CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Meeting Room of the Simsbury Town Offices. Present were: First Selectman Wendy Mackstutis; Deputy First Selectman Steve Antonio; Board members Mike Paine, Diana Yeisley, and Curtis Looney. Others in attendance included: Town Manager Marc Nelson; Deputy Town Manager Tom Fitzgerald; Treasurer/Finance Director Amy Meriwether; Budget Director Melissa Appleby; Town Engineer/Public Works Director Tom Roy; Library Director Lisa Miceli and other interested parties.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Mackstutis noted that Public Audience will be moved up before the Presentation.

PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO TOWN CODE CHAPTER 13: ETHICS, CODE OF

For the Purpose of Hearing Comments from the Public regarding the Proposed Amendments to Simsbury Code Chapter 13: Ethics, Code of

Joan Coe, 26 Whitcomb Drive, spoke about what unethical behavior means. She said the Code of Ethics establishes clear standards of conduct for public officials, employees, board members and consultants. This ensures transparency and forces community trust. It protects public resources. It is a roadmap for judging the conduct or actions of people that defy the rules of the law. The Board of Ethics needs to be able to judge their peers and need to be willing to reprimand those who are unethical with warnings, demotions, suspensions, or even immediate terminations. They must be impartial when judging conflicts.

Ms. Yeisley made a motion, effective July 13, 2026, retroactively, to open the Public Hearing on the proposed amendments to Town Code Chapter 13: Ethics, Code of. Mr. Looney seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Lori Boyko said these are nominal changes to the Board of Ethics Code, which she has addressed many times before. She said the people of a governing district can have trust and confidence in the public decision making. She said that those who make decisions don't seem concerned whatsoever about possible ethics violations and indeed brush it off as small-town politics. She said she has spoken to attorneys at the State Ethics Offices about "big E ethics and small e ethics." She said Big E ethics are related to matters that have been codified in State Statutes or local ordinances. Little e ethics are a matter of individual integrity or conflicts of interest that have not been codified but remain of paramount importance. Ms. Boyko went through a few

cases where the State changed a decision from local Ethics Boards. There should never be a question of propriety of the Town's official acts. She feels we have real issues in Simsbury in which conflicts occur much more regularly to the advantage of small groups or individuals than ever should. She feels this cannot continue.

After no further comments, Mr. Looney made a motion, effective July 13, 2026, to close the Public Hearing on Town Code Chapter 13: Ethics, Code of at 6:07. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Ms. Mackstutis said there will be more discussion and review from the Town Attorney and, if necessary, at the August Board meeting.

PUBLIC AUDIENCE (6:07:23)

- **Email townmanager@simsbury-ct.gov by noon on Monday, July 13, 2026, to register to address the Board of Selectmen live through Zoom**
- **Written comments can be emailed to townmanager@simsbury-ct.gov, not to be read into the record, but forwarded to all Selectmen via email**

Joan Coe, 26 Whitcomb Drive, spoke again about her no trespassing report to the Simsbury Police Department. She feels Mr. Antonio lives in Simsbury with a protective shield of government, which is unfairly protecting their own privileges. He has not assumed any responsibility for his actions. He destroys anyone who dares to challenge his credibility. She said she is asking, through social media, for everyone to boycott Antonio's Restaurant and Bar until he removes his no trespass report against her.

She said she recently questioned a sign at The Simsbury Inn entrance that was not permitted. When the compliance officer informed them of this, the sign was removed immediately. Ms. Coe said no action was taken when a sign at Antonio's was notified as illegal. She said the Fire Department was called to 133 Holcomb Street on July 4th for a big party and illegal fireworks. A report was made, but no arrests were made.

Ms. Coe said on June 10th several school trips went to High Meadow Day Camp in Granby. Officer Ball was there to assist with security at the Camp. There was a child who sipped in the pool and suffered a medical emergency. Officer Ball performed life-saving measures; however, the child was pronounced deceased. Other children who witnessed this also required medical assistance. The comfort dog was not with Officer Ball at that time.

