

CALL TO ORDER

The Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Main Meeting Room of the Simsbury Town Offices. Present were: First Selectman Eric Wellman; Deputy First Selectman Sean Askham; Selectmen Jackie Battos; Wendy Mackstutis; and Chris Peterson. Selectman Mike Paine was absent. Others in attendance included: Town Manager Maria E. Capriola; Deputy Town Manager Melissa Appleby; Finance Director Amy Meriwether; Library Director Lisa Karim; Director of Parks and Recreation Tom Tyburski; Police Chief Nicholas Boulter and other interested parties.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC AUDIENCE

Mark Orensten, 82 Old Meadow Plain Road, clarified how SCTV obtains their money and some potential changes that might make their income much less. He said they only have two full time employees and try to make it as easy as possible for their volunteers as it is a gem for the Simsbury community.

Joan Coe, 26 Whitcomb Drive, spoke about the proposed budget, increasing staff, how users should pay for their services, contracting services, the Library, cost sharing and the Performing Arts Center. She also spoke about the Board of Selectmen producing a budget under Board of Finance guidelines and other issues.

SELECTMEN ACTION

a) FY 20/21 Budget Presentation and Adoption

Mr. Wellman wanted to start this by looking at the mill rate outcomes based on different budgetary functions.

Ms. Capriola said Mr. Roy, looking further into the electricity budget, found that our budget was pretty spot on. He did a conservative estimate on the Special Revenue Fund as there is not enough data yet to get an accurate amount. There was more discussion on the Special Revenue Fund and expenditures.

Ms. Capriola said the assumptions for the pension includes mortality tables and interest assumption rate of 6.50%. She said the updated budget includes an increase to Interval House, SCTV, the Farmington Valley Watershed, Chamber of Commerce, and Main Street Partnership. It also includes service improvements to Assessor Inspection Service, Parks Facility Maintenance Technician, Upgrading a Police Sergeant to a Lieutenant, a Deputy Police Chief position and Library materials. She also noted that the Town Clerk's credit card fees were under budgeted.

There was also discussion on the CNR fund and the rest of the budget items. Ms. Capriola gave different scenarios on other budget issues that were discussed at the last Board meeting, including the Police Department, Library, Parks, etc.

Ms. Capriola said if everything is added in to the Town operating budget the total would be 6.69% with the overall mill rate impact would be 0.29 mill increase. The increase per median home would be \$62.00.

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After a lot more discussion on budget, Mr. Wellman felt this Board needs to be up front with the Board of Finance and get their guidance on how to change it.

Mr. Peterson made a motion, effective March 11, 2020, to approve the Board of Selectmen 2020-2021 Operating Budget in the amount of \$23,824,399, to include the following changes from the Town Manager's Proposed Budget:

\$ 860	Increase for Town Clerk credit card reader and ACH fees
\$ 2,000	Increase for the contribution to Interval House
\$ 2,500	Increase for the contribution to the Chamber of Commerce
\$ 5,000	Increase for the contribution to SCTV
\$ 397	Increase for the contribution to the Farmington River Watershed Association
\$ 5,000	Increase for the contribution to Main Street Partnership
\$474,584	Increase in Pension contribution to account for new mortality table and reducing the interest rate assumption from 6.75% to 6.50%
\$ 25,000	Increase for Assessor inspection services
\$ 96,232	Increase for Parks Facility Maintenance Technician position
\$ 4,260	Increase for upgrading a sergeant to a Lieutenant
\$183,872	Increase for Deputy Chief position
\$ 20,000	Increase for Library materials
(\$ 20,000)	Decrease in contribution to Parks and Recreation Fund

Mr. Wellman seconded the motion. Mr. Wellman and Mr. Peterson were in favor and Ms. Battos, Ms. Mackstutis and Mr. Askham were against the motion. Therefore, the motion failed.

