

TOWN OF SIMSBURY - BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 23, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Meeting Room of the Simsbury Town Offices. Present were: First Selectman Mary Glassman; Board members Nancy Haase, Moira Wertheimer, John Hampton, Lisa Heavner and Robert Hensley. Others in attendance included Dave Ryan, Greg Piecuch, Tom Cooke, Gerry Toner, and other interested parties.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance

PRESENTATIONS

Proclamation for Ensign-Bickford Industries, Inc. 175th Anniversary

Ms. Glassman remarked that the Board would like to acknowledge the 175th Anniversary of Ensign-Bickford Industries as they have done a lot of great things for the Town. She introduced Caleb White, President and Chief Executive Officer of Ensign-Bickford Industries and then read the following proclamation:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, for 175 years since its founding Ensign-Bickford Industries has forged a strong and indispensable presence in the Town of Simsbury; and

WHEREAS, the company has provided thousands of secure and rewarding jobs for Town residents; and

WHEREAS, it has made the community of Simsbury nationally recognized as a center of innovative manufacturing from 1836 when it first produced safety fuses for the mining industry to its work today on protection systems for the American military, on behalf of the American space program, on food safety, on production of nutritious additives for pets, in the development of green energy, and on other scientific breakthroughs; and

WHEREAS, the company has been one of the Town's greatest benefactors, helping to establish the Fire Department, and contributing heavily to a variety of local causes including the Simsbury Land Trust, the Simsbury Arts Council, the Simsbury Library, Simsbury Community Television, the Simsbury Band Shell, the Simsbury Light Opera Company, the Simsbury Visiting Nurses

Association, the Simsbury Methodist Church, the Simsbury Baptist Church, St. Mary's Church, the Farmington Valley Jewish Community Center, the Simsbury Volunteer Ambulance Assoc., and many others; and

WHEREAS, the company has helped secure the Town's legacy by donating priceless relics of its working past to the Simsbury Historical Society and the Simsbury Genealogical and Historic Research Library; and

WHEREAS, Ensign- Bickford's management and employees have taken active roles through the decades to help improve the quality of life in the Farmington River Valley

NOW, THEREFORE, Be it Resolved that I, Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman of the Town of Simsbury, do hereby proclaim Saturday, June 18, 2011 as

ENSIGN-BICKFORD INDUSTRIES, INC. DAY

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I set my hand and cause the seal of the great Town of Simsbury to be affixed hereto on this 18th day of June, Two-Thousand and Eleven.

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Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman

Mr. White said they have loved being a part of Simsbury for 175 years & they look at the celebration as a community celebration. He thanked everyone for this proclamation.

Ms. Glassman also noted that Ensign-Bickford also offered to match the Town with \$175,000 for the senior center study.

Ms. Glassman introduced the Rotary Club members at the meeting. She said at the last meeting the Board accepted a grant for \$17,000 to restore the Rotary Park Playground. She thanked Tom Gilmore for the generous donation.

Mr. Gilmore said they received a \$35,000 grant to build a playground in 1981, then received a matching grant from the Hartford Insurance Group. Then the club started a campaign to raise the rest of the money, where they raised an additional \$335,000 to build this boundless playground.

Mr. Gilmore said the playground is so heavily used that it is now in need of repairs. The Rotary Club presented the Town with a check for \$17,095 for upgrades at the Rotary Park Playground. Ms. Glassman said the Town is very fortunate to have great partners and without the Rotary Club there would be no park.

Ms. Glassman introduced Hailey Lattore and her friends, all 5th graders. They are doing a bake sale on Memorial Day for the Wounded Warriors Program as a thank you to our Veterans. This program raises money for Veterans. The sale will be held at Martocchi Music Shop from 11am until everything is sold.

Hometown Hero Awards Presentation Ceremony:  
Nicholas Civitillo, T.J. Donohue, Frank Haviland, Pam Lacko, and Diane Nash

Ms. Glassman stated that in 1986 Governor William O'Neil asked towns to designate residents who met certain criteria as Hometown Heroes. She thanked the selection committee for making the Hometown Hero award this year.