Ms. Coe said now that the nation is celebrating the 250th, officials should be required to read the Declaration of Independence as a requirement for their public service. It says the government derives their legitimate authority entirely from the people they govern.

Margaret Haldeman, 17 Banks Road, said she strongly supported the deputy library director, head of children's services division position. She said the role focuses on the future at the library while protecting the exceptional services already at our library. She feels the library is more than a place to borrow books. They collaborate with the Aging and Disability Commission on events, and a co-sponsor of other events for the community. She feels the revised job description formalizes vital library responsibilities. This person will also serve as acting library director when necessary. These duties affect every patron at the library. This role also prioritizes long-term planning like pursuing grants, strengthening emergency preparedness, and assisting with budgeting, etc.

This position will help with financial stability and operational success. She said this is not a new position or expansion of staffing, but it formally recognizes management responsibilities. She feels it strengthens organizational continuity and secures successional planning. This update make excellent sense. With this update we will always be prepared to step in without interruption of vital services. She encouraged the Board to approve this position.

Katie Crawford, 32 Phelps Cross Road, spoke about being in favor of the Deputy Director/Head of Children Services job description. She has lived here for 12 years and has also served the Town in different capacities. She has worked in the children's department for almost 5 years and has seen exceptional leadership, professionalism, and dedication. She finds it unusual that with a Library this size, we don't have a deputy director to support the leadership. A deputy director position would create more space to allow for the investment and success of the staff and quality of service provided to the community. This formalizes the responsibilities that the head of children's services has been completing alongside of their other duties. Stephanie has already been very helpful and is very qualified. The position provides crucial operational leadership, ensures continuity in the library operations and strengthens support for the director in one of the most treasured facilities. The position utilizes existing staff without creating an entirely new administrative structure. She asked that the Board support this revision in this position.

Nicole Mohart said she was in support of the revised Library job description. She said she literally moved to Simsbury for the Library. She and her family are always at the library. She works with a youth organization, and the library has welcomed them as a community partner, and they have participated and contributed in their programing. It takes coordination, vision, and leadership to build community connections that they now have. She said organizing, programming and resources, etc. require a title and structure that reflects the scope of the work. This reclassification does exactly that. She said this is not a new hire or budget line and it is already funded and approved at the referendum. This sends a message that Simsbury values and invests in its people. She urged the Board to approve the reclassification.

Fred Bonini, a former 18-year Simsbury resident, and a 10-year President of the Simsbury Fish and Game Club, spoke about the Stoddard Reservoir. He spoke about a very difficult and complex conversion of a reservoir to a stream. He spoke on the importance of the reservoir on our environment and the protected freshwater clams in that water. He said there are also a population of native brook trout. These are critical for us to save in our State. He said it is also a habitat for blue herrings, snapping turtles, etc. There are so many beautiful things there in that

incredible setting. He would like to suggest that the Town, Fish and Game and Watershed Council go to the State for a grant to save the reservoir. He also spoke about the volume of water and the sediment there. He really wants the dam repaired. He said it is important for everyone to support this project and was appreciative that he could speak.

Norris Christensen, 6 Shinkle Mill Road, said in 1900 there were only 2000 people in Simsbury. Ensign Bickford just converted from water power to electric power 5 years before that. Now there was electricity and water in Town. Some families came together and created The Village Water Company of Simsbury in 1903. The Patterson Reservoir was then constructed. He said he went to a meeting on June 4th about the dam. He said they used a "fear factor" by using "catastrophic failure" is waiting to happen there. He feels the engineering firm "created the result" and it could be taken down, repair it, or it could be replaced. He would like everyone to pause any action so further studies can be done.

Nevin Christensen, 44 West Mountain Road, also spoke on the reservoir. He said it used to be an old fishing spot but now the back part of the pond is just growing grass. The deepest part is about 7ft; just a little brook now. He gave the Board a report from his son Chadum on the important things growing there. He said the Fire Department said there was a dry hydrant there, that if repaired, could be used again. The silt will fill any holes in the dam. He would also like to put a pause on this so more information can be obtained to see if this can be preserved as it is such a valuable property. Maybe there could be a park area there or something where everyone could enjoy it.

