



Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Water Shortage Ordinance Subcommittee
Tuesday, May 15, 2018
9:00AM**

Main Meeting Room, Town Hall, 933 Hopmeadow Street

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

Call to Order

- 1) Public audience
- 2) Review and discussion regarding draft Water Shortage Ordinance
- 3) Next steps
- 4) Minutes
 - a) April 12, 2017
 - b) June 20, 2017
 - c) May 2, 2018

Adjourn



BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Water Shortage Ordinance Subcommittee
Wednesday, May 2, 2018
5:00 PM -Tariffville Fire Station - 7 Church Street
SPECIAL MEETING

PRESENT: Chris Kelly, Mike Paine

ALSO PRESENT: Assistant Town Planner Michael Glidden, Tom Roy Director of Public Works, Margery Winters, Donald Rieger, Tariffville Village Water Company Members: Brian O'Donnell, Mike Tanca, and Kevin Donahue

Call to Order

Mr. Kelly called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

1) Public Audience

Mr. Kelly asked if there any members of the Public that wished to speak. No one came forward.

2) Tariffville Village Water Company's feedback regarding draft Water Shortage Ordinance

Mr. Kelly thanked members of the Tariffville Village Water Company, Conservation Commission, and Town staff present at the meeting. Mr. Kelly discussed the status of the current proposal and how the changes were made. Copies of the state model, statute, and November 2017 version of the water shortage ordinance were distributed to those present.

Brian O'Connell of Tariffville Water Company addressed the group concerning the double penalty effect that would result by adopting the current ordinance. Mr. O'Connell explained the current regulations Tariffville has in place which deal with conservation. He stated that individuals whom ignore conservation measures are subject to shut off of water service and require to pay \$150.00 for re-connection.

Mr. Rieger commented on the how ground water and water levels of the Farmington River are directly connected.

Mr. O'Connell discussed the conservation rules which Tariffville already has in place. He provided a suggested change to the ordinance which would address the potential of double penalty to customers in Tariffville.

Mr. Paine commented that he wanted to avoid a situation where people were subject to double penalties.

Mr. O'Connell explained how better communication between Tariffville and the Town of Simsbury could help the situation and avoid such situations.

Mr. Rieger suggested adding to 157-2a that the Town of Simsbury is required to coordinate with Tariffville.

Mr. Kelly noted that the intent of the ordinance was not to create a double penalty to citizens and therefore would need to be addressed to avoid that.

Mr. O'Connell discussed the statutory powers granted to Tariffville Water Company. He did not want to see an ordinance that would dilute their powers.

Mr. Rieger commented how the state acts on a larger scale and water planning really needs to be locally focused.

Mr. Paine explained how the Board of Selectmen needs to be the policy maker and there needs to be balance between policy and the needs of utility companies.

Mr. Rieger felt the penalties of the proposed language by members of Tariffville Water Company were too broad and soft.

Mr. Kelly liked the wording presented by Tariffville Water Company as it relates to the consulting with the parties.

Mr. Roy proposed a change to the language which would read, "The Town of Simsbury shall consult with local water providers to ensure residents are not penalized by multiple entities for the same offenses."

Mr. Roy also noted there are other providers such as operators of community wells which should be included in the future conversations.

3) Next Steps

Mr. Kelly thanked everyone in attendance. He explained that the draft will be revised to incorporate some of the changes discussed tonight. After the revisions are made, a second meeting will be held of the working group to discuss the ordinance.

Mr. Paine expressed his concern of the importance of public outreach regarding the matter. The Town will need to work on getting the message out to the target population.

Ms. Winters suggested the town look into contacting interested parties such as the operators of the local golf courses or larger agricultural operations.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Glidden CFM CZEO
Assistant Town Planner