

**TOWN OF SIMSBURY – BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – NOVEMBER 13, 2019**

“Approved”

Page | 1

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Board of Selectmen meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Meeting Room of the Simsbury Town Offices. Present were: First Selectman Eric Wellman; Board members Sean Askham, Michael Paine, Chris Peterson, Cheryl Cook and Christopher Kelly. Others in attendance included: Town Manager Maria E. Capriola; Deputy Town Manager Melissa Appleby; Recycling Committee Chair Mary Turner; Chairman of Aging & Disabilities Ed Lamontagne, and other interested parties.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Askham made a motion to add two items under Appointments and Resignations to the agenda. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

PUBLIC AUDIENCE

Joan Coe, 26 Whitcomb Drive, spoke about possible issues in the Police Department, an accident in front of Town Hall, poor morale, Freedom of Information, and other issues.

Helen Peterson, 20 Longview Drive, spoke about open space and Simsbury's designation of Old Growth Forest. She said Simsbury is in the forefront of land preservation and the center of conservation in CT and perhaps in New England. She also spoke about the Sycamore tree near the bridge. She congratulated the Board, staff and volunteers, including Susan Masino, for all their efforts in this designation.

PRESENTATIONS

a) Recycling Committee Annual Award

Ms. Turner, Chairperson of the Recycling Committee, congratulated Walter Banzhaf who they have recognized for his efforts in supporting recycling in the community. This is the 22nd year of this award and she was honored to give Mr. Banzhaf the award.

Mr. Banzhaf said recycling is one of the few things in his life that he has enjoyed and has been a worthwhile endeavor. He loves meeting people and thanked everyone for this award.

b) Medical Equipment Loan Locker Update

Mr. Lamontagne, Chairperson of Aging & Disabilities, spoke about the Durable Medical Equipment Loan Locker Program. This is to help people who need to use walkers, wheelchairs, crutches, etc. for recovery from medical issues.

Mr. Needham said people donate new or used medical equipment, which will become cleaned and sanitized before loaning out. The equipment will be stored at the Apple Barn and volunteers are needed to keep this program running. There will be rules to request the equipment and return the equipment. The phone number is 860-658-3224 with an email address of SimsburyLoanLocker@gmail.com. They will also be on the website <https://www.simsbury-ct.gov/loan> locker.

FIRST SELECTMAN’S REPORT

First Selectman, Wellman, reviewed his First Selectman’s Report.

TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT

Town Manager, Capriola, reviewed her Town Manager’s Report.

SELECTMEN ACTION

a) Tax Refund Requests

Ms. Cook made a motion, effective November 13, 2019, to approve the presented tax refunds in the amount of \$2,600.39, and to authorize Town Manager, Maria E. Capriola, to execute the tax refunds. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b) Proposed Lien for relocation Payments – 15 Carriage Drive

Mr. Wellman said the Department of Community and Social Services incurred expenses related to the temporary location of the former tenant of 15 Carriage Drive of almost \$4,000. The Town’s attorney has advised that the expenses incurred are subject to the statutory lien process found in CGS Section §8-268(a).

Mr. Kelly made a motion, effective November 13, 2019, to place a lien in the amount of \$3,998.70 against the property at 15 Carriage Drive, Simsbury, CT, pursuant to CGS Section §8-268(a), in order to reimburse the Town for the costs associated with relocation assistance provided to the prior tenant of that property. Ms. Cook seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

c) Discussion on Public Recognition Space to Foster Pride within Community Organizations

Mr. Wellman spoke about different groups coming to the Board asking for different ways for awareness of their causes.

Ms. Cook spoke about her idea of using a rock and using student participation. There could maybe be some suggestions and rules and something could be done once a month.

The Board felt this would be a great idea that could start good dialogue on important issues, but there needs to be a policy of how, why, and when this public recognition should be used.

No action was needed at this time, as more input in needed for this project.

d) Economic Development Commission 2019-2020 Work Plan Discussion

Mr. Wellman said this Board adopted a 2018-2019 work plan for the EDC with areas of focus. He went through different items of focus. He asked the Board to come up with ideas and suggestions for the 2019-2020 EDC plan.

Mr. Askham noted that many surveys have already been done and this information should be used. Ms. Cook feels they should have separate meetings for industry specific issues. She was also asking about the EDC helping in the 350th Celebration.

After further discussion, the Board feels that other Towns should be looked at to see what they are doing. No action was needed at this time.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

a) Appointment of Cheryl Cook (R) as an alternate member of the Aging and Disability Commission

Mr. Askham made a motion, effective November 13, 2019, to appoint Cheryl Cook as an alternate member of the Aging and Disability Commission with a term expiring January 1, 2020. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. Mr. Wellman, Mr. Peterson, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Paine, and Mr. Askham were all in favor, with Ms. Cook abstaining, and, therefore, the motion passed.

b) Appoint Elizabeth Keppel (R) as a regular member of the Culture, Parks & Recreation Commission

Mr. Paine made a motion, effective November 13, 2019, to appoint Elizabeth Keppel as a regular member of the Culture, Parks & Recreation Commission with a term expiring January 1, 2020. Ms. Cook seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

a) Regular Meeting of October 28, 2019

There were no changes to the Minutes of October 28, 2019, and therefore, the minutes were adopted.

- a) Personnel** – no report at this time.
- b) Finance** – no report at this time.
- c) Welfare** – no report at this time.
- d) Public Safety** – no report at this time.
- e) Board of Education** – no report at this time.

Ms. Cook said the Sensory Friendly Santa, for the Aging & Disability Commission will be at Eno Hall on December 6th.

Ms. Cook said there will be a 350th booth at Simsbury Celebrates with some exciting items to purchase.

Mr. Askham spoke about a discussion on the proposed Feeding Ordinance. This ordinance will not solve the problem by itself, but they will be drafting some language on the issue. They will also looking at DEEP resources and Town and property owner's options. They also discussion the use of trash haulers help.

COMMUNICATIONS

a) Memo from M. Capriola, RE: Board of Selectman Group Photo, dated November 7, 2019

Mr. Wellman spoke about not just having a picture of him on the wall but having a picture wall of the entire Board. The Board felt this would be a great idea.

Letter from State DOT, RE: Bridge Rehabilitation on Hopmeadow Street, fated November 4, 2019

There was no discussion at this time.

b) Memo from T. Tyburski, RE: Try Simsbury Adventure Race Challenge

There was no discussion at this time.

c) Sustainable CT Award Letter, dated October 28, 2019

There was no discussion at this time.

d) Letter from J. Shea, RE: Notification of Proposed Easement Connecticut Light & Power Co., dba Eversource Energy, dated October 23, 2019

There was no discussion at this time.

e) Letter from Board of Selectmen, dated October 31, 2019

There was no discussion at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

a) Pursuant to CGS §1-200(6)(A), Town Manager's Annual Performance Review

Mr. Askham made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session, pursuant to CGS §1-200(6)(A) Town Manager's Annual Performance Review and to include Ms. Capriola at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Peterson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi Radocchio
Clerk