Michelle Rotundo, 4 Adams Road, said she attended the Congressional chat on July 1st on the opposition to 8-30g Statute for the large 689-unit Silverman proposal. She noted that this proposal was just denied by the Wetlands Commission. She said this may not stop them as they could re-apply with another proposal. She is strongly opposed to this development, and she is opposed to the 8-30g Statute. She does support affordable housing, but it must be done thoughtfully to preserve the qualities Simsbury has. She moved here for the open space, beauty, nature, and character of the Town. She feels the 8-30g Statute could allow huge developments in our Town and that would be unfathomable to her. Very large developments would put a strain on our Town schools, roads, water, sewer, emergency services, and increase traffic, etc. She feels this would permanently change the character of Simsbury. She feels this project would move Simsbury only modestly towards the 10% affordable housing threshold. We would absorb impact while remaining subject to that law. This all needs another look and this Board can be a powerful advocate for the Town. She asked that the Board make reform of CT 8-30g law one of Simsbury's legislative priorities. She asked that the Town work with State legislators to pursue reforms that recognize towns making real progress towards affordable housing. She asked that we advocate for changes that give greater credit for deed restricted affordable housing, recognize accessory dwelling units that meet affordability standards, explore ways to count renovated and preserved existing apartment communities by reclassifying them as affordable housing, revisit how the 10% is calculated, etc. We should also look in to expanding moratorium options for communities like ours that demonstrate measurable progress with affordable housing planning and development. She also asked that the Board speak frequently about the impacts that the developments would have on our infrastructure, municipal resources, etc., and character of our

community. We do have an affordable house plan and have adopted projects, and we deserve greater local control. She asked that the Board be a strong voice for a balanced approach while protecting our Town.

Sara Westhaver, 6 Adams Road, said a 689-unit property would affect the terrible traffic issues we already have in our main artery in Town. Latimer would directly be impacted by a big housing development as the school is already full. She wonders what the plan is for the children who move into this type of development. She gave a brief history of her growing up in this Town and what she does today and she loves this Town. She said she attended the 250th parade and it was great. She asked the Board to consider what we would loose if we keep adding more and more in Town. This is a very quaint and charming Town, and she asked the Board to help keep it this way. She feels the Hartford property would be a great sports complex of some kind.

Nord Christensen, 35 West Mountain Road, gave the Board a written report. He spoke about Stoddard Dam He has never heard about the removal before from anyone and he doesn't use a computer. There needs to be another place to get information on this issue. He said the pond has been a focal part of the community forever. Before electricity his great-grandparents and grandparents cut ice there. He said the icehouse is at the bottom of his driveway. He said this was a place for kids to fish and sled and learn how not to drown. It is now used by the Fish and Game Club for fishing. He said when he spoke to the Engineering Department, they said the State DEP wants it torn down or brought up to present day standards. He doesn't feel that everything needs to be brought up to present day standards. It has survived many floods. He doesn't understand how DEP doesn't consider Crystal Pond in Eastford, where he has property, that a downstream threat but thinks our little 6 ft. deep dam is. He would also like this project slowed down. He feels the grand list is only going to go down not up and we don't have the money to do this project.

Holly McGrath, 2 Old Barge Road, spoke as the Chairman of the Library Board of Trustees, and said the community has already spoken about the value the library provides. She thanked the Board for taking action to strengthen the leadership capacity of the library. The value it provides is critical for the quality of life for all ages at the library. It looks forward and strengthens the preparedness for our future. She has full confidence that this position is the right one for the future. She strongly supports the reclassification of the head of children's to include a deputy of duties.

Jennifer Kirkland, 54 Drumlin Road, said she wanted to amplify what others have said about the reclassification of a deputy director of children's services at the library. She asked the Board to approve this position. She is on the Aging and Disability Commission and feels the library is a valuable partner to all of the committees and commissions. She urged the Board to support this position to strengthen the libraries' future.

