

From: Susan Mazurski June 23, 2009 12:16:58 PM
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To: SimsburyCT_SelectMin
Cc:

TOWN OF SIMSBURY
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 8, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Simsbury 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 Moira Wertheimer, Robert Hensley, John Hampton and Richard Hogan. Absent was Michael Long. Others in attendance included: Brandon Robertson, Dave Ryan, Gerry Toner, Keith Distel, Hiram Peck, Linda Johnson, Anita Miller, Jerry Garlick, Mark Rudewicz, Phil Michaud and other interested parties.

Den 3 of Latimer Lane School led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements - Simsbury Day at the Wadsworth Atheneum - June 20, 2009

Ms. Glassman said all residents from the Town of Simsbury can go to the Wadsworth Atheneum on June 20th for no admission charge.

Employee Recognition-Patrick Sullivan, Assistant Assessor for Receipt of Special Recognition Award by the Connecticut Association of Assessing Officers

Ms. Glassman introduced Patrick Sullivan and read the following proclamation:

Proclamation of the Town of Simsbury

WHEREAS, Patrick Sullivan has been a valued employee of the Town of Simsbury

since 2005, and;

WHEREAS, Mr. Sullivan spearheaded the effort by the Connecticut Association of

Assessing Officers to write a program that

identifies vehicles and values

them appropriately, and;

WHEREAS, The CAAO noted that his performance in the past has been "extraordinary," and;

WHEREAS, Mr. Sullivan has been honored with a Special Recognition Award for

developing the "Fin Identification" assessing software on his personal

time, and;

WHEREAS, Only two per cent of CAAO members are recognized with an award in

any year.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE KNOWN, that the Town of Simsbury hereby recognizes Assistant Assessor Patrick Sullivan for his Recognition Award and commends him for his efforts in service to the Town of Simsbury and the Connecticut Association of Assessing Officers.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have placed my seal and the great seal of the Town of Simsbury.

Dated this 8th day of June 2009.

Mary A. Glassman

Ms. Glassman said Mr. Sullivan's job isn't always a popular job, but he always does it with good spirits and the Town thanks him.

PUBLIC AUDIENCE

Joan Coe, 26 Whitcomb Drive spoke about the re-election of Ms. Glassman and the process of Town Manager not being started.

Ms. Coe showed a picture of the "alcohol road" and said this is very dangerous as the road goes to nowhere. This has to do with the liquor permit at the restaurant being granted. There is only one person, who works Monday through Friday until 11 p.m., is supposed to monitor and enforce the exit road. This road is posted as 5 miles per hour. Can he enforce this? She feels this is an accident waiting to happen, very dangerous.

Ms. Coe said the Historical Society was fined \$150 for holding an event with alcohol without a permit. Ms. Coe said the Board should vote no on the sale of liquor at the Earth, Wind and Fire concert.

Ms. Coe asked about the suggestion of goats at the Meadowood Triangle. She

feels this would help fertilize the ground and help the Triangle property.

Ms. Coe spoke again about the High School bullying problem. She feels this is a very serious issue and should be further addressed.

All of Ms. Coe's comments can be read on Simsbury.com/forum.

Robert Kalechman, 971 Hopmeadow Street said he feels Ms. Coe is not appreciated for her comments. He spoke about a poem by Barbara Fritcke. He gave the Board a letter to be put into the records.

Mr. Kalechman said he feels the Performing Arts Committee is misleading and deceiving. He said their minutes of June 1st said there was a 4 to 2 vote of support for the liquor to be sold at the Earth, Wind and Fire concert. He feels this is a secret vote. He also feels that the Town should not be in the business of selling alcohol. There were 16 people arrested at a Rock Concert in Hartford.

Mr. Kalechman said there are conflicts of interest in agenda item e. There are prior members of the ethics commission on different boards now. No one seems to know what is going on and money is being diverted all around.

John Lucker, 88 Blue Ridge Drive gave the Board a letter for the record. He said he was concerned about taking a wrong turn down the road of development. He wants development done responsibly and fairly.