After further discussion regarding the interest rate assumption, Ms. Mackstutis made a motion, effective March 11, 2020, to approve the Board of Selectmen 2020-2021 Operating Budget in the amount of \$23,705,961, to include the following changes from the Town Manager's Proposed Budget:

\$ 860	Increase for Town Clerk credit card reader and ACH fees
\$ 2,000	Increase for the contribution to Interval House
\$ 2,500	Increase for the contribution to the Chamber of Commerce
\$ 5,000	Increase for the contribution to SCTV
\$ 397	Increase for the contribution to the Farmington River Watershed Association
\$ 5,000	Increase for the contribution to Main Street Partnership
\$356,146	Increase in the Pension contribution to account for new mortality table and reducing the interest rate assumption from 6.75% to 6.625%
\$ 25,000	Increase for Assessor Inspection services
\$ 96,232	Increase for Parks Facility Maintenance Technician position
\$ 4,260	Increase for upgrading a Sergeant to a Lieutenant
\$183,872	Increase for Deputy Chief position
\$ 20,000	Increase for Library materials
(\$ 20,000)	Decrease in contribution to Parks and Recreation Fund

Mr. Peterson seconded the motion. Ms. Mackstutis, Mr. Peterson, and Mr. Wellman were in favor of the motion. Mr. Askham and Ms. Battos were against the motion. Therefore, the motion passed.

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Mr. Peterson made a motion, effective March 11, 2020, to approve the Water Pollution Control 2020-2021 Operating Budget in the amount of \$4,223,421 (including Avon and Granby DWF share). Ms. Mackstutis seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Askham made a motion, effective March 11, 2020, to approve the Residential Property 2020-2021 Operating Budget in the amount of \$45,872. Ms. Battos seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Askham made a motion, effective March 11, 2020, to approve the Simsbury Parks and Recreation Fund 2020-2021 Operating Budget in the amount of \$2,137,781. Mr. Peterson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Ms. Mackstutis made a motion, effective March 11, 2020, to approve the Debt Service 2020-2021 Operating Budget in the amount of \$5,471,465. Mr. Askham seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Ms. Mackstutis made a motion, effective March 1, 2020, to approve the Capital and Non-Recurring Plan for 2020-2021 in the amount of \$1,617,200 including:

- \$416,250 to be funded by the General Fund via the Five-Year Payback Method
- \$675,450 to be funded by the General Fund
- \$ 60,900 to be funded by Federal or State Grants
- \$ 71,000 to be funded by the Town Aid Road Fund
- \$150,000 to be funded by the Sewer Use Fund
- \$165,000 to be funded by the Police Private Duty Fund
- \$ 21,000 to be funded by the Eno Trust Fund
- \$ 12,600 from the Dial-A-Ride Fund
- \$ 45,000 from the Gold Equipment Fund

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

Mr. Askham made a motion, effective March 11, 2020, to add the following new projects to the Capital Improvements Plan for 2020-2021 in accordance with Charter Section 803(b):

Open Space Acquisition	\$2,200,000
Transfer to Capital Reserve	\$ 50,000
Plow Truck	\$ 258,000
Secondary Clarifier Weir Covers	\$ 275,000

Ms. Mackstutis seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Ms. Mackstutis made a motion, effective March 11, 2020, to approve the Capital Improvement Program to include the following projects to 2020-2021, with total funding of \$6,355,000 for 2020-2021:

Radio System Upgrade/Replacement	\$1,202,000	Recommended Funding
Open Space Acquisition	\$2,200,000	Bonds
Transfer to Capital Reserve	\$ 50,000	Bonds
Greenway Improvements	\$ 135,000	Cash
		Cash

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Highway Pavement Management	\$1,205,000	Bonds/Cash/Grants
Plow Truck	\$ 258,000	Grants
Public Works Facility Paving & Storm Drainage	\$ 330,000	Cash
Sidewalk Reconstruction	\$ 200,000	Cash
Secondary Clarifier Weir Covers	\$ 275,000	Sewer Use Fund
District Network Infrastructure	\$ 500,000	Cash

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

Ms. Mackstutis made a motion, effective March 11, 2020, to approve the following project in 2020-2021:
SHS Stadium Bleachers/Press Box Replacement \$ 850,000 Bonds

Mr. Peterson seconded the motion. Ms. Mackstutis and Mr. Peterson were in favor and Mr. Askham, Mr. Wellman, and Ms. Battos were against. Therefore, the motion failed.

Mr. Askham made a motion, effective March 11, 2020, to refer the following Capital Projects to the Planning Commission in accordance with CGS Section §8-24:

Radio System Upgrade/Replacement
Open Space Acquisition
Transfer to Capital Reserve
Greenway Improvements
Highway Pavement Management
Plow Truck
Public Works Facility Paving & Storm Drainage
Sidewalk Reconstruction
Secondary Clarifier Weir Covers
District Network Infrastructure

Ms. Mackstutis seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

ADJOURN

Mr. Peterson made a motion to adjourn at 9:05 p.m. Ms. Battos seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathi Radocchio
Clerk