Taylor Lyden, 9 Oakhurst Road, said she loves this Town. She said the common thread that applies to what everyone has said is how much they all love this Town too. She wanted to speak about the Silverman project and whatever the Town might do to reform or amend 8-30g or to at least find a way to protect the Town. She wants to be more involved with this issue. She said

even though the project was denied tonight it probably won't be going away. She feels we need to find a sustainable way to preserve the integrity of our Town the way it is. We need to fight for nature, fields, etc. that can't fight for themselves. She said affordable housing is affordable housing and we should get credit for that no matter when it actually started. She supports reforming.

Lori Boyko, 15 Oakhurst Road, said that State Statutes specifically prevent requiring attendees at town meetings to sign in. Sign in documents are required, retained documents and are foi-able. Something needs to be put on the bulletin board explaining signing in and/or speaking at the meetings.

She also noted that the library takes donations that contribute to the activities and resources that they have.

She also said that Stoddard Dam is on Town-owned property and the public is not allowed to fish there. She said fishing is just for the Fish and Game members, which is quite pricy and people still need to pay for a State fishing license. She feels if this is on Town-owned property, people should be able to use it without additional costs.

She also said that after some research 8-30g, the State made errors to our estimations from reading the land records in terms of what they qualified as affordable housing. She thinks there are conversations going on considering reapplying for that moratorium. She said she looked at the records and strongly encouraged the Town to look at whether we can get a moratorium reapplication as quickly as possible.

Ms. Boyko said member Sandoval from the Board of Ethics is resigning. She wanted to express her gratitude to her and said she will be missed. She feels she deeply understood the ethical concerns and made a great effort to give a very careful decision. She hopes her replacement will be equally dedicated and balanced in their decisions.

Aiden Rhodes, 117 Firetown Road, said he is very passionate about the Stoddard Dam. He would love for it to be renovated and share the love for it. He is a high school student and a member of the Fish and Game Club. He also is a member of a high school club – Simsbury Big Fish and Game Club. He said this club is able to visit and fish there without having to pay. He said at the beginning of the school year they will have a go fund me page for the dam. He wants everyone to think about this dam and the fish in there so it can be renovated.

PRESENTATION (7:00:38)

a) Capital/Bonding Discussion

Ms. Meriwether said she would go through what capital planning matters and what our current capital looks like. She also went through the growing challenges with unfunded capital needs and the cost of delaying those needs. She will also go through long-term planning and give some

recommendations. She said if we are going to make any changes to how we approach the budget this year, now is the time to start, as the budget is right around the corner.

Ms. Meriwether said capital needs keep growing while resources are always limited. There are always aging buildings and equipment to deal with. She said long-term planning is always needed. She went through our current capital planning and information on where there is room for improvement. We need a sustainable roadmap for future budgets.

Ms. Meriwether said the Board needs to hear what the residents want, need, or can live without. We also need to know what people are willing to pay/not pay for services. She said our current funding source now is mainly bonding and we can do 10 million every two years in bonding. She said we need to have a plan to minimize or discontinue bonding. There are a lot of factors that go into this amount.

Ms. Meriwether said our capital improvement plan includes capital projects that need to be done but cannot be accommodated within the current bonding limits. She said the unfunded account limits the ability to effectively plan beyond the current fiscal year. We need to make the five-year plan more effective. She went through the unfunded capital needs and said the bonding constraints don't allow for adequate funding for our plan, which leads to having projects deferred. This gap will not close without long-term planning and she went through why capital planning matters.

She said we need to build a sustainable capital fund strategy to help create predictability. She would like to have a rotating schedule rather than what is going to fall apart this year. Ms. Meriwether said she would like to have the capital planning shift from reacting to annual budget pressures to proactively managing the Town's long-term infrastructure needs.

Ms. Meriwether went through some benefits in long-term planning, consistent funding practices, reducing reliance on reserves, increased focus on maintenance, and a reduced debt burden. She went through how delaying projects can cost more due to inflation and cost of the project. Deferring maintenance can become a major capital replacement as well. She said emergency verses planned replacements could be less cost effective as there is no time to negotiate pricing and can cause disruption in services.