Mr. Lucker said there is a lack of discipline and method by which the PAD Sub-Committee is conducting their business. There are several issues he has concerns about including ethics. He said a member of the PAD Sub-Committee owns commercial property in the Town and he should not be on this Committee.

Mr. Lucker said he would give Ms. Glassman the name of the person in private so she can refer this to the Board Ethics. Mr. Lucker's comments are attached.

Ms. Glassman said there is no application pending at this time.

Martha Delaney said that the dog park is a leading force in Granby and feels a dog park in Simsbury would be a great addition. It is good for business and great for meeting new friends. Their park was all done through donations.

First Selectman Reports

Ms. Glassman said the Town did authorize \$40,000 for the Charrette. The

Town did receive \$57,300 in grant money. The Charrette will take place September 11 - 16th. There will be a Sub-Committee meeting Wednesday to discuss the details. They will try to get a lot of information out to the public before the Charrette.

Ms. Glassman said the Town received a \$49,000 grant for the Incentive Housing Program Study. Concord Plan is working on the study.

Ms. Glassman said the Town received a \$25,000 grant from the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation for the Charrette.

Ms. Glassman said there is a planned area of development zoning regulation sub-committee working on mixed use regulations. There are no pending applications at this time.

PRESENTATION

Receive presentation, and possible action, regarding a proposal for a Dog Park to be located at Meadow Pond Park, which is located on Hedgehog Lane.

Linda Johnson thanked the Board for inviting them. They have worked long and hard for the past year to get this Dog Park presented. She feels the dogs of Simsbury need a place to run off leash and play with other dogs in a fenced area.

Ms. Johnson said this park would be self-funded and would cost about \$30,000. There would be waste containers for everyone to pick-up after themselves. They will continue their fund-raising efforts to make this park work.

Anita Miller said she goes to the Granby Dog Park and it does bring money to their Town by shopping there and getting gas there. It is great for socializing and great exercise for the dogs.

Gerry Garlick lives on Hedgehog Lane and feels this would be a great addition to the neighborhood. It is land that can't really be used for anything else as it is a sloped area. There will be signs with rules of the park posted.

Mark Rudewicz, Simsbury Animal Control Officer supports the Park. He feels this would increase the paid licenses as well and would decrease dog complaints. It is a great socializing network. He would like there to be an educational aspect to the Park as well.

Phil Michaud, a behavioral trainer, said a park is a great network for dogs and people. This would be a safe place for everyone.

The Board would like more information on fund raising and rules of the park. After further discussion, Mr. Hampton to move this item forward with endorsement to the appropriate commissions. Mr. Hensley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

ACTION ITEMS

a) Review, discuss and possibly approve minutes of the following regular meeting:

Regular Meeting Minutes for May 27, 2009

Mr. Hogan made motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen for May 27, 2009. Ms. Wertheimer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b) Review, discuss and possibly set a date for a public hearing for 7:00 p.m. June 22nd to receive public comment regarding applications submitted pursuant to the Neighborhood Assistance Act Program.

Ms. Wertheimer made motion to set a Public Hearing date of June 22nd at 7:00 p.m. to receive public comment regarding applications submitted pursuant to the Neighborhood Assistance Act Program. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

c) Review, discuss and possibly approve a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$25,000 to be reimbursed by grant funds through the State of Connecticut-Department of Environmental Protection for a Low Impact Development/Density Study near the Farmington River.

Ms. Wertheimer made motion to approve a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$25,000 to be reimbursed by grant funds through the State of Connecticut-Department of Environmental Protection for a Low Impact Development/Density Study near the Farmington River. Mr. Hogan seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

d) Consider, review and possible approval of an amendment to License Agreement to permit Distel Productions to Perform Production Services for the Reach Music Festival Featuring Earth, Wind and Fire subject to the review of the Board of Ethics.

