Trish Munroe, Town Clerk, as the agent for making the above application.

In the event that the grant is awarded, the following motion is in order:

Move to accept the FY 2023 Historic Documents Preservations Program Grant and to authorize the Town Manager, Maria E. Capriola to execute all documents related to the grant application. Ms. Abbuhl seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

f) Schedule Public Hearing for Proposed Amendments to the Solid Waste Ordinance (Chapter 133)

Mr. Roy said the Town opted out of the Simsbury agreement with MIRA for solid waste disposal. The proposed changes to Chapter 133 would remove any mention of the MIRA facility or having to dispose Simsbury’s waste specifically at the MIRA facility.

Mr. Askham made a motion, effective April 25, 2022, to set a Public Hearing to receive public comments concerning proposed revisions to Chapter 133 of the Town Code concerning Storage, Collections and Disposal of Solid Waste for 6:00 p.m. on Monday, May 9, 2022. Ms. Goetz seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

g) Supplemental Appropriation Request- Simsbury Community Media Studio Capital Improvements

Mr. Roy said ESPN donated their studio to the Town for Simsbury Community Media, however, updates are needed such as paint and some architectural changes to make the space work better. There was some discussion about other money possibly being available at the end of the year, but upgrades need to be done now.

Mr. Wellman made a motion, effective April 25, 2022, to approve a supplemental appropriation for Simsbury Community Media Studio Capital Improvements in the amount of \$45,000 as presented. Ms. Abbuhl seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

h) Supplemental Appropriation Request – Farmington Valley Health District

Ms. Capriola said this is request is similar to the second round of Federal stimulus dollars available in 2020. The Farmington Valley Health District is making a request to its member Towns for funding through ARPA. She feels the amount is fair and reasonable and she supports this request.

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Mr. Askham made a motion, effective April 25, 2022, to approve a supplemental appropriation for funding the Farmington Valley Health District in the amount of \$100,056. Mr. Wellman seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

a) Proposed Reappointment of Richard Derr to the Public Building Committee

Mr. Askham made a motion, effective April 25, 2022, to reappoint Richard A. Derr as a regular member of the Public Building Committee with a term ending January 1, 2026. Ms. Goetz seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

a) Regular meeting of April 6, 2022

There were no changes to the Regular Meeting minutes of April 6, 2022, and, therefore, the minutes were adopted.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

a) Executive Session per General Statutes section 1-200(6)(B), strategy and

Mr. Askham made a motion to adjourn to executive session per General Statutes section 1-200(6)(B), Strategy and negotiations of a pending claim and/or litigation: Cavanaugh Claims under the Workmen's Compensation Act, and to include Town Manager Maria E. Capriola and Deputy Town Manager Melissa Appleby at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Wellman seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Askham made a motion to adjourn from executive session at 7:08pm. Mr. Wellman seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

ADJOURN

Mr. Askham made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:08pm. Ms. Abbuhl seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi Radocchio
Clerk