Ms. Meriwether went through her long-term, multi-year financial budget modeling scenarios, that goes out 15 years, that she does for the Board of Finance. She went through the fiscal year 2027 CIP bonding limits that we will have for that plan. We have to fit into bonding 10 million every two years. She went through how the debt service works with an amortization schedule for any debt service issuance. She went through the capital plan graph, which shows different colors for different debt service issuances. She also went through the Board of Finance debt service policy. Ms. Meriwether said this modeling also shows cash for capital and the use of reserves.

Ms. Meriwether said if we could find a model that works long-term and that can be tweeked during the budget cycle, it would be more effective during the budget process, more transparent, and a better use of staff resources. This model would be a good way of balancing for debt,

reserves, grants, cash for capital, etc. It would ensure that we have sustainable funding strategies. This would bring consistent guidance year after year and would give the residents an idea of what is coming up so they can prepare for it.

She said the recommendations are to develop a realistic financially sustainable CIP that is a true long-term plan document with identifiable fund strategies for all planned projects. We need to incorporate the new CIP into the budget modeling tool. We need to establish long-term plan scenarios for future budgets, etc. We need to work collaboratively with the Board of Selectmen, Board of Education, and Board of Finance, and staff. However, the process starts with the Board of Selectmen. They are looking for guidance on how to plan for the future.

After further discussion, there was no motion needed at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA (7:45:26)

Ms. Yeisley made a motion, effective July 13, 2026, to move items d) Authorize the Town Manager to Apply for the Tai Ji Quan Grant Application, item e) Authorize the Town Manager to apply for the 2026 Community Energy Boost Grant Application; under Selectmen Action and item a) Acknowledge Receipt of Gabriela Sandoval's resignation from the Board of Ethics; under Appointments and Resignations to the consent agenda. Mr. Antonio seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT (7:45:54)

Ms. Mackstutis, First Selectman, reviewed her First Selectman's report.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT (7:47:09)

Mr. Nelson, Town Manager, reviewed his Town Manager's report.

LIAISON AND SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS (7:49:04)

Mr. Paine said EDC has a meeting tomorrow night. They are hoping to have an application at the next meeting. They still have one more opening on that committee.

Ms. Yeisley said the Board of Education has a successful graduation.

She said TechCon gave a presentation at the last meeting on Squadron Line options, and part II of the Central School entry is being done during the summer.

She said Juneteenth was a success with over 2,000 people in attendance.

Ms. Yeisley said the library is reviewing their strategic plan survey results and they are not happy with the EV parking chargers taking up parking space.

She said Public Safety said there are multiple safety events happening more often and resources that are needed.

She said Farmington Valley Health said they are watching the new measles cases in Connecticut. There is a new emergency management plan for all camps in Town.

Ms. Yeisley congratulated Emily Nato, who graduated from the Police Academy. She said Officer Ball is on patrol due to vacancies and vacations.

She said SVAA had 19 students in their EMT class. There have been several heat protocols issued so far this summer, and we will continue to do so if needed.

Ms. Yeisley said Eversource would like people to contact them if their lights are flickering.

She said Aging and Disability said their disability picnic will be held Saturday the 18th from 2-4 at First Church. There is also a Super Thursday event on the 30th at noon at the Senior Center.

Ms. Yeisley said SMPAC is open and complete. Tickets are now available. The ribbon cutting will be on August 19th from 5-7 p.m. by invi5q5ion only.

Ms. Mackstutis said they did interview people for EDC, and they still have a person to interview as they couldn't make the meeting.

Mr. Antonio noted that there will be more openings in October for EDC. They are actively looking for members to join EDC, especially developers and businesspeople, but all who are interested should apply.

Mr. Antonio said the 250th was a huge success. Special thanks to John Fox and Kevin Kowalski, co-chairs, and everyone else who worked so hard to make it a success.

He said Simsbury Main Street Partnership has a ribbon cutting at Aerial Yoga on August 24th.

The Office Space Committee is working hard to try to be proactive in filling spaces.

Mr. Looney said Zoning approved the 42 units at McLean.

The Police Commission meeting was canceled.

Mr. Looney said Westminster School is having an open house on July 16th from 8:15 – 10 a.m. Everyone can come enjoy a breakfast and tour and watch their programs in action.

SELECTMEN ACTION

a) Authorize the Town Manager to Execute an Ambulance Lease Agreement with the Simsbury Volunteer Ambulance Association (7:53:16)

Ms. Mackstutis said this agreement still needs to have final review from the Town Attorney. Mr. Nelson noted that there were a few edits after a discussion with SVAA, so he would like the Town Attorney, who initially helped with the draft agreement, should give it a final review. She said the insurance and invoice questions had been answered. The radio system is not in yet.

Mr. Antonio made a motion, effective July 13, 2026, to authorize Marc Nelson, Town Manager, to execute a lease agreement for a new ambulance to be leased to the Simsbury Volunteer Ambulance Association for a five-year period from the date of placement into service or 175,000 miles, whichever occurs first.

Further move, to make the approval subject to final review of the Town Attorney.

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

b) Revise the Head of Children's Services Job Description (7:56:18)

Ms. Mackstutis noted that this was approved unanimously by the Personnel Sub-Committee and is now before the Board of Selectmen for final approval. This was already approved during the budget process.

Ms. Yeisley made a motion, effective July 13, 2026, to approve the revised Deputy Library Director/Head of Children's Services Job Description. Mr. Antonio seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

c) Revise the Business and Career Center Coordinator's Job Description (7:57:36)

Ms. Mackstutis said this was given to the Personnel Sub-Committee and then sent back for some revisions as they wanted to see the roles broken out by function. There were also a few minor changes. They went back to the Personnel Sub-Committee and was approved.

Mr. Nelson wanted to thank the union partners and everyone else on this as it was a lot of work.

After some discussion on the liaison clarification, Ms. Yeisley made a motion, effective July 13, 2026, to approve the revised job description, with the change to remove Sustainability, for the Business Development Coordinator position. Mr. Looney seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

d) Authorize the Town Manager to Apply for the Tai Ji Quan: Money for Better Balance® Grant Application

This item was moved to the Consent Agenda.

e) Authorize the Town Manager to Apply for the 2026 Commercial Energy Boost Grant Application

This item was moved to the Consent Agenda.

f) Discussion on the Greater Hartford Giving Foundation Signage at the Simsbury Public Library (8:00:44)

Ms. Yeisley moved to un-table the discussion on the Greater Hartford Giving Foundation Signage at the Simsbury Public Library so it can be addressed now. Mr. Antonio seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Ms. Yeisley said the sign will not be a permanent fixture to the wall at the library.

Mr. Antonio made a motion, effective July 13, 2026, to allow the identification of The Greater Hartford Giving Foundation Partnership at the Simsbury Public Library according to the Library Board of Trustees policy. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. Mr. Paine, Ms. Yeisley, Ms. Mackstutis, and Mr. Antonio voted for, with Mr. Looney voting against. Therefore, the motion passed.

g) Discussion on the Board of Selectmen 2025-2027 Goals (8:02:04)

Ms. Mackstutis made a motion to un-table the discussion on the Board of Selectmen 2025-2027 Goals. Mr. Antonio seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Ms. Mackstutis gave the Board a PowerPoint chart that went through the objectives, accomplishments, and overall themes which were discussed before. She said the Board needs to start looking at items under each theme and then where they need to go to approve this. She said it includes items that are completed already. She said we did increase grant revenue and will continue to try to get grants. She said there are items that are in progress on their goal list along with items that we have not gotten to but might move forward with. She said there we detail level items, action or requested items from Selectmen, and charter recommendations in her report as well.

She said long-term strategies are needed for municipal facilities and community assets. She said they would like to see the old report from about 5-6 years ago on these facilities and assets. There should also be some usage agreements and fee schedules that they should look at.

There was some discussion on projects like the Eno Memorial Hall, the Apple Barn, a 5-year CIP, intergenerational community center, virtual community center, population growth, etc. We do need a building strategy. We need something realistic and obtainable on our goals.

There was also some discussion on government operations including building usage and accessibility. There needs to be consistent policies under ordinances and policies. If wanting to monetarize our assets, the process needs to be easier. We need to figure out the best use of Town assets. We need to spend money wisely. We do need to start with Eno Memorial Hall.

Ms. Mackstutis said for economic development we need to increase grand list growth, support businesses, reduce the pressure on taxpayers, improve coordination among our economic partners, support economic activity, etc.

Ms. Mackstutis said we are working on the tax incentive/abatement policy; we approved the business development person, etc. There was some discussion on creating an organizational chart with the Town Manager's office, local business owners (Mr. Antonio and Mr. Paine) and EDC to create a work group, with measurable goals and outcomes. Mr. Nelson noted that it is the last year of the Main Street Partnership's MOU, so that should be looked at also. This ends as of June 30, 2027, as well as the SVAA agreement.

Mr. Antonio spoke about some welcome signs being in rough condition in Town and the pillars in Tariffville. There have been some creative ideas that have come up on the pillars as DOT said they could be dangerous.

Mr. Roy said they are looking at some options for the signs. There was also discussion on what is in the Tariffville Plan for signage. There was some discussion on the signs and if they all need to be done the same. The Board would like three different options and pricing. There was also some discussion on creating new Boards or Commissions and how they would have to be called temporary. This will be added to the policy list.

They will not reinstate the Tourism Commission at this time. The vacant office strategy is a goal that is ongoing. Under governance, the charter implementation will be started in January 2027. The Board is asking staff to give them a list of ordinances that are out of date and need updating. They need the same information on policies that are needed or need to be updated. Mr. Nelson said they are already working on this. Ms. Mackstutis said updating the policies to appointments to commissions and looping in the parties needs to be worked on.

Ms. Mackstutis said we need to schedule an annual land use board meeting for all the land use commissions. They should also get more information on the possible arts and cultural commission. Also, the list under government operations has all been brought up before.

Mr. Fitzgerald noted that the performance metrics software is in the budget and will be implemented this year.

There was also some discussion on cost savings goals including paving, vehicle maintenance, etc. There needs to be a better model for this for Board of Selectmen and Education. Mr. Roy said there have been conversations and conversations will continue on cost savings. Mr. Nelson said they are working on improving public engagement, transparency, and tracking the number of people who are looking at the website for more useful data, YouTube video bookmarking, etc. This is all a work in progress. There was some discussion on some of the last goals that were discussed. The website and cyber security is done.

After further discussion, no motion was made at this time.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

a) Acknowledge Receipt of Gabriela Sandoval's Resignation from the Board of Ethics

This item was moved to the Consent Agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a) June 8, 2026 Regular Meeting (9:19:20)

Ms. Yeisley made a motion, effective July 13, 2026, to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2026 Regular Meeting. Mr. Looney seconded the motion. Mr. Antonio said on page 157 Simsbury Celebrates should be the 250th Celebration. All were in favor, with the change, and the motion passed.

b) June 15, 2026 Special Meeting (9:20:51)

Ms. Yeisley made a motion, effective July 13, 2026, to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2026 Special Meeting. Mr. Antonio seconded the motion. All were in favor and the emotion passed.

c) July 1, 2026 Special Meeting (9:21:05)

Mr. Antonio made a motion, effective July 13, 2026, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of July 1, 2026. Mr. Looney seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

COMMUNICATIONS

a) Simsbury Performing Arts Proposed Plaque – there was no discussion at this time.

b) Memorandum from Town Manager, Marc Nelson re: Administrative Approval of Public Gathering Permits, dated July 13, 2026 – there was no discussion at this time.

ADJOURN

Ms. Yeisley made a motion, effective July 13, 2026, to adjourn the meeting at 9:21 p.m. Mr. Looney seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi Radocchio
Clerk