Ms. Glassman introduced Diane Nash as a supporter of open space projects. She is a diligent advocate for the Town. She helped with making the Town an environmentally friendly place to live and was a founding board member and the first secretary of the Community Farm of Simsbury. Ms. Nash was also the founding member and first president of the Tree Committee, which is dedicated to

taking care of the trees in Town. Ms. Nash also helped in fund-raising and attention at the national level for the Ethel Walker Woods. This beautiful Town has been preserved and protected for many years in large part to her efforts.

Ms. Nash thanked everyone and said she was humbled and honored.

Ms. Wertheimer said “Mr. C”, Nicholas Civitillo, lead more than 230 boy scouts, while serving for over 16 years as a Scoutmaster of Simsbury Troop 174. He has guided 52 boys through the rigors of becoming an Eagle Scout. “Mr. C” has fulfilled his role with compassion, kindness, and also insight as to what makes a boy a man through Boy Scouting. His “fun with a purpose” motto has been instilled in all who know him. His dedication to the young people of the Town make him deserving of the Simsbury Hometown Hero Award.

“Mr. C” thanked the Town, the Board, the Selection Committee and the other Heroes. He also thanked the people who nominated him and his family, including his extended family.

Mr. Hensley said he has known T.J. Donohue for many years as they are neighbors. Mr. Donohue has a great love for Simsbury. T.J.’s long list of accomplishments includes serving on the Board of Trustees of the Simsbury Free Library, a Trustee of the Simsbury Land Trust and St. Catherine’s Church. Mr. Donohue’s enthusiasm and high energy are continually displayed in his numerous volunteer positions. He doesn’t participate in activities for personal recognition, but to a deeply-held belief in giving back to the community.

Mr. Donohue thanked everyone and congratulated the other heroes and nominees. He said he would continue to help the Town grow and evolve. There are great people who live here with great ideas.

Ms. Heavner said Ms. Lacko gave numerous contributions to the Simsbury community. She has extended her accomplishments to local residents on many different levels. She worked hard to make Job Shadow Day by using her technology to help implement a website centered database for both Job Shadow Day mentors as well as student shadowers. She is a long time volunteer of the swim team, a music teacher, and supports the American Cancer Society. For eight years now, she has organized a successful women-only golf tournament fundraiser in memory of her father.

Ms. Lacko said that she would be happy to teach anyone to learn to play drums, or any woman to play golf.

Mr. Hampton advised that Frank Haviland couldn’t be here in person, but some members of the Tariffville Village Association are accepting for him. Mr. Haviland’s love for the local residents and community’s economic prosperity has brought the Town a shared experience of community and fun, especially in the Tariffville area. He has been the chief organizer to bring various white water competitions to the Tariffville Gorge. Mr. Haviland is a founding member of the Tariffville Village Association and works tirelessly on many projects in the community. He is also Tariffville’s unofficial historian.

## PUBLIC AUDIENCE

Dave Ryan, Co-Chair of the Performing Arts Center Board said the first concert would be Friday night. All concerts are posted in the Simsbury News and tickets can be purchased at [ticketleap.com](http://ticketleap.com). He also noted that Manhattan Transfer would be performing on June 12th. That is a BYOB. All Talcott Mountain concerts are BYOB also. He invited everyone to attend.

Mr. Robert Kalechman, 791 Hopmeadow Street, spoke about honoring those who served and are serving our country at the Memorial Day Parade on Monday. He read a paragraph from Shakespeare's King Henry 5th.

Mr. Kalechman spoke about the budget. He said there are over 23,000 people living in Simsbury and the budget was passed by 942 votes.

Mr. Kalechman also spoke about the wood burning stove ordinance and asked everyone to vote again tonight to stop these stoves from going up.

Joan Coe, 26 Whitcomb Drive also spoke about the budget and certain expenses from town employees. She also spoke about the BYOB and the sale of alcohol at different events.

Ms. Coe also spoke again about the Town Manager form of government.

#### First Selectman's Report

Ms. Glassman thanked the voters for approving the Town budget. The mill-rate was set for 2011-12 at 3.86 mils. This will mean a \$72.00 increase in taxes based on a \$230,000 assessment.

