

From: Susan Mazurski July 24, 2012 1:20:26 PM
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To: SimsburyCT_SelectMin
Cc:

TOWN OF SIMSBURY - BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - JULY 9, 2012

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 Sean Askham, Lisa Heavner, John Hampton and Moira Wertheimer. Absent was Nancy Haase. Others in attendance included Tom Cooke, Maryann Harris and other interested parties.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC AUDIENCE

Joan Coe, 26 Whitcomb Drive, said at the June 28th meeting, Ms. Heavner and Mr. Hampton did not accept the Charter Revision changes, after a long discussion. She said none of the Board members were concerned about a paragraph that allows the elected First Selectman to delegate all authority to a non-qualified psuedo Town Manager to control the government. This is wrong.

There was also a lot of discussion about the Design Review Board being controlled by the Zoning Commission. This document shouldn't have been forwarded to the public for a vote. It should have been rejected in total by the Board of Selectmen.

Ms. Coe feels she was bullied at the May 14th Ground Lease meeting. She does expect an apology.

She spoke again about notices of meetings on Eno Farms being placed in mailboxes. She said the Town owes the Post Office \$21. She said all of the documents were locked in an office and she had to call Freedom of Information before the door was unlocked so documents could be available.

Robert Kalechman, 791 Hopmeadow Street addressed the treatment of Mr. Crowley at the concert on last Friday evening. He feels Mr. Crowley was treated very rudely. This needs to be addressed.

Mr. Kalechman said he spoke to someone with the symphony and they told him that they signed a lease and now control the property there. They have control of who can go there and who can't now.

Mr. Kalechman spoke about the First Amendment and read it to the group. He said anyone can make a petition on anything. Editorials are protected by the First Amendment. Mr. Kalechman spoke about an article in the Hartford Courant about the First Amendment.

Mike Rinaldi, Pinacle Mountain Road, gave copies of what he wanted to say to two Board members. He spoke about ethics and logic. He was disappointed in the attendance at Town Meetings. He petitioned the Charter Revision Commission and proposed discontinuing the meetings as an approval or voting body, but continuing it as a question/answer informational meeting. He also gave proposals that were not considered of sufficient merit.

Mr. Rinaldi put his confidence in the elected officials, but feels with two out of five members disagreeing on the Charter Revisions means two Board members didn't do their jobs. He does hope that 90% will turn out for the voting in November and hope they really do understand the changes in the Charter. He feels the Board should have sent the changes back to the Commission for further review again.

Dan Crowley said he identifies solvable pair of problems and would like to discuss them. He said somehow the enhanced Dial-a-Ride service has been slashed substantially due to lack of funding. These people need to go to their doctor visits and we should be allowed to bring them. The problem is who/why has this been allowed to happen. We need to fight for the revenue to resolve this issue.

Mr. Crowley said there is no provision for Veterans to attend the visits to Newington now. This was all blamed on the State due to the cutting of funds.

Mr. Crowley said we should be asking affluent residents to help fund this enhanced Dial-a-Ride as appointments for these people is very necessary. How much will it cost to re-instate this service? How can we deny these people medical attention? We need to find a solution for these issues.

Mr. Crowley spoke about his “accosting” at the concert on Friday night. He had an encounter with a Hartford Symphony representative as he wanted to sit in the shade and enjoy the concert, and would not move when told to, as it was public property. This is not the way to treat anyone. The police were also called.

Ms. Glassman said there was more money added to the Dial-a-Ride program in the budget process. The issue of the State cutting funds was brought to the attention of the Board at 5 p.m. today. She will check with the State and report back to the public.

Ms. Glassman said she is very sorry that Mr. Crowley was treated in that manner at the concert. She was glad that the police responded appropriately. She will talk to the Performing Arts Board

about this as well.

Sue Bednarczyk, 119 E. Weatogue Street, spoke again about the Land Use Boards and poor planning. The Town needs to choose what developments they want in the Town. She heard there is a Big Y proposal on the table now. We need to solve the land use issues as the Board works for the people.