Ms. Wertheimer made motion to approval an amendment to License Agreement to permit Distel Productions to Perform Production Services for the Reach Music Festival featuring Earth, Wind and Fire subject to the review of the

Board of Ethics. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

e) Review, discuss and possibly approve a request, as recommended by the Performing Arts Center Board to authorize the First Selectman, as property owner, to execute and application to the Zoning Commission, to allow Rider Productions and the Reach Foundation to apply for permission to sell alcohol on the premises of the Performing Arts Center at Simsbury Meadows in conjunction with a concert scheduled at the Simsbury Performing Arts Center on August 29, 2009.

Dave Ryan said the Performing Arts Board met to discuss the Reach Foundations request to sell alcohol. All of the sales from the concert, including alcohol sales, if allowed, would go to children's charities. The Performing Arts Board voted four to two to recommend that the Board of Selectmen apply to the Zoning Commission for a permit to sell alcohol for these charities. Also, they will have to look into future concerts for a better policy at the Performing Arts Center.

Mark Wilson, founder of the Reach Foundation, said he is not here to create a conflict. If the Town feels this is too quick, he will accept that. However, he would like to make money for children's charities and knows he can do this with this concert. He explained how the Reach Foundation works and how many children they have helped.

Mr. Wilson said there would be a staff of professional bartenders along with volunteers. All ID's would be checked and wrist bands would be given out. He takes safety very seriously.

The Board felt that this is a big step for the Town. They would like more information from other Towns on how to proceed with this. There needs to be a strict policy for the Performing Arts

Center on how to run concerts and other performances there. Ms. Glassman said the Town's insurance carrier would like alcohol regulated rather than people bringing their own, however, the Board members did feel this was moving too quickly.

Ms. Wertheimer made motion to deny the request for the sale of alcohol at the Earth, Wind and Fire Event on August 29, 2009. Mr. Hogan seconded the motion. Ms. Wertheimer, Mr. Hogan and Mr. Hensley were in favor with Ms. Glassman and Mr. Hampton against; therefore, the motion passed.

f) Review, discuss and possibly approve tax refunds as recommended and requested by the Tax Collector.

Mr. Hogan made motion to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$867.35 as recommended and requested by the Tax Collector. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Personnel

A Special Meeting of the Personnel Sub-Committee is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on June 8th. Agenda items discussed at that meeting may be referred to the Board of Selectmen for action.

Mr. Hampton made motion to approve requests for Town staff to attend conferences as recommended by the Personnel Sub-Committee. Ms. Wertheimer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Hampton made motion to approve a request by the Public Works Director to fill a Custodian II position in the Building and Grounds Department at the Library as recommended by the Personnel Sub-Committee. Ms. Wertheimer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b) Finance - no report at this time.

c) Welfare - no report at this time.

d) Public Safety - no report at this time.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

None at this time.

LIAISON REPORTS

Update regarding activity of Athletic Field Sub-Committee of the Culture, Parks and Recreation Commission.

Ms. Glassman said the Sub-Committee was asked to take a look at the request for field needs. The Sub-Committee indicated that they would be reporting back. There is no action to take tonight.

Mr. Hensley said that the number of fields is adequate, but they may need to be allocated appropriately. This will be looked in to and there will be a report back to the Culture, Parks and Recreation Commission. Ms. Glassman asked that all information be given before the budget process begins.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Adjourn to Executive Session to discuss the following:

Discussion of pending claim of Captain Peter Sevetz

Mr. Hensley made motion to adjourn to Executive Session at 9 p.m. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Hampton made a motion to settle the pending claim of Captain Peter Sevetz. The Town will make payment to Captain Peter Sevetz in the amount of \$40,000 and Captain Sevetz will retire on July 30, 2009. In return, Captain Sevetz will agree to a full and final settlement of all future and pending claims. Mr. Hogan seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Hensley made a motion to adjourn from executive session at 9:08 p.m. Ms. Wertheimer seconded the motion and the motion was adopted.

Mr. Hensley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary A. Glassman
First Selectman