Ms. Glassman advised that Hartford Magazine named Simsbury among the top of great places to live. This included schools to a bike friendly status. She thanked everyone for their hard work to help the Town become what it is today.

Ms. Glassman said the Main Street Partnership has received accreditation as a 2011 National Main Street Program. She congratulated them. They received the award for outstanding accomplishment towards the goal of revitalizing and meeting organizational standards, and many other accomplishments.

Ms. Glassman repeated that there will be a bake sale at the Memorial Day Parade. The Tariffville Parade will begin at 9:00 a.m. and the Simsbury Parade begins at 1:00 p.m. She thanked all the volunteers for their help with the parades.

#### SELECTMEN ACTIONS

##### a) Approve Tax Refunds

Mr. Hampton made motion to approve the tax refunds in the amount of \$278.20 as recommended and approved by the Tax Collector. Mr. Hensley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b) Approve the request of Bloomfield High School to rent the Performing Arts Center on the evening of June 20, 2011 for the purpose of holding their graduation ceremony

Ms. Haase made motion to approve the rental of the Performing Arts Center to Bloomfield High School on the evening of June 20, 2011 for the purpose of holding their graduation ceremony. Ms. Heavner seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

##### c) Budget Referendum Approval - next steps

No action taken

##### d) Report from Library Board of Trustees for Budget changes

No action taken

e) Consideration of approval of BYOB policy for Talcott Mountain Music Festival and Connecticut Theater Festival

Ms. Glassman noted that the minutes of the January meeting did approve a Bring Your Own Bottle policy for the Talcott Mountain Music Festival and the Connecticut Theater Festival concert on June 12th at the Simsbury Meadows. The concert on May 27, 2011 has a no alcohol policy.

f) Consideration of approval of Premier Concert event at the Performing Arts Center

Mr. Hensley made motion to approve the reservation of August 12, 2011 for a possible Premier Concert and the terms pending: 1) final approval by the Board of Selectmen based upon identification of performers; and 2) modification of the License Agreement to place responsibility for all taxes on the Licensee; and 3) inclusion of an emergency command post fee for concerts anticipating attendance of 5,000 or more.

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

#### APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

a) Appoint Cathy Barnard (D) as a full member of the Performing Arts Center Board replacing the vacancy left by Ken Mason with an expiration date of December 5, 2011

Ms. Wertheimer made motion to approve the appointment of Cathy Barnard as a full member of the Performing Arts Center Board replacing Ken Mason with an expiration date of December 5, 2011. Ms. Heavner seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

#### ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

a) Regular Meeting, May 9, 2011

Mr. Hensley made motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of May 9, 2011 with corrections on page 7. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

#### SELECTMEN LIAISON AND SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Personnel - No report at this time

Finance - No report at this time

Welfare - No report at this time

Board of Education

Ms. Heavner said Ethan Kyzivat is holding a benefit piano recital at Eno Memorial Hall tonight, which will benefit the Senior Center. He has also tuned the piano free of charge. She thanked him for his donation.

Public Safety

Mr. Hampton said there are four more road races being held in Town. The Police Chief and PAC Board will be watching over these events.

Mr. Hampton said Aging and Disability members are starting the building audits to make sure all buildings in town are handicapped accessible. They will present a report in the fall. He said the architect is here to conduct interviews and hearing discussing the Senior Center issues.

Mr. Hampton said kayak races continue in Tariffville from June 11-12 at the gorge. Also, the Junior Olympics Festival is on July 30th - Aug. 7th. The Tariffville Village Association will be holding concerts throughout the summer at the green.

Mr. Hensley said Hopmeadow Country Club 50th Anniversary honored the founders at a celebration on Saturday night. It was a great event.

Mr. Hensley said there was a retirement party for David Holden on Friday night and there were 150 people there to honor him. He has served the Board of Education for over 30 years as their business manager. His wife, Janet, who is the business manager for St. Mary's school is also retiring. We wish them all the best and thank them for their service.

Mr. Hensley said there are more signs on the streets for bike warnings. Ms. Glassman said there was positive feedback from everyone. Mr. Hampton said the Bike Friendly Committee will be reconvening soon.

ADJOURN

Ms. Wertheimer made motion to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. Ms. Heavner seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman