CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Friends of the Simsbury Public Library Room at 725 Hopmeadow Street Simsbury. Present were: First Selectman Wendy Mackstutis; Deputy First Selectmen Steve Antonio; Board members Mike Paine, Curtis Looney, and Kevin Beal. Others in attendance included: Town Manager Marc Nelson; Deputy Town Manager Tom Fitzgerald; Police Chief Nicholas Boulter; Public Works Director/Town Engineer Tom Roy; Town Assessor Francine Beland; Deputy Town Assessor Rachael Taylor; Deputy Director/Head of Children's Services Stephanie Prato and other interested parties.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Beal made a motion, effective September 28, 2026, to move Public Audience before the Presentation from Police Chief Nicholas Boulter. Mr. Looney seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Beal made a motion, effective September 28, 2026, to add item g to the agenda: Stoddard Dam Lease. Mr. Looney seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

PUBLIC AUDIENCE (6:02:49)

- **Email townmanager@simsbury-ct.gov by noon on Monday, September 28, 2026, to register to address the Board of Selectmen live through Zoom**

- **Written comments can be emailed to townmanager@simsbury-ct.gov, no read into the record, but forwarded to all Selectmen via email**

Seeing as there are a lot of people for Public Audience, Mr. Beal made a motion, effective September 28, 2026, to limit the time in public audience to 3 minutes per person. Mr. Antonio seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Joan Coe, 26 Whitcomb Drive, spoke about a Board member, a land use application.

Mr. Antonio called "point of order" as her time was over.

Frederick Waage, 9 Branch Brook Drive, a Veteran, spoke about Chapter 141 Article VI: Veteran's Proposed Tax Exemption and asked the Board to adopt the TBIU provision.

Daniel O'Connell, 104 Old Canal Way, spoke about the Flock cameras.

Tucker Salls, 118 Tunxis Place, spoke about privacy and the Flock cameras.

Luke Gilmore, 8 Brandley Road, also spoke about privacy and the Flock cameras.

Jim Mooneyham, 30 Laurel Lnne, also spoke about the Flock cameras and how sometimes people are held for crimes they didn't commit because of the Flock cameras.

Jacqueline Maulucci, 201 Westledge Road, spoke about Flock cameras.

Allen Bradford, 81 Canton Road, spoke about confirming how Flock cameras should be used.

Rene Dagverre, 81 Canton Road, also spoke about the Flock cameras as how they are used.

Kris Ridgeway, 133 Bushy Hill Road, spoke about how he doesn't feel the Flock cameras should be used.

Melissa Osborne, 44 Sand Hill Road, spoke about the Flock cameras and understood they could benefit the Police Department, but feels they are a real risk of rights and privacy.

Andrew Hamlin, 15 North Drive, also spoke about the Flock cameras.

Nicholas Criscitelli, 24 Centerwood Road, spoke about why he would like the Flock cameras taken down.

Paula Rudy, 24 Centerwood Road, also spoke about how she is not happy with the Flock cameras.

Lori Boyko, 15 Oakhurst Road, spoke about fundamental rights, Flock cameras, and Carpenter v. U.S.

PRESENTATION (6:46:21)

License Plate Reader Presentation by Police Chief Nicholas Boulter

Police Chief Boulter said he had a good understanding of what the people want and their concerns. He then went through his presentation, noting that the license plate readers are not new. They used to be on Police car hoods in 2012. After technology improved, they are now used for stolen cars, missing people, street takeovers, identity theft, etc. These readers have become tools for safety in Simsbury, and we went through some cases when these readers have been used. Their information is retained for 30 days. Chief Boulter said they do not record videos, there is no facial recognition, they don't scan drivers in the vehicles, they don't contain personal information, and they don't share data with federal agencies. Chief Boulter said stolen vehicles are down; street takeovers are down from the help of the License Plate Readers. He said they use Flock and Axion to obtain their data, but the data is controlled by us.

He went through the dates for public hearings and the budget process before obtaining these readers. Chief Boulter said all State Legislation is being followed, and the Police Commission policies are also being followed. He said there is no personal benefit to the Police Department, but these are for the good of the residents. Chief Boulter said he would be happy to discuss this issue and answer any questions with our residents.

Mr. Looney, liaison from the Police Commission, said they are taking strides to evaluate the concerns of the residents.

After some discussion, Ms. Mackstutis said the Board appreciated everyone's views and concerns and further discussion will be had about these cameras before a decision is made wither or not to continue to use the Flock cameras.

After the Police presentation, Mr. Looney made a motion, effective September 28, 2026, to take a 5-minute recess at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Antonio seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

PRESENTATION (7:38:20)

Community Projects Seni-Annual Update by Director of Public Works/Town Engineer Tom Roy

Mr. Roy said one of the recently completed projects is the Firetown Road sidewalks, which were funded by two separate grants. The Town did pay the design fee, but the construction costs were paid by the grants. This was a very successful project.

Mr. Roy said the Simsbury Performing Arts Center project is completed, and they returned about $149,000 to the Town.

He then went through the other projects like Station Steet, which was grant funded; Eno Memorial Hall entrance and parking lot; Town Hall rooftop unit replacements.

Mr. Roy said the roof repairs on a number of roofs, in this year's CIP budget for $825,000, just got started with design professionals.

Mr. Roy said they received funding from the CT DOT and authorization to advertise as part of their multi-step plan at the Curtiss Park bike trail. This Federal grant is for 80% and the Town puts in the other 20%.

Mr. Roy also spoke about the Tariffville Greenway project that is totally being funded by the DOT. We also have other money that was put aside for this project, so hopefully other things can be done there.

He said there is an analysis on the condition on paths and trails around Town to find out how much use the trails get and if the trails should still be paved or if the trails should be

removed all together. He said this does not include Statton Brook as that property is DEEP owned. There was also some discussion on sidewalk maintenance and replacements.

Mr. Roy said the Climax Road bridge replacement is LOTCIP funded for a full replacement. There will be a public information meeting on November 4th at the Library.

Mr. Roy said the water will be lowered at Stoddard Dam in July 2027. Lowering the water will let the pond side diminish and the soil will dry out vegetate naturally. He said he is hoping to receive a FEMA Brick grant for this project.

He discussed the County Road and Hosking Road nonconforming Y intersection. He would like to have public meetings to get the information out on possibly making this a roundabout.

He spoke about the Meadowood's historic barn renovations and how the roofs won't support anyone due to the rotting tobacco barns there. They still want the two barns restored but are willing to cut back on work inside the barns. Ms. Mackstutis said she never heard back from National Preservation about funding so she will reach out to them again.

Mr. Roy said the Community Town Farm barn is in rough shape. I is being painted and some repairs have been done.

Mr. Roy said the CIP project for fire alarms went out for RFP's and several responses were received and they will be holding interviews. Hopefully these projects will be done next spring and summer. He also spoke about the septic receiving station at WPCA. They have modernized their process. He said they just started the WPCA aeration tank energy efficiency project.

Mr. Roy said projects with the Board of Ed are the Simsbury High School turf replacement project, which is under contract now; This project will hopefully start Memorial Day 2027.

Mr. Roy spoke about the pavilion project. He didn't hear anything about cost savings if done with the turf project. There is fundraising going on right now for this project. All of the departments will get together to make sure everything is in order so if they get enough money the project can be approved. Ms. Mackstutis said this project needs to go through the capital plan. We need to make sure the projects that are funded are the priority. Mr. Roy said they are just in the pre-development phase right now.

Mr. Roy said they executed a power of purchase agreement with Green Skies for the solar array for the high school and Latimer Lane. They are currently waiting for them to lock in projects through the State of CT NRES program. Everything will need to be completed by the end of 2027.

Mr. Roy said they are also working on sidewalks and paving parking lots.

CONSENT AGENDA (8:10:05)

Mr. Antonio made a motion, effective September 28, 2026, to move e) Approve the Proposed Revisions to the Personnel Rules and Regulations under Selectmen Action and a) Acknowledge Receipt of Tenesha Grant's Resignation from the DEI Council and Cheryl Cook's Resignation from the DEI Council, Aging and Disability Commission, and Housing Authority under Appointments and Resignations to the Consent Agenda. Mr. Beal seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

FIRST SELECTMAN REPORT (8:10:37)

First Selectman, Wendy Mackstutis, did not have a First Selectman's report at this time.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT (8:10:57)

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

LIAISION AND SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS (8:13:36)

Mr. Looney said Friends of Simsbury Farms held a golf tournament.

Mr. Looney said Parks and Recreation will be removing the speed bumps this fall for winter plowing, etc.

Mr. Looney said there was a lively discussion on the car wash at a recent Zoning meeting.

Mr. Paine did not have any report at this time.

Mr. Beal did not have any report at this time.

Mr. Antonio did not have any report at this time.

SELECTMEN ACTION

a) **Adopt the Proposed Amendments to Code of Ordinances Chapter 141 Article VI: Veteran's Proposed Tax Exemption** (8:14:40)

Ms. Mackstutis said there was consensus at the last meeting that the TDIU benefit and spousal benefit would be included in this tax exemption. She said a spousal benefit date is still needed. She was thinking of 1970, so they capture the Vietnam error. This is a date of eligibility. We are only going from the grand list of 2026 forward. Ms. Beland said the earliest they found was 1971.

Mr. Beal said his thought was to take care of a service member and their surviving spouse so it gives them an expectation that they can stay in a place that they know and love and use a plan that they could establish as reasonable. He said the law permits us to make this exemption eligible. It was agreed that the date would be 1970 and there would be a TDIU benefit.

There was discussion on the additional two acres as well. Mr. Beal said the staff explained why they want this benefit set at not more than two acres. He is in agreement with the not more than two acres. Ms. Mackstutis said the State should have done this equally and not put the burden on the Towns. Mr. Paine is in agreement with the median cap, which he feels would be fair to all. There was more discussion on using a median cap. They then went through the charts that Ms. Beland provided to understand this better.

After a lot of discussion, Ms. Mackstutis felt the date was made January 1, 1970; they were moving the acreage, the median assessed value and surviving spouse issues were all taken care of.

Mr. Beal made a motion, effective September 28, 2026, to amend the Town Code Chapter 141 Article IV; Veteran's Property Tax Exemption as amended, which shall be effective 21 days after published in a newspaper having circulation within the Tonw of Simsbury. Further move, to authorize a summary of the adopted ordinance be published. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

The Board moved item d) State Legislature Directed Grant Funding for the Library's Teen Space to item b.

b) State Legislature Directed Grant Funding for Library's Teen Space (8:49:39)

Ms. Mackstutis said we got $350,000 from Senator Honig. This was an out-year project, but by getting this funding it allows us to move the project to the current year. She said our current capital plan had $65,000 for design and then the $350,000 came in next year. Her concern is that the grant money used be all that is allocated for this project.

Mr. Nelson said staff is telling him that the grant is not enough to get the project done. He feels the Board needs to make a decision to ask for the grant for this project, then later on if more money is needed, they would have to ask for it.

After discussion on this project and who asked for it, Mr. Fitzgerald noted that this grant needs to be spent by June 30th. We are going to apply for the grant and then the money gets dispersed on a quarterly basis.

After further discussion, Mr. Antonio made a motion, effective September 28, 2026, to submit a Legislature Directed Grant Application for the Simsbury Public Library Teen Space renovation and authorize the Town Manager Marc Nelson to execute the grant application. Mr. Looney seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Antonio made a motion, effective September 28, 2026, to accept the grants and authorize Town Manager Marc Nelson to execute all documents related to the grant awards. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Antonio made a motion, effective September 28, 2026, to finally move to appropriate said funding and record said appropriation(s) to the Board of Finance. Mr. Beal seconded the motion. Mr. Antonio, Mr. Paine, Mr. Looney and Mr. Beal approved the motion, with Ms. Mackstutis opposing. Therefore, the motion passed.

c) State Legislature Directed Grant Funding of the Apple Barn (9:09:43)

Mr. Fitzgerald noted that the application has to be submitted by October 2nd.

Mr. Looney said he wasn't sure this was a solution for a multi-generational space or the right space for that.

Mr. Antonio made a motion, effective September 28, 2026, to submit the Legislature Directed Grant Application for the Apple Barn and authorize Town Manager Marc Nelson to execute the grant application. Mr. Beal seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Antonio made a motion, effective September 28, 2026, to accept the grants and authorize Town Manager Marc Nelson to execute all documents related to the grant awards. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Antonio made a motion, effective September 28, 2026, to finally move, to appropriate said funding and record said appropriation(s) to the Board of Finance. Mr. Beal seconded the motion. Mr. Beal, Mr. Looney, Mr. Paine and Mr. Antonio were in favor, with Ms. Mackstutis opposing. Therefore, the motion passed.

d) State Legislature Directed Grant Funding for Eno Memorial Hall Updates (9:12:32)

Mr. Antonio made a motion, effective September 28, 2026, to submit the Legislature Directed Grant Application for Eno Memorial Hall Updates and authorize Town Manager Marc Nelson to execute the grant application. Mr. Looney seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Antonio made a motion, effective September 28, 2026, further move to accept the grants and authorize Town Manager Marc Nelson to execute all documents related to the grant awards. Mr. Looney seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Antonio made a motion, effective September 28, 2026, to finally move to appropriate said funding and record said appropriation(s) to the Board of Finance. Mr. Beal, Mr.

Looney, Mr. Paine and Mr. Antonio were in favor, with Ms. Mackstutis opposing. Therefore, the motion passed.

e) Approve the Proposed Revisions to the Personnel Rules and Regulations

This item was moved to the Consent Agenda.

f) Preview of Year-End General Fund Results (9:14:01))

Mr. Nelson said this preview of year-end general fund results, subject to change, is a $3,500,000 surplus in the general fund. He feels it is good practice to preview this result so the Board can digest it and understand it and ask any questions on it before the full report from Ms. Meriwether.

He said there is approximately $2,300,000 on the revenue side, about $600,000 is estimated in tax collections. He congratulated all departments for their good management and leadership. Mr. Beal said that is a very high number for a surplus, and this will be discussed in the budget process and at the next meeting with the Finance Director.

g) Stoddard Dam Reservoir Lease (9:20:44)

Mr. Nelson said he sent a letter to the Fish and Game Club saying we would not renew their lease. However, they made a request to extend the lease as they have stocked it with fish and paid for it and they would like it for one final year. The current lease has a one-year extension in it.

Ms. Mackstutis noted that the termination date was March 31, 2026, and then it was extended to December 31, 2026, as there was an extension already in the lease. That extension didn't need to come to the full Board, but this does. The president of the Simsbury Fish and Game Club sent a letter acknowledging that this is the last lease for them to use that property. The public needs to know this.

Mr. Antonio made a motion, effective September 28, 2026, to authorize the Town Manager Marc Nelson to execute the proposed six-month lease extension for use of the Stoddard Reservoir by the Simsbury Fish and Game Club, Inc. Mr. Beal seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

a) Acknowledge Receipt of Tenesha Grant's Resignation from the DEI Council and Cheryl Cook's Resignation from the DEI Council, Aging and Disability Commission, and Housing Authority

This item was moved to the Consent Agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (9:23:46)

a) September 14, 2026 Regular Meeting

Mr. Beal noted that the sentence on line 23 was not finished – Bruce Elliott, 21 Lincoln Lane, spoke in favor of the ___. Mr. Antonio made a motion, effective September 28, 2026, to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2026 Regular Meeting as amended. Mr. Looney seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

COMMUNICATIONS

a) Administrative Policy Update: Finance Department: Cash Receipts, Deposits and Transmittal Policy

There was no discussion at this time.

b) Memorandum from the Town Manager, Marc Nelson: Administrative Approval of Public Gathering Permit, dated September 28, 2026

There was no discussion at this time.

ADJOURN

Mr. Beal made a motion, effective September 28, 2026, to adjourn at 9:25 p.m. Mr. Antonio seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi Radocchio
Clerk