Sue Masino, 41 Madison Lane, spoke about the Simsbury Grange, Chapter 197. She said this has been active in the community for over 80 years. They are trying to keep the community asset going.

Ms. Masino said there will be an Agricultural Fair/Membership Fair for the Land Trust on September 15th. There will be country fair events and displays along with a Lego display. This is from 10 am to 2 pm.

Ms. Masino said the first fund-raiser for the Grange will be this Saturday at the Iron Frog. There will be a live band, who will donate a portion of their fee. The Iron Frog will also donate a portion of their proceeds to the Grange. It starts at 9-9:30 p.m.

Ms. Masino said the band will be playing there again on August 25th for a joint fund-raiser for the Simsbury Land Trust and the Grange. She had some flyers to be hung up. Ms. Glassman thanked Ms. Masino for all of her efforts to revive the Grange.

FIRST SELECTMAN’S REPORT

Ms. Glassman said the Spoonville Dam is being removed by CL&P. This will help beautify and make the area safer. Any questions can be directed to the Farmington River Watershed Association at 860-658-4442 X 205 or on

Ms. Glassman said Simsbury is participating in a hurricane disaster exercise on July 30th and 31st. This is a State-wide requirement and is put on by the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security. It will be used to identify problem areas in planning for disasters.

SELECTMEN ACTIONS

Ms. Heavner made motion to approve the tax refunds in the amount of \$217.71 as recommended and approved by the Tax Collector. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Ms. Wertheimer made motion: RESOLUTION
PROPOSED REVISED CHARTER
OF THE TOWN OF SIMSBURY

WHEREAS, the Simsbury Charter Revision Commission has proposed certain amendments to the Simsbury Town Charter, contained in the Final Report and Proposed Revised Charter filed with the Town Clerk on June 18, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Selectmen held a public hearing on the

Proposed Revised Charter and conferred with the Simsbury Charter Revision Commission prior to the Commission's filing of the Final Report and the Proposed Revised Charter on June 18, 2012; and

WHEREAS, on June 25, 2012 the Board of Selectmen approved the Proposed Revised Charter as submitted by the Charter Revision Commission.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That a referendum shall be held on the Proposed Revised Charter on Tuesday, November 6, 2012 between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. at the four polling places established for regular election in Simsbury, Connecticut.

2. That the following ballot question shall appear on the voting machines of the referendum in the following form:

Shall the Charter of the Township of the Town of Simsbury
be amended
as proposed by the Simsbury Charter Revision Commission in
the June 18,
2012 Proposed Revised Charter and as approved by the
Simsbury Board
of Selectmen?

3. That the First Selectman shall cause the Proposed Revised Charter to be published as a legal notice as set forth in the Connecticut General Statutes.

4. That the Simsbury Town Attorney shall prepare an explanatory test for the Referendum on the Proposed Revised Charter for consideration by the Board of Selectmen.

5. That the attached Legal Notice of Referendum is hereby approved.

Mary A. Glassman

John K. Hampton

Lisa L. Heavner

Sean P. Askham

Moiria K. Wertheimer

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

c) Review suggested project to be submitted for State 2013 STEAP Grant

Ms. Heavner made motion to approve the suggested projects as presented to be submitted for the State 2013 STEAP Grant. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

d) Accept receipt of an Emergency Management Performance Grant award in the amount of \$23,628

Mr. Hampton made motion to accept receipt of the Emergency Management Performance Grant award in the amount of \$23,648. The purpose of this grant is to assist our community in maintaining a strong local emergency management program. First Selectman, Mary A. Glassman

is named as the Town of Simsbury Official who is authorized to accept the Emergency Management Performance Grant #011E128A, dated June 11, 2012 on behalf of the Town of Simsbury. Mr. Askham seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

e) Approve of revised salary range for the position of Captain

Mr. Hampton made motion to approve a revised salary range of \$83,000 to \$110,000 for the position of Captain with the Simsbury Police Department. Mr. Askham seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

f) Approval of budget transfers proposed by the Director of Finance

Mr. Hampton made motion to approved proposed year-end budget transfers, proposed by the Finance Director, to adjust Fiscal Year 2012 budgets. Mr. Askham seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

g) Discussion and possible approval of CCM Prescription Discount Card Program for Simsbury residents

Mr. Hampton made motion to authorize the First Selectman to enter in a contract with ProAct Inc. for the implementation of a Discount Card Program which would provide discounted rates on prescription drug prices, vision, LASIK and hearing expenses for the residents of Simsbury at no cost to

residents or the Town, subject to final review and approval by Town Counsel. Mr. Askham seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS

a) Emergency Operations Center Drill - July 30-31, 2012

Ms. Glassman said the Emergency Operations Center Drill will be held at Town Hall on July 30-31st. There will be a Public Safety Committee meeting on July 19th to discuss this issue further.

b) Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event to be held on Saturday, August 4th at the Henry James Memorial School, 155 Firetown Road

Ms. Glassman noted that there will be a household hazardous waste collection event on Saturday, August 4th at the Henry James Memorial School at 155 Firetown Road. Items that can be collected will be posted on the Town website.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

No appointments or resignations at this time.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

a) Regular Meeting of June 25, 2012

Ms. Wertheimer made motion to accept the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 25, 2012. Several corrections were made. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor with corrections and the motion passed.

SELECTMEN LIAISON AND SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Personnel - Ms. Heavner said the Personnel Committee met to discuss a revised salary range of \$83,000 to \$110,000 for the position of Captain with the Simsbury Police Department. They voted unanimously to approve this change.

After discussion, Mr. Askham made motion to approve a revised salary range of \$83,000 to \$110,000 for the position of Captain with the Simsbury Police Department. Ms. Heavner seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Ms. Glassman recused herself. Mr. Hampton took over the meeting.

Ms. Heavner spoke about delivering notices to resident mailboxes. She said there were extra steps taken to get word out to people to get everyone to attend the Eno meeting and the Board does abide by the law. They are now waiting for more information about the ground lease before any action can be taken.

Ms. Glassman returned to the meeting.

2. Finance - no report at this time.
3. Welfare - no report at this time.
4. Public safety - no report at this time.
5. Board of Education - no report at this time.
6. WPCA Liaison Report - no report at this time.

Mr. Askham made motion to allow for more Public Audience. Ms. Heavner seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Harmon Poole, 28 Barons Court, said the Town always needs to cooperate with other Towns in the Farmington Valley so Dial-a-Ride can move forward.

Mr. Crowley, spoke again about the funding issue for Dial-a-Ride. He said the Board just approved putting \$175,000 back into the general fund, so maybe some of that could be used for the needy. He wants action taken now.

Ms. Glassman said the Social Service Department isn't ready to bring this to the Board yet. This issue needs to be investigated further.

Mr. Crowley said the largest sport in the world is bird watching. He said we sacrificed the flood plain to make more soccer fields.

Mr. Crowley spoke again about his problem at the concert. He was very upset that anyone would be treated that way. We should go back to the free symphony that used to be there.

Ms. Coe said that public audience is to be used by the public to speak on any issue of their concerns, even if it is to ask the public for their votes.

Ms. Coe feels the Talcott Mountain staff has no right to remove people from concerts. The Meadows belongs to the taxpayers.

Ms. Bednarczyk said the Dial-a-Ride issue needs to be handled now as residents do need to get to appointments.

Mr. Kalechman said he feels it is his duty to attend public meetings. Something needs to be done about the Dial-a-Ride issue also. Money was given to other committees, etc. and now we have no money for Dial-a-Ride for the needy. It just isn't right and something needs to be done about it now.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Review of Status of Gladney v. Town of Simsbury

Mr. Hampton made motion to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:40 p.m. Mr. Askham seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman